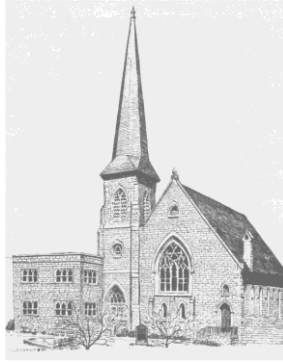


# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

11 WASHINGTON STREET CUMBERLAND, MD 21502



## SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY AUGUST 20, 2023 10:00 AM

OPENING VOLUNTARY

*FUGUE IN A MINOR*  
JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

ANONYMOUS (18<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY)

10:00 AM

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT #392

*JESUS, WE ARE HERE*  
(Congregational – sing 3 times)  
Jesus, we are here;  
Jesus, we are here;  
Jesus, we are here;  
We are here for you.

TAIZE

### \* CALL TO WORSHIP & PRAYER FOR THE DAY

We gather to worship our God,  
who speaks the words of peace we need in chaotic times.

We gather to follow Jesus,  
who encourages to never fear, for he is near.

We gather to be filled with the Spirit,  
who anoints us so we can go to serve our world.

Let us pray -

Holy God, by your providence you have preserved your people through many times of trouble. Bless and keep us in these days, that we may know your abundant love and proclaim your saving work; through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

### \* HYMN #401

*HERE IN THIS PLACE*

“GATHER US IN”

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Powerful God, we are more adept at making waves than calming storms. We find it easier to push people out of the boat, rather than make room for those who are different from us. And our lives are such a whirlwind of activity, that we do not notice your presence or hear your sheer silence singing your peace to us.

Have mercy on us, God of patience. Grab hold of us to keep us from drowning in temptations. Give us the words to speak of your hope to others. Fill our hearts with the love of Jesus Christ, which is nearer to us than we dare to imagine.  
Amen.

*(Silence for personal prayer and reflection.)*

Create in me a clean heart, O God; create in me a clean heart, O God;  
Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

## SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM FOR HUDSON DAVID MASON

## PRESENTATION

## PROFESSION OF FAITH

## BAPTISM

## THE LITANY OF WELCOME

Pastor: This child is now baptized into Jesus Christ.

We welcome him as a member of the one holy catholic and Apostolic Church.

Elder to the Congregation: Remembering our own baptism, do we, the members of First Presbyterian Church, promise to love, nurture and support Hudson David and his family as together we grow in Christ. If so answer, "we do."

Pastor: Then let us welcome him with gifts and with song!

## BAPTISM HYMN #188

## JESUS LOVES ME

## "JESUS LOVES ME"

## 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 105:1-6, 16-22, 45B

O give thanks to the LORD; call on his name; make known his deeds among the peoples.

<sup>2</sup> Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wonderful works.

<sup>3</sup> Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.

<sup>4</sup> Seek the LORD and his strength; seek his presence continually.

<sup>5</sup> Remember the wonderful works he has done, his miracles and the judgments he has uttered,

<sup>6</sup> O offspring of his servant Abraham, children of Jacob, his chosen ones.

<sup>16</sup> When he summoned famine against the land and cut off every supply of bread,

<sup>17</sup> he had sent a man ahead of them, Joseph, who had been sold as a slave.

<sup>18</sup> His feet were hurt with fetters; his neck was put in a collar of iron;

<sup>19</sup> until what he had said came to pass, the word of the LORD kept testing him.

<sup>20</sup> The king sent and released him; the ruler of the peoples set him free.

<sup>21</sup> He made him lord of his house and ruler of all his possessions,

<sup>22</sup> to instruct his officials at his pleasure and to teach his elders wisdom.

that they might keep his statutes and observe his laws. Praise the LORD!

## SOLO

## SONG WITHOUT WORDS IN E FLAT MAJOR OP. 30 NO 7

## FELIX MENDELSSOHN (1810-1847)

JUDITH BROWN, PIANO

## SECOND READING

## MATTHEW 14:22-33

<sup>22</sup> Immediately he made the disciples get into a boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds.

