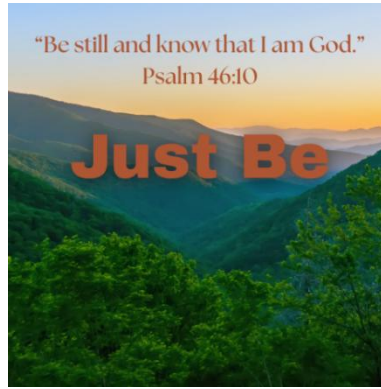


FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
11 WASHINGTON STREET CUMBERLAND, MD 21502



SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY: REFORMATION SUNDAY
OCTOBER 26, 2025 11:00 AM

GATHERING

OPENING VOLUNTARY

O REST IN THE LORD (ELIJAH)
JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

FELIX MENDELSSOHN (1809-1847)

Reflective Text:

*O rest in the Lord, wait patiently for Him
And He shall give thee thy heart's desire.
Commit thy way unto Him and trust in Him
And fret not thyself because of evildoers.*

11:00 AM

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT

TO BLESS THE EARTH
THE SANCTUARY CHOIR

"CHRISTUS, DER IST MEIN LEBEN"

God crowns the year with goodness;
The earth God's mercy fills;
The wilderness is fruitful,
And joyful are the hills.

* CALL TO WORSHIP & PRAYER FOR THE DAY

There are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit.
There are varieties of service, but the same Lord.
To each is given a gift for the common good.
We bring our gifts to glorify God.
Let us worship the Giver of every good gift.
With open hearts and willing hands, we praise the Lord.

Prayer of the Day

Generous God, you equip your people with gifts beyond measure. You shape us for service and empower us with your Spirit. We praise you, for every talent and treasure comes from you, and in you we find our purpose. Amen.

* HYMN #49

THE GOD OF ABRAHAM PRAISE

"LEONI"

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, we confess that we often hide the gifts you have given us. We compare ourselves to others, we doubt our worth, and we fail to use what you have entrusted to us. Forgive us, and awaken us to the gifts we carry, that we might share them in joy. Amen.

(Silence for personal prayer and reflection.)

RESPONSE #698

TAKE, O TAKE ME AS I AM (x3)

"SARADAY"

Take, O take me as I am; summon out what I shall be; set your seal upon my heart and live in 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

1 PETER 4:6-11

⁶ For this is the reason the gospel was proclaimed even to the dead, so that, though they had been judged in the flesh as everyone is judged, they might live in the spirit as God does. ⁷ The end of all things is near; therefore be serious and discipline yourselves for the sake of your prayers. ⁸ Above all, maintain constant love for one another, for love covers a multitude of sins. ⁹ Be hospitable to one another without complaining. ¹⁰ Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. ¹¹ Whoever speaks must do so as one speaking the very words of God; whoever serves must do so with the strength that God supplies, so that God may be glorified in all things through Jesus Christ. To him belong the glory and the power forever and ever. Amen.

ANTHEM

O HOW BLESSED
THE SANCTUARY CHOIR

ANTON BRUCKNER

O how blessed are they who serve the Lord;
They shall mount upward with eagle's pinions;
They shall walk and never be faint.

SECOND READING

1 CORINTHIANS 12:4-11

⁴ Now there are varieties of gifts but the same Spirit, ⁵ and there are varieties of services but the same Lord, ⁶ and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. ⁷ To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. ⁸ To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, ⁹ to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰ to another the working of powerful deeds, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹ All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

SERMON

"BE GIFTED"

REV. ALISON PETERS

* HYMN #644

GIVE THANKS, O CHRISTIAN PEOPLE

"ES FLOG EIN KLEINS WALDVOGELEIN"

MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP

WHY WE CHOSE FPC

MIRANDA FORBES

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 TRIO

LIFT THINE EYES (ELIJAH)

Felix MENDELSSOHN

KATELYN HENDRIX, ALISON PETERS; SOPRANOS; MIKAYLA DODGE, MEZZO-SOPRANO

Lift thine eyes, O lift thine eyes to the mountains,
Whence cometh help;
Thy help cometh from the Lord,
the maker of heaven and earth.
He hath said thy foot shall not be moved;
Thy keeper will never slumber.

