

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
11 WASHINGTON STREET CUMBERLAND, MD 21502



SERVICE OF WORD & SACRAMENT: HOLY COMMUNION  
THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT  
MARCH 3, 2024 11:00 AM

OPENING VOLUNTARY

PSALM 19

BENEDETTO MARCELLO

JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

*Reflective Text*

*The heavens declare the glory of God  
And the firmament showeth God's handiwork*

11:00 AM

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

SING, MY TONGUE, THE GLORIOUS BATTLE  
THE SANCTUARY CHOIR

"FORTUNATUS NEW"

Sing, my tongue, the glorious battle; tell the triumph far and wide;  
Tell aloud the wondrous story of the cross, the Crucified;  
Tell how Christ, the world's redeemer, vanquished death the day he died.

Thirty years among us dwelling, Jesus went from Nazareth,  
Destined, dedicated, willing, did his work and met his death;  
Like a lamb he humbly yielded on the cross his dying breath.

\* 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 #65

GUIDE ME, O THOU GREAT JEHOVAH

"CWM RHONDDA"

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God, we confess that we have often rejected the call of our baptisms. Too often we have accepted the forces of wickedness and embraced the evil powers of this world. We have forgotten the covenant we made to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves. We have forgotten the promises of baptism. We long for you as the thirsty long for water. We recognize our souls need you for survival, just as our bodies need water for survival. Give

us the strength to name our weaknesses. May we be forgiven, and may we turn toward you. May we remember and reclaim the promise made through the Holy Spirit. 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

PSALM 63:1-8

<sup>1</sup> O God, you are my God; I seek you; my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you,  
as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

<sup>2</sup> So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory.

<sup>3</sup> Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you.

<sup>4</sup> So I will bless you as long as I live; I will lift up my hands and call on your name.

<sup>5</sup> My soul is satisfied as with a rich feast, and my mouth praises you with joyful lips

<sup>6</sup> when I think of you on my bed and meditate on you in the watches of the night,

<sup>7</sup> for you have been my help, and in the shadow of your wings I sing for joy.

<sup>8</sup> My soul clings to you; your right hand upholds me.

ANTHEM

IF YE LOVE ME

THOMAS TALLIS (CIRCA 1505-1585)

THE SANCTUARY CHOIR

If ye love me, keep my commandments, and I will pray the Father,  
And he shall give you another comforter.  
That he may abide with you forever  
E'en the Spirit of truth.

SCRIPTURE READING

JOHN 4:5-42

<sup>5</sup> So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. <sup>6</sup> Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

<sup>7</sup> A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." <sup>8</sup> (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) <sup>9</sup> The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) <sup>10</sup> Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." <sup>11</sup> The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?" <sup>12</sup> Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" <sup>13</sup> Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, <sup>14</sup> but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." <sup>15</sup> The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."

<sup>16</sup> Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." <sup>17</sup> The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband,' <sup>18</sup> for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" <sup>19</sup> The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet." <sup>20</sup> Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem." <sup>21</sup> Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. <sup>22</sup> You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. <sup>23</sup> But the hour is coming and is now here when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. <sup>24</sup> God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." <sup>25</sup> The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us." <sup>26</sup> Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you."

<sup>27</sup> Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with her?" <sup>28</sup> Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to

the people, <sup>29</sup> “Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?” <sup>30</sup> They left the city and were on their way to him.

<sup>31</sup> Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, “Rabbi, eat something.” <sup>32</sup> But he said to them, “I have food to eat that you do not know about.” <sup>33</sup> So the disciples said to one another, “Surely no one has brought him something to eat?” <sup>34</sup> Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. <sup>35</sup> Do you not say, ‘Four months more, then comes the harvest?’ But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. <sup>36</sup> The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. <sup>37</sup> For here the saying holds true, ‘One sows and another reaps.’ <sup>38</sup> I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor.”

<sup>39</sup> Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me everything I have ever done.” <sup>40</sup> So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. <sup>41</sup> And many more believed because of his word. <sup>42</sup> They said to the woman, “It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world.”

