

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
11 WASHINGTON STREET CUMBERLAND, MD 21502



SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY: PALM SUNDAY
MARCH 24, 2024 11:00 AM

OPENING VOLUNTARY

THE PALMS
JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

JEAN BAPTISTE FAURE

11:00 AM

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

MY SONG IS LOVE UNKNOWN
THE SANCTUARY CHOIR

"LOVE UNKNOWN"

Sometimes we strew his way, and his sweet praises sing;
Resounding all the day hosannas to our King.
Then "Crucify!" is all our breath,
And for his death we thirst and cry.

* CALL TO WORSHIP & PRAYER FOR THE DAY

We gather in this Lenten season knowing we are broken.

Come and be seen.

We gather in this Lenten season knowing we need forgiveness.

Come and be heard.

We gather in this Lenten season knowing our hearts long for God.

Come and be loved.

We gather in this Lenten season knowing God calls us all.

Come as you are.

Let us pray -

God, we bring our full selves into this space. As we worship, help us to sense your presence. As we listen, give us understanding. As we move forward, let us have courage. For your goodness endures forever and we offer our praise. Amen.

* HYMN #197

HOSANNA, LOUD HOSANNA

"ELLACOMBE"

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God Almighty, creator of all things, you are the source of our life, the source of our light. And yet all too often we fail to stop and pause, we fail to acknowledge our need for you. The world spins so fast, and we find ourselves easily caught in the whirlwind of chaos. We look for quick fixes, for cheap miracles, rather than taking the time to seek your face. We chase after what is easy and what is fast rather than seeking what is difficult and what is everlasting. Help us on this Sunday of Palms, to take time to look to you. Give us wisdom to seek the slower way this week, that we may take our time on the journey to the cross. Grant that we may journey through this holy week with all our hearts, all our souls, and all our minds. Amen.

(Silence for personal prayer and reflection.)

RESPONSE #183

COME TO ME, O WEARY TRAVELER (VS. 1)

"AUSTIN"

Come to me, O weary traveler; come to me with your distress;
come to me, you heavy burdened; come to me and find your rest.

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

LUKE 19:29-40

²⁹ When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, ³⁰ saying, "Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. ³¹ If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it.'" ³² So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. ³³ As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" ³⁴ They said, "The Lord needs it." ³⁵ Then they brought it to Jesus, and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. ³⁶ As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. ³⁷ Now as he was approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, ³⁸ saying,

"Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!"

³⁹ Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, order your disciples to stop." ⁴⁰ He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out.

ANTHEM

THE GROUND

OLA GJEILO (1978 -)

THE SANCTUARY CHOIR

Pleni sunt Caeli et terra gloria tua.

Osanna in excelsis.

Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini

.Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi.

Dona nobis pacem.

Heaven and earth are full of Thy glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world

Grant us peace.

SCRIPTURE READING

LUKE 22:66-23:56

⁶⁶ When day came, the assembly of the elders of the people, both chief priests and scribes, gathered together, and they brought him to their council. ⁶⁷ They said, "If you are the Messiah, tell us." He replied, "If I tell you, you will not believe, ⁶⁸ and if I question you, you will not answer. ⁶⁹ But from now on the Son of Man will be seated at the right hand of the power of God." ⁷⁰ All of them asked, "Are you, then, the Son of God?" He said to them, "You say that I am." ⁷¹ Then they said, "What further testimony do we need? We have heard it ourselves from his own lips!"

²³ Then the assembly rose as a body and brought Jesus before Pilate. ² They began to accuse him, saying, "We found this man inciting our nation, forbidding us to pay taxes to Caesar and saying that he himself is the Messiah, a king." ³ Then Pilate asked him, "Are you the king of the Jews?" He answered, "You say so." ⁴ Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds, "I find no basis for an accusation against this man." ⁵ But they were insistent and said, "He stirs up the people by teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee where he began even to this place." ⁶ When Pilate heard this, he asked whether the man was a Galilean. ⁷ And when he learned that he was under Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him off to Herod, who was himself in Jerusalem at that time. ⁸ When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad, for he had been wanting to see him for a long time because he had heard about him and was hoping to see him perform some sign. ⁹ He questioned him at some length, but Jesus gave him no answer. ¹⁰ The chief priests and the scribes stood by vehemently accusing him. ¹¹ Even Herod with his soldiers treated him with contempt and mocked him; then he put an elegant robe on him and sent him back to Pilate. ¹² That same day Herod and Pilate became friends with each other; before this they had been enemies.

