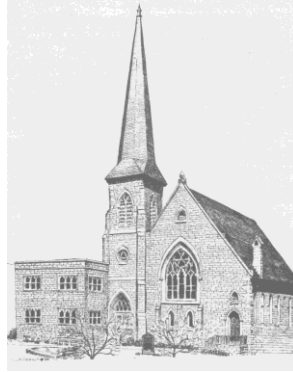


FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

11 WASHINGTON STREET CUMBERLAND, MD 21502



SERVICE OF WORD & SACRAMENT: HOLY COMMUNION FEBRUARY 5, 2023 11:00 AM

OPENING VOLUNTARIES

ANGEL
JUDITH BROWN, PIANO

JASON TONIOLI

11:00 AM

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

COME DOWN, O LOVE DIVINE
THE SANCTUARY CHOIR

"DOWN AMPNEY"

Come down, O Love Divine; seek out this soul of mine,
And visit it with your own ardor glowing.
And let your glorious light shine ever on my sight,
And clothe me round, the while my path illuming.

* CALL TO WORSHIP & PRAYER FOR THE DAY

Come, let us use our voices to praise the Lord.

Our mouths will shout forth praise.

Let us use our minds to ponder the wondrous deeds of God.

We will call to mind God's mighty acts.

With all of our strength and being, let us worship the Lord of love.

We will worship from our depths. Our souls exult in God!

Let us pray -

God, you hear the cry of the needy, and do not wait for us to call before coming to our aid; While we were still lost in our brokenness and sin, Christ came to us, lived among us, died our death, and rose to lead us into life. And so we come to worship, to offer our devotion and love our thanksgiving and praise. Amen.

* HYMN #314

LONGING FOR LIGHT, WE WAIT IN DARKNESS

"CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT"

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of mercy, we confess to you our faulty fast. Instead of setting the oppressed free we buy cheap without asking who pays. Instead of inviting the homeless poor into our houses, we erect fences and gates to keep them out. Instead of breaking the yoke, we continue consuming until the earth cries out.

Forgive us when we humble ourselves as an alternative to actually changing. Forgive us when our spiritual disciplines turn us in on ourselves and away from our neighbors both near and far. Forgive us when we hide away from our kin; the hungry, the naked, the poor, our sisters and brothers in Christ. Forgive us and turn us to the fast you desire through 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

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 112:1-10

¹ Praise the LORD! Happy are those who fear the LORD, who greatly delight in his commandments.

² Their descendants will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed.

³ Wealth and riches are in their houses, and their righteousness endures forever.

⁴ They rise in the darkness as a light for the upright; they are gracious, merciful, and righteous.

⁵ It is well with those who deal generously and lend, who conduct their affairs with justice.

⁶ For the righteous will never be moved; they will be remembered forever.

⁷ They are not afraid of evil tidings; their hearts are firm, secure in the LORD.

⁸ Their hearts are steady; they will not be afraid; in the end they will look in triumph on their foes.

⁹ They have distributed freely; they have given to the poor; their righteousness endures forever; their horn is exalted in honor.

¹⁰ The wicked see it and are angry; they gnash their teeth and melt away; the desire of the wicked comes to nothing.

MUSICAL TRIO

YOU ARE LOVED

TAWGS SALTER

MIKAYLA DODGE, MEZZO-SOPRANO; ZACH DODGE, GUITAR; JUDITH BROWN, PIANO

Don't give up It's just the weight of the world
 When your heart's heavy I...I will lift it for you
 Don't give up Because you want to be heard
 If silence keeps you I...I will break it for you
 Everybody wants to be understood Well I can hear you
 Everybody wants to be loved Don't give up Because you are loved
 Don't give up It's just the hurt that you hide When you're lost inside I...
 I will be there to find you Don't give up
 Because you want to burn bright If darkness blinds you I...
 I will shine to guide you Everybody wants to be understood
 Well I can hear you Everybody wants to be loved
 Don't give up Because you are loved You are loved Don't give up
 It's just the weight of the world Don't give up
 Every one needs to be heard You are loved

SECOND READING

ISAIAH 58:1-12

Shout out; do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet!

Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins.

² Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgments; they want God on their side.

³ "Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?"

Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day and oppress all your workers.

⁴ You fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist.

Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high.

⁵ Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the LORD?

⁶ Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke?

⁷ Is it not to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

⁸ Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you; the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.

⁹ Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, "Here I am." If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,

¹⁰ if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday.

¹¹ The LORD will guide you continually and satisfy your needs in parched places and make your bones strong, and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water whose waters never fail.

¹² Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.

SERMON

"OPEN COMMUNICATION"

REV. ALISON PETERS

* HYMN #769

FOR EVERYONE BORN

"FOR EVERYONE BORN"

INVITATION TO OFFERING

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

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

O SPLENDOR OF GOD'S GLORY BRIGHT
THE SANCTUARY CHOIR

CLAUDIO MONTEVERDI (1567-1643)

O splendor of God's glory bright,
O thou that bringest light from light,
O light of light, light's living spring, O Day all days illuminating.
O thou true Sun of heavenly love,
Pour down thy radiance from above;
The Spirit's sanctifying beam upon our earthly senses stream
All laud to God the Father be;
All praise eternal Son, to thee;
All glory to the Spirit raise in equal and unending praise.

* 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

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

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.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

You are invited to come forward and receive the elements. Return to your seats and we will partake in them together.

PRAYER AFTER SUPPER

Loving God, we thank you that you have fed us in this sacrament, united us with Christ, and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet in your eternal realm. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

* HYMN #658

GOD IS SO GOOD

“GOD IS SO GOOD”

* 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

MARCATO
JUDITH BROWN, PIANO

JOHN BENNETT (18TH CENTURY ENGLISH)

* 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..... Sharon Kazary
Director of Music Ministries.....Judith Brown
Musicians..... Mikayla Dodge, Soprano; Zach Dodge, Guitar; The Sanctuary Choir
Audio/Video Technicians.....Joe Aurigemma and Eric Ringler
Ushers.....Mike & Cathy Levitas

WORSHIP NOTES

The choral and vocal music this morning spans over 500 years and runs the gamut in compositional style from traditional with flute accompaniment to 21st Century contemporary with piano and electric guitar. The trio emphasizes that everyone is truly LOVED and was sung by Josh Groban countless times. The Offertory Anthem likens God’s glory bright to the Sun of heavenly love ending with a fitting Doxology. But ALL 3 selections this morning tell us that LOVE and LIGHT transcends the darkness. There are so many avenues to convey this LIGHT coming into our lives.

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

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 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: The flowers in the sanctuary this morning are given to the Glory of God in memory of Theresa Leasure by Eric Ringler and Joshua Gilhart. 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

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 (301-268-6903) if you are interested in assisting the committee with this project.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE & OUTREACH

RULING ELDERS: MIKAYLA DODGE & SUSAN MILLS

- Sympathy and prayers to Randi and Sheri Sterne on the death of Randi's mother and member, Norma Sterne, on Monday, January 30th.

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

Join us following worship next Sunday, February 12th 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 Sunday, February 12th to Betty Richtmeyer (301-759-4108) or Jan Layman (301-724-2641).

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE

RULING ELDERS: CARL BELT & GARY HENDRICKSON

ANNUAL GIVING YEAR-TO-DATE:	as of January 29, 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	\$14,162.00
Pledge Balance Promised Year-to-Date	\$19,492.00
Over/(Under)	(\$5,330.00)

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK:

MONDAY, FEBRUARY (6)

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

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY (7)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN
4:15 PM COMMUNITY CAFÉ MEETING IN THE GATHERING PLACE
6:00 PM MISSION MEETING

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY (8)

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 (9)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY (10)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY (11)

10:00 AM PEO MEETING

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY (12)

10:00 AM ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL
11:00 AM SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
12:15 PM SOUTH DAKOTA SOUP SALE PICK UP

FAITH FORMATION

RULING ELDERS: JOSH GILHART & KATIE ROSS

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 next Sunday, February 12th 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: _____



**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							
TOTAL							

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

Please submit your orders to the church office by TODAY.

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