

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
11 WASHINGTON STREET CUMBERLAND, MD 21502



SERVICE OF WORD & SACRAMENT: HOLY COMMUNION  
SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT  
MARCH 1, 2026 11:00 AM

GATHERING

OPENING VOLUNTARY

SICILIANO  
JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

JOHN STANLEY (1713-1786)

11:00 AM

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT

WHEN JESUS WEPT  
THE SANCTUARY CHOIR

When Jesus wept, the falling tear in mercy flowed beyond all bound.  
When Jesus groaned, a trembling fear seized all the guilty world around.

\* CALL TO WORSHIP & PRAYER FOR THE DAY

We know what we have heard.  
God's word cannot be contained.  
We know what is real.  
God's truth cannot be silenced.  
Together we listen.  
God's word will be revealed.  
Together we work.  
God's truth will not be ignored.

Let us pray -

Speaking God, there are so many times when we get distracted by the noise. The truth makes us uneasy and we are not confident in our own ears. Help us to be obedient to you in every moment, to listen through times of discomfort and fear. Then, give us strength to speak with the boldness only you can provide. Amen.

\* HYMN #409

GOD IS HERE!

"ABBOT'S LEIGH"

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of truth, we confess that we prefer quiet faith to courageous obedience. We like the easy path instead of the one that requires resistance. We silence voices that make us uncomfortable and ignore words that call us to change. Forgive us. Loosen our fear, and put your word on our lips. Amen.

*(Silence for personal prayer and reflection.)*

RESPONSE #695

CHANGE MY HEART, O GOD

"CHANGE MY HEART"

Change my heart, O God; make it ever true. Change my heart, O God; May I be like you.  
You are the Potter; I am the clay. Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.

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

JEREMIAH 20:7-13

<sup>7</sup> O Lord, you have enticed me, and I was enticed; you have overpowered me, and you have prevailed. I have become a laughingstock all day long; everyone mocks me.

<sup>8</sup> For whenever I speak, I must cry out; I must shout, "Violence and destruction!"

For the word of the Lord has become for me a reproach and derision all day long.

<sup>9</sup> If I say, "I will not mention him or speak any more in his name," then within me there is something like a burning fire shut up in my bones; I am weary with holding it in, and I cannot. <sup>10</sup> For I hear many whispering: "Terror is all around! Denounce him! Let us denounce him!" All my close friends are watching for me to stumble. "Perhaps he can be enticed, and we can prevail against him and take our revenge on him."

<sup>11</sup> But the Lord is with me like a terrifying warrior; therefore my persecutors will stumble, and they will not prevail. They will be greatly shamed, for they will not succeed. Their eternal dishonor will never be forgotten.

<sup>12</sup> O Lord of hosts, you test the righteous; you see the heart and the mind; let me see your retribution upon them, for to you I have committed my cause. <sup>13</sup> Sing to the Lord; praise the Lord!

For he has delivered the life of the needy from the hands of evildoers.

#### ANTHEM

WONDROUS LOVE

ARR. ROBERT HUNT

THE SANCTUARY CHOIR AND THE JOYBELLS

What wondrous love is this, O my soul!

What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss  
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul.

When I was sinking down beneath God's righteous frown,  
Christ laid aside His crown for my soul.

To God and to the Lamb I will sing.  
To God and to the Lamb who is the great I am  
While millions join the theme, I will sing.

And when from death I'm free I'll sing on  
And when from death I'm free I'll sing on  
And thro' eternity I'll sing on.

#### SECOND READING

AMOS 7:10-16

<sup>10</sup> Then Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, sent to King Jeroboam of Israel, saying, "Amos has conspired against you in the very center of the house of Israel; the land is not able to bear all his words. <sup>11</sup> For thus Amos has said, 'Jeroboam shall die by the sword, and Israel must go into exile away from his land.' "

<sup>12</sup> And Amaziah said to Amos, "O seer, go, flee away to the land of Judah, earn your bread there, and prophesy there, <sup>13</sup> but never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king's sanctuary, and it is a temple of the kingdom."

