

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

11 WASHINGTON STREET CUMBERLAND, MD 21502



SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY: PENTECOST SUNDAY MAY 28, 2023 11:00 AM

OPENING VOLUNTARY

KOMM, HEILIGER GEIST, HERRE GOTT (COME HOLY GHOST, GOD AND LORD)
JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

ANDREAS ARMSDORF (1670-1699)
FRIEDRICH ZACHAU (1663-1712)

11:00 AM

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

COME HOLY GHOST, OUR SOULS INSPIRE
THE SANCTUARY CHOIR

"VENI CREATOR"

Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire,
And lighten with celestial fire;
Thou the anointing Spirit art,
who dost thy sevenfold gifts impart.
Teach us to know the Father, Son,
And thee, of both, to be but one,
That through the ages all along
This may be our endless song.
Praise to thine eternal merit,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen

* CALL TO WORSHIP & PRAYER FOR THE DAY

We worship a creative God
Who formed all living things!
We worship an abundant God
Who gives each of us different gifts!
We worship a glorious God
Who is seen in the vast array of creation! Alleluia!

Let us pray -

Holy One, you sent your Spirit to lead us in the paths of peace. Breathe into us the voice of prophecy. Breathe into us the power of forgiveness. Breathe into us the gifts of ministry, that we may serve your people; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

* HYMN #290

ON PENTECOST THEY GATHERED

"MUNICH"

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Infinite God, you come to us in many colors, shapes, and languages. You speak to each of us in a way we can understand. You reach out to us and meet us where we are. But we are quick to limit you to what we can understand and control. Forgive us, and set your Spirit loose among us. Challenge us, surprise us, and open us to your power, so that we might know you more deeply, follow you more faithfully, and love more fully. Amen.

(Silence for personal prayer and reflection.)

RESPONSE #288

SPIRIT OF THE LIVING GOD

“LIVING GOD”

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

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 104:24-34, 35B

²⁴ O LORD, how manifold are your works! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

²⁵ There is the sea, great and wide; creeping things innumerable are there, living things both small and great.

²⁶ There go the ships and Leviathan that you formed to sport in it.

²⁷ These all look to you to give them their food in due season;

²⁸ when you give to them, they gather it up; when you open your hand, they are filled with good things.

²⁹ When you hide your face, they are dismayed; when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust.

³⁰ When you send forth your spirit, they are created, and you renew the face of the ground.

³¹ May the glory of the LORD endure forever; may the LORD rejoice in his works—

³² who looks on the earth and it trembles, who touches the mountains and they smoke.

³³ I will sing to the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have being.

³⁴ May my meditation be pleasing to him, for I rejoice in the LORD.

³⁵ Let sinners be consumed from the earth, and let the wicked be no more.

Bless the LORD, O my soul. Praise the LORD!

ANTHEM

COME, HOLY SPIRIT, COME

DAVID KAUFFMAN

THE SANCTUARY CHOIR; SARAH JACKSON, FLUTE

Called by the Gospel to gather the people of God

Called to embrace all communities here into one.

Broke and bonded by pains of the past,

Striving to fashion a love that will last

We call on the Spirit of God to open our hearts.

Come, Spirit of Wisdom and Light,

O Come, Spirit of consolation

Come, Spirit of Strength, O Fire of Love.

Come, bathe our darkness in light,

O Come, reveal what will liberate us

Make of us one, come Holy Spirit come.

We open our hands, to receive,

We open our hearts for we believe.

SECOND READING

ACTS 2:1-21

2 When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. ² And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³ Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. ⁴ All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. ⁵ Now there were devout Jews from every people under heaven living in Jerusalem. ⁶ And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. ⁷ Amazed and astonished, they asked, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?” ⁸ And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? ⁹ Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰ Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging

to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, ¹¹ Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God’s deeds of power.” ¹² All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?” ¹³ But others sneered and said, “They are filled with new wine.” ¹⁴ But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, “Fellow Jews and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. ¹⁵ Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o’clock in the morning. ¹⁶ No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: ¹⁷ ‘In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. ¹⁸ Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy. ¹⁹ And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. ²⁰ The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord’s great and glorious day. ²¹ Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.’

SERMON

“PENTECOST”

REV. ALISON PETERS

* HYMN #291

SPIRIT, SPIRIT OF GENTLENESS

“SPIRIT”

INVITATION TO OFFERING

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

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

HOLY SPIRIT RAIN DOWN
THE SANCTUARY CHOIR

RUSSELL FRAGAR

Holy Spirit, rain down, rain down
Oh Comforter and Friend, how we need Your touch again.
Let Your power fall, let Your voice be heard
Come and change our hearts, as we stand on your Word.
No eye has seen, no ear has heard,
No mind can know what God has in store
So open up heaven, open it wide. Over Your church and over our lives.

