

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
JUNE 29, 2025 10:00 AM

GATHERING

OPENING VOLUNTARY

LET THERE BE PEACE
JUDITH BROWN, PIANO

JASON TONIOLI

10:00 AM

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

* CALL TO WORSHIP & PRAYER FOR THE DAY

In the calm waters of the ponds and the bouncing waters of the rivers,
you make a path, O God of wonders.

In the playful waters of the streams that shape every rock and the furious waters of the whirlwinds coming down,
you make a path, O God of wonders.

We come to praise God, knowing that in the quiet and in the chaos of our lives,
you will make a path, O God of wonders.

Let us pray -

God of Wonders, we enter this day, knowing that you see us exactly as we were created. You welcome us in without judgement and invite us to see through your loving eyes. Help us as we worship to step boldly into who you have called us to be. Give us courage and grace to celebrate your goodness in us and everyone around us. Amen.

* HYMN #331

GOD OF THE AGES, WHOSE ALMIGHTY HAND

"NATIONAL HYMN"

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

How do we follow you, O God in the margins? How do we welcome you while rejecting perspectives different from our own? We pray for those who may think, look, and believe differently from us.

How do we do your will while responding to it with vengeance? We pray for governments and nations who are at war. We pray for leaders and lawmakers to enact justice and peace.

How do we open our homes to you, the one who doesn't have a place to lay your head? We pray for people seeking asylum, people with no place to sleep, and people who offer shelter to others.

How do we trust you while clinging to certainty and comfort? We pray for our families, for the church, and for the institutions we hold dear to us.

Call us into your heart and call us out of that which keeps us separated from you and one another, that we may follow you, O Loving One. 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 77:1-2, 11-20

¹ I cry aloud to God, aloud to God, that he may hear me.

² In the day of my trouble I seek the Lord; in the night my hand is stretched out without wearying;
my soul refuses to be comforted.

¹¹ I will call to mind the deeds of the Lord; I will remember your wonders of old.

¹² I will meditate on all your work and muse on your mighty deeds.

¹³ Your way, O God, is holy. What god is so great as our God?

¹⁴ You are the God who works wonders; you have displayed your might among the peoples.

¹⁵ With your strong arm you redeemed your people, the descendants of Jacob and Joseph. *Selah*

¹⁶ When the waters saw you, O God, when the waters saw you, they were afraid; the very deep trembled.

¹⁷ The clouds poured out water; the skies thundered; your arrows flashed on every side.

¹⁸ The crash of your thunder was in the whirlwind; your lightnings lit up the world; the earth trembled and shook.

¹⁹ Your way was through the sea, your path through the mighty waters, yet your footprints were unseen.

²⁰ You led your people like a flock by the hand of Moses and Aaron.

SOLO

THANKFUL

CAROLE BAYER SAGER, DAVID FOSTER & RICHARD PAGE

MIKAYLA DODGE, SOPRANO; JUDITH BROWN, PIANO

Some days, we forget to look around us
Some days, we can't see the joy that surrounds us
So caught up inside ourselves
We take when we should give
So for tonight we pray for
What we know can be
And on this day we hope for
What we still can't see
It's up to us, to be the change
And even though we all can still do more
There's so much to be thankful for
Look beyond ourselves
There's so much sorrow
It's way too late to say, I'll cry tomorrow
Each of us must find our truth
We're so long overdue
So for tonight we pray for
What we know can be
And everyday, we hope for
What we still can't see
It's up to us, to be the change
And even though we all can still do more
There's so much to be thankful for
Even with our differences
There is a place we're all connected
Each of us can find each other's light
So for tonight, we pray for
What we know can be
And on this day, we hope for
What we still can't see
It's up to us, to be the change
And even though this world needs so much more
There's so much to be thankful for.

SECOND READING

GALATIANS 5:1, 13-25

¹ For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

¹³ For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters, only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become enslaved to one another. ¹⁴ For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, "You

shall love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁵ If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another.

¹⁶ Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷ For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want. ¹⁸ But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law. ¹⁹ Now the works of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity, debauchery, ²⁰ idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, ²¹ envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

²² By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. ²⁴ And those who belong to Christ^[cl] have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. ²⁵ If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

SERMON	“SPIRIT-FILLED”	REV. ALISON PETERS
* HYMN #366	LOVE DIVINE, ALL LOVES EXCELLING	“HYFRYDOL”

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	LET ALL MORTAL FLESH KEEP SILENCE MIKAYLA DODGE, SOPRANO; ZACH DODGE, GUITAR	“PICARDY”
* 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		

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# 359	FREEDOM IS COMING	“FREEDOM IS COMING”
* 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	COME, LIVE IN THE LIGHT! JUDITH BROWN, PIANO	“WE ARE CALLED”
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* 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**
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| Preacher..... | Rev. Alison Peters |
| Liturgist..... | David Stickler |
| Director of Music Ministries/Organist/Pianist..... | Judith Brown |
| Musicians..... | Mikayla Dodge, Soprano and Zach Dodge, Guitar |
| Audio/Video Technicians..... | Joe Aurigemma and Eric Ringler |
| Ushers..... | Kathy Dowell and John Mullan |
| Nursery..... | Cathy Levitas and Mitch Peters |

Please note the Brittany is on vacation from Friday, June 27th-Monday, July 7th. The Church Office will be opened by an office volunteer from 9:00 AM-12:00 PM on Friday, June 27th, Monday, June 30th, Tuesday, July 1st, Wednesday, July 2nd, Thursday, July 3rd and Monday, July 7th.



