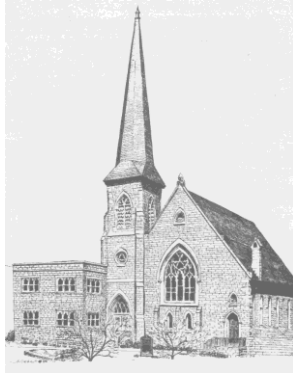


FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

11 WASHINGTON STREET CUMBERLAND, MD 21502



SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY: FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 30, 2023

11:00 AM

OPENING VOLUNTARY

HE SHALL FEED HIS FLOCK
JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

G.F. HANDEL (1685-1759)

11:00 AM

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

EVERYONE WHO LONGS FOR THE BOUNDLESS LOVE OF GOD
THE SANCTUARY CHOIR

Everyone who longs for the boundless love of God,
everyone who hopes for the coming of God's peace,
the Lord God who created all things beautiful and good
loves you more than you can ever fully know.

God is always watching over you,
God is watching you with loving eyes.
God is hearing you in all your prayers,
God is listening with tender, loving ears.
God shines light in every dark and fearful place we go
And will answer every little cry that you make,
so wherever you may go follow in God's holy way
and trust God to take you home.

* CALL TO WORSHIP & PRAYER FOR THE DAY

We come to worship the risen Christ.

Praise to Christ, the good shepherd!

Alleluia, praise to Christ, the gate!

Alleluia, praise to Christ, the lamb!

Alleluia, praise to Christ, our savior!

Christ is risen still! Alleluia!

Let us pray -

God, your loving voice calls us. With our names spoken so tenderly, we follow joyfully. When we lose our way, you don't give up until you have us securely in your arms. Help us express our soul's deep desire to meet you in worship today. Amen.

* HYMN #321

THE CHURCH'S ONE FOUNDATION

"AURELIA"

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of community, you call us to a world radically different from what we are used to. You ask us to lay aside our ideas of “mine” and “yours.” You show us a life where goods are shared, where all are loved, and faithfulness is shown through generosity. But we cling to our possessions, trusting them more than we trust you. Forgive us, merciful God. Help us to truly believe in your just and peaceful realm and to work to make it so. Amen.

(Silence for personal prayer and reflection.)

RESPONSE #441

HEAR THE GOOD NEWS OF SALVATION (VS.1)

“GOD IS SO GOOD”

Hear the good news of salvation: Jesus died to show God’s love.

Such great kindness! Such great mercy! Come to us from heaven above.

Jesus Christ, how much I love you! Jesus Christ, you save from sin!

How I love you! Look upon me. Love me still and cleanse within.

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

1 PETER 2:19-25

¹⁹For it is a commendable thing if, being aware of God, a person endures pain while suffering unjustly. ²⁰If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do good and suffer for it, this is a commendable thing before God. ²¹For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps. ²²“He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.” ²³When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. ²⁴He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, having died to sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

ANTHEM

MY SHEPHERD WILL SUPPLY MY NEED
THE SANCTUARY CHOIR

TRADITIONAL HYMN TUNE
ARR. VIRGIL THOMSON

My shepherd will supply my need. Jehovah is his name.
In pastures fresh he makes me feed beside the living stream.
He brings my wandering spirit back when I forsake his ways.
He leads me for his mercy’s sake in paths of truth and grace.
When I walk through the shades of death thy presence is my stay.
One word of thy supporting breath drives all my fears away.
Thy hand in sight of all my foes doth still my table spread.
My cup with blessings overflows thine oil anoints my head.
The sure provisions of my God attend me all my days
O may thy house be my abode and all my work be praise
There would I find a settled rest while others go and come.
No more a stranger or a guest but like a child at home.

SECOND READING

JOHN 10:1-10

¹⁰“Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. ²The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” ⁶Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. ⁷So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸All who came before me are thieves and bandits, but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

SERMON

"PART OF THE FLOCK"

REV. ALISON PETERS

* HYMN #410

GOD IS CALLING THROUGH THE WHISPER

"W ZLOBIE LEZY"

INVITATION TO OFFERING

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

OFFERTORY TRIO

PSALM 23

BOBBY MCFERRIN

ALISON PETERS, SOPRANO; MIKAYLA DODGE, MEZZO-SOPRANO; ZACH DODGE, BARITONE; JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

The Lord is my shepherd, I have all I need,
She makes me lie down in green meadows,
Beside the still waters, She will lead.
She restores my soul,
She rights my wrongs,
She leads me in a path of good things,
And fills my heart with songs.
Even though I walk through a dark and dreary land,
There is nothing that can shake me,
She has said, She won't forsake me,
I'm in Her hand.
She sets a table before me, in the presence of my foes,
She anoints my head with oil, And my cup overflows.
Surely, goodness and kindness will follow me,
All the days of my life,
And I will live in Her house, forever and ever.
Glory be to our Mother, and Daughter,
And to the Holy of Holies.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen.

* DOXOLOGY #658

GOD IS SO GOOD (VS. 1)

"GOD IS SO GOOD"

God is so good; God is so good;
God is so good; God's so good to me.

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF ELDERS

LINDA MELLON (CLASS OF 2026)

SENTENCES OF SCRIPTURE AND STATEMENT ON ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION

PROFESSION OF FAITH

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS

PRAYER OF ORDINATION AND LAYING ON OF HANDS

DECLARATION

WELCOME

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 #300

WE ARE ONE IN THE SPIRIT

"THEY'LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS"

* BENEDICTION

Go to the world! Go as the ones I send,
for I am with you till the age shall end,
When all the hosts of glory cry "Amen!" Alleluia. Alleluia.

