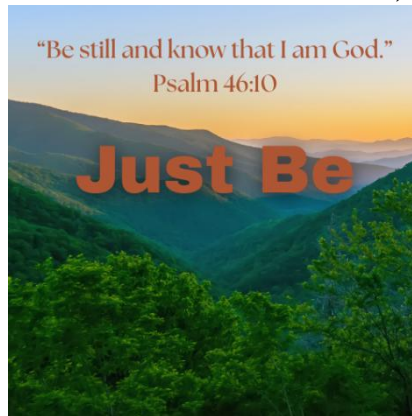


FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
11 WASHINGTON STREET CUMBERLAND, MD 21502



SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
OCTOBER 19, 2025 11:00 AM

GATHERING

OPENING VOLUNTARY

ETUDE NO. 3 TRISTESSE
JUDITH BROWN, PIANO

FREDERIC CHOPIN (1810-1849)

11:00 AM

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT

GOODNESS IS STRONGER THAN EVIL
THE SANCTUARY CHOIR

Goodness is stronger than evil; love is stronger than hate;
Light is stronger than darkness; life is stronger than death.
Victory is ours through God who loves us.

* CALL TO WORSHIP & PRAYER FOR THE DAY

Trust in the Lord with all your heart.

We lean not on our own understanding.

In all our ways, we acknowledge God.

And God will make our paths straight.

Let us place our hope in Christ, our way, our truth, our life.

We will worship in trust and faith.

Prayer of the Day

Faithful God, you are our refuge and strength, our present help in every need. You are trustworthy and true. We adore you for guiding us when the path is uncertain, and for never letting us walk alone. Amen.

* HYMN #819

BE STILL, MY SOUL

"FINLANDIA"

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we admit that we trust ourselves more than we trust you. We cling to control, we worry over tomorrow, and we forget that you hold the future. Forgive us, and draw us into your peace, that we may trust you fully and follow you faithfully. 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

PROVERBS 3:5-6

⁵ Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight.

⁶ In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

ANTHEM

SOON AND VERY SOON
THE SANCTUARY CHOIR

GOSPEL HYMN

Soon and very soon we are going to see the King.
No more crying there: we are going to see the King.
No more dying there: we are going to see the King.
Soon and very soon we are going to see the King.

Refrain: Hallelujah, hallelujah we're going to see the King

SECOND READING

JOHN 14:1-7

14 "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ² In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴ And you know the way to the place where I am going." ⁵ Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" ⁶ Jesus said to him, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷ If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

SERMON

"BE TRUSTING"

REV. ALISON PETERS

* HYMN #816

IF THOU BUT TRUST IN GOD TO GUIDE THEE

"WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT"

MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP

CONGREGATIONAL CARE UPDATE

KELSEY GALLO

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

SET ME AS A SEAL
JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN
Reflective Text:

RENE CLAUSEN

Set me as a seal upon your heart, as a seal upon your arm,
For love is stronger than death.
Many waters cannot quench love; neither can the floods drown it.

* 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, share your love, and 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 #624

I GREET THEE, WHO MY SURE REDEEMER ART

"TOULON"

* 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

EV'RY TIME I FEEL THE SPIRIT
JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

"PENTECOST"

* 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.....	Michael Levitas
Director of Music Ministries/Organist/Pianist.....	Judith Brown
Musician.....	The Sanctuary Choir
Audio/Video Technicians.....	Joe Aurigemma and Eric Ringler
Ushers.....	Cathy and Michael Levitas
Childcare.....	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 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.

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 (20)

7:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN
6:30 PM CHORAL SOCIETY REHEARSAL

TUESDAY, OCTOBER (21)

7:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER (22)

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

THURSDAY, OCTOBER (23)

7:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN
2:00 PM FAITH ACTION MEETING
5:30 PM FALL BOOK STUDY

FRIDAY, OCTOBER (24)

7:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN

SATURDAY, OCTOBER (25)

SUNDAY, OCTOBER (26)

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

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE RULING ELDERS: CARL BELT & CINDY CORLEY

ANNUAL GIVING YEAR-TO-DATE: as of October 12, 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	\$ 148,070.00
Pledge Balance Promised Year-to-Date	\$ 149,663.00
Over/(Under)	\$ (1,593.00)

ONLINE GIVING



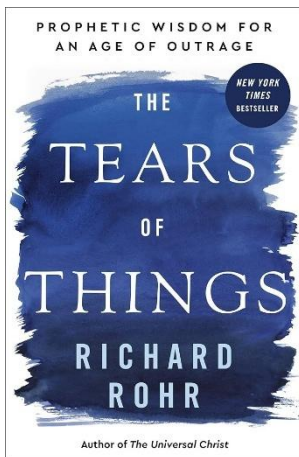
FALL CLEAN UP DAY: The Building & Grounds Committee invites you to come out and help clean up the church on Saturday, November 8th from 9:00 AM-12:00 PM.



The projects planned are to 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.

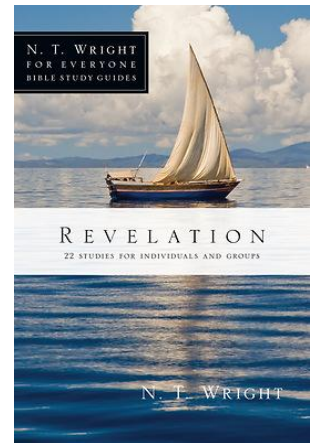
Join us for Adult Sunday School at 9:45 AM in the Dakota Room. We will be using N.T. Wright's, *Revelation* to get a "remarkably clear glimpse into God's ultimate design for the entire creation. We will be looking into how Jesus the Messiah's triumph and the resulting costly victory of his followers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

CZECH PARTNERSHIP: WHY? HOW? Today, October 19, at 2:00 PM there will be a special opportunity to know more about our CZECH PARTNERSHIP by attending a zoom conference. This will be a beginning to the ECCB PCUSA Conference on May 3-6, 2026, in Pittsburgh, PA. Rev. Alison is on the planning committee. Two well-versed speakers with extensive Ecumenical partnership background will discuss Partnerships: "why" and "how". The conference will be approximately 90 minutes and in English. It will include Devotions, brief overview ECCB PCUSA Partnership, Partnership Speeches, Q and A, and closing prayer. ALL are welcome! Zoom link: <https://cesnet.zoom.us/j/93768208441>



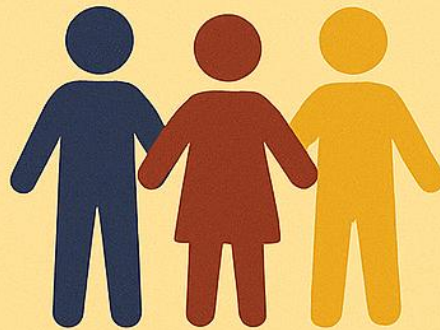
SHARE THE SPIRIT SUNDAY

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!