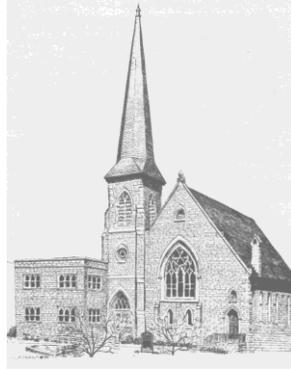


FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

11 WASHINGTON STREET CUMBERLAND, MD 21502



SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY FEBRUARY 12, 2023 11:00 AM

OPENING VOLUNTARIES

CONCERTO IN E MAJOR: "WITH SPIRIT"
JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

THOMAS ARNE (1710-1778)

11:00 AM

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

WITHOUT YOUR LAMP TO GUIDE ME
THE SANCTUARY CHOIR

"WOHL DENEN DIE DA WANDELN"

Without your lamp to guide me I wander from the way.
Without your laws and precepts I stumble in the dark.
Your understandings are my hope that I may run in freedom.
Your ways are my release.

* CALL TO WORSHIP & PRAYER FOR THE DAY

O God, you are righteous
Transform us by your Word!
Your judgments are upright
Transform us by your Word!
Your precepts are unforgettable
Transform us by your Word!
Give us understanding and we will live
Re-form us, reconcile us, Transform us by your Word!

Let us pray -

Speaking God, throughout history and the wide world you have gathered people around your Word to instruct and inspire. We give thanks for all who have received your vision and shaped diverse and faithful communities to follow in your Way.

Continue to open that vision to us, that we may become transformed by the renewing of your Word in our hearts. Enable us to grow in love and understanding for each other. Create in us, O God, clean hearts and minds; Let us join with you in your suffering and your triumph. We desire to be your children and we claim these blessings in your name. Amen.

* HYMN #336

WE GATHER TOGETHER

"KREMSER"

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, we confess that we have taken Your commandments and turned them into rules. We have criticized those who have fallen short and selfishly proclaimed ourselves righteous. We have failed to understand the spirit of the commandments and the Way that was shown by You to live, loving God and loving our neighbors.

Forgive us for turning Your law into burdens for others and ourselves, instead of a Way to love and freedom in You. In the name of Christ, who has given us the Way and leads us on, we pray. Amen.

(Silence for personal prayer and reflection.)

RESPONSE #576

LORD, HAVE MERCY

“SINGAPURA”

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

Please stand and greet those in the pews near you. Send a wave to the camera for those joining online.

We recognize how important we are to each other; we belong to each other and are stronger together.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

PSALM 119:1-8

¹Happy are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the LORD.

²Happy are those who keep his decrees, who seek him with their whole heart,

³who also do no wrong but walk in his ways.

⁴You have commanded your precepts to be kept diligently.

⁵O that my ways may be steadfast in keeping your statutes!

⁶Then I shall not be put to shame, having my eyes fixed on all your commandments.

⁷I will praise you with an upright heart, when I learn your righteous ordinances.

⁸I will observe your statutes; do not utterly forsake me.

ANTHEM

PRAISE YE THE LORD OF HOSTS
THE JOYBELLS

ARR. ROBERT J. WARD

SECOND READING

I CORINTHIANS 3:1-9

³ And so, brothers and sisters, I could not speak to you as spiritual people but rather as fleshly, as infants in Christ. ² I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for solid food. Even now you are still not ready, ³ for you are still fleshly. For as long as there is jealousy and quarreling^[al] among you, are you not fleshly and behaving according to human inclinations? ⁴ For when one says, “I belong to Paul,” and another, “I belong to Apollos,” are you not all too human?

⁵ What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. ⁶ I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. ⁷ So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. ⁸ The one who plants and the one who waters have one purpose, and each will receive wages according to their own labor. ⁹ For we are God’s coworkers, working together; you are God’s field, God’s building.

SERMON

“TYPICAL BEHAVIOR”

REV. ALISON PETERS

* HYMN #530

ONE BREAD, ONE BODY

“ONE BREAD, ONE BODY”

MISSION IN A MINUTE

COMMUNITY CAFÉ

INVITATION TO OFFERING

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

OFFERTORY SOLO

BECKONING
JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

ARR. JUSTIN MCCARTHY

* DOXOLOGY #648

THANKFUL 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 who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

* HYMN #396

BRETHREN, WE HAVE MET TO WORSHIP

“HOLY MANNA”

* 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

IMPROVISATION ON “BRIDEGROOM”
JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

* 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..... Josh Gilhart
Director of Music Ministries.....Judith Brown
Director of the JoyBells.....Julie Courtney
Musicians..... The JoyBells and The Sanctuary Choir
Audio/Video Technicians.....Joe Aurigemma and Eric Ringler
Ushers.....Kathy Dowell and Sharon Squires

REMINDER: THE SOUTH DAKOTA SOUP SALE PICK UP will be held in the Fellowship Hall after worship today.
Payment will be due at the time of pick up.