* DOXOLOGY #694

GREAT GOD OF EVERY BLESSING (Verse 1)

"AURELIA"

Great God of every blessing, of faithful, loving care, you are the fount of goodness, the daily bread we share.
How can we hope to thank you? Our praise is but a start: sincerely and completely I offer you my heart.

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Holy God, every good and perfect gift comes from you. With gratitude we return a portion of what you have entrusted to us. Use these gifts, and use our very lives, to build your kingdom, to share your love, and to glorify your name.
Amen.

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 #308

O GOD IN WHOM ALL LIFE BEGINS

"NOEL"

* 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

ASH GROVE
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

PreacherRev. Alison Peters
Liturgist.....Cathy Levitas
Director of Music Ministries/Organist/Pianist.....Judith Brown
Musicians.....The Sanctuary Choir; Katelyn Hendrix, Soprano; Alison Peters, Soprano; Mikayla Dodge, Mezzo-Soprano
Audio/Video Technicians.....Joe Aurigemma and Eric Ringler
Ushers.....Evan Swanger and David Stickler
Childcare.....Linda Mellon and Mitch Peters



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.



The flowers in the sanctuary this morning are from our fields and gardens in memory of Carolyn's dad, Gilbert Bailey, and in honor of our grandson, Griffin Mills, and son, Brian Mathews, on their October birthdays, by Carolyn and Tom Mathews. The flower are also given in honor of their mother and grandmother, Carlotta Shaffer's birthday by Christine, Brenda, Gary and her great grandsons.

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**



MONDAY, OCTOBER (27)

7:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN
5:00 PM LADIES BOOK CLUB
7:00 PM CHORAL SOCIETY REHEARSAL

TUESDAY, OCTOBER (28)

7:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER (29)

7:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN
12:15 PM STAFF MEETING
6:30 PM JOYBELL REHEARSAL
7:00 PM NA MEETING

THURSDAY, OCTOBER (30)

7:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN
5:30 PM FALL BOOK STUDY

FRIDAY, OCTOBER (31)

7:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER (1)

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER (2)

9:45 AM ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL
11:00 AM SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
4:00 PM WAE EVENT

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE RULING ELDERS: CARL BELT & CINDY CORLEY

ANNUAL GIVING YEAR-TO-DATE: as of October 19, 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	\$ 151,588.00
Pledge Balance Promised Year-to-Date	\$ 153,314.00
Over/(Under)	\$ (1,725.00)

ONLINE GIVING



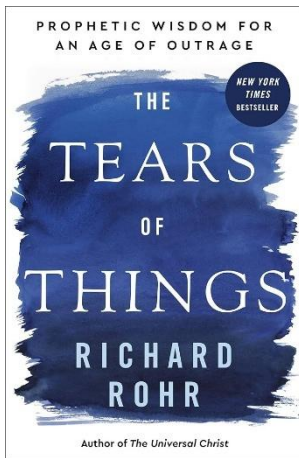
FALL CLEAN UP DAY: The Building & Grounds Committee invites you to come out and help clean up the church on Saturday, November 8th from 9:00 AM-12:00 PM.



The projects we have planned are:

- to remove all AC window units
- to paint handrails
- to touch up paint around building
- to clean and organize the kitchen area.

