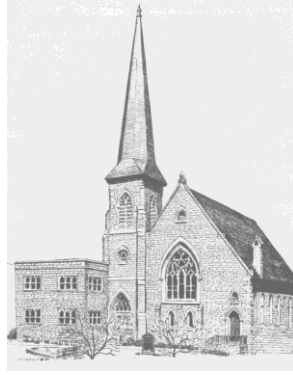


# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

11 WASHINGTON STREET CUMBERLAND, MD 21502



## SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY: JANUARY 15, 2023 11:00 AM

OPENING VOLUNTARIES

*ANDANTE IN C MAJOR*  
JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

18<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY

11:00 AM

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

*THY WORD IS A LAMP UNTO MY FEET*  
THE SANCTUARY CHOIR

"THY WORD"

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path  
When I feel afraid and I think I've lost my way,  
still you're there right beside me  
Nothing will I fear as long as you are near  
Please be near me to the end.

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

The Word became flesh and lived among us,  
**and we have seen his glory.**  
to all who received him,  
**he gave power to become children of God.**

Let us pray -

Almighty God, Your son our Savior Jesus Christ is the light of the world.  
May your people, illumined by your Word and Sacraments, shine with the radiance of his glory,  
that he may be known, worshiped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

### \* HYMN #409

*GOD IS HERE!*

"ABBOT'S LEIGH"

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of glory, you sent Jesus among us as the light of the world, to reveal your love for all people.  
We confess that our sin and pride hide the brightness of your light.  
We turn away from the poor; we ignore cries for justice, we do not strive for peace.

In your mercy, cleanse us of our sin, and baptize us once again with your Spirit,  
That, forgiven and renewed, we may show forth your glory shining in the face of Jesus Christ. Amen.

*(Silence for personal prayer and reflection.)*

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy on us.

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy on us.

## 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

### FIRST READING

ISAIAH 49:1-7

Listen to me, O coastlands; pay attention, you peoples from far away!

The LORD called me before I was born; while I was in my mother's womb he named me.

<sup>2</sup>He made my mouth like a sharp sword; in the shadow of his hand he hid me;

he made me a polished arrow; in his quiver he hid me away.

<sup>3</sup>And he said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified."

<sup>4</sup>But I said, "I have labored in vain; I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my cause is with the LORD and my reward with my God."

<sup>5</sup>And now the LORD says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am honored in the sight of the LORD, and my God has become my strength—<sup>6</sup>he says, "It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel;

I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth."

<sup>7</sup>Thus says the LORD, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations, the slave of rulers, "Kings shall see and stand up; princes, and they shall prostrate themselves, because of the LORD, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."

### SECOND READING

1 CORINTHIANS 1: 1-9

Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes,

<sup>2</sup>To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:

<sup>3</sup>Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>4</sup>I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, <sup>5</sup>for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—<sup>6</sup>just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—<sup>7</sup>so that you are not lacking in any gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>8</sup>He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>9</sup>God is faithful, by whom you were called into the partnership of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

### ANTHEM

AGNUS DEI

MARK SCHWEIZER

THE SANCTUARY CHOIR

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world

Have mercy on us.

### GOSPEL READING

JOHN 1: 29-42

<sup>29</sup>The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! <sup>30</sup>This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' <sup>31</sup>I myself did not know him, but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel." <sup>32</sup>And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. <sup>33</sup>I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' <sup>34</sup>And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Chosen One."

#### The First Disciples of Jesus

<sup>35</sup>The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, <sup>36</sup>and as he watched Jesus walk by he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" <sup>37</sup>The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. <sup>38</sup>When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?" <sup>39</sup>He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying,

and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. <sup>40</sup> One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. <sup>41</sup> He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated Anointed). <sup>42</sup> He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).

SERMON

REVEREND DOCTOR MARSHA SPAIN BELL

\* HYMN #726

WILL YOU COME AND FOLLOW ME

"KELVINGROVE"

INVITATION TO OFFERING

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

OFFERTORY

WE ARE MARCHING IN THE LIGHT OF GOD  
THE SANCTUARY CHOIR

"SIYAHAMBA"

\* DOXOLOGY #648

THANK HEARTS AND VOICES RAISE

"THANKFUL HEARTS"

Thankful hearts and voices raise; tell everyone what God has done.  
Let everyone who seeks the Lord rejoice and bear the name of Christ.  
Send us with your promises and lead your people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE CONCLUDING WITH 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.

