

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
11 WASHINGTON STREET CUMBERLAND, MD 21502



RESURRECTION OF THE LORD/EASTER SUNDAY
APRIL 20, 2025 11:00 AM

GATHERING

OPENING VOLUNTARY

SPRING

ANTONIO VIVALDI (1678-1741)

I. ALLEGRO

III. DANZA PASTORALE

PETR SKOPEK & ANNA HILDERBRAND, VIOLINS; JASON DIGGS, VIOLA; ALYSSA MOQUIN, CELLO; JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

11:00 AM

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT

ALLELUIA

PHILIP STOPFORD (1977 -)

THE SANCTUARY CHOIR

* CALL TO WORSHIP & PRAYER FOR THE DAY

O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good!

God's steadfast love endures forever!

Let Israel say,

God's steadfast love endures forever!

Let the house of Aaron say,

God's steadfast love endures forever!

Let all who fear the Lord say,

God's steadfast love endures forever! Let us worship the risen God!

Let us pray:

Praise be to you, O God of resurrection, for you have defeated the powers of sin and death. In resurrecting Christ Jesus, you displayed your holy power and transformed all of creation. In your steadfast love, you have redeemed us once and for all. Where we once saw pain, scarcity, and despair, we now see wholeness, abundance, and hope. Holy Spirit, inspire us to live as your new creation, working to make things on earth as they are in heaven. Amen.

* HYMN #232

JESUS CHRIST IS RISEN TODAY

"EASTER HYMN"

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of resurrection, from the beginning of creation, you have committed to be in relationship with us. Yet from the beginning of creation, we have not committed ourselves to you. Instead, we have committed ourselves to our own prosperity, hoarding your gifts. We have committed ourselves to our own survival and neglected the needs of our siblings. We have committed ourselves to our own self-importance and forgotten that all persons have been created in your image. Forgive us. Bring us back to you. Show us the new life that you call us to through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(Silence for personal prayer and reflection.)

Christ has risen while earth slumbers; Christ has risen where hope died,
 as he said and as he promised, as we doubted and denied.
 Let the moon embrace the blessing; let the sun sustain the cheer;
 let the world confirm the rumor: Christ is risen, God is here!

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

ISAIAH 65: 17-25

¹⁷ For I am about to create new heavens and a new earth; the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind.
¹⁸ But be glad and rejoice forever in what I am creating, for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy and its people as a delight.
¹⁹ I will rejoice in Jerusalem and delight in my people; no more shall the sound of weeping be heard in it or the cry of distress.
²⁰ No more shall there be in it an infant who lives but a few days or an old person who does not live out a lifetime,
 for one who dies at a hundred years will be considered a youth, and one who falls short of a hundred will be considered
 accursed. ²¹ They shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit.
²² They shall not build and another inhabit; they shall not plant and another eat,
 for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be, and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands.
²³ They shall not labor in vain or bear children for calamity, for they shall be offspring blessed by the Lord—
 and their descendants as well. ²⁴ Before they call I will answer, while they are yet speaking I will hear.
²⁵ The wolf and the lamb shall feed together; the lion shall eat straw like the ox, but the serpent—its food shall be dust!
 They shall not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, says the Lord.

ANTHEM

CHRIST THE LORD IS RISEN AGAIN

STOPFORD

THE SANCTUARY CHOIR; PETR SKOPEK & ANNA HILDERBRAND, VIOLINS; JASON DIGGS, VIOLA;
 ALYSSA MOQUIN, CELLO; BART LAY, PERCUSSION; JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

Christ the Lord is risen again
 Christ hath broken every chain.
 Hark, angelic voices cry, singing evermore on high.
 Alleluia!

He who gave for us his life,
 Who for us endured the strife,
 Is our Paschal Lamb today;
 We, too sing for joy today
 Alleluia!

He who bore all pain and loss,
 Comfortless upon the cross.
 Lives in glory now on high,
 Pleads for us and hears our cry.
 Alleluia!

He who slumbered in the grave
 Is exalted now to save
 Now through Christendom it sings
 That the Lamb is King of Kings.
 Alleluia!

