

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 20, 2025 10:00 AM

GATHERING

OPENING VOLUNTARY

WHAT A FRIEND WE HAVE IN JESUS
AMY BRANAM ARMIENTO, PIANO

C.G. CONVERSE

10:00 AM

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

* CALL TO WORSHIP & PRAYER FOR THE DAY

In Christ the fullness of God was pleased to dwell.

Through Christ God reconciled all things to Godself.

In Christ we find our beginning, our purpose, and our own being.

We are Christ's body, eager to serve.

Let us pray -

O God of the unimaginable, you come to us as the hungry visitor in need of shelter and the woman sitting at your feet, craving to learn more. You make yourself at home among us, learning our names and our stories, dwelling with us wherever we lay our head, and making miracles out of the mundane and saints out of the ordinary. Thank you for showing up in the holy spaces and the unexpected places. May we show up in this world like you. Amen.

* HYMN #49

THE GOD OF ABRAHAM PRAISE

"LEONI"

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy and Loving God, you ask: Who may dwell with you? And we confess—
our words have not always been truthful, our hearts not always pure.

We have wounded with gossip, turned away from the suffering, and sought comfort over calling.

Yet Christ meets us in our brokenness. You call us not to shame, but to maturity—
to grow into hope, to become what we already are: your holy people.

Forgive us, O God. Root us in Your love, strengthen us in faith,
and present us blameless by the power of Christ within us. 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

COMMISSIONING IHANKTONWAN LEARNING CAMP STAFF

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 15

¹ O Lord, who may abide in your tent? Who may dwell on your holy hill?
² Those who walk blamelessly and do what is right and speak the truth from their heart;
³ who do not slander with their tongue and do no evil to their friends nor heap shame upon their neighbors;
⁴ in whose eyes the wicked are despised but who honor those who fear the Lord; who stand by their oath even to their hurt;
⁵ who do not lend money at interest and do not take a bribe against the innocent.
Those who do these things shall never be moved.

SOLO

HE LEADETH ME
AMY BRANAM ARMIENTO, PIANO

W.B. BRADBURY

SECOND READING

COLOSSIANS 1:15-28

¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation, ¹⁶ for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷ He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹ For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰ and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross. ²¹ And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, ²² he has now reconciled in his fleshly body through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before him, ²³ provided that you continue securely established and steadfast in the faith, without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven. I, Paul, became a minister of this gospel. ²⁴ I am now rejoicing in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am completing what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church. ²⁵ I became its minister according to God's commission that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, ²⁶ the mystery that has been hidden throughout the ages and generations but has now been revealed to his saints. ²⁷ To them God chose to make known how great among the gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. ²⁸ It is he whom we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone in all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

MOMENT FOR MISSION

ANDY AND ELLEN COLLINS

* HYMN #732

REJOICE IN GOD'S SAINTS

"OLD 104TH"

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

DOXOLOGY
AMY BRANAM ARMIENTO, PIANO

L. BOURGEOIS

* 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# 547

GO, MY CHILDREN, WITH MY BLESSING

"AR HYD Y NOS"

* 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 PRAISE TO THE LORD, THE ALMIGHTY "LOBE DEN HERREN" STRALSUND GESANGBUCH, 1665
AMY BRANAM ARMIENTO, PIANO

* 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

Guest Speakers.....Andy and Ellen (Harding) Collins
Liturgist.....Cathy Levitas
Director of Music Ministries/Organist/Pianist.....Judith Brown
Guest Pianist.....Amy Branam Armiento
Audio/Video Technicians.....Joe Aurigemma and Eric Ringler
Ushers.....Carolyn Mathews and Linda Mellon
Childcare.....Jeff and Kathy Getty

Today, 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.



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.**

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 (21)

8:00 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN

TUESDAY, JULY (22)

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

WEDNESDAY, JULY (23)

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

THURSDAY, JULY (24)

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

FRIDAY, JULY (25)

8:00 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN

SATURDAY, JULY (26)

9:00 AM P.E.O. MEETING

SUNDAY, JULY (27)

10:00 AM SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
CHRISTMAS IN JULY

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 13, 2025
Total 2025 Pledges Promised	\$237,796.00
Pre-paid pledges	\$ 48,578.00
<u>2025 Pledge Balance Promised</u>	<u>\$189,217.00</u>
Pledge Balance Received Year-to-Date	\$ 104,203.00
Pledge Balance Promised Year-to-Date	\$ 102,209.00
Over/(Under)	\$ 1,993.00

ONLINE GIVING



The flowers in the sanctuary this morning are given to the Glory of God in loving memory of Franz Lettner, Ralph and Ellen Brand, Dorothy Ross, Robert Ross, Louise Ross and Olive Wilson by Otto and Katie.



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.



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!!