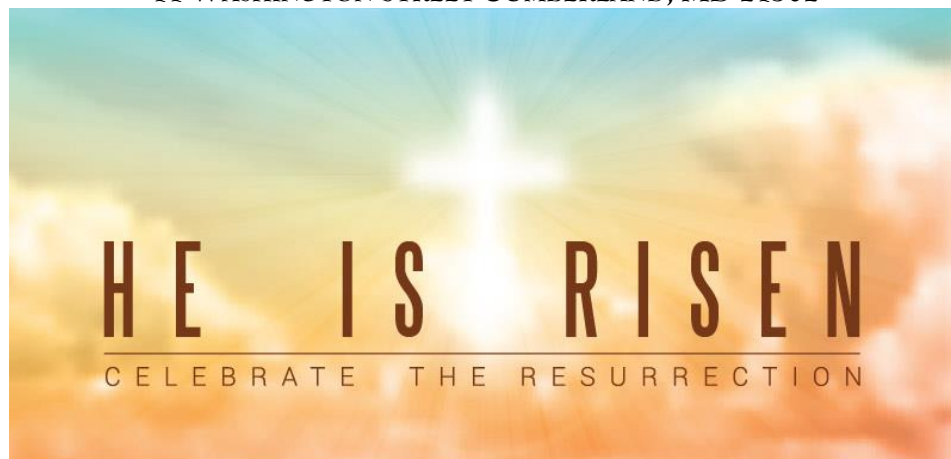


FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

11 WASHINGTON STREET CUMBERLAND, MD 21502



SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY: RESURRECTION OF THE LORD/EASTER SUNDAY

APRIL 9, 2023

11:00 AM

OPENING VOLUNTARY

SPRING

ANTONIO VIVALDI (1678-1741)

PETR SKOPEK, ASHLEY HOLMBERG, VIOLINS; JACOB ADAMSON, VIOLA; COLE BEDWAY, CELLO; JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

11:00 AM

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

SHOUT ALOUD THIS EASTER DAY!
THE SANCTUARY CHOIR, BART LAY, PERCUSSION
Shout aloud this Easter Day!
Christ has risen from the grave!
Heav'n and earth together say
"Alleluia!" "Alleluia!" "Alleluia!"

CAROL McCLURE

* CALL TO WORSHIP & PRAYER FOR THE DAY

Come disciples, and meet Jesus,
Who comes to us, risen and whole!
Come disciples, and meet the Christ,
Who brings us peace and new life!
Come disciples, and meet the future:
The future calling us to be resurrection people! Christ is risen! Let us worship God!

Let us pray:

Holy God, we so often long for more. We want more than the hamster wheel life of to-do lists and errands, meal prep and alarm clocks. We want more than comparison and competition. We want more than certainty that drowns out curiosity. We want more than fear that leads to violence. We want a life that is teeming with alleluias. We want a life overcrowded with hope. We want a life congested with good news. We want a life jam-packed with forgiveness. We want a life bursting with laughter. We want a life so full that the stone just has to be rolled away.

So today we pray— break the dam. Dust the cobwebs from our ears. Clear space in our minds to hear you clearly. Speak to us as only you can. It's what we long for. We long for you. Gratefully we pray, amen.

* HYMN #413

COME INTO GOD'S PRESENCE
(Verse 1-4 & then verse 1 as a round)

"COME INTO HIS PRESENCE"

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, you know us better than we know ourselves and you trust us with your message of life and love. You constantly seek us out even though we find ways to resist your call on our lives. You give us chance after chance to make a change in ourselves and our world. Forgive us for our inability to listen and follow through. Forgive us our lists of justifications for living the way we want instead of the way you desire. Forgive us our own claims on your name that prevent us from truly loving our neighbor.

Forgive us all our sins, even now as we lift them up to you. Amen.

(Silence for personal prayer and reflection.)

RESPONSE #551

LORD, HAVE MERCY

“LAND OF REST”

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.

TIME WITH CHILDREN

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

PSALM 118:1-2, 14-24

¹ O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever!

² Let Israel say, “His steadfast love endures forever.”

¹⁴ The LORD is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation.

¹⁵ There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous: “The right hand of the LORD does valiantly;

¹⁶ the right hand of the LORD is exalted; the right hand of the LORD does valiantly.”

¹⁷ I shall not die, but I shall live, and recount the deeds of the LORD.

¹⁸ The LORD has punished me severely, but he did not give me over to death.

¹⁹ Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD.

²⁰ This is the gate of the LORD; the righteous shall enter through it.

²¹ I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.

²² The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

²³ This is the LORD’s doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

²⁴ This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

ANTHEM

EASTER CHORALE

SAMUEL BARBER (1910-1981)

THE SANCTUARY CHOIR; PETR SKOPEK, ASHLEY HOLMBERG, VIOLINS; JACOB ADAMSON, VIOLA;
COLE BEDWAY, CELLO; BART LAY, TIMPANI; JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

The morning light renews the sky.

Across the air the birds ignite like sparks to take this blaze of day.

Through all the precincts of the night.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

The fires of dawn refresh our eyes.

We watch the world grow wide and bright

And praise our newly risen Light.

