

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

11 WASHINGTON STREET CUMBERLAND, MD 21502



SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY JULY 16, 2023 10:00 AM

GATHERING

PRELUDE

FAIR HAVENS
NANCY HODGES, PIANO

STAN PETHEL

10:00AM

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

SPIRIT SONG
NANCY HODGES, PIANO & BRENDA LUGER, FLUTE

JOHN WIMBER

○ let the Sun of God enfold you with his Spirit and his love, Let him fill your life and satisfy your soul.
○ let him have the things and hold you and his Spirit, like a dove, Will descend upon your life and make you whole.
Jesus, ○ Jesus, come and fill your lambs. Jesus, ○ Jesus, come and fill your lambs.

○ come and sing this song with gladness as your hearts are filled with joy, Lift your hands in sweet surrender to his name.
○ give him all your tears and sadness, give him all your years of pain, And you'll enter into life in Jesus' name.
Jesus, ○ Jesus, come and fill your lambs. Jesus, ○ Jesus, come and fill your lambs.

* CALL TO WORSHIP & PRAYER OF THE DAY

Your word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path.

We have sworn an oath and confirmed it, to observe your righteous ordinances.

Accept our offerings of praise, ○ Lord, and teach us your ordinances.

We hold our lives in our hands continually, but we do not forget your law.

Your decrees are our heritage forever; they are the joy of our hearts.

We incline our hearts to perform your statutes forever, to the end.

Let us Pray:

Father of abundance and growth, you spread your grace audaciously amongst all of us. We gather here today seeking to be fruitful soil and seeking to bring forth divine grain. Through the power of the Holy Spirit open our hearts, minds, and souls that we may encounter you through our risen and ever-present lord, Jesus Christ, in whom we pray and who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

* HYMN # 405

PRAISE GOD FOR THIS HOLY GROUND

"HEYMONYSTRAAT"

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, in your gracious presence, we confess our sins and the sin of the world. Although Christ is among us as our peace, we have been a people divided against ourselves as we cling to the values of a broken world. The profit and pleasures we have pursued lay waste to the land and pollute the seas. The fears and jealousies that we have harbored set neighbor against neighbor and nation against nation. We have abused your good gifts of imagination and freedom, of intellect and reason, and have turned them into bonds of oppression. Lord, have mercy upon us; heal and forgive us. Set us free to serve you in the world as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ. Amen

RESPONSE #551

LORD, HAVE MERCY

“LAND OF REST”

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

SUNG RESPONSE #582

GLORY TO GOD, WHOSE GOODNESS SHINES ON ME

“GLORY TO GOD”

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
And to the Spirit, whose love has set me free. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen
World without end, without end. Amen. World without end, without end. Amen.
World without end, without end. Amen. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen

PASSING OF THE PEACE

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

ROMANS 8:1-11

8 Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ²For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. ³For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed, it cannot, ⁸and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

⁹But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰But if Christ is in you, then the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit^l is life because of righteousness. ¹¹If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus^l from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

ANTHEM

IN CHRIST ALONE
BRENDA LUGER, FLUTE

KEITH GETTY, STEWART TOWNEND

SECOND READING

MATTHEW 13:1-9, 18-23

13 That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ²Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³And he told them many things in parables, saying: “Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴And as he sowed, some seeds fell on a path, and the birds came and ate them up. ⁵Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. ⁶But when the sun rose, they were scorched, and since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹If you have ears, hear!”

¹⁸“Hear, then, the parable of the sower. ¹⁹When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. ²⁰As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, ²¹yet such a person has no root but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. ²²As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of this age and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. ²³But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

SERMON

“SOWING ABUNDANTLY”

ELDER JOSHUA GILHART

RESPONDING

* HYMN# 459

O WORD OF GOD INCARNATE

“MUNICH”

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

OH JESUS I HAVE PROMISED (Vs.1 & 4)
NANCY HODGES, PIANO & BRENDA LUGER, FLUTE

“ANGEL’S STORY”
ARTHUR HENRY MANN

O Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end; be thou forever near me, my Master and my friend;
I shall not fear the battle if thou art by my side, nor wander from the pathway if thou wilt be my guide.

O Jesus, thou hast promised to all who follow thee that where thou art in glory there shall they servant be.
And, Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end; O give me grace to follow, my Master and my friend.

* DOXOLOGY # 606

PRAISE GOD, FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW

“OLD HUNDREDTH”

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

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.

SENDING

* HYMN # 771

WHAT IS THE WORLD LIKE

“NEW WORLD”

* CHARGE AND 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.

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

LOVE LIFTED ME
NANCY HODGES, PIANO

JINA PARK

* 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

Guest Speaker Elder Josh Gilhart
Liturgist.....Rev. Alison Peters
Director of Music Ministries.....Judith Brown
Musician.....Nancy Hodges, Piano and Brenda Luger, Flute
Audio/Video Technicians.....Joe Aurigemma and Eric Ringler
Ushers.....Linda Mellon and Betty Luger



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.

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.

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.



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).



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.

PASTOR'S SCHEDULE

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:
301-777-3700/ firstpresbyteriansecretary@gmail.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

ORGAN CONCERT: Our former DCM and organist, Bryan Lohr will be performing a live organ concert on Saturday, July 15th at 7:00 PM at St. Ann Roman Catholic Church, 12814 New Germany Road. Grantsville, MD 21536. The event is sponsored by Music at Penn Alps. Tickets are 20\$ per adult and ages 19 and under are free. Tickets can be purchased on line at musicatpennalps.org or at the Penn Alps gift shop. Tickets at the door may be purchased by check or cash.



MONDAY, JULY (17)
 8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN

TUESDAY, JULY (18)
 8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN
 BROILER INSPECTION

WEDNESDAY, JULY (19)
 8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN
(Brittany out of the office)
 7:00 PM NA MEETING

THURSDAY, JULY (20)
 8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN
(Brittany out of the office)

FRIDAY, JULY (21)
 8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN

SATURDAY, JULY (22)
 11:30 AM PENN ALPS RETREAT
 ACT NOW YOUTH FELLOWSHIP
 OVERNIGHT STAY

SUNDAY, JULY (23)
 10:00 AM SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
 7:00 PM UNCLOBBER BOOK STUDY

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE
 RULING ELDERS: CARL BELT & CINDY CORLEY



ANNUAL GIVING YEAR-TO-DATE:	as of July 9, 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	\$107,305.00
Pledge Balance Promised Year-to-Date	\$109,187.00
Over/(Under)	\$(1,881.00)

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

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

SUMMER RETREAT

WHAT GIFTS WOULD JESUS
SEE IN YOU?



JULY 22, 2023

11:30AM

AT PENN ALPS IN GRANTSVILLE

Save the date for a SPECIAL GATHERING at PENN ALPS where we will share fun, growth, fellowship all while exploring the spiritual gifts we all have. A buffet lunch will be provided by the Faith Formation Committee. After lunch Katie Ross will present an imaginative retelling of the Mary/Martha story which will include Lazarus.

Please RSVP to let us know you plan to attend by tearing off the slip below or using the QR Code

Name: _____

Number Attending: _____

