

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
11 WASHINGTON STREET CUMBERLAND, MD 21502



SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY:
GARDEN BOUNTY
AUGUST 24, 2025 10:00 AM

GATHERING

OPENING VOLUNTARY

MENUET
AMY BRANAM ARMIENTO, PIANO

J.S. BACH

10:00 AM

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

* CALL TO WORSHIP & PRAYER FOR THE DAY

O Consuming Fire, you spark awe and joy
We see the work of your hands and the power of your deeds.
You give us an unshakable kingdom in this ever-shaking world.
So we give thanks and worship you with reverence and awe.
Enter into God's gates with thanksgiving
Enter into God's courts with praise.

Let us pray -

Rock and Fortress, you lift our burdens and calm our storms. You crown us with love, sustain us with mercy, and renew us with justice. You equip us to feed the hungry and care for the afflicted. So with grateful hearts we proclaim: you are our rock and our fortress, our refuge and our joy. Amen.

* HYMN #619

PRAISE, MY SOUL, THE GOD OF HEAVEN

"LAUDA ANIMA"

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, our rock and our redeemer, we confess that too often we choose the easy path. We keep the yoke on others' shoulders rather than lifting it away. We point fingers in blame and speak words that wound. We walk past the hungry, we ignore the afflicted, we grow weary of the work of justice.
Forgive us, Lord. Remind us that You have already given us the words to speak, the hands to serve, the love to offer. Root us again in Your mercy. Water us with Your Spirit, that we may grow into people who repair, restore, and renew in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(Silence for personal prayer and reflection.)

RESPONSE #551

LORD, HAVE MERCY

"LAND OF REST"

Lord, have mercy; Christ have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy; Christ have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.

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 71:1-6

- ¹ In you, O Lord, I take refuge; let me never be put to shame.
² In your righteousness deliver me and rescue me; incline your ear to me and save me.
³ Be to me a rock of refuge, a strong fortress to save me, for you are my rock and my fortress.
⁴ Rescue me, O my God, from the hand of the wicked, from the grasp of the unjust and cruel.
⁵ For you, O Lord, are my hope, my trust, O Lord, from my youth.
⁶ From my birth I have leaned upon you, my protector since my mother's womb. My praise is continually of you.

SOLO

IF THOU BUT SUFFER GOD TO GUIDE THEE
AMY BRANAM ARMIENTO, PIANO

GEORG NEUMARK

SECOND READING

JEREMIAH 1:4-10

⁴ Now the word of the Lord came to me saying, ⁵ "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations." ⁶ Then I said, "Ah, Lord God! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy." ⁷ But the Lord said to me, "Do not say, 'I am only a boy,' for you shall go to all to whom I send you, and you shall speak whatever I command you. ⁸ Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, says the Lord." ⁹ Then the Lord put out his hand and touched my mouth, and the Lord said to me, "Now I have put my words in your mouth. ¹⁰ See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms, to pluck up and to pull down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant."

SERMON

"YOUNGINS"

REV. ALISON PETERS

* HYMN #795

HEALER OF OUR EVERY ILL

"HEALER OF OUR EVERY ILL"

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

MENUET
AMY BRANAM ARMIENTO, PIANO

ATTR. TO CHRISTIAN PETZOLD

* 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

PRAYERS 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 #435

THERE'S A WIDENESS IN GOD'S MERCY

"IN BALILONE"

* 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, YE THAT LOVE THE LORD
AMY BRANAM ARMIENTO, PIANO

R. LOWRY

* 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**.



HOME & GARDEN BOUNTY: Today, our congregation is celebrating our summer garden bounty by decorating the sanctuary with our own fruits, vegetables, and flowers. Following the service, depending on the volume of items, we will donate our produce to the Union Rescue Mission.

This Morning's Worship Leaders

Preacher.....Rev. Alison Peters
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.....Carl and Jane Belt
Nursery.....Jane Belt and Renee Kiddy



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.



MONDAY, AUGUST (25)

8:00 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN

TUESDAY, AUGUST (26)

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

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST (27)

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

THURSDAY, AUGUST (28)

8:00 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN
9:00 AM MARYLAND PHYSICIANS CARE
HEALTH FAIR
2:00 PM FAITH ACTION MEETING

FRIDAY, AUGUST (29)

8:00 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN

SATURDAY, AUGUST (30)

9:00 AM AURIGEMMA BRIDAL SHOWER

SUNDAY, AUGUST (31)

10:00 AM SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY



Thank you to congregation members who brought in vegetables, fruits, or flowers from their gardens to display in our sanctuary this morning. They will be delivered to the Union Rescue Mission.

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 August 17, 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	\$ 117,244.00
Pledge Balance Promised Year-to-Date	\$ 116,810.00
Over/(Under)	\$ 433.00

ONLINE GIVING



FALL KICK-OFF PICNIC: Join us on Sunday, September 14th at Rocky Gap State Park for our Fall Kick-off worship service. The service will begin at 11:00 AM at the White Pine Pavilion on the left-hand side of Pleasant Valley Road. Attendees should wear comfortable clothes suitable for the weather. Bring chairs for personal comfort. Plan to stay for a picnic potluck lunch and social time together. The Congregational Care & Outreach Committee will be providing fried chicken and pulled pork. There is a sheet on the table outside of Brittany's office for you to sign up to bring a dish. Lawn games and board games will be provided, but we invite you to bring your favorite games to share! In the event that the forecast for that Sunday morning is for steady rain/wind, the service, potluck and picnic fun will be held inside the church. An announcement of the decision to move indoors, if necessary, will be made on Saturday through the various methods we have of notifying members of a change in plans.