

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
11 WASHINGTON STREET CUMBERLAND, MD 21502



*First*  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH  
of Cumberland, MD

*Empowered to love, serve, care, and give*

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY  
AUGUST 9, 2026 10:00 AM

GATHERING

10:00 AM

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

OPENING VOLUNTARY

VOLUNTARY IN C  
JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

WILLIAM BOYCE (1710-1779)

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

\* CALL TO WORSHIP & PRAYER FOR THE DAY

(PSALM 100)

Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;

**Make known his deeds among the peoples.**

Sing to him, sing praises to him,

**and speak of his marvelous works.**

Glory in his holy Name;

**let the hearts of those who seek him rejoice.**

Search for the Lord and his strength;

**Continually seek his face.**

Remember the marvels he has done,

**his wonders and the judgments of his mouth.**

Let us pray...

Grant to us, Lord, we pray, the spirit to think and do always those things that are right, that we, who cannot exist without you, may by you be enabled to live according to your will, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

\* HYMN #738

OH MASTER, LET ME WALK WITH THEE

"MARYTON"

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we say that we want you to come and be among us. And yet we acknowledge that you already are among us, fully and completely at all times. We say that we want Jesus to return and we pray, "Come, Lord Jesus." And yet, we confess our fears and uncertainty about the return of Christ and what it will mean for us and for the world. Jesus prayed that we might be one with you and with each other. And yet, so often, if we are honest, we wish to remain separate from you, maintaining our independence and control. We resist the burden of being unified with those around us, especially when those around us want different things than we do or pull us in directions we do not wish to go. Soften our resistance, gracious Lord, and draw us into an authentic relationship with you and true community with one another. We pray this in the name of your Son, who prayed and still prays for us. Amen.

*(Silence for personal prayer and reflection.)*

RESPONSE #551

LORD HAVE MERCY

"LAND OF REST"

Lord have mercy; Christ have mercy; Lord have mercy upon us (*Repeat*)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son,  
 whose grace has pardoned me, and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.  
 As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.  
 World without end, without end. Amen. World without end, without end. Amen.  
 World without end, without end. Amen.  
 As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

# 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

GENESIS 37:1-4, 12-28

<sup>37</sup> Jacob settled in the land where his father had lived as an alien, the land of Canaan. <sup>2</sup> These are the descendants of Jacob. Joseph, being seventeen years old, was shepherding the flock with his brothers; he was a helper to the sons of Billhah and Zilpah, his father's wives, and Joseph brought a bad report of them to their father. <sup>3</sup> Now Israel loved Joseph more than any other of his children because he was the son of his old age, and he made him an ornamented robe. <sup>4</sup> But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him and could not speak peaceably to him.

<sup>12</sup> Now his brothers went to pasture their father's flock near Shechem. <sup>13</sup> And Israel said to Joseph, "Are not your brothers pasturing the flock at Shechem? Come, I will send you to them." He answered, "Here I am." <sup>14</sup> So he said to him, "Go now, see if it is well with your brothers and with the flock, and bring word back to me." So he sent him from the valley of Hebron. He came to Shechem, <sup>15</sup> and a man found him wandering in the fields; the man asked him, "What are you seeking?" <sup>16</sup> "I am seeking my brothers," he said; "tell me, please, where they are pasturing the flock." <sup>17</sup> The man said, "They have gone away, for I heard them say, 'Let us go to Dothan.'" So Joseph went after his brothers and found them at Dothan. <sup>18</sup> They saw him from a distance, and before he came near to them they conspired to kill him. <sup>19</sup> They said to one another, "Here comes this dreamer." <sup>20</sup> Come now, let us kill him and throw him into one of the pits; then we shall say that a wild animal has devoured him, and we shall see what will become of his dreams." <sup>21</sup> But when Reuben heard it, he delivered him out of their hands, saying, "Let us not take his life." <sup>22</sup> Reuben said to them, "Shed no blood; throw him into this pit here in the wilderness, but lay no hand on him"—that he might rescue him out of their hand and restore him to his father. <sup>23</sup> So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe, the ornamented robe that he wore, <sup>24</sup> and they took him and threw him into a pit. The pit was empty; there was no water in it. <sup>25</sup> Then they sat down to eat, and looking up they saw a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead, with their camels carrying gum, balm, and resin, on their way to carry it down to Egypt. <sup>26</sup> Then Judah said to his brothers, "What profit is it if we kill our brother and conceal his blood? <sup>27</sup> Come, let us sell him to the Ishmaelites and not lay our hands on him, for he is our brother, our own flesh." And his brothers agreed. <sup>28</sup> When some Midianite traders passed by, they drew Joseph up, lifting him out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver. And they took Joseph to Egypt.