* DOXOLOGY #607

PRAISE GOD, FROM WHOM ALL BLESSING FLOW

“OLD HUNDRETH”

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all people here below;
praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

* 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 #296

GO IN GRACE AND MAKE DISCIPLES

“WONDROUS LIGHT”

* 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 “DOWN AMPNEY”

JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

Reflective Text:

Come, down O Love Divine;
seek out this soul of mine and visit it with your own ardor glowing.
O Comforter draw near; within my heart appear
And kindle it, your holy flame bestowing.
And so the yearning strong,
with which the soul will long shall far outpass the power of human telling.
For none can guess God’s grace, till Love creates a place
Wherein the Holy Spirit makes a dwelling.

* 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.....Carolyn Mathews
Director of Music Ministries.....Judith Brown
Musicians.....The Sanctuary Choir and Sarah Jackson, Flute
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: The flowers in the sanctuary this morning are given to the Glory of God in loving memory of **Barbara Leasure, by Kathy Dowell.** 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 May 21, 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 | \$78,756.00 |
| Pledge Balance Promised Year-to-Date | \$81,889.00 |
| Over/(Under) | \$(3,132.00) |

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.**

MISSION

RULING ELDERS: AARON HENDRICKSON & BRENDA LUGER

PENTECOST OFFERING: Today, our congregation will have the opportunity to donate to the Pentecost Offering.

Since the Pentecost Offering started in 1998, Presbyterians have raised more than \$16 million for ministries that benefit younger members of God's family. We believe we are called to do even more – to support and care for young people as they build a strong foundation of faith.

40% of the Pentecost Offering will be used to support a local youth based program.

25% goes to Young Adult Volunteer (YAV) experience. This will train and equip volunteers to engage in mission in the U.S. and around the world. It will reduce barriers to serve by providing assistance with student loan debt, medical insurance, and a simple living stipend. It will provide additional funding to ensure all young adults have the opportunity to participate.

25% supports ministries with youth, ages 12–18. This project offers a path and plan for graduating seniors to explore their next steps in faith, community, and vocation.

10% supports the “Educate a Child, Transform the World” national initiative, to better the lives of children by working to ensure equitable, accessible, quality public education so that all children, may grow into the fullness of life.

Please give generously to the Pentecost Special Offering.

WORSHIP & MUSIC

RULING ELDERS: SHARON KAZARY & MIKE LEVITAS

OUR SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE BEGINS next Sunday, June 4th. Worship will begin at 10:00 AM. Our summer schedule will remain until Sunday, September 3rd.

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

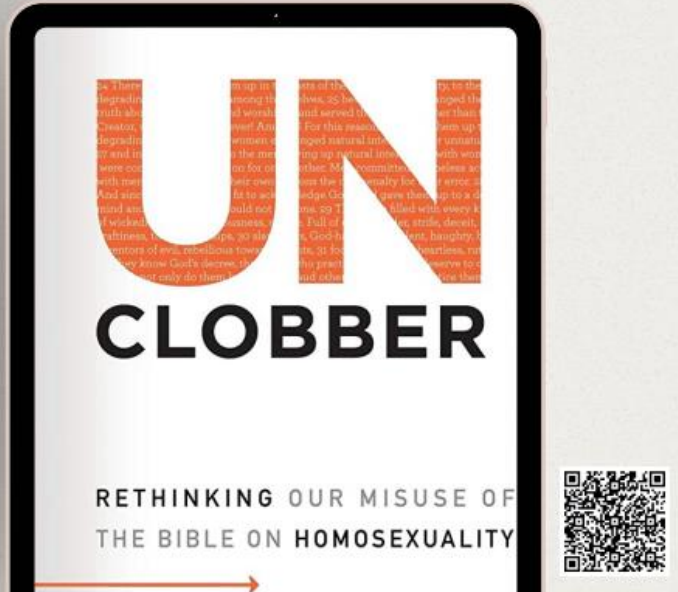
SUMMER BOOK STUDY

UNCLOBBER BY COLBY MARTIN

**June 11th, 18th, 25th
July 16th 23rd, 30th
ZOOM**

UnClobber reexamines what the Bible says (and does not say) about homosexuality in such a way that sheds divine light on outdated and inaccurate assumptions and interpretations.

**Sign up using the QR Code or
Email Firstpresbyteriansecretary@gmail.com**



SUMMER BOOK STUDY: UNCLOBBER SIGN UP

Name: _____ Number attending: _____

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK:

MONDAY, MAY (29)
CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN UNTIL NOON BY OFFICE VOLUNTEER

WEDNESDAY, MAY (31)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN UNTIL NOON BY OFFICE VOLUNTEER
7:00 PM N.A. GROUP MEETING IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL
7:30 PM SANCTUARY CHOIR REHEARSAL

THURSDAY, JUNE (1)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN UNTIL NOON BY OFFICE VOLUNTEER

FRIDAY, JUNE (2)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN UNTIL NOON BY OFFICE VOLUNTEER

SATURDAY, JUNE (3)

SUNDAY, JUNE (4)

10:00 AM ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL
11:00 AM SERVICE OF WORD & SACRAMENT: HOLY COMMUNION

*Please note that the Church Office will be CLOSED on Monday, May 29th in observance of Memorial Day.

*Please note that Brittany will be on vacation from Tuesday, May 30th- Monday, June 5th. The church office will be open from 9:00 AM- 12:00 PM by office volunteers during Brittany's time away.



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