

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
11 WASHINGTON STREET CUMBERLAND, MD 21502



SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
APRIL 14, 2024 11:00 AM

GATHERING

OPENING VOLUNTARY

VOLUNTARY IN G
JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

WILLIAM BOYCE (1710-1779)

11:00 AM

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

COME, BRING YOUR BURDENS TO GOD
THE SANCTUARY CHOIR
Come, bring your burdens to God,
for Jesus will never say no.

"WOZA NOMTHWALO WAKHO"

* CALL TO WORSHIP & PRAYER FOR THE DAY

We gather in the name of the risen Lord.

Christ is risen! Alleluia!

We gather as sisters and brothers of the resurrected one.

Christ is risen! Alleluia!

We gather to share our faith and to worship God.

Christ is risen! Alleluia!

We gather to proclaim the good news of Easter!

Christ is risen! Alleluia!

Let us pray -

God of the resurrection, we gather this morning as a community of believers. We come with joy to greet one another and to tell again and again the amazing news: Christ is risen! Love is victorious over death! You have given us new life in the name of your Son! May our singing, praying, listening, and proclaiming be a testimony to the power of your love to make us a new creation as a community of faith. We pray in the name of the risen Christ. Amen.

* HYMN #703

JESUS, THY BOUNDLESS LOVE TO ME

"ST. CATHERINE"

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Wondrous God, we confess that at times our doubts and fears override our hope and faith. Forgive us when we lose sight of the joy of Your love and instead fall into despair and gloom. Lift up our spirits, Lord, and help us to remember the promise of new life here and now, not just the hope of resurrection for the future. We give thanks for Your Son, Jesus the Christ, who continues to offer us new life, who continues to turn us around and upside down, who continues to break down the walls of death in our own life. Forgive us, restore us and renew us. In the name of our risen Savior, Jesus the Christ, we pray. Amen.

(Silence for personal prayer and reflection.)

Christ has risen and forever lives to challenge and to change
 all whose lives are messed or mangled, all who find religion strange.
 Christ is risen, Christ is present making us what he has been:
 evidence of transformation in which God is known and seen.

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.*

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

PSALM 4:1-8

- ¹ Answer me when I call, O God of my right! You gave me room when I was in distress. Be gracious to me, and hear my prayer.
² How long, you people, shall my honor suffer shame? How long will you love vain words and seek after lies? *Selah*
³ But know that the LORD has set apart the faithful for himself; the LORD hears when I call to him.
⁴ When you are disturbed, do not sin; ponder it on your beds, and be silent. *Selah*
⁵ Offer right sacrifices, and put your trust in the LORD.
⁶ There are many who say, "O that we might see some good! Let the light of your face shine on us, O LORD!"
⁷ You have put gladness in my heart more than when their grain and wine abound.
⁸ I will both lie down and sleep in peace, for you alone, O LORD, make me lie down in safety.

ANTHEM

A MERRY HEART
 THE JOYBELLS

CYNTHIA DOBRINSKI

SECOND READING

LUKE 24:36B-48

³⁶ While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." ³⁷ They were startled and terrified and thought that they were seeing a ghost. ³⁸ He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹ Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see, for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." ⁴⁰ And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹ Yet for all their joy they were still disbelieving and wondering, and he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" ⁴² They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³ and he took it and ate in their presence. ⁴⁴ Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." ⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶ and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day ⁴⁷ and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things.

SERMON

"WOUNDED AND BROKEN"

ELDER JOSH GILHART

* HYMN #722

LORD, SPEAK TO ME THAT I MAY SPEAK

"CANONBURY"

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

INVITATION TO OFFERING

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

OFFERTORY SOLO

SICILIANO
 JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

JOHN STANLEY (1713-1786)

* DOXOLOGY #250

IN THE BULB THERE IS A FLOWER (VERSE 3)

"PROMISE"

In our end is our beginning; in our time, infinity; in our doubt there is believing; in our life, eternity.

In our death, a resurrection; at the last, a victory, 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 #547

GO, MY CHILDREN, WITH MY BLESSING

“AR HYD Y NOS”

* BENEDICTION

* RESPONSE AFTER BENEDICTION #306

BLEST BE THE TIE THAT BINDS (Verse 1)

“DENNIS”

Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love.
The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.

