

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

11 WASHINGTON STREET CUMBERLAND, MD 21502

GOD GAVE
THE GROWTH



1 Corinthians
3:6

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY: DEDICATION SUNDAY

NOVEMBER 12, 2023

11:00 AM

OPENING VOLUNTARY

COME, YE THANKFUL PEOPLE COME
JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

ARR. JACOB B. WEBER

11:00 AM

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY
THE SANCTUARY CHOIR & THE JOYBELLS

"NICAEA"

* CALL TO WORSHIP & PRAYER FOR THE DAY

The field has plenty of room -

We continue to plant seeds in the ground.

There are seeds that need to be watered -

We continue to care for what has been planted.

We notice the small shoots and the mature plants -

The one who plants and the one who waters have one purpose.

For we are God's coworkers, working together -

We are God's field, God's building. Let us celebrate what God is doing!

Let us pray -

Loving, living God, be among us now. Show us your ways. Guide our steps. Live in us, that we may be people of steadfast hope and powerful giving. Help us hear your words, challenging us to give you all the things that are yours. Help us remember that all we are and all we have are gifts from you, gifts to be shared in service and love. Holy One among us, help us be a holy people who receive your word with joy and live your message with love. Amen.

* HYMN #301

LET US BUILD A HOUSE

"TWO OAKS"

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Righteous God, we confess with sorrow that we often forget who has given us light, who has made our garden grow with waters of love. We forget your living word and move off your paths to serve our own worldly desires. We leave your cultivated field to venture out into the wilderness on our own. We quarrel with one another trying to decide "who is the greatest." We make our own faces the benchmark for all faces. Help us to remember Jesus, reconciling the whole variegated world in himself. Amen.

(Silence for personal prayer and reflection.)

RESPONSE #698

TAKE, O TAKE ME AS I AM (3x)

"TAKE ME AS I AM"

Take, O take me as I am; summon out what I shall be; set your seal upon my heart and live in 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

SCRIPTURE READING

PSALM 78:1-7

¹ Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
² I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings from of old,
³ things that we have heard and known, that our ancestors have told us.
⁴ We will not hide them from their children; we will tell to the coming generation
the glorious deeds of the LORD and his might and the wonders that he has done.
⁵ He established a decree in Jacob and appointed a law in Israel,
which he commanded our ancestors to teach to their children,
⁶ that the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn, and rise up and tell them to their children,
⁷ so that they should set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments;

SOLO

LIFE FLOWS
JUDITH BROWN, PIANO

YIRUMA

SCRIPTURE READING

1 CORINTHIANS 3:1-9

³ And so, brothers and sisters, I could not speak to you as spiritual people but rather as fleshly, as infants in Christ. ² I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for solid food. Even now you are still not ready, ³ for you are still fleshly. For as long as there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not fleshly and behaving according to human inclinations? ⁴ For when one says, "I belong to Paul," and another, "I belong to Apollos," are you not all too human? ⁵ What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. ⁶ I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. ⁷ So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. ⁸ The one who plants and the one who waters have one purpose, and each will receive wages according to their own labor. ⁹ For we are God's coworkers, working together; you are God's field, God's building.

SERMON

"GOD GAVE THE GROWTH"

REV. ALISON PETERS

* HYMN #367

COME, YE THANKFUL PEOPLE, COME

"ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR"

OFFERING & DEDICATION OF PLEDGES 2024 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN: "GOD GAVE THE GROWTH. 1 CORINTHIANS 3:6"

*(As an act of commitment, please bring forward your pledge cards and place them in the basket on the communion table.
You may also place all tithes and offerings as well as any orange prayer request cards in the offering plate.)*

OFFERTORY SOLO

DIADEMATA
THE JOYBELLS

* DOXOLOGY #694

GREAT GOD OF EVERY BLESSING (Verse 1)

"AURELIA"

Great God of every blessing, of faithful, loving care, you are the fount of goodness, the daily bread we share.
How can we hope to thank you? Our praise is but a start: sincerely and completely I offer you my heart.

STEWARDSHIP LITANY OF DEDICATION

Bless these gifts and our pledges -
May they be like seeds planted in a field.
Help us to steward them well -
May we water and care for them together.
Help us to create space to see change -
We know that you give the growth! Amen!

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.

* 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

LOBE DEN HERREN
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.....	Robin Bissell
Director of Music Ministries/Organist.....	Judith Brown
Director of the JoyBells.....	Julie Courtney
Musicians.....	The Sanctuary Choir and The JoyBells
Audio/Video Technicians.....	Joe Aurigemma and Eric Ringler
Nursery Care Workers.....	Bill and Ann Keller Meyer
Ushers.....	Buck & Jane Belt



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 "To Families with Young Children" 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).

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.



THANKSGIVING WORSHIP SERVICE: The Churches of Washington Street will be holding a Thanksgiving Service at **6:00 PM on Sunday, November 19th** at **Emmanuel Episcopal**. Join us as we give thanks together!

HANGING OF THE GREENS: Join us on **Thursday, November 30th** for our Hanging of the Greens event. We will begin the evening at 5:00 PM with pizza followed by the decorating of the church. Join us for an evening of Christmas cheer at our intergenerational gathering designed to prepare us for the birth of Christ.



MONDAY, NOVEMBER (13)

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

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER (14)

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

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER (15)

- 8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN
- LEARNING TREE PANCAKES WITH POP**
- 10:30 PM STAFF MEETING
- 6:30 PM JOYBELLS REHEARSAL
- 7:00 PM NA MEETING

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER (16)

- 8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN
- 5:15 PM FALL BOOK STUDY, GATHERING PLACE
- 7:00 PM SESSION MEETING

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER (17)

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER (18)

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER (19)

- 9:45 AM ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL
- 11:00 AM SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY:
- 6:00 PM COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE
EMMANUEL EPISCOPAL

**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**

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



ANNUAL GIVING YEAR-TO-DATE:	as of November 5, 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	\$184,141.00
Pledge Balance Promised Year-to-Date	\$175,483.00
Over/(Under)	\$ 8,658.00

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

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