OUR STAFF

Teaching Elder/Pastor.....Rev. Alison Peters
Director of Music MinistriesJudith 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

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 and 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 her dear parents, William Edward “Ed” Solomon & Eleanor Kelley Solomon who were member of FPC since the early 1950s by Elaine Kelley Solomon and in loving memory of Janet L. Hendershot, who passed on February 11, 2021. **Gone from our church family, but not forgotten by Aaron Hendrickson.** 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

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

Brittany Jackson: 301-777-3700 firstpresbyteriansecretary@gmail.com

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE

RULING ELDERS: CARL BELT & GARY HENDRICKSON

ANNUAL GIVING YEAR-TO-DATE:	as of February 5, 2023
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	\$26,115.00
Pledge Balance Promised Year-to-Date	\$23,392.00
Over/(Under)	\$ 2,722.00

BUILDING & GROUNDS

RULING ELDERS: ROBERT COURTNEY & EVAN SWANGER

HELP NEEDED: The Building & Grounds Committee is asking anyone on our congregation who is interested in the history of our beautiful church to help organize and digitalize all of our historical materials that have accumulated over the years. We have a lovely new History/Library room upstairs, thanks to the vision of Shirley Giarritta. Our hope is to save most photos and documents on a computer in the new room. We need some computer savvy individuals but also anyone who can help us with organizing and sorting lots of materials in the closets. Please contact Nancy Hodges if you are interested in assisting the committee with this project.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE & OUTREACH

RULING ELDERS: MIKAYLA DODGE & SUSAN MILLS

- Sympathy and prayers to the family of Sandra Burton on her death on Monday, February 6th. Friends will be received at Scarpelli Funeral Home (108 Virginia Ave. Cumberland, MD 21502) on Friday, February 10th from 4:00-8:00 PM. A Memorial Service will be held at First Presbyterian Church on Saturday, February 11th at 11:00 AM to celebrate her life. The burial will take place in Hillcrest Burial Park. A light luncheon will be held at First Presbyterian Church following the burial service.

SECOND SUNDAY SOCIALS: Beginning this month and going forward, the first Sunday of the month fellowship gatherings will be moved to the second Sunday of each month!



Join us following worship today for Valentines treats and fellowship!

THE HIGHLANDERS WILL be having a Valentine's Day luncheon on Tuesday, February 14th at 12:30 PM in the Gathering Place. (Weather permitting.) Food will be ordered and delivered by Chick-Fil-A. Please RSVP by today to Betty Richtmeyer or Jan Layman.

FAITH FORMATION

RULING ELDERS: JOSH GILHART & KATIE ROSS

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL: Building or Renewing Your Own Spiritual Practice with the Rev. Martha Macgill
Join us on Sundays in Lent beginning February 26th at 10:00 AM in the 2nd Floor Library.

Have you always wanted to have a regular spiritual practice? Some of us have long-standing ways to find time with God each day. Some of us have tried to carve out a space for prayer and found it hard to sustain. Some of us aren't sure where to begin. Wherever you are in your walk with God, Lent is an excellent time to begin, re-examine or renew your prayer life. *There is no one right way to form a personal spiritual practice*, but there are long-standing guidelines that have proven the test of time. Our class together will bring together traditional essentials of a spiritual practice such as meditating on Scripture and intercessory prayer as well as popular methods of doing this like lectio divina, Ignatian imaging, centering prayer and spiritual direction. There will be time to share what has worked for each of us and where we get stuck. Since every person's practice is unique to them and their life at present, the course will include a workbook for each participant to piece together a personal spiritual practice in Lent to continue throughout the year.

JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR: The Faith Formation Committee invites you to join them on a trip to see **Jesus Christ Superstar** on **Sunday, April 2nd** at the Maryland Theater in Hagerstown. Tickets and transportation will be provided.

Please **RSVP by today** so tickets can be purchased. You can RSVP online using the QR code or by tearing off the slip below and placing it in the offering plate.

****PLEASE NOTE: This trip is dependent on ticket availability on February 13th****



Jesus Christ Superstar

Name: _____ Number Attending: _____

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK:

MONDAY, FEBRUARY (13)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN
7:00 PM CHORAL SOCIETY REHEARSAL

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY (14)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN
12:30 PM HIGHLANDERS VALENTINES LUNCHEON IN THE GATHERING PLACE
6:30 PM BUILDING & GROUNDS WORK NIGHT

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY (15)

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, FEBRUARY (16)

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

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY (17)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY (18)

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY (19)

10:00 AM ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL
11:00 AM SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY