

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
11 WASHINGTON STREET CUMBERLAND, MD 21502



Empowered to love, serve, care, and give

SERVICE OF WORD & SACRAMENT: HOLY COMMUNION

FEBRUARY 2, 2025 11:00 AM

GATHERING

OPENING VOLUNTARY

AIR
JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

SAMUEL WESLEY, ARR. BRYAN HESFORD

11:00 AM

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL 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,
In love laid down for me.

As Christ breaks bread and bid us share, each proud division ends.
The love that made us, makes us one, and strangers now are friends,
And strangers now are friends.

* CALL TO WORSHIP & PRAYER FOR THE DAY

In you, O Lord, let us take refuge,
so we might never be put to shame.
In your righteousness, O Lord,
let us find deliverance, so we might experience your saving power.
In your presence, O God, let us place our trust,
so we might find confidence in you alone.
You are our rock and our refuge, our fortress and shield.
We turn to you again this day. Amen.

Let us pray -

Holy, loving God, we look to you this day to return us to the force of love. In our worship and witness, our works and our ways, may we be marked by the contours of your divine love. Remind us that our songs and words, prophecies and gifts, are nothing if not done in love. Pour out your Spirit this day, empowering us with the radical force of love. Amen.

* HYMN #691

LORD, WHEN I CAME INTO THIS LIFE

"LAND OF REST"

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of all wisdom and grace, you formed us in the womb, called us by name, and set us apart for your holy work. Yet we confess that we resist your calling. We doubt our abilities, question your purposes, and make excuses, saying, "We are too young, too old, too busy, too weak." We fear speaking your truth and shy away from living boldly into your mission. Forgive us for underestimating your power to work through us and for doubting that your presence goes before us. Empower us, O God, to trust your calling, to rely on your strength, and to live as your faithful servants. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

(Silence for personal prayer and reflection.)

RESPONSE #423

CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART, O GOD

"SARADAY"

Create in me a clean heart, O God; create in me a clean heart, O God;
create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within 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 71:1-6

- ¹ In you, O Lord, I take refuge; let me never be put to shame.
² In your righteousness deliver me and rescue me; incline your ear to me and save me.
³ Be to me a rock of refuge, a strong fortress to save me, for you are my rock and my fortress.
⁴ Rescue me, O my God, from the hand of the wicked, from the grasp of the unjust and cruel.
⁵ For you, O Lord, are my hope, my trust, O Lord, from my youth.
⁶ From my birth I have leaned upon you, my protector since my mother's womb. My praise is continually of you.

ANTHEM

O COME, YE SERVANTS OF THE LORD
THE SANCTUARY CHOIR

CHRISTOPHER TYE

O come, ye servants of the Lord and praise His holy name;
From early morn to setting sun, His might on earth proclaim.
His laws are just and glad the heart; He makes his mercies known.
Ye princes come, ye people too, and bow before His throne.

SECOND READING

JEREMIAH 1:4-10

- ⁴ Now the word of the Lord came to me saying, ⁵ "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations."
⁶ Then I said, "Ah, Lord God! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy." ⁷ But the Lord said to me, "Do not say, 'I am only a boy,' for you shall go to all to whom I send you, and you shall speak whatever I command you. ⁸ Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, says the Lord."
⁹ Then the Lord put out his hand and touched my mouth, and the Lord said to me, "Now I have put my words in your mouth. ¹⁰ See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms, to pluck up and to pull down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant."

SERMON

"SELECTED"

REV. ALISON PETERS

* HYMN #510

WE GATHER HERE IN JESUS' NAME

"COME, SHARE THE LORD"

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

PRIERE (PRAYER)
JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

DEODAT DE SEVERAC, EDITED BRYAN HESFORD

* DOXOLOGY #582

GLORY TO GOD, WHOSE GOODNESS SHINES ON ME

"GLORY TO GOD (VASILE)"

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen. World without end, without end. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

* 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 who knows us and calls us, you have nourished us at your table and reminded us of your presence with us. Like Jeremiah, may we trust that you have set us apart for your work. Strengthen us to go where you send, to speak your words with courage, and to love as you have loved us. May we leave this table ready to serve you, knowing that you are always with us. Amen.

* HYMN #643

NOW THANK WE ALL OUR GOD

"NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT"

* 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

YOU ARE MY STRENGTH WHEN I AM WEAK
JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

"JERNIGAN"

* 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/Pianist.....	Judith Brown
Musicians.....	The Sanctuary Choir
Audio/Video Technicians.....	Joe Aurigemma and Eric Ringler
Ushers.....	Kathy Dowell and David Stickler

Join us after worship next Sunday to celebrate Valentine's Day with the *Peanuts* gang! We will be making Valentines to send to our home bound members and nursing home residents, followed by a special showing of *The Peanuts Movie*. Pizza and movie snacks will be provided and our event is welcome to friends of all ages!



WELCOME: A very warm welcome to everyone who comes to worship with us here at First Presbyterian Church! We are proud to be 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: 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 in loving memory of Theresa Leasure, by Eric Ringler and Josh Gilhart.

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE
RULING ELDERS: CARL BELT & CINDY CORLEY

ANNUAL GIVING YEAR-TO-DATE:	as of January 26, 2025
Total 2025 Pledges Promised	\$237,796.00
Pre-paid pledges	\$ 48,578.00
2025 Pledge Balance Promised	\$189,217.00
Pledge Balance Received Year-to-Date	\$ 13,538.00
Pledge Balance Promised Year-to-Date	\$ 14,601.00
Over/(Under)	\$ (1,063.00)

ONLINE GIVING



DAKOTA LEARNING CAMP INFORMATIONAL MEETING -
Join us on Sunday, February 16th at 12:30 PM in the Gathering Place
to get information for the South Dakota Learning Camp!

Would you be interested in volunteering at this summer's learning camp? Want to learn 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: July 26th-August 2nd.**



MONDAY, FEBRUARY (3)

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

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY (4)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN
11:00 AM STAFF MEETING
12:30 PM RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE
5:45 PM MISSION MEETING
7:00 PM BUILDING & GROUNDS MEETING

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY (5)

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

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY (6)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY (7)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY (8)

9:00 AM PEO MEETING

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY (9)

11:00 AM SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
12:00 PM SOUP ORDERS PICK UP
12:00 PM SECOND SUNDAY SOCIAL
12:30 PM FAITH FORMATION
GATHERING & MOVIE

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!



BLOOD DRIVE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: We are in need of a few additional volunteers to assist with the Red Cross blood drive that we host at the church once a month. The drives are typically held on Mondays, Tuesdays or Thursdays and volunteers are needed from 12:15-5:00 PM. Volunteers will assist donors with checking in. If you are interested in helping fulfil this need, please reach out to Brittany or Nadene to get additional information regarding upcoming drives.

MISSION STATEMENT

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we worship God and promote the Gospel of Jesus Christ
by loving ALL and fostering justice, peacemaking, and care of creation.

VISION STATEMENT

We aspire to be nurtured by the good news of God's love, where ALL God's children are:

- Welcomed and appreciated
- Called to worship, learn, and grow together in faith
- Encouraged to care for one another
- Sent to show God's love

-Adopted by the Session on September 21, 2023