POSTLUDE

LLANFAIR
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

Guest Preacher Josh Gilhart
Liturgist.....Michael Levitas
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
Ushers..... David Stickler and John Mullan



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 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.

THE HIGHLANDERS will meet for lunch at Henny's Restaurant on **Thursday, April 18th at 11:30 AM**. If you have any questions or if you need a ride, please contact Betty Richtmeyer (301-759-4108) or Jan Layman (301-724-2641).



MONDAY, APRIL (15)

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

TUESDAY, APRIL (16)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN

WEDNESDAY, APRIL (17)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN
10:30 AM STAFF MEETING IN THE PARLOR
6:30 PM JOYBELLS REHEARSAL
7:00 PM NA MEETING

THURSDAY, APRIL (18)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN
7:00 PM SESSION MEETING

FRIDAY, APRIL (19)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN

SATURDAY, APRIL (20)

SUNDAY, APRIL (21)

9:45 AM ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL
11:00 AM SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

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 April 7, 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	\$ 62,170.00
Pledge Balance Promised Year-to-Date	\$ 53,040.00
Over/(Under)	\$ 9,129.00

ONLINE GIVING





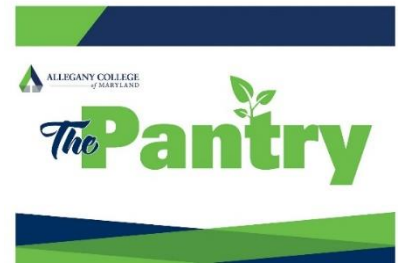
SPRING CLEAN UP DAY: The Building and Grounds Committee invites you to attend the Spring Clean Up Day on **Saturday, May 4th from 9:00 AM-12:00 PM.**

Dear Friends in Christ,

Your Mission Committee is again overwhelmed by the generosity you displayed during our Allegany College of Maryland Food Bank collection. The box was full to overflowing, as are our hearts. The ACM employees who received the donations were truly appreciative.

We are blessed to be part of this wonderful church community. Thank you for your Christian love and kindness.

Lovingly in Christ,
Your Mission Committee



THE CUMBERLAND CHORAL SOCIETY'S SPRING CONCERT DATES and the Grand Opening Weekend of the new Wills Creek Museum, located directly across from the church, are Friday, April 26 and Sunday, April 28. The two organizations will be celebrating and combining events the spring with music, tours, and receptions.

"Requiem," meaning "rest" in Latin, is the theme of this spring's music. CCS will recognize the legacy of Cumberland's ancestors as well as humankind here and now on this glorious planet. "Requiem for the Living" by Dan Forrest and a portion of the John Rutter "Requiem" will be presented by the Cumberland Choral Society with professional soloists and orchestra on **Friday, April 26 at 7:30pm** and **Sunday, April 28 at 4pm**. A reception open to all will follow the Sunday concert. More information concerning the CCS concerts can be found on the Cumberland Choral Society FaceBook page or by getting in touch with Eric Ringler or Judie Brown through the church office. Further information concerning the Wills Creek events can be obtained by contacting Martha McGill at soulspacecumberland@gmail.com.

A LAMP UNTO MY FEET

(Psalm 119:105):

How do we read the Bible today?

A ZOOM conference organized as part of the partnership between the ECCB and the PC (USA) on April 21, 2024 at 2 P.M. EST at <https://cesnet.zoom.us/j/93768208441>

Both the CCE and the PC (USA) have their roots in the Reformation, which elevated the Bible above all human authority. Both churches have embraced the modern age with its scientific and critical approach to everything, including the Bible. This is the challenge that both denominations face together. Systematic theologian Dr. Martha Moore-Kelsh of Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, Georgia, and Old Testament scholar Dr. Petr Sláma of the Protestant Theological Faculty of Charles University will open the topic with their presentations. This will be followed by breakout groups discussion and a summary plenary session. All this in 90 minutes. For further information and for registration (which will help us to prepare the discussion groups) contact Rev. Jan Lavický (Jan.lavicky@evangnet.cz).


Univerzita
Karlova

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