\* HYMN #806

I'LL PRAISE MY MAKER

"OLD 113TH"

\* 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

ALLEGRO IN C  
JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

18<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY

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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..... Reverend Doctor Marsha Spain Bell  
Liturgist.....Sharon Squires  
Director of Music Ministries.....Judith Brown  
Musicians.....The Sanctuary Choir  
Audio/Video Technicians.....Joe Aurigemma and Eric Ringler  
Ushers.....Buck and Jane Belt

**THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION-CORPORATION** of First Presbyterian church of Cumberland, Maryland is called by the Session for **Sunday, January 29, 2023.**

The purposes of the meeting are:

- To hear the Annual Report of the Session
- To elect an Auditor to the Auditing Committee
- To elect a new class of Ruling Elders
- To elect a 2023 Congregational Nominating Committee
- To receive the 2023 Budget
- To elect Officers of the Corporation
- To approve the pastor's terms of Call
- To conduct any other business properly coming before the Congregation-Corporation

*-By Order of the Session*

## 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

## 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

## 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

## 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](https://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:** 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.

**PASTOR ALISON'S AVAILABILITY:** Pastor Alison is available when requested or informed of a need. If you are aware of someone in need of a visit or phone call, please call or text her to let her know. *[Fridays are generally her day off and she will respond when she is available.]*

### Ways to contact Pastor Alison:

call, text, or email: 814-715-1681 / [revalisonpeters@gmail.com](mailto:revalisonpeters@gmail.com)

To help with scheduling, please reach out to the Church Office:

Brittany Jackson: 301-777-3700 [firstpresbyteriansecretary@gmail.com](mailto:firstpresbyteriansecretary@gmail.com)

**FREE MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID CERTIFICATION:** We will host a Mental Health First Aid Training on **Sunday, January 22nd (12:30 PM-5:30 PM)**. This course will teach you how to identify, understand, and respond to signs of mental health and substance use challenges among adults. The class is limited to 15 participants and will require about 2 hours of self-paced online pre-work. **If you are interested in this training, please use the signup link in the weekly email update or call the church office.**

**ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE**  
**RULING ELDERS: CARL BELT & GARY HENDRICKSON**

|                                      |                              |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>ANNUAL GIVING YEAR-TO-DATE:</b>   | <b>as of January 8, 2023</b> |
| Total 2023 Pledges Promised          | \$219,970.00                 |
| Pre-paid pledges                     | \$ 13,282.00                 |
| <u>2023 Pledge Balance Promised</u>  | <u>\$206,688.00</u>          |
| Pledge Balance Received Year-to-Date | \$10,195.00                  |
| Pledge Balance Promised Year-to-Date | \$7,787.00                   |
| Over/(Under)                         | \$2,407.00                   |

**OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2023** are now available on the table in the back of the sanctuary. If you do not see a box with your name on it, please contact the church office.

**CONGREGATIONAL CARE & OUTREACH**  
**RULING ELDERS: MIKAYLA DODGE & SUSAN MILLS**

**THE HIGHLANDERS:** Due to the unpredictable weather in the months of January and February, the Highlanders will not meet for lunch during those two months. The next lunch will be held in March on the third Thursday of the month. More details will be given at a later date. If you have any questions, please contact Mary Gallion.

**WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK:**

**MONDAY, JANUARY (16)**  
**CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED**

**TUESDAY, JANUARY (17)**  
**BRITTANY REMOTE WORKING**

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY (18)**

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN  
10:30 AM STAFF MEETING IN REV. PETERS' OFFICE  
6:30 PM JOYBELLS REHEARSAL  
7:00 PM N.A. GROUP MEETING IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL  
7:30 PM SANCTUARY CHOIR REHEARSAL

**THURSDAY, JANUARY (19)**

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN  
7:00 PM SESSION MEETING IN THE GATHERING PLACE

**FRIDAY, JANUARY (20)**  
**PRINT ANNUAL REPORTS**

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

**SATURDAY, JANUARY (21)**

10:00 AM PEO MEETING

**SUNDAY, JANUARY (22)**

10:00 AM ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL  
11:00 AM SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY  
12:30 PM MENTAL HEALTH & FIRST AID

## RULING ELDER NOMINEES

### SANDRA BURTON (CLASS OF 2026)

Sandra has lived in Cumberland since 1964. Her husband owned Burton's Men's Wear retail store, a family owned business. She has been a member of The First Presbyterian Church since 2013 and has served on session on Congregational Care once before.

Sandra is currently serving on the Worship and Music Committee. She serves on the Altar Guild making sure flowers are on the Altar each Sunday and pews are organized.

She has two children, one daughter and one son. She also has one granddaughter and a two year great grandson.

### CINDY CORLEY (CLASS OF 2026)

Cindy has been a member of First Presbyterian Church for about 20 years. During that time, she has served on Session several times and is currently our Church Treasurer.

