

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
11 WASHINGTON STREET CUMBERLAND, MD 21502



SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY: PALM SUNDAY
APRIL 13, 2025 11:00 AM

GATHERING

OPENING VOLUNTARY

THE PALMS

JEAN-BAPTISTE FAURE

MIKAYLA DODGE, MEZZO-SOPRANO; JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

O'er all the way, green palms and blossoms gay
Are strewn this day in festal preparation,
Where Jesus comes, to wipe our tears away,
E'en now the throng to welcome him prepare,

REFRAIN: Join all and sing, His name declare,
Let ev'ry voice resound with acclamation.
Hosanna! Praise be the Lord,
Bless him who cometh to bring us salvation!

Sing and rejoice, O blest Jerusalem,
Of all thy songs sing the emancipation.
Through boundless love the Christ of Bethlehem
Brings faith and hope to thee forevermore. (Refrain)

11:00 AM

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT

FILLED WITH EXCITEMENT

"HOSANNA"

THE SANCTUARY CHOIR

Filled with excitement, all the happy throng
Spread cloaks and branches on the city streets.

There in the distance they begin to see,
There on a donkey comes the Savior Christ.

From ev'ry corner a thousand voice sing
Praise to the One who comes in the name of God.
Our acclamation breaks forth in shouts of praise

Our triumphant song of joy:
"Hosanna, hosanna to Christ! Hosanna, hosanna to Christ!"

* CALL TO WORSHIP & PRAYER FOR THE DAY

Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord!

Hosanna in the highest!

The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.

This is the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes!

Let us worship the King who comes humbly, riding on a donkey.

With open hearts, we welcome the One who reigns in love.

Let us pray -

Sovereign God, you turn our expectations upside down. You come not with might, but with mercy—not with power, but with peace. Open our hearts to recognize your reign and follow in your way. Amen.

* HYMN #196

ALL GLORY, LAUD, AND HONOR

“VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN”

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of grace, we confess that we look for kings who rule with strength rather than love. We want a Messiah who conforms to our desires instead of transforming our hearts. Forgive us when we fail to see your kingdom breaking in among us. Teach us to follow the unexpected King, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

(Silence for personal prayer and reflection.)

RESPONSE #470

THERE IS A LONGING IN OUR HEARTS (Verse 3)

“LONGING”

Refrain: There is a longing in our hearts, O Lord, for you to reveal yourself to us.

There is a longing in our hearts for love we only find in you, our God.

For healing, for wholeness: for new life: hear our prayer.

In sickness, in death: be near; hear our prayer, O God. *(Refrain)*

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 118:1-2, 19-29

¹ O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever!

² Let Israel say, “His steadfast love endures forever.”

¹⁹ Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord.

²⁰ This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it.

²¹ I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.

²² The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

²³ This is the Lord’s doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

²⁴ This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

²⁵ Save us, we beseech you, O Lord! O Lord, we beseech you, give us success!

²⁶ Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. We bless you from the house of the Lord.

²⁷ The Lord is God, and he has given us light. Bind the festal procession with branches, up to the horns of the altar.

²⁸ You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God; I will extol you.

²⁹ O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.

ANTHEM

WONDROUS LOVE

“TRADITIONAL”, ARR. ROBERT SHAW AND ALICE PARKER

THE SANCTUARY CHOIR

What wondrous love is this, O my soul

That caused the Lord of life

to bear the dreadful curse for my soul

When I was sinking down, O my soul.

Beneath God’s righteous frown

Christ laid aside His crown for my soul

To God and to the Lamb I will sing

To God and to the Lamb who is the great I am,

While millions join the theme, I will sing

And when from death I’m free, I’ll sing on

I’ll sing and joyful be

And through eternity I’ll sing on.

SECOND READING

LUKE 19:28-40

²⁸ After he had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem.

²⁹ When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, ³⁰ saying, "Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. ³¹ If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it.' " ³² So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. ³³ As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" ³⁴ They said, "The Lord needs it." ³⁵ Then they brought it to Jesus, and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. ³⁶ As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. ³⁷ Now as he was approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, ³⁸ saying, "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!" ³⁹ Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, order your disciples to stop." ⁴⁰ He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out."

SERMON

"UNEXPECTED KING"

REV. ALISON PETERS

* HYMN #197

HOSANNA, LOUD HOSANNA

"ELLACOMBE"

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

TRIUMPHAL ENTRY
TURN YOUR EYES UPON
THE JOYBELLS

MICHAEL BEDFORD
"LEMMEL", ARR. J. COURTNEY

* DOXOLOGY #328

PRAISE GOD, ALL YOU NATIONS

"DA N'ASE"

Praise God, all you nations. People of God, sing praise! Praise God, all you nations. People of God, sing praise!
God's love is great and endures forever. Praise God, all you nations. People of God, sing praise!

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYER 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# 198

RIDE ON! RIDE ONE IN MAJESTY!

"ST. DROSTANE"

* BENEDICTION

* RESPONSE AFTER BENEDICTION #543

O CHRIST SURROUND ME (Verse 5)

"GREEN TYLER"

Christ in the eyes of all who see me, Christ in the ears that hear my voice,
Christ in the hearts of all who know me: O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.

