

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

11 WASHINGTON STREET CUMBERLAND, MD 21502



First
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
of Cumberland, MD

Empowered to love, serve, care, and give

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

MAY 5, 2024

11:00 AM

GATHERING

OPENING VOLUNTARY

VOLUNTARY IN A MINOR
JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

ANONYMOUS

11:00 AM

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

I COME WITH JOY
THE SANCTUARY CHOIR

"DOVE OF PEACE"

I come with joy, a child of God, forgiven, loved and free,
the life of Jesus to recall, in love laid down for me.

Together met, together bound by all that God has done,
we'll go with joy, to give the world the love that makes us one.

* CALL TO WORSHIP

-FROM A WEE WORSHIP BOOK, FOURTH INCARNATION, MORNING LITURGY A. 1999

In the beginning before time, before people, before the world began,

God was.

Here and now among us, beside us, enlisting the people of earth for the purposes of heaven,

God is.

In the future, when we have turned to dust and all we know has found its fulfilment,

God will be.

Not denying the world, but delighting in it, not condemning the world, but redeeming it, through Jesus Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit,

God was, God is, God will be.

* HYMN #307

GOD OF GRACE AND GOD OF GLORY

"CWM RHONDDA"

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION WITH ASSURANCE AND PARDON

-BY JOANNA HARADER

Holy One, we long to be faithful stewards of your abundant grace.

To serve each other in love and humility. To serve your world with wisdom and energy.

Forgive us when we stumble over pride, when our words and actions are not guided by love.

Turn our hearts when we act in folly. Restore our energy when it is gone.

Sometimes, many times, O God, our efforts fail.

But your abundant grace is strong and eternal,

And forgiveness is ours through Jesus Christ. Thanks be to God. Amen.

(Silence for personal prayer and reflection.)

RESPONSE #231

CHRIST HAS RISEN WHILE EARTH SLUMBERS (Verse 3)

"SUO GAN"

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.

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

JEREMIAH 31:31-34

³¹The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD, for I will forgive their iniquity and remember their sin no more.

ANTHEM

THE GIFT OF LOVE

AMERICAN FOLK TUNE ARR. HAL HOPSON

THE SANCTUARY CHOIR

Though I may speak with bravest fire,
And have the gift to all inspire,
But have not love, my words are vain,
As sounding brass and hopeless gain.

Though I may give all I possess,
And striving so my love profess,
But not be given by love within,
The profit soon turns strangely thin.

Come, spirit, come our hearts control,
Our spirits long to be made whole,
Let inward love guide every deed
By this we worship and are freed.

Amen.

SECOND READING

JOHN 1:1-5

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it.

SERMON

“GOD’S LEGACY OF LOVE”

REV. ELLIE JOHNS-KELLEY

* HYMN #462

I LOVE TO TELL THE STORY (VS. 2-3)

“HANKEY”

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 ANTHEM

WELCOME TO THE TABLE

ROBERT WETZLER

THE SANCTUARY CHOIR

Bread of God comes from the earth;
Wine of God comes from the earth;
So welcome to the table of the Lord.

Dead was He and now He lives,
Raised was He and now He lives,
So welcome to the table of the Lord.

Take the love and go in peace,
Give the love and go in peace,
So welcome to the table of the Lord.

* 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

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 by Intinction (take the bread and dip it in the cup).
There are also individual cups as well as gluten-free crackers available.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of Abundance, our hearts are filled with gratitude for the nourishment we find at this table. We thank you for your love, poured out and overflowing. We give thanks for your blessings in our lives and celebrate the faithfulness of those who came before us. Guide us by your Spirit to leave our legacy and to make an impact on future generations. May we go from this table with a commitment to your work and may our hands be a blessing to the world around us. Through Christ our Lord, Amen.

* HYMN #708

WE GIVE THEE BUT THINE OWN

“SCHUMANN”

* BENEDICTION

* RESPONSE AFTER BENEDICTION #306

BLEST BE THE TIE THAT BINDS (Verse 1)

“DENNIS”

*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!*

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

POSTLUDE

TOCCATA IN E MINOR
JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

JOHANN PACHELBEL (1653-1706)

* 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 Rev. Ellie Johns-Kelley
Liturgist.....Josh Gilhart
Director of Music Ministries/Organist.....Judith Brown
Musicians.....The Sanctuary Choir
Audio/Video Technicians.....Joe Aurigemma and Eric Ringler
Ushers..... Michael and Cathy Levitas
Nursery.....Randy and Nadene Stroup

Today we welcome guest preacher, Rev. Ellie Johns-Kelley, to the pulpit of First Presbyterian Church.

The Rev. Ellie Johns-Kelley serves as the Ministry Relations Officer for the Presbyterian Foundation covering the Allegheny and Chesapeake Region. She works with congregations to create a culture of generosity, offers seminars and workshops, develops gifts and fundraising plans for ministries, and provides coaching to finance, stewardship and endowment committees.