<sup>14</sup> Then Amos answered Amaziah, "I am no prophet nor a prophet's son, but I am a herdsman and a dresser of sycamore trees, <sup>15</sup> and the Lord took me from following the flock, and the Lord said to me, 'Go, prophesy to my people Israel.'

<sup>16</sup> "Now therefore hear the word of the Lord. You say, 'Do not prophesy against Israel, and do not preach against the house of Isaac.'

#### SERMON

"WHO TOLD YOU TO BE QUIET"

REV. ALISON PETERS

#### \* HYMN #655

WHAT SHALL I RENDER TO THE LORD

"MARTYRDOM"

### 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.)*

## \* DOXOLOGY #300

WE ARE ONE IN THE SPIRIT (Verse 4)

"THEY'LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS"

All praise to the Father, from whom all things come,  
and all praise to Christ Jesus, God's only Son, and all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one:  
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love; yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

## \* UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Receive these gifts, O God, as signs that we trust you with our voices and our lives.  
Use them to loosen chains, amplify truth, and to answer cries we have yet to hear. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

## INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

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.

## THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

## COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

*You are invited to come forward and receive the elements by Intinction (take the bread and dip it in the cup).  
There are also individual cups as well as gluten-free crackers available.*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of deliverance, at the table, you welcome everyone. You feed us with grace and remind us that no cry is ever wasted.  
Send us out attentive to your voice and courageous in our love as we strive to be your body in this broken and hurting world. Amen.

## \* HYMN 747

THE LORD NOW SENDS US FORTH

"ENVIADO"

## \* 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

MY SONG IS LOVE UNKNOWN  
JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

Reflective text:

My song is love unknown, my Savior's love to me,  
Love to the loveless shown that they might lovely be.  
O who am I that for my sake my Lord should take frail flesh and die.

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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.....Wesley Mason  
 Director of Music Ministries/Organist/Pianist.....Judith Brown  
 Musicians.....The Sanctuary Choir and The JoyBells  
 Audio/Video Technicians.....Joe Aurigemma and Eric Ringler  
 Ushers.....Cindy Corley and Kathy Dowell  
 Nursery..... Michael and Cathy Levitas

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



**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 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](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)



This week at our Church

## MONDAY, MARCH (2)

7:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN  
12:30 PM RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE  
7:00 PM CHORAL SOCIETY REHEARSAL

## TUESDAY, MARCH (3)

7:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN  
5:00 PM MISSION MEETING  
7:00 PM BUILDING & GROUNDS MEETING

## WEDNESDAY, MARCH (4)

7:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN  
12:15 PM STAFF MEETING  
5:30 PM WORSHIP & MUSIC MEETING  
6:30 PM JOYBELLS REHEARSAL  
7:00 PM NA MEETING

## THURSDAY, MARCH (5)

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

## FRIDAY, MARCH (6)

7:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN

## SATURDAY, MARCH (7)

## SUNDAY, MARCH (8)

9:45 AM ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL  
11:00 AM SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY  
12:00 PM SECOND SUNDAY SOCIAL:  
CHILI COOK OFF

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

<b>ANNUAL GIVING YEAR-TO-DATE:</b>	as of February 22, 2026
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	\$ 45,032.00
Pledge Balance Promised Year-to-Date	\$ 31,141.00
Over/(Under)	\$ 13,890.00

## ONLINE GIVING



**SECOND SUNDAY SOCIAL-CHILI COOK-OFF:** Join us after worship next 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](mailto:firstpresbyterianevents@gmail.com).



**ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL - LENT:** The Adult Sunday School class is studying Walter Brueggeman's *Interrupting Silence, God's Command to Speak Out* during Lent. "Silence is a complex matter. It can refer to awe before unutterable holiness, but it can also refer to coercion where some voices are silenced in the interest of control by the dominant voices. It is that latter silence that is the primary focus of the studies." Please join us! Let Brittany or Ann Kellermeyer ([akellermeyer@me.com](mailto:akellermeyer@me.com)) know or just show up. Books are in Brittany's office.

**YOUNG DISCIPLES TRAINING:** Faith Formation will be hosting a "training" for our young disciples on Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup>, following worship. Members of our team will be demonstrating and explaining how our youth may become more involved in our service. Pizza will be served!

Our young disciples will learn how to assist in:

- the Chiming of the hour
- Ushering
- as an Acolyte
- Childcare (as an assistant)
- Serving Communion
- After worship clean up
- Tech Support

**THE FAITH FORMATION TEAM WANTS TO HEAR FROM YOU!** We are hoping to offer more faith-forming and faith-affirming activities for all ages in 2026 and we would love to hear your ideas. No suggestion is too big or too small. We have placed a suggestion box in the back of the sanctuary. Please use the box to share your thoughts and ideas with us throughout the year. We are looking forward to planning meaningful and fun events based on your input.

**ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING:** On Sunday, April 5th, we will have the opportunity to contribute to the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering. In a world of disaster, hunger, and oppression millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity.

The Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Program, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and the Self-Development of People Program are all supported by the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering. These three programs all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope. Please give from your abundance in this time of rebirth.

# SOUP SALE FUNDRAISER

Benefiting First Presbyterian's 2026  
Learning Camp Mission trip to  
South Dakota - July 25th-Aug 1st



**PICK UP TIMES:  
SUNDAY, MARCH 22 12-1  
MONDAY, MARCH 23 9-12**

**Soups** Quart - \$10 or Pint - \$6  
Chicken Tortilla (GF, DF)  
White Chicken Chili (GF)  
Traditional Red Chili (GF, DF)  
Vegetarian Vegetable (V, GF, DF)  
Curried Butternut Squash (V, GF, DF)  
*(Community Cafe's recipe!)*

## Rolls

Pack of 2 - \$2  
Pack of 6 - \$5

GF = Gluten Free  
DF = Dairy Free  
V = Vegetarian

**ORDERS AND PAYMENT  
DUE MARCH 15TH**

# 2026 SOUP SALE ORDER FORM

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

PICK UP DATE:

SUNDAY, MARCH 22ND 12-1 \_\_\_\_\_

MONDAY, MARCH 23RD 9-12 \_\_\_\_\_

	# Quart(s)	x \$10	# Pint(s)	x \$6
CHICKEN TORTILLA (GF, DF)	_____	_____	_____	_____
WHITE CHICKEN CHILI (GF)	_____	_____	_____	_____
TRADITIONAL RED CHILI (GF, DF)	_____	_____	_____	_____
VEGETARIAN VEGETABLE (V, GF, DF)	_____	_____	_____	_____
CURRIED BUTTERNUT SQUASH (V, GF, DF)	_____	_____	_____	_____

Quart Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Pint Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

#

2 ROLLS - \$2 \_\_\_\_\_ x \$2 \_\_\_\_\_

6 ROLLS - \$5 \_\_\_\_\_ x \$5 \_\_\_\_\_

Roll Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Order Total \$ Due \_\_\_\_\_

All proceeds benefit First Presbyterian's 2026 Learning Camp Mission trip to South Dakota. Interested in learning more or volunteering? email Pastor Alison revalisonpeters@gmail.com

Checks made payable to:  
First Presbyterian Church with "Dakota" in memo line

**ORDERS AND PAYMENT DUE BY MARCH 15**

Return to First Presbyterian Church (11 Washington Street)  
or email to firstpresbyteriansecretary@gmail.com

# Jared Boxes

The Mission and Faith Formation Committees are teaming up to provide a wonderful service opportunity during this Lenten season. Beginning March 1, 2026 we will be adopting *Jared Boxes*. Jared Boxes include small toys and activities that will be given to kids in the hospital to keep them occupied while waiting for procedures to start, at a visit to the Emergency Department, etc. Our local branch of UPMC participates, so our effort will stay within our local community!