POSTLUDE

MAESTOSO
JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

G.F. HANDEL

* 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 Squires
Director of Music Ministries.....Judith Brown
Musicians..... The Sanctuary Choir; Alison Peters, Soprano; Mikayla Dodge, Mezzo-Soprano; Zach Dodge, Baritone
Audio/Video Technicians.....Joe Aurigemma and Eric Ringler
Ushers.....David Stickler and Kathy Dowell

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: 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

THE CUMBERLAND CHORAL SOCIETY presents *ETERNAL LIGHT & HOPE* on **FRIDAY, MAY 19th** at 7:30 PM and **SUNDAY, MAY 21st** at 4:00 PM at **First Presbyterian Church!**

The COVID pandemic has created a need, greater than ever, for community and human interaction in this recovery period. - We, as human beings, **MUST** connect with each other and the devastating isolation for the last 3 years has shown that more than ever. The act of singing and making **LIVE** music together again is an act of healing in today's world and is drastically needed.

In our 83rd Season, our Spring concerts focus on three works from the 19th and 21st centuries with this healing message, "Requiem" by Gabriel Faure, "Choose Love" by Kyle Pederson and "From Darkness to Light" by Ruth Watson Henderson. In addition to our community-based group of 35 singers and a tri-state area professional orchestra, we have engaged three guest professional artists-, Christopher Mooney, baritone, Larry Allen, guest organist and Christine Mazza, renowned harpist. We at CCS firmly believe to present our concerts as the composer originally intended and these additions complete that intent.

We hope you will be able to join us this Spring. For further information please contact Judie Brown at 240-522-5070 or browjuda49@gmail.com

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE

RULING ELDERS: CARL BELT & CINDY CORLEY

ANNUAL GIVING YEAR-TO-DATE:	as of April 23, 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	\$64,324.00
Pledge Balance Promised Year-to-Date	\$66,289.00
Over/(Under)	\$(1,965.00)

FAITH FORMATION
RULING ELDERS: JOSH GILHART & ANN KELLERMEYER

CUMBERLAND AREA VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Where: St. Paul Lutheran in Cumberland

Dates: June 12-15

Time: 5:30 PM – 7:30 PM

Ages: Age 5 through completion of 5th grade

Registration Deadline: June 1st (the registration form can be found on the table outside of the church office.)

Please register early. Limit of 40 this year. Registrations will not be taken at the door.

There will be a kickoff event on Saturday, June 10 at Moon-Glo Skating Rink from 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM. There will be no cost for participants and families.

All participating congregations are encouraged to donate the following items for crafts:

- bandaids of all shapes and sizes (2x2, 4x4, gauze) - for making individual first aid kits
- magazines of all sorts - for cutting out pictures and gluing or taping to poster boards
- boxes of popcorn - to use for a craft
- stickers of all kinds!
- journals for writing in (all shapes and sizes giving each child a choice) - these can be found online or in stores like Ollies at very reasonable prices

You can put any such donations in the volunteer office marked VBS (Vacation Bible School). Thank you in advance for any help you can give. For any questions contact Julie Courtney or Katie Ross.

SESSION OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

CLERK OF SESSION

Carolyn Mathews

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE

Carl Belt & Cindy Corley

BUILDING & GROUNDS

Bob Courtney & Evan Swanger

CONGREGATIONAL CARE & OUTREACH

Mikayla Dodge & Linda Mellon

FAITH FORMATION

Josh Gilhart & Ann Kellermeyer

MISSION

Aaron Hendrickson & Brenda Luger

WORSHIP & MUSIC

Sharon Kazary & Mike Levitas

GAMES!

FUN!

PRIZES!

**MAY THE *FOURTH* BE WITH YOU
AT THE GREATEST CARNIVAL IN
THE GALAXY!**



MAY 4, 2023

6-8 PM



WASHINGTON MIDDLE SCHOOL CUMBERLAND, MD

ADMISSION \$5.00

***OPEN TO CHILDREN OF ALL AGES!**

FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!

(*STUDENTS WHO DO NOT ATTEND WMS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT.)

**SPECIAL GUEST PERFORMANCE BY
THE DEMO TEAM FROM KICK MASTERS KARATE!**

**PROCEEDS BENEFIT:
THE COMMUNITY CAFE**

FOOD!

INFLATABLES!

FACE PAINTING & MORE!



Please donate your gently used clothing to the Possibility Shop!
All sizes of clothing, both men's and women's, will be gratefully appreciated.
Please leave your donations in the hallway from the side entrance.
This clothing drive will run through May 28th.

Thank you,
Your Mission Committee

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK:

MONDAY, MAY (1)

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

TUESDAY, MAY (2)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN
4:15 PM COMMUNITY CAFÉ MEETING
5:30 PM MISSION MEETING
7:00 PM BUILDING & GROUNDS MEETING

WEDNESDAY, MAY (3)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN
5:15 PM WORSHIP & MUSIC MEETING
6:30 PM JOYBELLS REHEARSAL
7:00 PM N.A. GROUP MEETING IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL
7:30 PM SANCTUARY CHOIR REHEARSAL

THURSDAY, MAY (4)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN
12:30 PM RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL
6:00 PM MAY THE FOURTH BE WITH YOU CARNIVAL AT WASHINGTON MIDDLE SCHOOL

FRIDAY, MAY (5)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN

SATURDAY, MAY (6)

SUNDAY, MAY (7)

10:00 AM ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL
11:00 AM SERVICE OF WORD & SACRAMENT: HOLY COMMUNION-REV. ROBERT GAMBLE, GUEST PREACHER