“Building on relationships and resourcing churches to help them increase funding for their ministry are my top priorities,” said Ellie. “I want to help others realize the vast amount of resources available through the Foundation and work in collaboration with other agencies of the PC(USA).”

Prior to joining the Foundation in 2013, Ellie served nearly four years as Pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Warren, Pennsylvania. Previously, she served as Director of the Summer Youth Institute and Assistant Director of Admissions at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. A member of the Presbytery of Lake Erie, Ellie serves as co-moderator of the Administrative Committee and President of the corporation. Over the last twenty-one years, Ellie has served the larger church in a number of capacities including the General Assembly Permanent Judicial Commission, Regional Resource Person for the Theological Education Fund in the Synod of the Trinity, synod commissioner and the synod’s Campus Ministry Task Force.

Ellie received a Bachelor of Science in biology at Muskingum College and a Master of Divinity from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. She resides south of Pittsburgh in the town of Carmichaels with husband Dr. Eric Kelley and two young daughters.

Join us **today following worship** for a planned giving event led by The Rev. Ellie Johns-Kelley. The discussion will include:

- How to discern your own legacy
- How to share the message with the church and those you love
- How to make a planned gift to continue your ministry here



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 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 or 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 flowers in the sanctuary this morning are given to the glory of God in loving memory of her parents, Kirke and Theresa Davis, by Gail Plitnik and in honor of Mary Ann Smith's 99th birthday on May 10th, by her daughter, Linda Smith.

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



MONDAY, MAY (6)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN

TUESDAY, MAY (7)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN
5:45 PM MISSION MEETING
7:00 PM BUILDING & GROUNDS MEETING

WEDNESDAY, MAY (8)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN
L.T. MOTHER'S DAY LUNCHEON
6:30 PM JOYBELLS REHEARSAL
7:00 PM NA MEETING

THURSDAY, MAY (9)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN

FRIDAY, MAY (10)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN

SATURDAY, MAY (11)

PEO MEETING

SUNDAY, MAY (12)

9:45 AM ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL
11:00 AM SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY:
MOTHER'S DAY
12:00 PM SECOND SUNDAY SOCIAL

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE

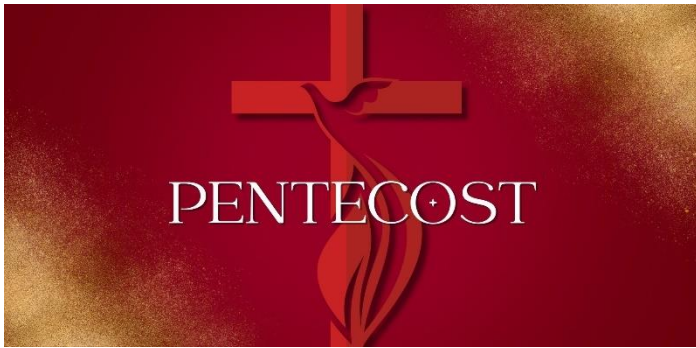
RULING ELDERS: CARL BELT & CINDY CORLEY



ANNUAL GIVING YEAR-TO-DATE:	as of April 28, 2024
Total 2024 Pledges Promised	\$220,460.00
Pre-paid pledges	\$ 21,721.00
<u>2024 Pledge Balance Promised</u>	<u>\$198,738.00</u>
Pledge Balance Received Year-to-Date	\$ 68,175.00
Pledge Balance Promised Year-to-Date	\$ 64,414.00
Over/(Under)	\$ 3,760.00

ONLINE GIVING





PENTECOST SUNDAY: On Sunday, May 19th, we will celebrate Pentecost. You are invited to wear red, orange or yellow to celebrate the birthday of the church.

PENTECOST OFFERING: On Pentecost Sunday our congregation will have the opportunity to donate to the Pentecost Offering.

Since the Pentecost Offering started in 1998, Presbyterians have raised more than \$16 million for ministries that benefit younger members of God's family. We believe we are called to do even more – to support and care for young people as they build a strong foundation of faith.

40% of the Pentecost Offering will be used to support a local youth-based program.

25% goes to Young Adult Volunteer (YAV) experience. This will train and equip volunteers to engage in mission in the U.S. and around the world. It will reduce barriers to serve by providing assistance with student loan debt, medical insurance, and a simple living stipend. It will provide additional funding to ensure all young adults have the opportunity to participate.

25% supports ministries with youth, ages 12–18. This project offers a path and plan for graduating seniors to explore their next steps in faith, community, and vocation.

10% supports the “Educate a Child, Transform the World” national initiative, to better the lives of children by working to ensure equitable, accessible, quality public education so that all children may grow into the fullness of life.

Please give generously to the Pentecost Special Offering.