SERMON

“WATER”

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 SOLO

AT THIS TABLE

JONAS MYRIN & IDINA MENZEL

MIKAYLA DODGE, SOPRANO; JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

At this table, everyone is welcome

At this table, everyone is seen

At this table, everybody matters

No one falls between

At this table, you can say whatever

At this table, you can speak your mind

At this table, everything's forgiven

There's enough for everyone

So come as you are

Remember that the door is always open

Yes, come as you are

The perfect gift that you could bring is your heart

So come, come as you are

At this table, there will be no judgement

At this table, mercy has a seat

At this table, we're all sons and daughters

There's no place I'd rather be

So come as you are

Remember that the door is always open

Come as you are

The perfect gift that you could bring is your heart

Come, come as you are

Come as you are, oh

At this table, everyone is welcome

At this table, everybody cares

At this table, everybody matters

So come, pull up a chair

\* 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

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

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.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

You are invited to come forward and receive the elements. Return to your seats and we will partake of them together.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Holy One, may these moments continue to instill your goodness in us. Allow us to leave this table with a renewed sense of your Spirit and the fullness of your love. Help us to continue in this season, ready to keep growing. Amen.

\* HYMN #719

COME, LABOR ON

"ORA LABORA"

\* BENEDICTION

\* RESPONSE AFTER BENEDICTION #549

MAY THE LOVE OF THE LORD

"SOON TI"

Musical notation for the hymn 'May the Love of the Lord' with lyrics: 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

FORTUNATUS NEW
JUDITH BROWN, PIANO

\* 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.....Cathy Levitas
Director of Music Ministries/Organist.....Judith Brown
Musicians.....The Sanctuary Choir & Mikayla Dodge, Soprano
Audio/Video Technicians.....Joe Aurigemma and Eric Ringler
Nursery Care Workers.....Randy & Sheri Sterne
Ushers..... Kathy Dowell & Cindy Corley



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



The flowers in the sanctuary this morning are given to the glory of God in loving memory of Sandra Burton’s birthday on March 11, with lots of love from her children ~ Beth & her husband Joel, and Mike & his wife Michelle; her granddaughter, Laura Beth & her husband Phil, and her great grandson, Ezekiel. The flowers are also in memory of Kery Hummel, who passed on March 8, 2022, by Aaron Hendrickson.



**MONDAY, MARCH (4)**

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

**TUESDAY, MARCH (5)**

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN  
12:15 PM RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE  
5:45 PM MISSION MEETING  
7:00 PM BUILDING & GROUNDS MEETING

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH (6)**

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN  
10:30 AM STAFF MEETING  
5:30 PM WORSHIP & MUSIC MEETING  
6:30 PM JOYBELLS REHEARSAL  
7:00 PM NA MEETING

**THURSDAY, MARCH (7)**

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN  
5:00 PM LENTEN BOOK STUDY MEAL  
5:30 PM LENTEN BOOK STUDY

**FRIDAY, MARCH (8)**

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN

**SATURDAY, MARCH (9)**

**SUNDAY, MARCH (10)**

10:00 AM ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL  
11:00 AM SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY  
WELCOME NEW MEMBERS  
12:00 PM SECOND SUNDAY SOCIAL  
NEW MEMBER INTEREST MEETING

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



**ANNUAL GIVING YEAR-TO-DATE:** as of February 25, 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	\$ 36,277.00
Pledge Balance Promised Year-to-Date	\$ 30,292.00
Over/(Under)	\$ 5,984.00

**ONLINE GIVING**



**INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT MEMBERSHIP?** This invitation is for anyone who has visited us in worship and wants to know more about what membership means in the PC(USA) - **Pastor Alison welcomes you to join her in the Parlor during the Second Sunday Social on March 10th.** This is a time to learn more about our congregation and ask any questions you might have about membership at First Presbyterian Church. If you are unable to attend these gatherings, feel free to reach out to Pastor Alison to schedule a time one-on-one! [revalisonpeters@gmail.com](mailto:revalisonpeters@gmail.com).

**PALM SUNDAY BRUNCH:** Join us on Palm Sunday (March 24<sup>th</sup>) after worship for a Palm Sunday Brunch and our annual Easter Egg Blessing! Use the slip below to RSVP for the brunch.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Palm Sunday Easter Egg Blessing: Number of people attending \_\_\_\_\_

**DAKOTA LEARNING CAMP INFORMATIONAL MEETING TODAY @ 12:30 PM (Dakota Room)**

Would you be interested in volunteering at this summer's learning camp? Want to know more? We'd love to answer your questions and tell you about this year's camp and the new exciting format we will follow. Adults of all ages and youth are encouraged to join us! No teaching experience is necessary, just a love for God's children and a willingness to learn. **Camp Dates: June 15-June 22, 2024.**

**ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING:** On Sunday, March 31st, 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 in this time of rebirth.