¹³ Pilate then called together the chief priests, the leaders, and the people ¹⁴ and said to them, "You brought me this man as one who was inciting the people, and here I have examined him in your presence and have not found this man guilty of any of your charges against him. ¹⁵ Neither has Herod, for he sent him back to us. Indeed, he has done nothing to deserve death. ¹⁶ I will therefore have him flogged and release him." ¹⁸ Then they all shouted out together, "Away with this fellow! Release Barabbas for us!" ¹⁹ (This was a man who had been put in prison for an insurrection that had taken place in the city and for murder.) ²⁰ Pilate, wanting to release Jesus, addressed them again, ²¹ but they kept shouting, "Crucify, crucify

him!" ²² A third time he said to them, "Why, what evil has he done? I have found in him no ground for the sentence of death; I will therefore have him flogged and then release him." ²³ But they kept urgently demanding with loud shouts that he should be crucified, and their voices prevailed. ²⁴ So Pilate gave his verdict that their demand should be granted. ²⁵ He released the man they asked for, the one who had been put in prison for insurrection and murder, and he handed Jesus over as they wished.

²⁶ As they led him away, they seized a man, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming from the country, and they laid the cross on him and made him carry it behind Jesus. ²⁷ A great number of the people followed him, and among them were women who were beating their breasts and wailing for him. ²⁸ But Jesus turned to them and said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. ²⁹ For the days are surely coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never nursed.' ³⁰ Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us,' and to the hills, 'Cover us.' ³¹ For if they do this when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?"

³² Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. ³³ When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. [³⁴ Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."]] And they cast lots to divide his clothing. ³⁵ And the people stood by watching, but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" ³⁶ The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine ³⁷ and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" ³⁸ There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

³⁹ One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" ⁴⁰ But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation?"

⁴¹ And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." ⁴² Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come in your kingdom." ⁴³ He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise." ⁴⁴ It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, ⁴⁵ while the sun's light failed, and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. ⁴⁶ Then Jesus, crying out with a loud voice, said, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit." Having said this, he breathed his last. ⁴⁷ When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said, "Certainly this man was innocent." ⁴⁸ And when all the crowds who had gathered there for this spectacle saw what had taken place, they returned home, beating their breasts.

⁴⁹ But all his acquaintances, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance watching these things.

⁵⁰ Now there was a good and righteous man named Joseph who, though a member of the council, ⁵¹ had not agreed to their plan and action. He came from the Jewish town of Arimathea, and he was waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God. ⁵² This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. ⁵³ Then he took it down, wrapped it in a linen cloth, and laid it in a rock-hewn tomb where no one had ever been laid. ⁵⁴ It was the day of Preparation, and the Sabbath was beginning. ⁵⁵ The women who had come with him from Galilee followed, and they saw the tomb and how his body was laid. ⁵⁶ Then they returned and prepared spices and ointments. On the Sabbath they rested according to the commandment.

SERMON

"TIME"

REV. ALISON PETERS

* HYMN #822

WHEN WE ARE LIVING

"SOMOS DEL SENOR"

INVITATION TO OFFERING

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

OFFERTORY DUET

PIE JESU

ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER (1948 -)

KATELYN HENDRIX, MIKAYLA DODGE, SOPRANOS; JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

Merciful Jesus, who takest away the sins of the world,
grant them eternal rest.

Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world,
grant them eternal rest.

* DOXOLOGY #250

HYMN OF PROMISE (VS. 1)

"PROMISE"

In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree; in cocoons, a hidden promise: butterflies will soon be free!

In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be, unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE CONCLUDING WITH THE LORD'S PRAYER- (Ecumenical Version)

(You are welcome to pray the Lord's Prayer with the version most familiar to you.)

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 #209 MY SONG IS LOVE UNKNOWN "LOVE UNKNOWN"
- * BENEDICTION
- * RESPONSE AFTER BENEDICTION #549 MAY THE LOVE OF THE LORD "SOON TI"

May the love of the Lord rest up-on your soul.

May God's love dwell in you, through-out ev-ery day.

May God's coun-tenance shine up-on you and be gra-cious to you.

May God's Spir-it be up-on you as you leave this place.

POSTLUDE WHAT WONDROUS LOVE IS THIS ARR. J. BROWN & P. HALLEY
 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..... Wesley Mason
- Director of Music Ministries/Organist..... Judith Brown
- Musicians.....The Sanctuary Choir; Katelyn Hendrix & Mikayla Dodge, Sopranos
- Audio/Video Technicians.....Joe Aurigemma & Eric Ringler
- Nursery Care Workers.....Kathy Dowell & Renee Kiddy
- Ushers..... Jeff & Kathy Getty



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 worshippers of all races, all women, men, and members of the LGBTQ+ community, all political parties, and all walks of life to join us. 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 the orange prayer request cards, which are located 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. The orange prayer request cards are also available in the pew racks.