#### SOLO

SWEET HOUR OF PRAYER  
 JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

BRADBURY

#### SECOND READING

MATTHEW 14:22-33

<sup>22</sup> Immediately he made the disciples get into a boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. <sup>23</sup> And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone. <sup>24</sup> but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. <sup>25</sup> And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. <sup>26</sup> But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. <sup>27</sup> But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid." <sup>28</sup> Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." <sup>29</sup> He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. <sup>30</sup> But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and, beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" <sup>31</sup> Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" <sup>32</sup> When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. <sup>33</sup> And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

SERMON

\* HYMN #8

ETERNAL FATHER, STRONG TO SAVE

"MELITA"

## 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

MUSETTE  
JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

G.F. HANDEL (1685-1759)

\* DOXOLOGY #606

PRAISE GOD, FROM WHOM ALL BLESSING FLOW

"OLD HUNDREDTH"

Praise God, from whom all blessing flow; praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

\* 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# 839

BLESSED ASSURANCE, JESUS IS MINE

"ASSURANCE"

\* 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

ST. ANNE  
JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

*(As the postlude is offered, please be mindful that the livestream remains active  
and that others may wish to remain in prayerful reflection. Thank you for honoring the music and the worship of others.)*

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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

Guest Speaker.....Rev. Martha Macgill  
Liturgist.....Wesley Mason  
Directory of Music Ministries/Organist/Pianist.....Judith Brown  
Audio/Video Technicians.....Joe Aurigemma and Eric Ringler  
Ushers.....Kathy Dowell and David Stickler



**BRITTANY'S SUMMER OFFICE SCHEDULE WILL BEGIN ON MONDAY, JUNE 8<sup>TH</sup>.**

**Monday- 7:30 AM-12:00 PM, Work from home 12:30 PM-2:30 PM**

**Tuesday- 7:30 AM-3:00 PM**

**Wednesday- Work from home**

**Thursday- 7:30 AM-3:00 PM**

**Friday- 7:30 AM-12:00 PM, Work from home 12:30 PM-2:30 PM**

**PASTORAL CARE COVERAGE:** Pastor Alison is on maternity leave until August and will not be available during this time as she and Mitch focus on welcoming baby Della and caring for their family. If you or someone you know is in need of pastoral care, a visit, or a phone call during her leave, please contact the Church Office. The secretary will coordinate with Seminary Intern Joshua Gilhart to arrange pastoral visits and respond to care needs. **To request pastoral care or help with scheduling, please contact the Church Office: 301-777-3700 / [firstpresbyteriansecretary@gmail.com](mailto:firstpresbyteriansecretary@gmail.com).**



**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.



### SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

#### MONDAY, AUGUST (10)

7:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN  
4:45 PM ADMIN & FINANCE MEETING

#### TUESDAY, AUGUST (11)

7:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN

#### WEDNESDAY, AUGUST (12)

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

#### THURSDAY, AUGUST (13)

7:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN

#### FRIDAY, AUGUST (14)

7:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN

#### SATURDAY, AUGUST (15)

#### SUNDAY, AUGUST (16)

10:00 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 August 2, 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 | \$ 123,918.00               |
| Pledge Balance Promised Year-to-Date | \$ 120,672.00               |
| Over/(Under)                         | \$ 3,245.00                 |

#### ONLINE GIVING



The flowers in the sanctuary this morning are given to the Glory of God loving memory of Donald F. Evans by his wife, Joan Evans, and in loving memory of Anne and Raymond MacDonald, by their daughter, Joan Evans.



**HOME & GARDEN BOUNTY:** On Sunday August 23<sup>rd</sup>, our congregation will be celebrating our summer garden bounty. We are hoping to decorate the sanctuary with our own fruits, vegetables, and flowers, so please bring some of your gardens to share. Following the service, depending on the volume of vegetables and flowers, we will donate our produce to the Union Rescue Mission.

**SAVE THE DATE: FALL KICK-OFF PICNIC:** Join us on Sunday, September 13<sup>th</sup> at Rocky Gap State Park for our Fall Kick-off worship service. The service will begin at 11:00 AM at the White Pine Pavilion on the left-hand side of Pleasant Valley Road.

YOU'RE INVITED TO A

# SEMI-SILENT RETREAT



*Sabbath. Rest. Be Still*



**AUGUST 15TH**  
**8:00AM - 12:30PM**



**OUR GOAL:**

Sabbath and Rest -  
creating space to be  
with God and renew  
your soul

## WHAT TO EXPECT



Try to avoid using any  
technology except for  
emergencies



Spend the time reading,  
resting, praying, or any  
relaxing activity



Light breakfast and lunch  
along with a beginning  
and ending prayer  
service

PLEASE RSVP TO THE CHURCH  
ADMINISTRATOR OR JULIE COURTNEY

# Fellowship Dinner Schedule

~~June 27~~

~~Mike & Cathy Levitas~~

~~6 PM~~

~~July 25~~

~~Carolyn & Tom Mathews~~

~~5:30 PM~~

August 22

Aaron Hendrickson

6 PM

September 26

Buck & Jane Belt

6 PM

October 17

Debbie & Gary Roper

5:30 PM

Our fellowship dinner series was designed to create opportunities to gather, connect, and grow together as a congregation, outside of traditional worship services. With a wide range of dates offered by our gracious hosts, we hope you can find a convenient date to join us!

Guest lists will be curated on a first come, first serve basis.

If you are interested in attending a dinner, please fill out the RSVP card below, or email Kelsey Gallo at [firstpresbyterianevents@gmail.com](mailto:firstpresbyterianevents@gmail.com)

Additional dates may be added as more hosts become available.

I would like to attend the following Fellowship Dinner:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Number Attending \_\_\_\_\_

~~June 27<sup>th</sup> 6pm~~

~~Mike & Cathy Levitas~~

~~July 25<sup>th</sup> 5:30pm~~

~~Carolyn & Tom Mathews~~

\_\_\_\_ August 22<sup>nd</sup> 6pm

Aaron Hendrickson

\_\_\_\_ September 26<sup>th</sup> 6pm

Buck & Jane Belt

\_\_\_\_ October 17<sup>th</sup> 5:30pm

Debbie & Gary Roper