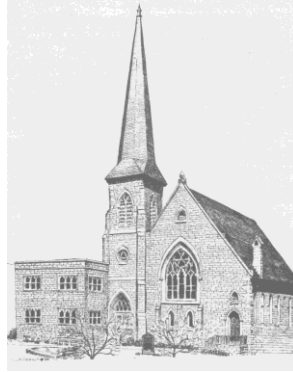


FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

11 WASHINGTON STREET CUMBERLAND, MD 21502



SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY: TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD SUNDAY FEBRUARY 19, 2023 11:00 AM

OPENING VOLUNTARIES

ALLEGRO
JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

A. CORELLI (1653-1713)

11:00 AM

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

LORD, THE LIGHT OF YOUR LOVE IS SHINING
THE SANCTUARY CHOIR

"SHINE, JESUS, SHINE"

Lord, the light of your love is shining,
in the midst of the darkness, shining;
Jesus, Light of the World, shine upon us;
set us free by the truth you now bring us.

Shine on me;

Shine, Jesus, shine; fill this land with the Father's glory
Blaze, Spirit, blaze; set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow; flood the nations with grace and mercy.
Send forth your word, Lord, and let there be light.

* CALL TO WORSHIP & PRAYER FOR THE DAY

The Lord, the God of gods has spoken; calling the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.

Out of Zion, perfect in its beauty, God is revealed in glory.

The Lord is king; enthroned upon the cherubim.

The Lord is great in Zion; high above all peoples.

Let me announce the decree of the Lord: "I myself have set my king upon my holy hill of Zion.

"You are my son; this day have I begotten you."

Let them confess God's name, which is great and awesome.

Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God and fall down in worship.

Let us pray -

God of Brightness, we come to catch a glimpse of your glory this day. May our worship be mingled with moments of seeing your bigger picture. Be with us as we climb toward the mountain and learn lessons from our ancestors of the faith. Bless these moments that they may guide us even when we are in the darkest valleys. Amen.

* HYMN #193

JESUS, TAKE US TO THE MOUNTAIN

"UNSER HERRSCHER"

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Compassionate God, we confess that we often wish to spend all of our time with you on the mountaintop, where we are sure of your presence, and where we feel connected to you. We confess that when we come down from the mountain, we often fail to go back into the world to be your hands and feet. We struggle to see you in the faces of our neighbors and we are overwhelmed by the brokenness we see in the world.

Forgive us, O God, when our vision is limited and our actions do not live out our discipleship. 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 2

Why do the nations conspire and the peoples plot in vain?

²The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD and his anointed, saying,

³“Let us burst their bonds apart and cast their cords from us.”

⁴He who sits in the heavens laughs; the LORD has them in derision.

⁵Then he will speak to them in his wrath and terrify them in his fury, saying,

⁶“I have set my king on Zion, my holy hill.”

⁷I will tell of the decree of the LORD: He said to me, “You are my son; today I have begotten you.

⁸Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage and the ends of the earth your possession.

⁹You shall break them with a rod of iron and dash them in pieces like a potter’s vessel.”

¹⁰Now therefore, O kings, be wise; be warned, O rulers of the earth.

¹¹Serve the LORD with fear; with trembling ¹² kiss his feet, or he will be angry, and you will perish in the way, for his wrath is quickly kindled. Happy are all who take refuge in him.

ANTHEM

AT THE NAME OF JESUS

“KING’S WESTON ARR. RALPH VAUGHAN WILLIAMS

THE SANCTUARY CHOIR

At the name of Jesus, ev’ry knee shall bow,
Ev’ry tongue confess him King of glory now;
Tis the Father’s pleasure we should call him Lord,
Who from the beginning was the mighty Word!
Humbled for a season, to receive a name
From the lips of sinners unto whom he came,
Faithfully he bore it spotless to the last,
Brought it back victorious when from death he passed.
Name him, brothers, name him with love as strong as death,
But with awe and wonder and with bated breath;
He is God, the Saviour, he is Christ the Lord,
Ever to be worshipped; trusted and adored.
In your hearts enthrone him; There let him subdue
All that is not holy, all that is not true;
Crown him as your captain in temptations’ hour;
Let his will enfold you in its light and power.
Brothers, this Lord Jesus shall return again,
With his Father’s glory, with his Angel train;
For all wreath of empire meet upon his brow,
Add our hearts confess him King of glory now.

