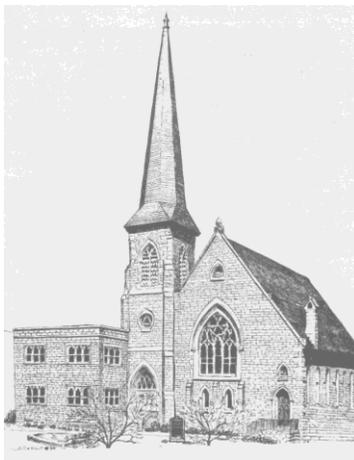


# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

11 WASHINGTON STREET

CUMBERLAND, MD 21502



## SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY SEPTEMBER 4, 2022 10:00 AM

OPENING VOLUNTARY

*BREAK THOU THE BREAD OF LIFE*  
JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

WM. F. SHERWIN

10:00 AM

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

*CHANGE MY HEART, O GOD*  
Change my heart, O God, make it ever true.  
Change my heart, O God, may I be like you.  
You are the potter, I am the clay,  
Mold me and make me, this is what I pray.  
Change my heart, O God, make it ever true.  
Change my heart, O God, may I be like you.

"CHANGE MY HEART"

### \* CALL TO WORSHIP & PRAYER FOR THE DAY

Creating God, we gather in your name to worship you.

**We give thanks that there is a small spark of God within us. Kindle it into a flame of love and service.**

Sustaining God, we gather in your name to worship you.

**We celebrate the loving presence of God in our life. May that loving presence be a strong influence in our life.**

Nurturing God, we gather in your name to worship you.

**We rejoice that God teaches us about love and forgiveness. As we grow in faith, trust and love for God, may our worship, witness, and service bring honor to God's Holy Name.**

Let us pray -

Creator God, all creation is your handiwork; your touch gives life to all that is. You who shape and form us by the breath of your Spirit and the touch of your grace, you alone are able to call forth from the depths of our being the beauty of your Spirit in us. May we in this celebration, surrender more deeply to your loving touch, as you fashion and form your heart's desire in us. This we pray in your Spirit. Amen.

\* HYMN #664

*MORNING HAS BROKEN*

"BUSINESS"

CALL TO CONFESSION

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Creator God, You created the earth, whole and round; You created us to be whole people. But we have become fragmented, cracked and broken. We have been broken by false promises, lost relationships, shattered trust. We have become cracked with the experience of systemic sin: prejudice, oppression and fear. We have become fragmented, building up walls instead of lending hands.

Forgive us when we have done the breaking, heal us where we have been hurt. Let Your light shine through our cracks and scars so that we might bring light to the world, showing that in You we are made whole. In You we find healing. In You we find renewed life. Help us to forgive, to love, to mend. Amen.

*(Silence for personal prayer and reflection.)*

## RESPONSE #187

SAVIOR, LIKE A SHEPHERD LEAD US (Verse 3)

“TRENTHAM”

You have promised to receive us, poor and sinful though we be;  
you have mercy to relieve us, grace to cleanse, and power to free.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, early let us turn to you.  
Blessed Jesus, blesses Jesus, early let us turn to you.

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

## PASSING OF THE PEACE AND CELEBRATING OUR COMMUNITY

*We recognize how important we are to each other - as we worship, we pass the peace of Christ from our seats and wave to those who are joining us via Livestream. We belong to each other and are stronger together.*

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

### SCRIPTURE READING

PSALM 139:1-6, 13-18

O LORD, you have searched me and known me.

<sup>2</sup>You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away.

<sup>3</sup>You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways.

<sup>4</sup>Even before a word is on my tongue, O LORD, you know it completely.

<sup>5</sup>You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.

<sup>6</sup>Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it.

<sup>13</sup>For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb.

<sup>14</sup>I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.

<sup>15</sup>My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth.

<sup>16</sup>Your eyes beheld my unformed substance. In your book were written all the days that were formed for me, when none of them as yet existed.

<sup>17</sup>How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them!

<sup>18</sup>I try to count them—they are more than the sand; I come to the end—I am still with you.

## SOLO

I AM A CHILD OF GOD

M. TANNER PETTIT ARR. P. CARDALL

JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

## SECOND READING

JEREMIAH 18:1-11

<sup>18</sup>The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD: <sup>2</sup>“Come, go down to the potter's house, and there I will let you hear my words.” <sup>3</sup>So I went down to the potter's house, and there he was working at his wheel. <sup>4</sup>The vessel he was making of clay was spoiled in the potter's hand, and he reworked it into another vessel, as seemed good to him.

<sup>5</sup>Then the word of the LORD came to me: <sup>6</sup>“Can I not do with you, O house of Israel, just as this potter has done?” says the LORD. Just like the clay in the potter's hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel. <sup>7</sup>At one moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will pluck up and break down and destroy it, <sup>8</sup>but if that nation, concerning which I have spoken, turns from its evil, I will change my mind about the disaster that I intended to bring on it. <sup>9</sup>And at another moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will build and plant it, <sup>10</sup>but if it does evil in my sight, not listening to my voice, then I will change my mind about the good that I had intended to do to it. <sup>11</sup>Now, therefore, say to the people of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem: Thus says the LORD: Look, I am a

potter shaping evil against you and devising a plan against you. Turn now, all of you, from your evil way, and amend your ways and your doings.

SERMON

"A TRIP TO THE POTTER'S HOUSE"

REV. ALISON PETERS

\* HYMN #157

I DANCED IN THE MORNING

"LORD OF THE DANCE"

INVITATION TO OFFERING

*(Please place all tithes and offerings as well as any orange prayer request cards in the offering plate.)*

OFFERTORY

IMPROVISATION ON "GOD IS CALLING THROUGH THE WHISPER"  
JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

W ZLOBIE LEZY

\* DOXOLOGY #643

NOW THANK WE ALL OUR GOD (VS.3)

"NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT"

All praise and thanks to God, who reigns in highest heaven,  
to Father and to Son and Spirit now be given:  
the one eternal God, whom heaven and earth adore,  
the God who was, and is, and shall be evermore.

\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

## THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER AFTER SUPPER

Holy God, your love is abundant and given freely. May we take that love out into your world. May our hands be quick to serve. May our lips be quick to tell of your grace. May we continue in the ways you direct. Amen.

\* HYMN #354

MINE EYES HAVE SEEN THE GLORY

"BATTLE HYMN"

\* BENEDICTION

\* RESPONSE AFTER BENEDICTION# 306 *BLEST BE THE TIE THAT BINDS (Verse 1)*

"SUO GAN"

Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love.  
The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.

POSTLUDE

BATTLE HYMN OF THE REPUBLIC  
JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

AMERICAN MELODY ARR. SID RICHARDSON

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\* When this symbol precedes an element of the service, if you are able, please stand.  
Please join in reading or singing those parts of the service printed in **bold**.

## This Morning's Worship Leaders

Preacher..... Rev. Alison Peters  
Liturgist.....Hans Killius  
Director of Music Ministries.....Judith Brown  
Audio/Video Technicians.....Joe Aurigemma and Eric Ringler  
Ushers.....Mike Levitas and Kathy Dowell

## OUR STAFF

Teaching Elder/Pastor.....Rev. Alison Peters  
Director of Music Ministries .....Judith Brown  
Executive Administrative Assistant.....Brittany Jackson  
Sexton.....Zach Dodge  
Sound Tech/Security.....Joe Aurigemma  
Audio/Video Technician.....Eric Ringler

## SESSION OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

### CLERK OF SESSION

Carolyn Mathews

### ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE

Carl Belt & Gary Hendrickson

### BUILDING & GROUNDS

Bob Courtney & Evan Swanger

### CONGREGATIONAL CARE & OUTREACH

Mikayla Dodge & Susan Mills

### FAITH FORMATION

Josh Gilhart & Katie Ross

### MISSION

Aaron Hendrickson & Brenda Luger

### WORSHIP & MUSIC

Sharon Kazary & Mike Levitas

## MISSION STATEMENT

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we worship God and proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ by loving our neighbors and promoting peacemaking, justice and care of the earth.

## VISION STATEMENT

We strive to be a community grounded in the good news of God's love in Christ where all of God's children are:

- Welcomed and cherished
- Called to worship, learn and grow together in faith, and
- Sent to share God's love and justice with a broken and hurting world.

-Adopted by the Session on September 17, 2015

## GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

**WELCOME:** A very warm welcome to everyone who comes to worship with us here at First Presbyterian Church! We are proud of being a "Big Tent Church" where everyone is welcome to join us in worshiping and serving our Lord, Jesus Christ. We welcome and encourage worshipers of all races, all women, men, and members of the LGBTQ+ community, all political parties, and all walks of life. We welcome you to worship with us.

**WELCOME VISITORS:** We are glad you found your way to First Presbyterian Church of Cumberland. For more information about opportunities to worship, learn and serve with us, we encourage you to visit the table outside the church office. You can also learn more about us at [www.fpc-cumberland.org](http://www.fpc-cumberland.org) and [www.facebook.com/First.Pres.Cumberland](http://www.facebook.com/First.Pres.Cumberland).

**CHILDREN IN WORSHIP:** We welcome you to bring your child with you to worship. We have "worship bags" in the back of the sanctuary that include materials for drawing and coloring, as well as Bible stories and Bible word-find games. Our "Young Children in Worship" pew card contains information about why young children should be encouraged to come to worship and how parents and others can engage them more fully in worship. **Nursery care is provided during worship for all children 4 years of age and younger!**

**THE PRAY-GROUND** is a special space in the sanctuary for our youngest children and their families. All families are welcome to come and sit in the right front pews with their children seated on the rug. This front row seat will allow God's youngest children to participate in the service in a place where they can see and hear best. There will be activities provided so that their little hands are kept busy while participating in worship. "Jesus said to them, 'Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it'" (Mark 10:14-15).