The Church office will be CLOSED on Friday, July 4th in observance of the Fourth of July.

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. **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.



The flowers in the sanctuary this morning are given to the Glory of God in appreciation of the blessing of my grandson, James Burkett, on his birthday, June 30, by Linda Mellon.



MONDAY, JUNE (30)

BRITTANY ON VACATION

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN UNTIL NOON

TUESDAY, JULY (1)

BRITTANY ON VACATION

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN UNTIL NOON

WEDNESDAY, JULY (2)

BRITTANY ON VACATION

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN UNTIL NOON

7:00 PM NA MEETING

THURSDAY, JULY (3)

BRITTANY ON VACATION

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN UNTIL NOON

2:00 PM FAITH ACTION MEETING

FRIDAY, JULY (4)

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

SATURDAY, JULY (5)

SUNDAY, JULY (6)

10:00 AM SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

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 June 8, 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 \$ 91,265.00

Pledge Balance Promised Year-to-Date \$ 83,957.00

Over/(Under) \$ 7,307.00

ONLINE GIVING



DISASTER RELIEF

The Mission Committee is currently collecting monetary donations and filling the big box in the hall with vital supplies for Western Maryland Flood Victims. Monetary donations may be sent to the church, with Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) on the memo line.

Thank You

DONATION LIST FOR FLOOD VICTIMS

At this time the emergency responders are prioritizing monetary donations to help expedite the clean-up process. This allows them the ability to purchase what is needed at that particular time.

Additional Items that will always be needed and appreciated are as follows:

Paper Towels
Hygiene Kits
Gloves
Snack Food

Trash Bags
Socks
Diapers (All sizes)
Laundry Detergent

Christmas in July

Beginning on July 6, 2025, the Mission Committee will be sponsoring an Angel Tree for the children being supported by CASA of Western Maryland. You will learn about CASA and its impact on the community during the Moment for Mission. There will be a social after the service in the Gathering Place.

Angel ornaments on the tree in the Gathering Place will include the needs of these children, per the request of their sponsors, or from their personal interests. Everyone is invited and encouraged to take an angel off the tree and fulfill the request of the individual child.



PLEASE DO NOT WRAP THE GIFTS.

The Christmas in July event for CASA will conclude on July 27 with the blessing of the gifts and donations. Thank you all in advance for your support of the meaningful local mission.



FAITH FORMATION RETREAT: *With God's Help...Faith in Times of Emotional Uncertainty* led by Martha MacGill. Join us on Friday, July 18th from 6:30-8:30 PM and Saturday, July 18th from 8:45 AM- 12:30 PM for a retreat based on a virtual retreat Martha attended, "What do we do with our Anger", led by Brian McClellan. The retreat will be held at the church with snacks, a light breakfast and lunch provided by the Faith Formation Team. All are welcome to join us. Please RSVP to Brittany if you plan to attend by Sunday, July 13th.



ALTOONA CURVE GAME: Join our church family for an Altoona Curve Game on Sunday, July 20th at 6:00PM. All ages welcome, bring a friend! Please RSVP by Sunday, July 13th.

SUMMER LUNCH BOX HELP NEEDED! Summer Lunch Box is a nonprofit organization that prepares lunches for children in the Cumberland area. We are an economically depressed area and have recognized that some of our children often go hungry in the summer months. Last year we prepared a little over 16,000 lunches in an eight-week period. This takes a community effort and we would like to invite you to participate.

There are three churches that prepare the lunches, they are:

- **Emmanuel Episcopal Parish (Mondays & Wednesdays)**
16 Washington St.
Contact: Jakki Rogers- 301.697.4068
- **Our Lady of The Mountains (St. Mary's) (Tuesdays)**
300 E. Oldtown Rd.
Contact: Darlene Smith- 240.522.2714
- **Emmanuel United Methodist Church (Thursdays)**
24 Humbird St.
Contact: Robbie Hammond- 301.697.6868



We will provide lunches from June 23, 2025 through August 14, 2025. We could use sandwich makers and packers from 8:00 AM through 11:00 AM.

We will be distributing to the seven sites listed below this summer:

- AME Church (309 Frederick St.)
- Old Town Manor (office) (1510 E. Oldtown Rd.)
- St. John's Lutheran Church (400 Arch St.)
- River Bend Court (129 W. Oldtown Rd.)
- Springdale Playground (Chapel Hill Park) (1 Springdale St.)

- John Humbird School (120 E. Mary's St.)
- South Penn Elementary School (500 E. Second St.)

We need drivers and distributors for South Penn and Springdale Playground. We distribute lunches from 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM.

If you are available and would like to join us, please contact Jakki Rogers at 301.697.4068 or jakkirogers@breezeline.net. It is a very rewarding experience and we are looking forward to meeting you!

SUMMER MUSIC: Our summer music program has started and extends through Sunday, September 8th with our church picnic and worship service at Rocky Gap. If you would like to participate one Sunday by playing an instrument or joining in song please speak to or contact a choir member or Judie Brown at browjuda49@gmail.com. Thank you!!