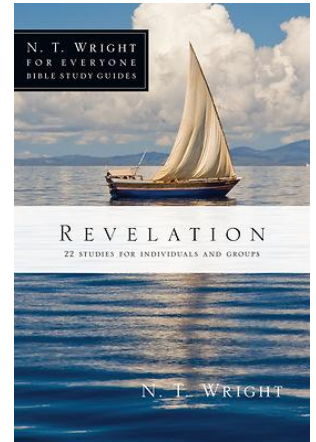
Join us for Adult Sunday School at 9:45 AM in the Dakota Room. We will be using N.T. Wright's, *Revelation* to get a "remarkably clear glimpse into God's ultimate design for the entire creation. We will be looking into how Jesus the Messiah's triumph and the resulting costly victory of his followers overcome the powerful evil forces at work, particularly with idolatrous and oppressive political systems."



Join us this fall for an adult Bible Study. We will meet on Thursday evenings in the Gathering Space, beginning Thursday, October 9th and ending on Thursday, November 13th.

How do we live compassionately in a time of violence and despair? How do we manage conflict and suffering in our lives and in the world? Holy Scripture gives us wisdom and practice, particularly through the lives and writings of the Hebrew prophets. Using Richard Rohr's new book *The Tears of Things: Prophetic Wisdom for An Age of Outrage* as a guide, we will study the writings of the prophets-particularly, Amos, Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Ezekiel.

Rev. Martha and Pastor Alison will facilitate and lead this six-week course. We will begin at 5:00 PM with a light supper and fellowship. Then we will proceed with our study from 5:30 to 6:30 PM.



Please RSVP to Brittany, (301) 777-3700, or firstpresbyteriansecretary@gmail.com toady.

WORLD ARTISTS EXPERIENCES (WAE) will present a free program in our sanctuary on Sunday, November 2nd at 4:00 PM. Donations are appreciated. The Bulgarian duo of pianist, Lora Tchekoratóvá, and violinist, Georgy Valtchev, will give a concert of works by five Bulgarian composers, ranging from folk to jazz, from early 20th century to a woman born in 1980. Both are distinguished graduates of Juilliard School of Music, and perform often at the Kennedy Center, Carnegie Hall, and at international music festivals. See Linda Smith for more information.



SECOND SUNDAY SOCIAL-THANKSGIVING GATHERING:

The Congregational Care Committee will once again be hosting Second Sunday Thanksgiving on **Sunday, November 9th, 2025** in the fellowship hall, immediately following worship. The committee will supply the main entree and drinks. We are asking attendees to bring a side dish, salad or dessert to share. A sign up sheet is available in the main hallway, or by emailing Kelsey Gallo at firstpresbyterianevents@gmail.com. We hope everyone can join us for fellowship and a delicious meal!

PONDER AND PRAY : Join Josh Gilhart on Sunday, November 16th 12:15pm – 2:00PM for Ponder and Prayer in the Gathering Place. Light lunch will be served. Please RSVP to the church office if you plan to attend.

"As it is the business of tailors to make clothes, and the business of cobblers to mend shoes, so it is the business of Christians to pray!" – Martin Luther

At its core, prayer is entering into a conversation with the Triune God. But what is prayer? Is it the words we speak? The silence we keep? The requests we make of God? How do we pray? How do we enter this conversation? Join us as we look at what the Bible says about prayer, learn practices from the church's history, and discover how prayer can help us ponder God's promises this Advent season.



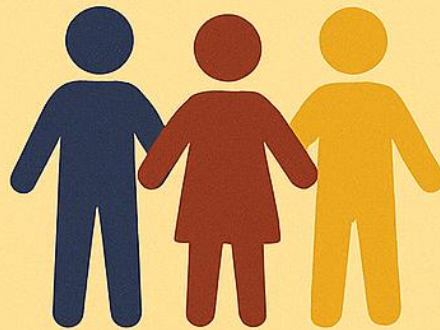
SHARE THE SPIRIT SUNDAY

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9

11 AM

**Bring a Friend, Family Member,
Co-worker**

Join us for worship followed by Second
Sunday Social in the Fellowship Hall.



*“For where two or three gather in my
name, there am I with them.”*

— Matthew 18:20

We look forward to celebrating with you and your guests!