SECOND READING

EXODUS 24:12-18

¹²The LORD said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain and wait there; I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction." ¹³So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up onto the mountain of God. ¹⁴To the elders he had said, "Wait here for us, until we come back to you. Look, Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them."

¹⁵Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. ¹⁶The glory of the LORD settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. ¹⁷Now the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the Israelites. ¹⁸Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

SERMON

"OLD SCHOOL ENCOUNTER"

REV. ALISON PETERS

* HYMN #12

IMMORTAL, INVISIBLE, GOD ONLY WISE

"ST. DENIO"

INVITATION TO OFFERING

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

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

LIFT THINE EYES ("ELIJAH")

FELIX MENDELSSOHN (1809-1847)

THE WOMEN OF THE SANCTUARY CHOIR

Lift thine eyes, O lift thine eyes to the mountains
From whence thy help cometh.
Thy help cometh from the Lord,
the Maker of heaven and earth.
He hath said thy foot shall not be moved.
Thy keeper will never slumber.

* 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 #673

JESUS, LIGHT OF JOY

"LAUDA ANIMA"

* 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 "GENEVA"

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.....	Wesley Mason
Director of Music Ministries.....	Judith Brown
Musicians.....	The Sanctuary Choir
Audio/Video Technicians.....	Joe Aurigemma and Eric Ringler
Ushers.....	David Stickler & Cindy Corley

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

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 worshipping 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: 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 12, 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	\$27,717.00
Pledge Balance Promised Year-to-Date	\$27,292.00
Over/(Under)	\$ 424.00

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.

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.

SHROVE TUESDAY INTERGENERATIONAL EVENT: Join the Faith Formation Committee this **Tuesday at 5:30 PM** in the Fellowship hall for a fun evening of pancakes and games as we prepare for the season of Lent. Bring your gently used, clean clothing, to be donated to a local organization.

LENT BIBLE STUDY: Join Pastor Alison Peters on Thursday Nights at 5:45 PM for a study, utilizing the book "Meeting Jesus at the Table." This study will take place from March 2nd - March 30th. Please sign up to receive a copy of the book. You can RSVP online using the QR Code or by tearing off the slip below and placing it in the offering plate. Please sign up no later than February 28th.



Name: _____

Number Attending: _____

MISSION

RULING ELDERS: BRENDA LUGER & AARON HENDRICKSON

HANDS-ON MISSION OPPORTUNITY!

You can participate in the city's annual *Let's Beautify Cumberland/Day of Caring and Sharing Campaign*. This is a 'hands-on' event where community businesses and organizations organize teams to complete various assigned tasks throughout the city. The city supplies the materials, we use our hands to make a difference.

The Mission Committee is working to expand our giving and encourage involvement, that's where you come in. Please prayerfully consider joining a team from our church volunteering during *Let's Beautify Cumberland* in May.

Yes, I would consider representing our church on a work crew for Let's Beautify Cumberland in May (more information to come)

Name _____ Email _____

(Please place this form in the collection plate or place it in the Mission mailbox)

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK:

MONDAY, FEBRUARY (20)

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

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY (21)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN
5:30 PM SHROVE TUESDAY INTERGENERATIONAL EVENT
6:30 PM BUILDING & GROUNDS WORK NIGHT

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY (22)

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

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY (23)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY (24)

8:30 AM PEO MEETING

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY (25)

10:30 AM BRITTANY OUT OF THE OFFICE

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY (26)

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

MONDAY, FEBRUARY (27)

8:30 AM BRITTANY OUT OF THE OFFICE
7:00 PM CHORAL SOCIETY REHEARSAL