Cindy lives in Corriganville, MD and has been married for 38 years to Dave Corley. They have one son, David Corley. She works for Quarry Ridge Corp and works as a Tax Preparer for Ron and Ann's Tax Service. She is currently the bookkeeper for Learning Tree Nursery School.

### MIKAYLA DODGE (CLASS OF 2026)

Mikayla Dodge has been a member of First Presbyterian Church for six years, a member of session and co-chair for the Congregational Care and Outreach Committee. Mikayla has been actively involved in singing with the FPC chorus for 11 years. Mikayla is very involved with the community. She enjoys making music with the Cumberland Choral Society, Co-Directing Allegany Acapella Harmony, performing in shows at both the Embassy and Cumberland Theatre, and volunteering to assist with local community events. Mikayla loves to spend time with her husband Zach, daughter Aria, and four cats!

### SHARON KAZARY (CLASS OF 2026)

When Sharon was going into the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, her family moved to Auburn in upstate New York. They began to attend the First Presbyterian Church where she sang in the Cherub Choir, the Carol Choir, and attended Sunday School. Our associate pastor, Lyman Stuckey, became a close family friend. From that time on, Shaoron was involved in church worship and church activities. When she was beginning high school, her family moved to Big Flatts, New York. Once again, she was singing in the choir, teaching Sunday School, and worshipping in our sanctuary.

As a young mother, Sharon was asked to be an elder on the Session at First Presbyterian Church in Cumberland. Under the leadership of Rev. Phil Sorensen, she learned the details and responsibilities of serving as an elder in the Presbyterian Church. As an elder, Sharon was president of the Boys Group Home, a mission of the church.

In the early 80's, her family moved to LaVale where they became active members of the LaVale United Methodist. Sharon taught Sunday School, played in the Bell Choir, and became the church's Lay Leader.

Her family returned to Cumberland when her children were in high school, and they returned to the First Presbyterian Church. The Church Nominating Committee asked Sharon to become Clerk of Session. She worked with Rev. Morton Harris, and also began and ran the church's NAILS Mission Project.

Most recently, Sharon has served as an active elder under the direction of Rev. Jim Young and, finally, under our Rev. Alison Peters. Her chief responsibility has been to co-chair of the Worship and Music Committee.

As an adult, Sharon has raised two very nice children, served on the PTA, organized and lead Brownies and Girl Scout Troops, built several buildings on Greene Street, created and ran the Inn at Walnut Bottom B&B, which included the Haystack Mountain Art Workshops and Arthur's Restaurant. After they sold the Inn and the city of Cumberland assumed responsibility directing the NAILS project, She attended classes at the Baltimore Law School and became a mediator. Until Sharon retired, she was responsible for all of the estate clients in our law offices.

Sharon has been very happily married to Bob Kazary for 52 years. They enjoy living on their small farm in the New Germany area.

The current Church Nominating Committee has asked Sharon to extend my time as an active elder for a second term. She is proud of our Worship and Music Committee and would like to continue to be the co-chair.

**ANN KELLERMEYER (CLASS OF 2026)**

Ann was born in Keyser, West Virginia. Her father was a lawyer and her mother was a teacher. After graduating from Keyser High School, Ann attended West Virginia University where she met my husband, Bill. While furthering his training, Bill and Ann lived in Cleveland and Jacksonville, NC.

Their oldest son, Bill, was born in Cleveland and their two younger sons, Chris and Brian, were born in Cumberland. They live near Flintstone, where they enjoy birdwatching, gardening and caring for horses and grandchildren.

Ann has served on Session in the past, working on various committees, and looks forward to serving again as the Sesison discerns where God is leading us.

**Your Answer to....  
“What’s For Dinner?”**

**First Presbyterian Church is selling homemade soups and rolls to help fund the Annual Mission Trip to South Dakota. Will you please consider buying some?**



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

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

|                       | # of Quarts | X \$10 | # of Pints | X \$6 | Cap Rolls | x \$1 for 2 | Total \$ Owed |
|-----------------------|-------------|--------|------------|-------|-----------|-------------|---------------|
| Beef Stew             |             |        |            |       |           |             |               |
| White Chicken Chili   |             |        |            |       |           |             |               |
| Traditional Red Chili |             |        |            |       |           |             |               |
| Vegetarian Vegetable  |             |        |            |       |           |             |               |
| Chicken Tortilla Soup |             |        |            |       |           |             |               |
| Rolls 2 for \$1       |             |        |            |       |           |             |               |
| <b>TOTAL</b>          |             |        |            |       |           |             |               |

**Please pay for and pick up your soups, chili, and stews on Sunday, February 12th after worship from 12:15-1:00 PM.**

**Please place your order by Sunday, February 5th.**

Make checks payable to: First Presbyterian Church and write “Dakota” on the memo line.