At our Palm Sunday Celebration, we will have our young disciples decorate the boxes. We are asking the congregation to assist in this service project by filling a box. Much like previous mission projects, (Angel tree, Salvation Army stockings, etc.) you may choose a specific gender and age group and are responsible for filling that box. This is also a great opportunity to partner with another church member to create a box together. (Purchasing items to fill a box generally costs \$10 - \$15.)

In the main entrance hallway, you will find clear boxes labeled with a designated age and gender of a child. Take a box with you, fill it with items from the suggested list, or be creative and add your own ideas! Add a short note on the included card and return the box any time before Palm Sunday to the church office or Kelsey Gallo. Examples of filled boxes are also available!

## Suggested items (by age) are listed below.

**0-12 Infant:** soft cover books, rattles, bibs, stacking blocks, animal sets, clip-on toys for strollers, soft balls, bath toys, musical toys, light up toys, teething items. \*Please be cautious of choking hazards.\*

**1-3 Toddler:** soft cover books, board books, blocks, animals, small plush animals, bath toys, chunky crayons, pop-up toys, coloring books, large stickers, plastic cars, soft dolls, puppets. \*Please be cautious of choking hazards. \*

**3-5 Preschool:** crayons, markers, coloring books, "Grab-n-Go" activity kits, stickers, soft balls, cars, small action figures, plush dolls and animals, slinkys, puzzles, play doh, card games, silly putty, paper dolls, dinosaurs, animal sets, princess accessories.

**5-8 Elementary:** crayons, markers, gel pens, coloring books, word puzzle books, short chapter books, joke books, small cars, soft balls, stuffed animals, stickers, legos, craft kits, slinkys, travel size games, hand lotion, action figures, fun socks, puzzles, card games, deck of cards, fidget toys.

**Tweens/Teens:** adult coloring books, markers, gel pens, notebooks, card games, hand lotion, chapstick, fun socks, brain games, books, magazines, craft kits, jewelry kits, paint sets.

All items must be new. No food items. No tiny items for under 3, due to choking hazards. No snow globes or glass items that may break. No pencil sharpeners. No bubbles. No holiday items.



# *Palm Sunday Celebration*

The Faith Formation team invites you to attend a pancake breakfast to kick off Holy Week! Pancakes, yogurt and a variety of toppings will be served.

**Sunday, March 29th, 2026**

**Fellowship Hall, following worship**

During our celebration, we will be assembling Jared Boxes for the UPMC Children's Specialty Care Center!

Following lunch, an Easter Egg hunt will be held for our young disciples.



## Join FPC for our Holy Week Services!

\*MAUNDY THURSDAY- APRIL 2<sup>ND</sup> 7:00 PM at First Presbyterian Church

RESURRECTION OF THE LORD/EASTER SUNDAY- APRIL 5<sup>TH</sup>

SUNRISE SERVICE at Rocky Gap at 7:00 AM

TRADITIONAL SERVICE in the Sanctuary of First Presbyterian Church at 11:00 AM

## CHURCHES ON THE HILL LENTEN WORSHIP

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We will join this Lent with our friends at Emmanuel Episcopal and St. Paul's Lutheran for our traditional combined worship services:

**Palm Sunday (March 29<sup>th</sup>)- Ecumenical Palm Blessing & Procession** on Washington Street Library steps at 10:45 AM.

**Good Friday (April 3<sup>rd</sup>) - Walking Stations of the Cross at 12: 00 PM** (Service will begin at the Shrine of Saints Peter and Paul and end at First Presbyterian Church. Transportation will be available for anyone with difficulty walking long distances.)