**FRIENDSHIP PADS:** Please locate and sign the red pad in your pew, tear off the sheet and place it in the collection plate during the offering. This important practice allows us to be mindful of new folks and long-time members as well, and is a good way to learn (or remember) the names of those with whom you are seated. **If you are visitor, please fill out the "Welcome to First Presbyterian Church" card in the pew rack and put it in the offering plate when it comes by during the service.**

**PERSONAL LISTENING DEVICES:** (amplifiers) are available in the back of the church for use during worship. Please see an usher for assistance.

**SANCTUARY FLOWERS:** The flowers in the sanctuary this morning are given to the Glory of God in loving memory of Eugene D. Munro and Bernice L. Munro, by their family. Please contact Michael Levitas or the church office if you would like to sponsor flowers for a special occasion like a birthday or anniversary or in memory or honor of someone. You may specify live or silk flowers. Silk flower money will be directed to the Special Ministries Fund.

**SHARING OF JOYS & CONCERNS:** Please use orange prayer request cards in the back of the sanctuary by the bulletins to share any joys and concerns. Place the card in the offering plate once you have completed your request. The ushers will bring them to the pastor during the offering.

## ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE

RULING ELDERS: CARL BELT & GARY HENDRICKSON

ANNUAL GIVING YEAR-TO-DATE:	as of August 28, 2022
Total 2022 Pledges Promised	\$202,976.00
Pre-paid pledges	\$ 31,100.00
<u>2021 Pledge Balance Promised</u>	<u>\$171,876.00</u>
Pledge Balance Received Year-to-Date	\$116,786.00
Pledge Balance Promised Year-to-Date	\$115,753.00
Over/(Under)	\$ 1,032.00

**FAITH FORMATION**  
**RULING ELDERS: JOSH GILHART & KATIE ROSS**

**ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL RETURNS ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18<sup>TH</sup>!** Join us on **Sunday mornings at 10:00 AM** as we explore the Psalms and other lectionary scriptures together in our weekly adult Sunday School program. Learn, grow, and develop relationships with your sisters and brothers in Christ.

**WEEKEND RETREAT:** Join Dr. Rasann Catalano on **Friday, October 7<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, October 8<sup>th</sup>** at Emmanuel Episcopal Church to learn more about the book of Job. More details to come.

**THE FRANCISCAN WAY STUDY:** Join Rev. Martha McGill & Rev. Alison Peters on **Thursday evenings at 5:30 PM (October 13<sup>th</sup>-November 17<sup>th</sup>)** in the Gathering Place at First Presbyterian Church for this 6 week study to learn more about spiritual practices for living with hope in a troubled world.

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To RSVP for the Weekend Retreat or the Franciscan Way Study, fill out the form below and place in the offering plate.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to attend:

Weekend Retreat        \_\_\_\_\_  
Franciscan Way Study    \_\_\_\_\_

For more information about the Faith Formation events listed above,  
use the QR Code below or visit the Faith Formation tab on our church's website"



**WORSHIP & MUSIC**  
**RULING ELDERS: SHARON KAZARY & MIKE LEVITAS**

**FALL KICK-OFF PICNIC:** Join us next Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup> at Rocky Gap State Park for our Fall Kick-off worship service. The service begins at 11:00 AM at the White Pine pavilion which is located right across from the sunflower field on Pleasant Valley Road. Attendees should wear comfortable clothes for the weather, especially socks as fall mornings under pine trees can be rather cool on the feet. Bring chairs for personal comfort. Plan to stay for a picnic potluck lunch and social time together. **There will be a sign-up sheet on the table in the hallway for people to sign up to bring food items**, and there will be outdoor activities such as; corn hole, giant bowling, and hula hoops. The Dodges will also play some music for the gathering afterwards.

**HOME COMMUNION TRAINING:** On Sunday, September 18<sup>th</sup> following worship, we will have a training for home communion. If you are an ordained elder in the Presbyterian Church and wish to help serve home communion, please call or e-mail Brittany and give her your name and contact information. We would like to begin serving home communion again this fall.

## UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

**JANE'S PLACE-TEDDY BEAR PICNIC:** Jane's Place invites you to attend their 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Teddy Bear Picnic Awareness and Fundraising event on Saturday, September 24<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 AM- 3:00 PM at the Canal Place. Admission to the event is free. Bring the family, a blanket and lawn chairs!

### WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK:

#### MONDAY, SEPTEMBER (5)

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED IN OBSERVANCE OF LABOR DAY

#### TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER (6)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN  
1:30 PM RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL

#### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER (7)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN  
5:15 PM WORSHIP & MUSIC MEETING  
7:00 PM N.A. GROUP MEETING IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL

#### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER (8)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN

#### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER (9)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN

#### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER (10)

#### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER (11)

11:00 AM FALL KICK-OFF WORSHIP SERVICE AT ROCKY GAP STATE PARK IN THE WHITE PINES PAVILION