POSTLUDE

TOCCATA IN E MINOR
JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

JOHANN PACHELBEL (1653-1705)

* 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; The JoyBells; Mikayla Dodge, Mezzo-Soprano
Audio/Video Technicians.....Joe Aurigemma and Eric Ringler
Ushers.....Jeff and Kathy Getty
Nursery.....Linda Mellon and Mitch Peters



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 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 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**

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE
RULING ELDERS: CARL BELT & CINDY CORLEY

ANNUAL GIVING YEAR-TO-DATE:	as of April 6, 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	\$ 60,729.00
Pledge Balance Promised Year-to-Date	\$ 51,104.00
Over/(Under)	\$ 9,624.00

ONLINE GIVING



NEW MISSION DESIGNATED FUND- DISASTER RELIEF FUND: In response to input from the congregation, the Mission Committee has established a new "Disaster Relief Fund". The purpose of this fund is to allow individuals to donate to local and global disaster assistance. Donors may select the cause that is most meaningful to them.

How to donate:

- Write a check or give cash to First Presbyterian Church
 - Memo: Disaster Relief Fund
 - List your cause (e.g., hurricane relief or leave undesignated)
 - Undesignated funds will be directed by the Mission Committee as the need arises.



MONDAY, APRIL (14)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN
4:45 PM ADMIN & FINANCE MEETING
7:00 PM CHORAL SOCIETY REHEARSAL

TUESDAY, APRIL (15)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN
11:00 AM STAFF MEETING

WEDNESDAY, APRIL (16)

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

THURSDAY, APRIL (17)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN
7:00 PM MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE

FRIDAY, APRIL (18)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN
12:00 PM GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE:
STATIONS OF THE CROSS

SATURDAY, APRIL (19)

SUNDAY, APRIL (20)

7:00 AM SUNRISE SERVICE
11:00 AM SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY:
RESURRECTION SUNDAY

Join FPC for our Holy Week Services!

*MAUNDY THURSDAY- APRIL 17TH 7:00 PM at First Presbyterian

RESURRECTION OF THE LORD/EASTER SUNDAY- APRIL 20TH

SUNRISE SERVICE at Rocky Gap at 7:00 AM

TRADITIONAL SERVICE in the Sanctuary of First Presbyterian at 11:00 AM

CHURCHES ON THE HILL LENTEN WORSHIP

We will join this Lent with our friends at Emmanuel Episcopal and St. Paul's Lutheran for joint worship services:

Good Friday (April 18th) - Walking Stations of the Cross at 12: 00 PM (Service will begin at the Shrine of Saints Peter and Paul and end at First Presbyterian Church. Transportation will be available for anyone with difficulty walking long distances.)

EASTER FLOWERS 2025

If you would like to purchase flowers to decorate the Sanctuary on Easter Sunday, please indicate your selection below. Please also choose if you wish to take your flowers home after the service, or if you wish them to be given to one of our in-home or nursing care members. Please indicate your selection and total below. **Orders are due Today.**

	Price Each	Quantity	Total
Tulips	\$7.00	_____	\$ _____
Hyacinths	\$7.00	_____	\$ _____
Lily	\$7.00	_____	\$ _____
Chrysanthemums	\$7.00	_____	\$ _____
		Total _____	\$ _____

My floral gift is in honor/memory of: _____

Given to the Glory of God by: _____

Please indicate: I would like to take my flowers home _____ I would like to donate the flowers _____

EASTER MUSIC 2025

You can also celebrate Easter by contributing to the Special Music Fund. This fund is separate from the budget and is used to pay guest musicians who provide special music during worship on holidays and throughout the year.

Note: Special Music contributions may also be given any time of the year.

Special Music Contribution \$ _____

My Special Music gift is in honor/memory of: _____

Given to the Glory of God by: _____

Checks for music should be made payable to First Presbyterian Church and the form returned to the church no later than **Today** if you want your dedication listed in the bulletin.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR
CHORAL SOCIETY SPRING CONCERT
FRIDAY, MAY 2ND at 7:30 PM AND SUNDAY, MAY 4TH at 4:00 PM
First Presbyterian Church Sanctuary

CUMBERLAND CHORAL SOCIETY'S SPRING CONCERT will be the regional premiere of JUBILATE DEO, a seven-movement work for choir and orchestra by DAN FORREST. This work brings to life the global aspect of the traditional Psalm 100 text, "O be joyful in the Lord, ALL ye lands," by setting it in SEVEN different languages which exhibit cultural influences and the composer's own style.

Latin, Hebrew, Arabic, Chinese, Zulu, Spanish and English.

"We are all connected!"

An exciting embrace of humanity!

Hope to see you!

2025 Day of Caring and Sharing

**The 28th annual United Way Day of Caring & Sharing
is scheduled for May 16, 2025.**

If the Jeopardy Game clue was “This single day activity in Western Maryland involves over 500 volunteers in 52 different places,” local viewers who jumped up and shouted, “What is the Day of Caring & Sharing?” would be correct.

The 28th annual United Way Day of Caring & Sharing, slated for Friday, May 16th, 2025, is a partnership between County United Way, Let’s Beautify Cumberland and the City of Cumberland that began in 1997. People throughout our community work together on projects across the Queen City.

Hundreds of flowers will be planted, countless loads of mulch will be spread, fresh coats of paint will be applied, and trash will be picked up. “As always, success on this important day depends on volunteer participation,” United Way Executive Director Michele Walker said.

Participants can choose to receive a T-shirt and/or bagged lunch.

For more information, go to cuw.org and scroll down to "2025 County United Way Day of Caring and Sharing".

Your Mission Committee and your Faith Formation Committee are joining together to organize a First Presbyterian Church team to participate in the 2025 Day of Caring and Sharing.

If you are interested in volunteering to be part of our team, please sign this form or contact Brittany to register. This is a great opportunity to join together as a team to help our community.

Name: _____ T-Shirt Size: _____

Lunch: YES / NO