

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
11 WASHINGTON STREET CUMBERLAND, MD 21502



SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY: PENTECOST SUNDAY
MAY 19, 2024 11:00 AM

GATHERING

OPENING VOLUNTARY

VOLUNTARY IN D
JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

JOHN ALCOCK (1715-1806)

11:00 AM

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

COME, HOLY GHOST, OUR SOULS INSPIRE
THE SANCTUARY CHOIR

"VENI CREATOR SPIRITUS"

Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire
and lighten with celestial fire;
thou, the anointing spirit art,
who dost thy sevenfold gifts impart.

Teach us to know the Father, Son,
and thee, of both, to be but one,
that through the ages all along
This may be our endless song:

Praise to thine eternal merit,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

* CALL TO WORSHIP & PRAYER FOR THE DAY

Come, Holy Spirit,
The wind of God, the breath of Life.

Come, Holy Spirit,
Our Advocate, our Counselor.

Come, Holy Spirit,
Teacher of Wisdom, Reminder of Christ.

Come, Holy Spirit,
Granter of forgiveness, giver of peace.

Come, Holy Spirit.

May we feel God breathing through our worship. May we receive the Holy Spirit in this place.

Let us pray -

Our God—we, your people, stand ready and open to receive the flame of your Spirit. Give us the ability to speak your truth so that others may hear. May that which was of stone be now transformed into life. May we who receive your light dwell together in Your love. Bestow your compassion on those who suffer in mind, spirit, and body. Make us bold to bring light to the dark places, warmth to the cold places, and love to the empty places. Spirit of the Living God, fill our hearts, minds, and souls to overflowing. Come, Spirit of God, move in our hearts. Amen.

* HYMN #282

COME DOWN, O LOVE DIVINE

"DOWN AMPNEY"

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Renewing Spirit, we confess to you that we confuse unity with uniformity and diversity with divisiveness. We speak and behave as if being a part of your family means assimilating others to our way of living. We deny and destroy the beauty you created in each person. We long to change these patterns, O Creator, but we do not know how. Teach us to value challenge. Help us to see strength in difference. And empower us to build your kingdom in creativity and love. Amen.

(Silence for personal prayer and reflection.)

RESPONSE #288

SPIRIT OF THE LIVING GOD

“LIVING GOD”

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on 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.

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

PSALM 104:24-34, 35B

²⁴ O LORD, how manifold are your works! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

²⁵ There is the sea, great and wide; creeping things innumerable are there, living things both small and great.

²⁶ There go the ships and Leviathan that you formed to sport in it.

²⁷ These all look to you to give them their food in due season;

²⁸ when you give to them, they gather it up; when you open your hand, they are filled with good things.

²⁹ When you hide your face, they are dismayed; when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust.

³⁰ When you send forth your spirit, they are created, and you renew the face of the ground.

³¹ May the glory of the LORD endure forever; may the LORD rejoice in his works—

³² who looks on the earth and it trembles, who touches the mountains and they smoke.

³³ I will sing to the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have being.

³⁴ May my meditation be pleasing to him, for I rejoice in the LORD.

³⁵ Bless the LORD, O my soul. Praise the LORD!

ANTHEM

SPIRIT TRUTH, PURE LIGHT OF LOVE

ROBERT J. POWELL

THE SANCTUARY CHOIR

Spirit truth, pure light of love,

Guiding light of God above;

Make your beacon ours.

Inspire us to shine so all may know

The radiance of the spirit's own revealing power.

Spirit wind, sweet song of love, stirring song of God above;

Make your music ours; excite us to sing so all may know

The anthem of the spirit's own resounding power.

Spirit fire, sweet breath of love, blazing breath of God above;

Make your passion ours; impel us to live so all may know

The fervor of the Spirit's own resplendent power.

SECOND READING

ACTS 2:1-21

2 When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. ² And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³ Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. ⁴ All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. ⁵ Now there were devout Jews from every people under heaven living in Jerusalem.

⁶ And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. ⁷ Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?" ⁸ And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? ⁹ Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰ Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, ¹¹ Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." ¹² All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" ¹³ But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine." ¹⁴ But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Fellow Jews and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. ¹⁵ Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. ¹⁶ No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: ¹⁷ 'In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. ¹⁸ Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy. ¹⁹ And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. ²⁰ The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day. ²¹ Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

SERMON

"OUR PENTECOST"

REV. ALISON PETERS

* HYMN #286

BREATHE ON ME, BREATH OF GOD

"TRENTHAM"

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

MOMENT FOR MISSION

JANE'S PLACE

INVITATION TO OFFERING

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

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS
THE JOYBELLS

ARR. CYNTHIA DOBRINSKI

* DOXOLOGY #658

GOD IS SO GOOD (VERSE 1)

"GOD IS SO GOOD"

God is so good; God is so good; God is so good; God's so good to me!

* 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 #280

COME, O SPIRIT, DWELL AMONG US

"EBENEZER"

* 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

SPIRIT
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
 Director of the JoyBells..... Julie Courtney
 Musicians..... The Sanctuary Choir & The JoyBells
 Audio/Video Technicians..... Joe Aurigemma and Eric Ringler
 Ushers..... Cindy Corley and Georgene McKenzie
 Nursery..... Rick and Robin Bissell



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 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.

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 May 5, 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	\$ 76,790.00
Pledge Balance Promised Year-to-Date	\$ 68,205.00
Over/(Under)	\$ 8,584.00

ONLINE GIVING



MONDAY, MAY (20)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN

TUESDAY, MAY (21)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN

WEDNESDAY, MAY (22)

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

THURSDAY, MAY (23)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN

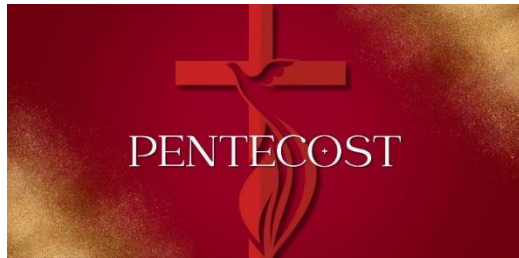
FRIDAY, MAY (24)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN

SATURDAY, MAY (25)

SUNDAY, MAY (26)

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



PENTECOST OFFERING: Today 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.



KICK OFF SUMMER WITH OUR FREE VBS FAMILY:
Join us on **Saturday, June 1st** from **2:00-4:00 PM** at **Moon Glo Skating Rink** for our Private Kick-Off Event. All ages are included.

and then...

SET SAIL at Vacation Bible School on June 3rd-6th from 6:00-8:00 PM at St. Paul's Lutheran Church. Ages 5 through completion of 5th grade will participate alongside

volunteers. Grandchildren and neighbor kids are welcome with 5-6 area churches sponsoring this fun, crafty, tasty and faith-building event. We are looking for volunteers as well as children to come! Registration forms will be available.