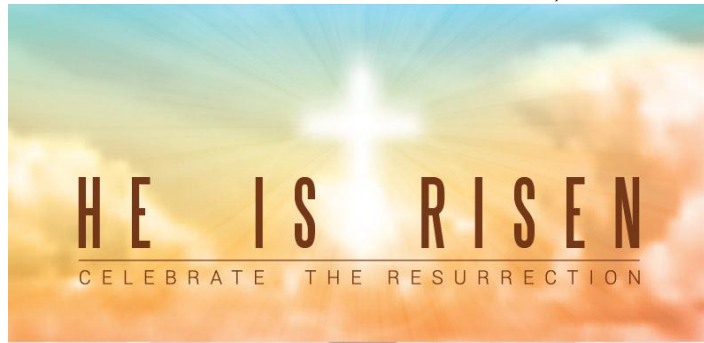


FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
11 WASHINGTON STREET CUMBERLAND, MD 21502



RESURRECTION OF THE LORD/EASTER SUNDAY
APRIL 5, 2026 11:00 AM

GATHERING

OPENING VOLUNTARY

SPRING

ANTONIO VIVALDI (1678-1741)

I. ALLEGRO

III. DANZA PASTORALE

PETR SKOPEK, RENEE SHAW NUTWELL, VIOLINS; JASON DIGGS, VIOLA; ALYSSA MOQUIN, CELLO; JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

11:00 AM

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT

SHOUT ALOUD THIS EASTER DAY!

CAROL MCCLURE

THE SANCTUARY CHOIR; BART LAY, PERCUSSION

Shout aloud this Easter Day!

Christ has risen from the grave!

Heav'n and earth together say,

"Alleluia!"

* CALL TO WORSHIP & PRAYER FOR THE DAY

Through God's miracle of grace, we have come through the night.

We've arrived at this glorious dawn. Christ is risen! Alleluia!

All doors are open, all creation sings, all that was broken is made whole.

We have new life. He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Let all that has life and breath praise the Lord!

Praise the Lord!

Let us pray:

Risen Lord, we turn from the night's vigil toward the first rays of your new dawn warming all creation. We praise you that you are alive here with us and that no power can stop your love. Teach us what it means for death to relinquish its hold on us, that with renewed hearts we might know resurrection hope in our bodies and cry, Alleluia! Amen.

* HYMN #232

JESUS CHRIST IS RISEN TODAY

"EASTER HYMN"

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, the week has been long. We have been through all the emotions and sometimes we want to stay in the dark and despair. Help us to step into Easter.

When our faith stands at the grave, grieving for a stone that's rolled away, forgive us.

When our faith is short of understanding though the truth is there to see, forgive us.

When our faith, beset by doubt, sees no further than an empty tomb today, forgive us.

Bring to mind the cry of Mary, 'I have seen the Lord!' and grant us faith to believe! Amen.

(Silence for personal prayer and reflection.)

Christ has risen while earth slumbers; Christ has risen where hope died,
 as he said and as he promised, as we doubted and denied.
 Let the moon embrace the blessing; let the sun sustain the cheer;
 let the world confirm the rumor: Christ is risen, God is here!

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

A TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

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 31:1-6

At that time, says the Lord, I will be the God of all the families of Israel, and they shall be my people.

² Thus says the Lord: The people who survived the sword found grace in the wilderness;
 when Israel sought for rest, ³ the Lord appeared to him from far away.

I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore I have continued my faithfulness to you.

⁴ Again I will build you, and you shall be built, O virgin Israel!

Again you shall adorn yourself with your tambourines and go forth in the dance of the merrymakers.

⁵ Again you shall plant vineyards on the mountains of Samaria; the planters shall plant and shall enjoy the fruit.

⁶ For there shall be a day when sentinels will call in the hill country of Ephraim:

"Come, let us go up to Zion, to the Lord our God."

ANTHEM

MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE

HEINRICH SCHUTZ (1585-1672)

THE SANCTUARY CHOIR; PETR SKOPEK, RENEE SHAW NUTWELL, VIOLINS; JASON DIGGS, VIOLA; ALYSSA MOQUIN, CELLO; JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

Sing to the Lord, all the earth,

Make a joyful noise!

Serve the Lord with gladness.

Come before Him with singing.

Know that the Lord is our God.

He is God. The Lord our God has made us, and not we ourselves.

And we are his, the sheep of His pasture.

Enter His gates with thanksgiving, enter into His courts with praise!

With praise and with thanksgiving.

Thank Him! Bless Him! Give thanks to Him and bless His name.

