

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
JULY 13, 2025 10:00 AM

GATHERING

OPENING VOLUNTARY

PSALM 127
MARK STEINER, ORGAN

EMMA LOU DIEMER

10:00 AM

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

* CALL TO WORSHIP & PRAYER FOR THE DAY

We come with willing hearts and eager minds.
Lead us in your truth, O God of our salvation!
We come in our weakness and wonder.
Teach us your ways, O God of our salvation!
We come seeking the path of justice.
We are ready to follow, O God of our salvation!

Let us pray -

O God of our salvation, we wonder in ceaseless prayer: Who is our neighbor? Is our neighbor the one who comes morning after morning asking for a spare coin? Is our neighbor the kid who kicked our political signs and vandalized our church? Is our neighbor the famous politician who calls us names? Is our neighbor the stranger next door? Is our neighbor the one who leaves needles in the park? Is our neighbor the drag queen reading poems in the library? And you say: The neighbor is the one who shows mercy. You say: I am your neighbor. Teach us to recognize you among us. Amen.

* HYMN #41

O WORSHIP THE KING, ALL GLORIOUS ABOVE!

"LYONS"

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, we long to walk in ways that are worthy, but our steps falter. We chase what fades, forgetting the fruit you call us to bear. Your mercy waits, but we turn away. Your wisdom shines, but we choose shadows.

Forgive us. Lead us in Your truth, teach us Your paths, and strengthen us to live lives pleasing in Your sight. Amen.

(Silence for personal prayer and reflection.)

RESPONSE #188

JESUS LOVES ME!

"JESUS LOVES ME"

Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to him belong. They are weak but he is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.
Jesus loves me! This I know, as he loved so long ago,
taking children on his knee, saying, "Let them come to me."
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

QUESTIONS OF DISCIPLESHIP AND MEMBERSHIP

Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior? I do.

Do you trust Him? I do.

Do you intend to be His disciple, to obey His word and to show His love? I do.

Will you be a faithful member of Christ's church and this congregation, giving of yourself in every way, and will you seek the fellowship of the church wherever you may be? I will, with God's help.

MEMBERSHIP PRAYER

WELCOME AND PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

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 25:1-10

¹ To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul. ² O my God, in you I trust;

do not let me be put to shame; do not let my enemies exult over me.

³ Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame; let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

⁴ Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths.

⁵ Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long.

⁶ Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord, and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

⁷ Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions;

according to your steadfast love remember me, for the sake of your goodness, O Lord!

⁸ Good and upright is the Lord; therefore he instructs sinners in the way.

⁹ He leads the humble in what is right and teaches the humble his way.

¹⁰ All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his decrees.

SOLO

HERE I AM, LORD
MARK STEINER, ORGAN

ROBERT BUCKLEY FARLEE

SECOND READING

COLOSSIANS 1:1-14

¹ Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother,

² To the saints and faithful brothers and sisters in Christ in Colossae:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father. ³ In our prayers for you we always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus

Christ, ⁴ for we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, ⁵ because of the

hope laid up for you in heaven. You have heard of this hope before in the word of the truth, the gospel ⁶ that has come to

you. Just as it is bearing fruit and growing in the whole world, so it has been bearing fruit among yourselves from the day

you heard it and truly comprehended the grace of God. ⁷ This you learned from Epaphras, our beloved fellow servant. He

is a faithful minister of Christ on our behalf, ⁸ and he has made known to us your love in the Spirit. ⁹ For this reason, since

the day we heard it, we have not ceased praying for you and asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of God's will

in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, ¹⁰ so that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, as you bear

fruit in every good work and as you grow in the knowledge of God. ¹¹ May you be made strong with all the strength that

comes from his glorious power, so that you may have all endurance and patience, joyfully ¹² giving thanks to the Father,

who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. ¹³ He has rescued us from the power of darkness

and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

SERMON

"IS IT WORTHY?"

REV. ALISON PETERS

* HYMN #771

WHAT IS THE WORLD LIKE

"NEW WORLD"

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

PRELUDE #3

DANIEL GAWTHROP

* DOXOLOGY #606

PRAISE GOD, FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW

"OLD HUNDREDTH"

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

* 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# 305

COME SING, O CHURCH, IN JOY!

"DARWALL'S 148TH"

* 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

TRUMPET TUNE IN G
MARK STEINER, ORGAN

JON ROBERTS

* 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.....	Carolyn Mathews
Director of Music Ministries/Organist/Pianist.....	Judith Brown
Guest Organist.....	Mark Steiner
Audio/Video Technicians.....	Joe Aurigemma and Eric Ringler
Ushers.....	Cindy and Dave Corley
Childcare.....	Linda Mellon



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.



engage them more fully in worship. **Childcare is provided during worship as needed! Please see an usher if you have any questions.**

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

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.



MONDAY, JULY (14)

8:00 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN
4:45 PM ADMIN & FINANCE MEETING

TUESDAY, JULY (15)

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

WEDNESDAY, JULY (16)

8:00 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN
7:00 PM NA MEETING

THURSDAY, JULY (17)

8:00 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN

FRIDAY, JULY (18)

8:00 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN
6:30 PM FAITH FORMATION RETREAT

SATURDAY, JULY (19)

YOUTH ACT NOW (OVERNIGHT)

8:00 AM FAITH FORMATION RETREAT

SUNDAY, JULY (20)

10:00 AM SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
11:00 PM MISSION NEPAL LUNCHEON
6:00 PM ALTOONA CURVE GAME

**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 July 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	\$	101,608.00
Pledge Balance Promised Year-to-Date	\$	98,559.00
Over/(Under)	\$	3,048.00

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.

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. Life can throw us curve balls in many different ways—we can experience an unexpected loss or can find that the world has changed in ways we never imagined. In times like these, our emotions can range from anger to grief to sadness. Sometimes it is hard to get out of bed in the morning. Sometimes it is hard to find joy in anything. Sometimes our life is going beautifully but those we love are in a difficult place. When we are experiencing these things, how does our faith give us practices to help us live out life with hope and purpose?



On Friday evening July 18th (6:30-8:30 PM) and Saturday morning (8:45 AM-12:30 PM), join Rev Martha Macgill as she leads us through a study of scripture and Christian practices that will help us negotiate uncertain times. The retreat will be held at First Presbyterian Church and snacks, a light breakfast and light lunch will be served. The retreat is free of charge.

Please RSVP to First Presbyterian office, 301-777-3700, or firstpresbyteriansecretary@gmail.com by today.



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

IS IT ON YOUR CALENDAR?

Next Sunday, July 20th we will welcome Andy and Ellen (Harding) Collins from NC. Ellen is the niece of a former church member. She and siblings spent their childhood in Nepal while parents, Dr. Dick and Sue Harding, were medical missionaries there. Dr. Harding started Welfare for Children at Tikapur (WACT), and Shanti Nepal. Ellen will share information, photos, household items, and food at a reception after the service. BONUS: Ellen and Andy work half the year in Thailand, and will share information about that mission also.



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!!