<sup>23</sup> And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, <sup>24</sup> but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. <sup>25</sup> And early

in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. <sup>26</sup> But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. <sup>27</sup> But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

<sup>28</sup> Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." <sup>29</sup> He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. <sup>30</sup> But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and, beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" <sup>31</sup> Jesus immediately reached out

his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" <sup>32</sup> When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. <sup>33</sup> And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

\* HYMN #463

HOW FIRM A FOUNDATION

"FOUNDATION"

INVITATION TO OFFERING

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

OFFERTORY SOLO

ALLEGRO IN C MAJOR  
JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

SIMON STUBLEY (?? - 1741)

\* 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

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 #295

GO TO THE WORLD!

"SINE NOMINE"

\* 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

COME DOWN O LOVE DIVINE  
JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

DOWN AMPNEY

\* 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.....	David Stickler
Director of Music Ministries.....	Judith Brown
Audio/Video Technicians.....	Joe Aurigemma and Eric Ringler
Ushers.....	Cathy and Mike Levitas



**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](http://www.fpc-cumberland.org) and [www.facebook.com/First.Pres.Cumberland](http://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).



The flowers this morning are given to the honor and glory of God in celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary of Butch and Anne (Takehara) Wilson. Anne and Butch grew up in this church and were married in this sanctuary in 1973. They now live in Houston, TX. The special flowers on the sanctuary this morning are given in loving memory of William Lee Shaffer, Jr., loving son and brother, by Carlotta Shaffer. 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](mailto:revalisonpeters@gmail.com)

**To help with scheduling,**  
please reach out to the Church Office:  
301-777-3700/ [firstpresbyteriansecretary@gmail.com](mailto:firstpresbyteriansecretary@gmail.com)



**HOME & GARDEN BOUNTY:** Next Sunday August 27<sup>th</sup>, our congregation will be celebrating our summer garden bounty. Please bring examples of your produce to church. We are hoping to decorate the sanctuary with our own fruits, vegetables, and flowers. Following the service, depending on the volume of vegetables and flowers, we will donate our produce to the Union Rescue Mission.

**INTERFAITH FOOD PANTRY:** The Mission Committee will continue to collect donations for the Interfaith Food Pantry, thanks Wesley Mason for volunteering to deliver our donations. Our donation box can be found in the hall as you enter the church from the parking lot. The Interfaith Community Pantry can accept non-perishable items only. In addition, the Pantry cannot accept food that has passed its expiration date. All donations of non-perishable items are greatly appreciated. Please keep donating to this important local mission.

**FALL KICK-OFF PICNIC:** Join us next Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup> at Rocky Gap State Park for our Fall Kick-off worship service. The service will begin at 11:00 AM at the White Pine Pavilion on the left-hand side of Pleasant Valley Road. Attendees should wear comfortable clothes for the weather. Bring chairs for personal comfort. Plan to stay for a picnic potluck lunch and social time together. The Congregational Care & Outreach Committee will be providing fried chicken, macaroni salad, potato salad and drinks. **There will be a sign-up sheet on the table in the hallway for people to sign up to bring a dish.** There will also be musical entertainment, karaoke corn hole, giant Jenga, and hula hoops.

**BRITHDAY CARD SHOWER:** On September 1<sup>st</sup>, Betty Lange will be turning 101 years old! We would like to help her celebrate by showering her with birthday cards. If you would like to send a birthday greeting, please use the address below to send your warm wishes.

**Betty Lange**

721 Maiden Choice Lane Apt CW313  
Catonsville, MD 21228



MONDAY, AUGUST (21)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN

TUESDAY, AUGUST (22)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST (23)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN

7:00 PM NA MEETING

THURSDAY, AUGUST (24)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN

FRIDAY, J AUGUST (25)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN

SATURDAY, AUGUST (26)

9:00 AM SESSION RETREAT

SUNDAY, AUGUST (27)

10:00 AM SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

**ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE**  
RULING ELDERS: CARL BELT & CINDY CORLEY



<b>ANNUAL GIVING YEAR-TO-DATE:</b>	as of August 13, 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	\$142,976.00
Pledge Balance Promised Year-to-Date	\$128,686.00
Over/(Under)	\$ 14,290.00

**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 Ministries .....	Judith 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