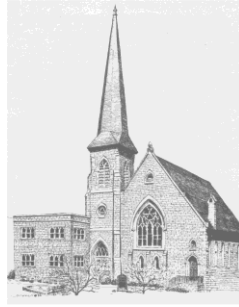


FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

11 WASHINGTON STREET CUMBERLAND, MD 21502



SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY OCTOBER 8, 2023 11:00 AM

OPENING VOLUNTARY

THE LORD IS A MIGHTY GOD
JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

FELIX MENDELSSOHN

11:00 AM

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

YOUR LAW, O GOD, IS PERFECT
THE SANCTUARY CHOIR

CHRISTUS, DER IS MEIN LEBEN

Your law, O Lord, is perfect, the simple making wise;
How pure are your commandments, enlightening my eyes.

My strength and redeemer, lawgiver and true light,
My words and meditations make worthy in your sight.

* CALL TO WORSHIP & PRAYER FOR THE DAY

Let us come -

We come to learn.

Let us come -

We come to witness.

Let us come -

We come to change.

Let us come -

We come to repent.

Let us come -

We come to worship.

Let us pray -

Holy One, your law is right and just; you offer us unending wisdom and encouragement. Help us in this time to listen for your voice and to follow where you lead. Amen.

* HYMN #367

COME, YE THANKFUL PEOPLE, COME

"ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR"

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of the law and the prophets, we do not want to admit all of the commandments we have broken. We worship idols of money, success, and power. We use your name to justify whatever we do. We do not honor each other; we covet, we lie, we wish evil upon others. Our sins are too many to name. Forgive us.

Speak to us and we will listen, remembering that you are our freedom and deliverer. Amen.

(Silence for personal prayer and reflection.)

Show us, O Lord, your steadfast love, and let your saving grace be near;
when we return with open hearts the Lord speaks peace and we will hear.

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

SCRIPTURE READING

PSALM 19:1-14

¹ The heavens are telling the glory of God, and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.
² Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge.
³ There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard;
⁴ yet their voice goes out through all the earth and their words to the end of the world.
 In the heavens he has set a tent for the sun,
⁵ which comes out like a bridegroom from his wedding canopy, and like a strong man runs its course with joy.
⁶ Its rising is from the end of the heavens and its circuit to the end of them, and nothing is hid from its heat.
⁷ The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of the LORD are sure, making wise the simple;
⁸ the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the LORD is clear, enlightening the eyes;
⁹ the fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.
¹⁰ More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb.
¹¹ Moreover, by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.
¹² But who can detect one's own errors? Clear me from hidden faults.
¹³ Keep back your servant also from the insolent; do not let them have dominion over me.
 Then I shall be blameless and innocent of great transgression.
¹⁴ Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

SOLO

HOLY TRINITY PRAYER

PAUL AYRES

Alison Peters, Soprano and Judith Brown, Piano
 Holy Trinity, in whose name we worship, give us such love
 That alone and together, today and every day we may reverence the Father,
 Radiate the presence of the Son, and live in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen

SCRIPTURE READING

PHILIPPIANS 3:4B-14

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. ⁷ Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸ More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law but one that comes through faith in Christ, ¹⁰ the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰ I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead. ¹² Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal, but I press on to lay hold of that for which Christ ¹³ has laid hold of me. ¹³ Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have laid hold ¹⁴ of it, but one thing I have laid hold of: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal, toward the prize of the heavenly ¹⁵ call of God in Christ Jesus.

SERMON

"CONFIDENCE"

REV. ALISON PETERS

* HYMN #415

COME, YE SINNERS, POOR AND NEEDY

"RESTORATION"

INVITATION TO OFFERING

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

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

O COME, YE SERVANTS OF THE LORD
 The Sanctuary Choir

CHRISTOPHER TYE (1505-1571)

O come, ye servants of the Lord and praise his holy name;
From early morn to setting sun his might on earth proclaim.
His laws are just, and glad the heart, he makes his mercies known.
Ye princes come, and come ye people too and bow before the throne.