For the Lord is good, and His love is everlasting,

And His truth to all generations.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son,

And to the Holy Ghost;

Now and forever, forevermore.

Amen.

SECOND READING

JOHN 20

20 Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. ² So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." ³ Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. ⁴ The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵ He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. ⁶ Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, ⁷ and the cloth that had been on Jesus's head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. ⁸ Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed, ⁹ for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. ¹⁰ Then the disciples returned to their homes. ¹¹ But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she

wept, she bent over to look into the tomb,¹² and she saw two angels in white sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet.¹³ They said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?” She said to them, “They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.”¹⁴ When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus.¹⁵ Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?” Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.”¹⁶ Jesus said to her, “Mary!” She turned and said to him in Hebrew, “Rabbouni!” (which means Teacher).¹⁷ Jesus said to her, “Do not touch me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’”¹⁸ Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord,” and she told them that he had said these things to her.¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.”²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.²¹ Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.”²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit.²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came.²⁵ So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”²⁶ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.”²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.”²⁸ Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!”²⁹ Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book.³¹ But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah,¹ the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

SERMON

“GOD WILL NOT BE QUIET”

REV. ALISON PETERS

* HYMN #233

THE DAY OF RESURRECTION!

“LANCASHIRE”

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

ETERNAL SOURCE OF LIGHT DIVINE

G.F. HANDEL (1685-1759)

KATELYN HENDRIX, SOPRANO; PETR SKOPEK, VIOLIN; JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

Eternal source of light divine!
 With double warmth thy beams display,
 And with distinguished glory shine,
 To add lustre to this day.

* DOXOLOGY #716

GOD, WHOSE GIVING KNOWS NO ENDING (Verse 1)

“BEACH SPRING”

God, whose giving knows no ending, from your rich and endless store,
 nature’s wonder, Jesus’ wisdom, costly cross, grave’s shattered door:
 gifted by you, we turn to you, offering up ourselves in praise;
 thankful song shall rise forever, gracious donor of our days.

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

(Communion will be served this morning in a traditional manner –

servers will pass the plate with bread and the tray with cups of juice individually.

Servers will have gluten-free crackers in a separate container for those who need it.

Please hold the bread and juice until all have been served, and you will be invited to partake together.)

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

PASSING OF THE PLATE (*Please wait until all have been served.*)

SHARING OF THE CUP (*Please wait until all have been served.*)

SOLO DURING COMMUNION

LAMB OF GOD, WHAT WONDROUS LOVE GABRIEL FAURE ARR. ALLAN ROBERT PETKER
MIKAYLA DODGE, MEZZO-SOPRANO; PETR SKOPEK, VIOLIN; JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

Lamb of God, what wondrous love, O my soul,
Love, such love, that thou should'st die
Lord of grace, what matchless love, O my soul
Son of God, thou loving sacrifice for me.
Here, O Lord, am I, fearful one
Thy death is surely mine.
Cross of God, I would to turn away,
yet Love it bids me stay, O my soul
can it be the very death I fear
is that which draws near, Lord, to Thee!
Lamb of God, what wondrous love.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of Resurrection, we are your people. Let your word ring through our being and breathe new life into our lungs. May our gratitude overflow, and may we live as neighbors ready to make a difference. Take us from this table out into the world that you love. Give us voices to lift for all who need it most, and let us be joyful as this new life that has already begun. Amen.

* HYMN# 363 REJOICE, THE LORD IS KING! "DARWALL'S 148TH"

* BENEDICTION

* RESPONSE AFTER BENEDICTION SEVEN FOLD AMEN PETER LUTKIN
THE SANCTUARY CHOIR

POSTLUDE

HALLELUJAH (MESSIAH) GEORGE FRIEDRICH HANDEL (1685 - 1759)

(*If you would like to sing the Hallelujah Chorus with the choir, please come to the front of the Sanctuary during the Benediction Response*)
THE SANCTUARY CHOIR & CONGREGATION; PETR SKOPEK, RENEE SHAW NUTWELL, VIOLINS; JASON DIGGS, VIOLA; ALYSSA MOQUIN, CELLO;
BART LAY, TIMPANI; 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.....Wesley Mason
- Director of Music Ministries/Organist/Pianist.....Judith Brown
- Musicians.....The Sanctuary Choir; Mikayla Dodge, Mezzo-Soprano; Katelyn Hendrix, Soprano
..... Jason Diggs, Viola; Petr Skopek & Renee Shaw Nutwell, Violins; Bart Lay, Percussion & Timpani; Alyssa Moquin, Cello
- Audio/Video Technicians.....Joe Aurigemma and Eric Ringler
- Ushers.....David Stickler and Sharon Squires
- Nursery.....Bill and Ann Kellermeyer

On this Easter Day we welcome The Sanctuary Choir and our guest instrumentalists, as they help us celebrate through their musical gifts.