Thou, our Paschal Lamb indeed,
 Christ, thy ransomed people feed;
 Take our sins and guilt away:
 Let us sing by night and day.
 Alleluia!

SECOND READING

JOHN 20:1-18

20 Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. ² So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." ³ Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. ⁴ The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵ He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. ⁶ Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, ⁷ and the cloth that had been on Jesus's head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. ⁸ Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed, ⁹ for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. ¹⁰ Then the disciples returned to their homes. ¹¹ But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb, ¹² and she saw two angels in white sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. ¹³ They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." ¹⁴ When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. ¹⁵ Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." ¹⁶ Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). ¹⁷ Jesus said to her, "Do not touch me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" ¹⁸ Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord," and she told them that he had said these things to her.

SERMON

"UNEXPECTED REUNION"

REV. ALISON PETERS

*** HYMN #233**

THE DAY OF RESURRECTION!

"LANCASHIRE"

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 DUET**

CHRIST IS ARISEN

FRANCOIS COUPERIN (1668-1733)

KATELYN HENDRIX, SOPRANO; MIKAYLA DODGE, MEZZO-SOPRANO; PETER SKOPEK & ANNA HILDERBRAND, VIOLINS;
 ALYSSA MOQUIN, CELLO; JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

Alleluia!

Christ is arisen,

Christ is triumphant o'er sin and the grave.

Alleluia!

*** DOXOLOGY #716**

GOD, WHOSE GIVING KNOWS NO ENDING (Verse 1)

"DA N'ASE"

God, whose giving knows no ending, from your rich and endless store,
 nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom, costly cross, grave's shattered door:
 gifted by you, we turn to you, offering up ourselves in praise;
 thankful song shall rise forever, gracious donor of our days.

*** 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# 226**

THERE IN GOD'S GARDEN

"SHADES MOUNTAIN"

*** BENEDICTION***** RESPONSE AFTER BENEDICTION**

SEVEN FOLD AMEN
 THE SANCTUARY CHOIR

PETER LUTKIN

POSTLUDE

HALLELUJAH (MESSIAH)

GEORGE FRIEDRICH HANDEL (1685 - 1759)

THE SANCTUARY CHOIR & CONGREGATION; PETR SKOPEK & ANNA HILDERBRAND, VIOLINS; JASON DIGGS, VIOLA; ALYSSA MOQUIN, CELLO;
 ALEXANDRIA BLANK, TRUMPET; BART LAY, PERCUSSION; 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.....Sharon Kazary
Director of Music Ministries/Organist/Pianist.....Judith Brown
Musicians.....The Sanctuary Choir; Mikayla Dodge, Mezzo-Soprano Katelyn Hendrix, Soprano
.....Alexandria Blank, Trumpet; Jason Diggs, Viola; Petr Skopek & Anna Hilderbrand, Violins
.....Bart Lay, Percussion; Alyssa Moquin, Cello
Audio/Video Technicians.....Joe Aurigemma and Eric Ringler
Ushers.....Deb Hendrickson and David Stickler
Nursery.....Bill and Ann Kellermeier

This special Easter Day we welcome The Sanctuary Choir and our guest instrumentalists, Petr Skopek, Violin; Dalton Kendig, Violin; Jason Diggs, Viola; Alyssa Moquin, Cello; and Bart Lay, Percussion, as they help us celebrate through their musical gifts.



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. **Childcare is provided during worship as needed!**



Please see an usher if you have any questions.

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 March 30, 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	\$ 64,059.00
Pledge Balance Promised Year-to-Date	\$ 54,755.00
Over/(Under)	\$ 9,303.00

ONLINE GIVING



MONDAY, APRIL (21)

BRITTANY OUT OF OFFICE

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

TUESDAY, APRIL (22)

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

WEDNESDAY, APRIL (23)

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

THURSDAY, APRIL (24)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN
2:00 PM FAITH ACTION MEETING

FRIDAY, APRIL (25)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN
SPRING E-NEWS ARTICLES DUE

SATURDAY, APRIL (26)

9:30 AM P.E.O. MEETING

SUNDAY, APRIL (27)

11:00 AM SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

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.

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!