CHILDREN IN WORSHIP: You are welcome 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 such as a birthday or anniversary or in memory or honor of a friend or loved one. You may specify live or silk flowers.

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**



The flowers in the sanctuary this morning are given to the glory of God loving memory of Neil Smith, by Nancy and Royce Hodges.



MONDAY, MARCH (25)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN
7:00 PM CHORAL SOCIETY REHEARSAL

TUESDAY, MARCH (26)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN
9:00 AM ORGAN TUNING

WEDNESDAY, MARCH (27)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN
10:30 AM STAFF MEETING
6:30 PM JOYBELLS REHEARSAL
7:00 PM NA MEETING
7:30 PM SANCTUARY CHOIR REHEARSAL

THURSDAY, MARCH (28)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN
6:30 PM MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE

FRIDAY, MARCH (29)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN
9:00 AM SPRING INTO RECOVERY: HEALTH FAIR
12:00 PM GOOD FRIDAY: STATIONS OF THE CROSS

SATURDAY, MARCH (30)

SUNDAY, MARCH (31)

7:00 AM SUNRISE SERVICE AT ROCKY GAP
11:00 AM SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY:
RESURRECTION OF THE LORD SUNDAY

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE
RULING ELDERS: CARL BELT & CINDY CORLEY



ANNUAL GIVING YEAR-TO-DATE:	as of March 17, 2024
Total 2023 Pledges Promised	\$220,460.00
Pre-paid pledges	\$ 21,721.00
<u>2023 Pledge Balance Promised</u>	<u>\$198,738.00</u>
Pledge Balance Received Year-to-Date	\$ 51,747.00
Pledge Balance Promised Year-to-Date	\$ 41,666.00
Over/(Under)	\$ 10,080.00

ONLINE GIVING



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING: This morning, we will have the opportunity to contribute to the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering. In a world of disaster, hunger, and oppression, millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity.

The Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Program, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People Program are all supported by One Great Hour of Sharing Offering. These three programs all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope. Please give from your abundance

Join FPC for our Holy Week Services!

*MAUNDY THURSDAY- MARCH 28TH 6:30 PM at First Presbyterian Church

RESURRECTION OF THE LORD/EASTER SUNDAY- MARCH 31ST

SUNRISE SERVICE at Rocky Gap at 7:00 AM

TRADITIONAL SERVICE in the Sanctuary of First Presbyterian Church at 11:00 AM

CHURCHES ON THE HILL HOLY WEEK WORSHIP

We will join this Holy Week with our friends at Emmanuel Episcopal Church and St. Paul's Lutheran Church for joint worship services:

Good Friday (March 29th) - Walking Stations of the Cross at 12: 00 PM (Service will begin at the Shrine of Saints Peter and Paul and end at First Presbyterian Church. Transportation will be available for anyone with difficulty walking long distances.)

Easter Music 2024

You may also celebrate Easter by contributing to the Special Music Fund. This fund is separate from the budget and is used to pay guest musicians who provide special music during worship on holidays and throughout the year.

Note: Special Music contributions may also be given any time of the year.

Special Music Contribution _____ \$ _____

My Special Music gift is in honor/memory of: _____

Given to the Glory of God by: _____

Checks for music should be made payable to First Presbyterian Church and you need to return the form to the church no later than **Sunday, March 24th** if you want your dedication listed in the bulletin.



Food Drive for the Allegany
College of Maryland
Food Bank
March 24 – April 7

The ACM Food Bank is an emergency source of food and personal care items for students in need. As the academic year draws to a close, students often run low on necessary supplies.

**Please place your donations in the ACM Food Drive box
found in the side entrance hallway.**

Thank You, Your Mission Committee

Examples of Items That Can Be

Accepted

Proteins:

Canned Chicken
Canned Tuna
Peanut Butter and Jelly
Nuts
Beans

Preserved meats
Shelf-stable milk

Breakfast Foods:

Cereals
Oatmeal
Granola/Cereal bars
Pop Tarts
Complete pancake mix
Syrup

Foods to Cook at Home:

Spaghetti sauce
Pasta
Rice
Boxed meals

Ready-to-eat Foods:

Mac-n-cheese cups
Sops
Ramen Noodle cups
Canned or preserved fruits
Canned or preserved vegetables
Popcorn
Microwavable, non-frozen meals
Crackers

Basic Necessities:

Soap
Deodorant
Toilet Paper
(individually wrapped rolls)
Shampoo and Conditioner
Toothpaste and Toothbrushes
Feminine products
Laundry detergent pods
Can openers