* DOXOLOGY #608

PRAISE GOD, FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW

"PRAISE GOD (HOPSON)"

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

* 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 #307

GOD OF GRACE AND GOD OF GLORY

"CWM RHONDDA"

* BENEDICTION

At FPC there is a tradition of joining hands while singing "Blest Be the Tie That Binds" to close our service. You are welcome to do whatever feels comfortable during this time. There is no wrong way to participate in worship!

* 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

ITALIAN HYMN

JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

* 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.....Ann Kellermeyer
Director of Music Ministries/Organist.....Judith Brown
Musician.....Alison Peters, Soprano and the Sanctuary Choir
Audio/Video Technicians.....Joe Aurigemma and Eric Ringler
Ushers.....Kathy Dowell Linda Mellon

ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY: Our congregation will honor those who have died during 2023 at our All Saints' Worship Service on November 5, 2023. Please send the names and the dates of death of church members, church friends, and your loved ones to Brittany at the church office by October 30. We will honor these people during worship on Sunday, November 5, 2023.

MISSION STATEMENT

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we worship God and promote the Gospel of Jesus Christ
by loving ALL and fostering justice, peacemaking, and care of creation.

VISION STATEMENT

We aspire to be nurtured by the good news of God's love, where ALL God's children are:

- Welcomed and appreciated
- Called to worship, learn, and grow together in faith
- Encouraged to care for one another
- Sent to show God's love

-Adopted by the Session on September 21, 2023



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).



The flowers in the sanctuary this morning are given to the glory of God for the blessing of Mary Alice Burkett, in honor of her 3rd birthday on October 15, by her grandmother, Linda Mellon. 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



ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL: *Follow Me* is a curriculum from PCUSA that takes a look at the spiritual practices that Jesus taught. Prayer is both a central spiritual practice for followers of Jesus, and, for many, one of the most difficult to grasp. **Join us starting on September 17th at 10:00 AM in the Dakota Room as we explore prayer.**

SUNDAY MORNING PRAYER: Join Josh Gilhart at 10:40 AM in the Chapel on Sunday mornings for prayer before the start of our worship service.



FALL BOOK STUDY- “QUESTIONS JESUS ASKED” BOOK PICK UP: If you have signed up to join us on Thursday evenings from 5:30-6:30 PM, beginning October 12th, books are now available for pick up in the church office. Please feel free to stop by and pick up your book!



MISSION PROJECT DONATIONS: At the All-Church Picnic on October 14th, we will be putting together “Blessing Bags” to be given to each church to donate to a local mission organization. Our Blessing Bags will be going to the Possibility Shop in Downtown Cumberland. You can help by donating new socks, cleansing wipes, deodorant, single tooth brushes, or travel sized shampoo, conditioner, body wash, and toothpaste. ***Drop off items in the laundry basket at FPC by Thursday, October 12th!***



MONDAY, OCTOBER (9)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN
4:45 PM ADMIN & FINANCE MEETING
7:00 PM CHORAL SOCIETY REHEARSAL

TUESDAY, OCTOBER (10)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN
5:15 PM FAITH FORMATION MEETING

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER (11)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN
6:30 PM JOYBELLS REHEARSAL
7:00 PM NA MEETING

THURSDAY, OCTOBER (12)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN
5:30 PM FALL BOOK STUDY, DAKOTA ROOM
6:30 PM WASHINGTON ST. ASSOCIATION
LECTURE IN THE GATHERING PLACE

FRIDAY, OCTOBER (13)

4:00 PM HUNTERS PARTY SET UP

SATURDAY, OCTOBER (14)

PEO MEETING
6:00 PM HUNTERS BARBIE PARTY

SUNDAY, OCTOBER (15)

11:00 AM SERVICE FOR THE LORD’S DAY
STEWARDSHIP KICK-OFF

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE
RULING ELDERS: CARL BELT & CINDY CORLEY



ANNUAL GIVING YEAR-TO-DATE:	as of October 1, 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	\$168,771.00
Pledge Balance Promised Year-to-Date	\$155,984.00
Over/(Under)	\$ 12,787.00

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 Kellermeier

MISSION

Aaron Hendrickson & Brenda Luger

WORSHIP & MUSIC

Sharon Kazary & Mike Levitas