

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
11 WASHINGTON STREET CUMBERLAND, MD 21502



SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
JANUARY 18, 2026 11:00 AM

GATHERING

OPENING VOLUNTARY

ANDANTE
JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

DAVID L. CROUSE (1940 -)

11:00 AM

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT

WHAT IS THIS PLACE?
THE SANCTUARY CHOIR

"KOMT NU MET ZANG"

What is this place, where we are meeting?
Only a house, the earth, its floor.

Walls and a roof, sheltering people, windows for light, an open door.
Yet it becomes a body that lives when we are gathered here, and know our God is near.

* CALL TO WORSHIP & PRAYER FOR THE DAY

We waited patiently for the Lord;
God inclined to us and heard our cry.
God lifted us out of the pit and set our feet upon a rock,
And put a new song in our mouths, a song of praise.
Jesus turns to us and asks, "What are you looking for?"
We come seeking meaning, mercy, and a place to begin.
"Come and see," Jesus says.
We come as we are, ready to follow.
Come, let us worship the God who calls us by name.
Let us begin again, in hope and trust.

Let us pray -

Faithful God, you meet us at the beginning and call us as we are. Quiet our doubts, open our hearts, and give us courage to follow where you lead. As we worship, shape us into people who trust your call and take the next faithful step with Jesus Christ. Amen.

* HYMN #442

JUST AS I AM, WITHOUT ONE PLEA

"WODSWORTH"

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we confess that we hesitate to follow. We wait to feel ready instead of trusting your grace, and choose comfort over faithfulness. Forgive us, lift us from where we are stuck, and set our feet on your path again. Call us by name, and help us begin anew. Amen.

(Silence for personal prayer and reflection.)

RESPONSE #414

BE STILL AND KNOW THAT I AM GOD

"PSALM 46"

Be still and know that I am God. Be still and know that I am God. (x3)

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 40:1-11

- ¹ I waited patiently for the Lord; he inclined to me and heard my cry.
² He drew me up from the desolate pit, out of the miry bog, and set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure.
³ He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God. Many will see and fear and put their trust in the Lord.
⁴ Happy are those who make the Lord their trust, who do not turn to the proud, to those who go astray after false gods.
⁵ You have multiplied, O Lord my God, your wondrous deeds and your thoughts toward us;
none can compare with you. Were I to proclaim and tell of them, they would be more than can be counted.
⁶ Sacrifice and offering you do not desire, but you have given me an open ear.
Burnt offering and sin offering you have not required.
⁷ Then I said, "Here I am; in the scroll of the book it is written of me.
⁸ I delight to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart."
⁹ I have told the glad news of deliverance in the great congregation; see, I have not restrained my lips, as you know, O Lord.
¹⁰ I have not hidden your saving help within my heart; I have spoken of your faithfulness and your salvation;
I have not concealed your steadfast love and your faithfulness from the great congregation.
¹¹ Do not, O Lord, withhold your mercy from me; let your steadfast love and your faithfulness keep me safe forever.

ANTHEM

THANKS BE TO THEE, O LORD
THE SANCTUARY CHOIR; MIKAYLA DODGE, MEZZO-SOPRANO

G.F. HANDEL

Thanks be to thee, O Lord!
Thou hast broughtest forth through the sea Israel with mighty hand.
Lord Thou hast led us as a shepherd;
Lord, with Thine hand tenderly in ages past Thy people hast led.

SECOND READING

JOHN 1:35-42

The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, ³⁶ and as he watched Jesus walk by he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" ³⁷ The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. ³⁸ When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?" ³⁹ He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. ⁴⁰ One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. ⁴¹ He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated Anointed). ⁴² He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).

SERMON

"GETTING STARTED"

REV. ALISON PETERS

* HYMN #312

TAKE US AS WE ARE, O GOD

"ENDLESS FEAST"

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

INVITATION TO OFFERING

(Please place all tithes and offerings as well as any orange or blue prayer request cards in the offering plate.)

OFFERTORY SOLO

ADAGIO
JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

JOHN STANLEY (1713-1786)

* DOXOLOGY #658

GOD IS SO GOOD (Verse 1)

"GOD IS SO GOOD"

God is so good; God is so good; God is so good; God's so good to me.

* 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 #726

WILL YOU COME AND FOLLOW ME

"KELVINGROVE"

* 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

FOUNDATION
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

Preacher.....Rev. Alison Peters
Liturgist.....David Stickler
Director of Music Ministries/Organist/Pianist.....Judith Brown
Musicians.....The Sanctuary Choir and Mikalya Dodge, Mezzo-Soprano
Audio/Video Technicians.....Joe Aurigemma and Eric Ringler
Ushers.....Michael and Cathy Levitas
Nursery.....Cindy Corley and Kelsey Gallo



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 or blue 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, JANUARY (19)

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

7:00 PM CHORAL SOCIETY REHEARSAL

TUESDAY, JANUARY (20)

7:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY (21)

7:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN

6:30 PM JOYBELLS REHEARSAL

7:00 PM NA MEETING

THURSDAY, JANUARY (22)

7:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN

2:00 PM FAITH ACTION MEETING

FRIDAY, JANUARY (23)

7:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN

SATURDAY, JANUARY (24)

SUNDAY, JANUARY (25)

9:45 AM ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

11:00 AM SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

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 January 11, 2026

Total 2026 Pledges Promised \$271,126.00

Pre-paid pledges \$ 70,507.00

2026 Pledge Balance Promised \$200,618.00

Pledge Balance Received Year-to-Date \$ 13,050.00

Pledge Balance Promised Year-to-Date \$ 7,785.00

Over/(Under) \$ 5,264.00

ONLINE GIVING



OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2026 are now available on the table in the back of the sanctuary. If you do not see a box with your name on it, please contact the church office.