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 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.

THE FAITH FORMATION TEAM WANTS TO HEAR FROM YOU! We are hoping to offer more faith-forming and faith-affirming activities in 2026 for all ages 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.

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, APRIL (6)
 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED
 7:00 PM CHORAL SOCIETY REHEARSAL

TUESDAY, APRIL (7)
 7:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN
 5:00 PM MISSION MEETING
 7:00 PM BUILDING & GROUNDS MEETING

WEDNESDAY, APRIL (8)
 7:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN
 12:15 PM STAFF MEETING
 6:30 PM JOYBELLS REHEARSAL
 7:00 PM NA MEETING

THURSDAY, APRIL (9)
 7:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN

FRIDAY, APRIL (10)
 7:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN

SATURDAY, APRIL (11)
 9:00 AM P.E.O. MEETING

SUNDAY, APRIL (12)
 9:45 AM ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL
 11:00 AM SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
 12:00 PM SECOND SUNDAY SOCIAL:
 ALISON'S BABY SHOWER

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE
 RULING ELDERS: CARL BELT & CINDY CORLEY

ANNUAL GIVING YEAR-TO-DATE: as of March 29, 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	\$ 64,557.00
Pledge Balance Promised Year-to-Date	\$ 50,604.00
Over/(Under)	\$ 13,952.00

ONLINE GIVING



CHURCH DIRECTORY

This Spring we will be working to update our church directory!
 Please fill out the form below with your up to date information,
 written as you wish for it to be listed in the directory, and place it in
 the offering plate. Any portion left empty will be left blank.
 If requesting an updated photo, they may be taken following any
 worship service through 4/19. If you would like to submit a photo to
 be used, please send them to firstpresbyterianevents@gmail.com

All printed directories will be available once all updates are complete.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone (primary): _____

cell: _____

e-mail: _____

I WOULD LIKE TO UPDATE MY PHOTO

I WOULD LIKE A PRINTED COPY OF THE DIRECTORY WHEN COMPLETE

A Monumental Revival Returns – CUMBERLAND CHORAL SOCIETY

FRIDAY APRIL 24, 2026 7:30 PM

SUNDAY, APRIL 26, 4:00 PM

First Presbyterian Church

This spring, the Cumberland Choral Society proudly brings back one of the most electrifying works ever to grace our stage:

Felix Mendelssohn's *Elijah*—a dramatic, thunderous, and deeply human masterpiece was last performed here in 2016, to great acclaim. Ten years later, this powerful oratorio returns in a revival performance designed to captivate both longtime fans and first-time listeners.

This year's performance features an exceptional lineup of **local** soloists along with **guest artists from New York, eastern Maryland, & Virginia**, thus creating a vibrant blend of regional and national talent.

We are honored to present an edition of this performance long associated with the **legendary** conductor and arranger **Robert Shaw**, which has been condensed to a 90 minute concert and is used with the full permission of the *Robert Shaw Estate*. Although not condensed by Robert Shaw himself but by our **Artistic Director, Judith Brown**, this version preserves the sweeping drama, emotional clarity, and musical brilliance that has made *Elijah* a cornerstone of the choral repertoire.

Mendelssohn's score calls for a baritone to be Prophet Elijah. This role requires an operatic range of emotional expressions which are prayerful, weary and defiant. A full orchestra, three more principal soloists along with a strong and full chorus, complete the work.

Expect soaring choruses, gripping solos and a story of courage and conviction brought to life with renewed energy. This is "Elijah" reimagined for today's audience – intense, inspiring and unforgettable

BABY SCAVENGER HUNTS: Three weeks prior to the next baby shower the Congregational Care Committee invites our FPC family to join in "Baby Scavenger Hunts". Beginning today, look for hidden baby items as you walk into the side entrance and/or choir loft. Once you find a baby item, place it in the basket located in the back of the sanctuary.

There will also be a baby bottle game located in the hallway as you enter the church. Take a guess at the correct number of animal crackers for a chance to win!

JOIN US FOR A



BABY SHOWER

IN HONOR OF
PASTOR ALISON PETERS

SUNDAY

APRIL 12 2026

PLEASE JOIN US IN THE
FELLOWSHIP HALL AFTER
WORSHIP FOR GAMES, DELICIOUS
BBQ AND FELLOWSHIP TO HONOR
BABY PETERS!
GIFTS ARE OPTIONAL!

ALISON'S REGISTRY CAN
BE FOUND HERE:

