

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
11 WASHINGTON STREET CUMBERLAND, MD 21502



SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY: TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD  
FEBRUARY 15, 2026 11:00 AM

GATHERING

OPENING VOLUNTARY

NUN RUHEN ALLE WALDER (NOW ALL FORESTS ARE DORMANT)  
JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

J.S. BACH (1685-1750)

11:00 AM

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT

WHERE CHARITY AND LOVE PREVAIL  
THE SANCTUARY CHOIR

"TWENTY-FOURTH"

Where charity and love prevail,  
There God is ever found;  
Brought here together by Christ's love,  
By love we thus are bound.

Love can exclude no race or creed  
If honored be God's name;  
Our common life embraces all  
Whose Maker is the same.

\* CALL TO WORSHIP & PRAYER FOR THE DAY

Though finite human minds cannot fathom God's fullness,

**God gives us glimpses of glory every day**

in the night sky's depths

**and in the simplest flower,**

in shared meals, shared stories, and shared struggles.

**In the face of every person made in God's image,**

God's beauty glows like sunlight behind clouds.

**We share God's sacred longing to be known, to be truly seen and loved for all we are.**

But to be fully known, we must risk vulnerability.

**When we dare to share ourselves with one another,**

when we work to understand a friend or stranger,

**we come closer to catching a glimpse of God's presence.**

Let us pray -

Word made flesh, Eternal Mystery, on that mountain, you came and revealed yourself to three of your closest friends: a fabulous, though temporary, transition into your authentic truth. Transfigure our hearts and minds until we can share this honor. Pierce through our clouds of unknowing, the presumptions and failures of imagination that shroud our capacity to see the real you. Inspire us to seek to know you better through relationships with people of all faiths, all cultures and experiences not our own, so that we might see, and know, and love you fully as we are fully known and loved by you. Amen.

\* HYMN #12

IMMORTAL, INVISIBLE, GOD ONLY WISE

"ST. DENIO"

CALL TO CONFESSION

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, we confess that we do not trust You fully. We put our hope in worldly gain and in human promises, and find ourselves defeated and lost when things fall apart. You have given us a love more fully than anything we could experience in this world but we do not seek it, we do not hold on to it, and we look to our own means of assurance and security.

Forgive us. Call us back to You that we may put our trust in You and not be afraid. May we hear the words so clearly as the disciples did on the day of the Transfiguration; may we rise up, and not be afraid. In the name of Jesus, who loves us and offers us forgiveness, we pray. 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 99

The Lord is king; let the peoples tremble! He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake!

<sup>2</sup> The Lord is great in Zion; he is exalted over all the peoples.

<sup>3</sup> Let them praise your great and awesome name. Holy is he!

<sup>4</sup> Mighty King, lover of justice, you have established equity; you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.

<sup>5</sup> Extol the Lord our God; worship at his footstool. Holy is he!

<sup>6</sup> Moses and Aaron were among his priests, Samuel also was among those who called on his name.

They cried to the Lord, and he answered them.

<sup>7</sup> He spoke to them in the pillar of cloud; they kept his decrees and the statutes that he gave them.

<sup>8</sup> O Lord our God, you answered them; you were a forgiving God to them but an avenger of their wrongdoings.

<sup>9</sup> Extol the Lord our God, and worship at his holy mountain, for the Lord our God is holy.

### ANTHEM

VENITE ADOREMUS

"TRADITIONAL MELODY", ARR. RUTH ARTMAN

THE JOYBELLS

### SECOND READING

EXODUS 24:12-18

<sup>12</sup> The Lord said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain and wait there; I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction." <sup>13</sup> So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up onto the mountain of God. <sup>14</sup> To the elders he had said, "Wait here for us, until we come back to you. Look, Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them." <sup>15</sup> Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. <sup>16</sup> The glory of the Lord settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. <sup>17</sup> Now the appearance of the glory of the Lord was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the Israelites. <sup>18</sup> Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

### SERMON

"GOD'S MOUNTAIN"

REV. ALISON PETERS

### \* HYMN #156

SING OF GOD MADE MANIFEST

"SALZBURG"

## 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

HOLY SPIRIT, FAITHFUL GUIDE  
JUDITH BROWN, CHIMES AND ORGAN

WELLS

\* 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 #193

JESUS, TAKE US TO THE MOUNTAIN

"UNSER HERRSCHER"

\* 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

LASST UNS ERFREUEN  
JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

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\* 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  
Director of the JoyBells.....Julie Courtney  
Musicians.....The Sanctuary Choir and The JoyBells  
Audio/Video Technicians.....Joe Aurigemma and Eric Ringler  
Ushers.....Kathy Dowell and Ian Gray  
Nursery.....Cindy Corley 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](http://www.fpc-cumberland.org) and [www.facebook.com/First.Pres.Cumberland](https://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, FEBRUARY (16)**

7:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN  
4:45 PM ADMIN & FINANCE MEETING  
7:00 PM CHORAL SOCIETY REHEARSAL

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY (17)**

7:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY (18)**

7:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN  
12:15 PM STAFF MEETING  
6:00 PM ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE  
7:00 PM NA MEETING

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY (19)**

7:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN  
5:00 PM LENTEN BIBLE STUDY  
7:00 PM SESSION MEETING

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY (20)**

7:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY (21)**

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY (22)**

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

**ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE**  
**RULING ELDERS: CARL BELT & CINDY CORLEY**

<b>ANNUAL GIVING YEAR-TO-DATE:</b>	<b>as of February 8, 2026</b>
Total 2026 Pledges Promised	\$271,126.00
Pre-paid pledges	\$ 70,507.00
<u>2026 Pledge Balance Promised</u>	<u>\$200,618.00</u>
Pledge Balance Received Year-to-Date	\$ 28,863.00
Pledge Balance Promised Year-to-Date	\$ 23,356.00
Over/(Under)	\$ 5,506.00

**ONLINE GIVING**



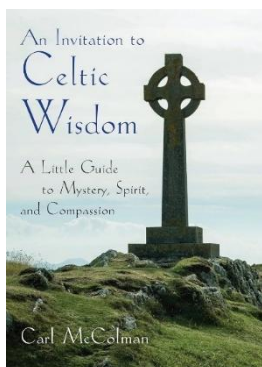
**PASTOR'S**  
**SCHEDULE**

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](mailto:revalisonpeters@gmail.com)**

**To help with scheduling,  
please reach out to the Church Office:  
301-777-3700/ [firstpresbyteriansecretary@gmail.com](mailto:firstpresbyteriansecretary@gmail.com)**

**ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE:** Join us on Wednesday, February 18th at 6:00 PM in the Chapel for an Ash Wednesday Service. This will be a short reflective service with the imposition of ashes (on your forehead or hand) to begin our Lenten journey together. We hope you will join us.



**AN INVITATION TO CELTIC WISDOM: A LENTEN BOOK STUDY**  
**Thursdays: February 19th-March 26th (5:00 PM-6:30 PM)** *Dinner will be provided.*

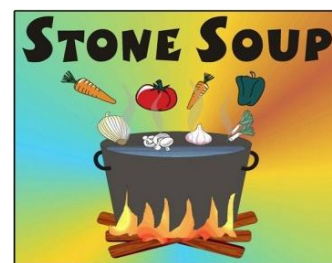
This six-week Lenten class taught by Pastor Alison invites us to explore the depth and beauty of Celtic Christian spirituality using Carl McColman's *An Invitation to Celtic Wisdom*. Together we will journey through three themes—The Celtic Mystery, The Celtic Saints, and Walking the Celtic Path.

Our final class will be a virtual 'fireside chat' with the author, who will answer our questions and help us to close out our time together.

Grounded in Scripture and shaped by prayer, silence, creation, and community, this class offers a contemplative approach to Lent that encourages attentiveness to God's presence in everyday life and prepares our hearts to walk toward Easter with renewed compassion and hope. **If you signed up to participate in the study, you can pick up a book today in the church office.**

**Learning Tree Stone Soup**

In keeping with the spirit of the folktale of Stone Soup, we will be collecting food items from our Learning Tree families and making the Learning Tree version of Stone Soup. We will be reading the story and discussing the importance of how our little effort makes a big result when it's done together.



The kids will be making the soup on Monday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> and Tuesday, February 24<sup>th</sup>. **There will be quarts of soup available for pick up on Wednesday, February 25<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, February 26<sup>th</sup>.** It's a great way to share with the whole family what the kids have learned. There will be a vegetable and vegetable beef option.

**Please submit all soup orders to Nadene or the church office by Friday, February 20<sup>th</sup>.**

**Soup will be \$10/quart.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of quarts:

Beef \_\_\_\_\_

Vegetable \_\_\_\_\_

**SPRING FORWARD:** This is just a reminder that Daylight Savings Time begins on Sunday, March 8th. Be sure to turn your clocks forward one hour!



**SECOND SUNDAY SOUP-CHILI COOK-OFF:** Join us after worship on Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup> for our Second Sunday Social Chili Cook-Off! Bring a crockpot of your best chili or just bring your appetite. Cornbread and toppings will be provided. **If you plan to participate, please RSVP to Kelsey Gallo at 240-727-7735 or firstpresbyterianevents@gmail.com.**

**SAVE THE DATES FOR THESE SECOND SUNDAY SOCIALS:**

**Pastor Alison's Baby Shower in the Fellowship Hall**

**April 12, 2026 – following worship**

Food provided by Congregational Care Committee: TBD

Baby Registry: Amazon "Alison Peters" and Baby list "Alison Peters"

Gifts are optional