The winter land receives the year.

Her smallest creatures rouse and cling to swelling roots and buds that stir

The restless air to reel and ring!

Alleluia! Alleluia!

The sounds of waking fill our ears.

We listen to the live earth sing and praise our Source and Spring!

SCRIPTURE READING

LUKE 24:13-35

¹³ Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴ and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵ While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, ¹⁶ but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷ And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸ Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" ¹⁹ He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰ and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. ²¹ But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. ²² Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, ²³ and when they did not find his body there they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. ²⁴ Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see him." ²⁵ Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! ²⁶ Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" ²⁷ Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

²⁸ As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. ²⁹ But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰ When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. ³¹ Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, and he vanished from their sight. ³² They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" ³³ That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem, and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. ³⁴ They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" ³⁵ Then they told what had happened on the road and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

EASTER SERMON

REV. ALISON PETERS

* HYMN #234

COME, YOU FAITHFUL, RAISE THE STRAIN

"ST. KEVIN"

INVITATION TO OFFERING

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

OFFERTORY DUET

CHRIST IS ARISEN

FRANCOIS COUPERIN (1668-1733)

LAUREL PLITNIK, SOPRANO; MIKAYLA DODGE, MEZZO-SOPRANO; PETR SKOPEK, ASHLEY HOLMBERG, VIOLINS;
COLE BEDWAY, CELLO; JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

Alleluia!

O Jesu, Thou art our Light and Life!

Christ hath triumphed and we conquer,

Ours the cross, the grave, the skies!

We with him to life eternal by His resurrection rise!

Glorious light and life immortal by His resurrection rise,

Glorious life and light immortal on this holy Easter morn.

Alleluia!

* DOXOLOGY 240

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA! GIVE THANKS (VERSE 4)

"ALLELUIA No. 1"

THE CONGREGATION, STRINGS AND ORGAN

Alleluia, Alleluia, Give thanks to the risen Lord,

Alleluia, Alleluia, Give praise to his name.

Come let us praise the living God,

Joyfully sing to our Savior.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Give thanks to the risen Lord,

Alleluia, Alleluia, Give praise to his name.

* 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 #245 CHRIST THE LORD IS RISEN TODAY! "LLANFAIR"

* BENEDICTION

* RESPONSE AFTER BENEDICTION SEVEN FOLD AMEN "LUTKIN"
THE SANCTUARY CHOIR

POSTLUDE HALLELUJAH (MESSIAH) G.F. HANDEL (1685-1759)
THE CONGREGATION AND THE SANCTUARY CHOIR
PETER SKOPEK, ASHLEY HOLMBERG, VIOLINS; JACOB ADAMSON, VIOLA; COLE BEDWAY, CELLO; BART LAY, TIMPANI; JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN
(If you would like to sing the Hallelujah Chorus with the choir,
please come to the front of the Sanctuary during the Benediction Response)

* 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.....Mike Levitas
Director of Music Ministries.....Judith Brown
Musicians.....The Sanctuary Choir; Judith Brown, Organ; Mikayla Dodge, Mezzo-Soprano; Laurel Plitnik, Soprano
.....Petr Skopek & Ashley Holmberg Violins; Jacob Adamson, Viola; Cole Bedway, Cello; Bart Lay, Timpani
Audio/Video Technicians.....Joe Aurigemma and Eric Ringler
Ushers.....Kathy Dowell and David Stickler

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

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE

RULING ELDERS: CARL BELT & CINDY CORLEY

ANNUAL GIVING YEAR-TO-DATE:	as of April 2, 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	\$58,004.00
Pledge Balance Promised Year-to-Date	\$54,590.00
Over/(Under)	\$ 3,413.00

FAITH FORMATION
RULING ELDERS: JOSH GILHART & ANN KELLERMEYER

BEING PRESBYTERIAN: FOUNDATIONS OF PRESBYTERIAN DISCIPLESHIP: The Faith Formation committee is looking to host a two session class on the basics of Presbyterian Discipleship. This class will be perfect for newer guests and members looking to learn more about what it means to be a Presbyterian, as well as anyone looking for a refresh. If you are interested please speak with Joshua Gilhart.

MISSION
RULING ELDERS: BRENDA LUGER & AARON HENDRICKSON

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING: This morning, we will have the opportunity to contribute to the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering. In a world of disaster, hunger, and oppression millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity.

The Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Program, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People Program are all supported by One Great Hour of Sharing Offering. These three programs all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope. Please give from your abundance in this time of rebirth.

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK:

MONDAY, APRIL (10)

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

4:45 PM ADMIN & FINANCE MEETING IN THE PARLOR
7:00 PM CHORAL SOCIETY REHEARSAL

TUESDAY, APRIL (11)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN
5:00 PM FAITH FORMATION MEETING VIA ZOOM

WEDNESDAY, APRIL (12)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN
10:30 AM STAFF MEETING IN REV. PETERS' OFFICE
1:00-3:00 PM PROJECT CONNECT IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL
7:00 PM N.A. GROUP MEETING IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL

THURSDAY, APRIL (13)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN

FRIDAY, APRIL (14)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN

SATURDAY, APRIL (15)

SUNDAY, APRIL (16)

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