

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
OCTOBER 11, 2026 11:00 AM
GATHERING

11:00 AM

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

OPENING VOLUNTARY

TRUMPET TUNE AND AYRE
JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

JEREMIAH CLARKE (1670-1707)

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT

I LOVE THE LORD, WHO HEARD MY CRY
THE SANCTUARY CHOIR

I love the Lord, who heard my cry and pitied every groan.
Long as I live and troubles rise I'll hasten to God's throne.

* CALL TO WORSHIP & PRAYER FOR THE DAY

When the path leads nowhere, we become disoriented, and skies darken,
how do we find peace, O God?
When farewells are too many, tears won't stop, and strength is gone,
how do we rest, O God?
When hope is hard, love is lost, and light is dim,
you give us one more breath, O God.

Let us pray -

God of Peace, grant us your breath and draw us into stillness, that we may come to know that you are holding onto us,
carrying us through the whirlwind and into the bright sun of a magnificent new day. Amen.

* HYMN #824

THERE IS A PLACE OF QUIET REST

"MC AFEE"

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of mercy, in our impatience for answers, we sometimes turn to idols of our own making and forget our covenant with you. Passionate for what is right, we wrong those with whom we differ. Pleased at the invitation to your banquet, we fail to arrive with humility and thanksgiving. Forgive us when our faith is weak and our zeal too strong. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

(Silence for personal prayer and reflection.)

RESPONSE #698

TAKE, O TAKE ME AS I AM (x3)

"TAKE ME AS I AM"

Take, O take me as I am; summon out what I shall be; set your seal upon my heart and live in me.

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.

(If you are new to our community, we invite you to fill out one of the blue visitor cards and place it in the offering plate later in the service.)

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

PSALM 23

¹ The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. ² He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters;
³ he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.
⁴ Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff,
they comfort me. ⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows. ⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.

ANTHEM

THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD

HOWARD GOODALL

THE SANCTUARY CHOIR

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want,
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:
He led me beside the still waters.
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil:
For you are with me, you will comfort me, you are with me.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

SECOND READING

PHILIPPIANS 4:1-9

¹ Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved. ² I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. ³ Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my coworkers, whose names are in the book of life. ⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵ Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. ⁸ Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹ As for the things that you have learned and received and heard and noticed in me, do them, and the God of peace will be with you.

SERMON

"THE STRUGGLE IS REAL"

REV. ALISON PETERS

* HYMN #821

HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING

"HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING"

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 ANTHEM

LORD, I WANT TO BE A CHRISTIAN

THE JOYBELLS

* DOXOLOGY #643

NOW THANK WE ALL OUR GOD (verse 3)

"NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT"

All praise and thanks to God, who reigns highest heaven, to Father and to Son and Spirit now be given:
the one eternal God, whom heaven and earth adore, the God who was, and is, and shall be evermore.

* 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# 472

KUM BA YAH

"KUM BA YAH"

* 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

"I'LL FLY AWAY"

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.)*

* 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.....Michael and Cathy Levitas
Childcare.....Bill and Ann Kellermeyer

SECOND SUNDAY SOCIAL & TRUNK OR TREAT: Join us after worship in the Gathering Place for our Second Sunday Social Baked Potato Bar. You are invited to eat and fellowship with us and then join us in the parking lot for our annual trunk or treat event.



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.

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.



MONDAY, OCTOBER (12)

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

TUESDAY, OCTOBER (13)

7:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER (14)

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

THURSDAY, OCTOBER (15)

7:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN
7:00 PM SESSION MEETING

FRIDAY, OCTOBER (16)

7:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN

SATURDAY, OCTOBER (17)

5:30 PM ROPER FELLOWSHIP DINNER

SUNDAY, OCTOBER (18)

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

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

ANNUAL GIVING YEAR-TO-DATE:	as of October 4, 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	\$ 156,021.00
Pledge Balance Promised Year-to-Date	\$ 155,706.00
Over/(Under)	\$ 314.00

ONLINE GIVING



FALL CLEAN UP DAY: The Building & Grounds Committee invites you to come to help at the church from 9:00 AM-12:00 PM on Saturday, October 31st.

We plan to:

- remove all AC window units,
- clean up the church grounds, and
- clean and organize the inside of the church.

We hope that you can join us!

ALL SAINTS' DAY: As we prepare for All Saints' Day on Sunday, November 1st, we would like to invite members of the congregation to submit the names of loved ones who have passed away since November 1, 2025, and whom they would like remembered. The person did not need to be a member of First Pres, but if they were, we would like that noted as it has been in previous years.

BALTIMORE PRESBYTERY MEETING: First Pres will host the Baltimore Presbytery Meeting on November 19th. We would like to invite the congregation to attend and ask for volunteers to serve as greeters, welcome our visitors, and help direct them throughout the building. Anyone interested in volunteering can contact Sharon Kazary.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL: Join us at 9:45 AM on Sunday mornings in the Dakota Room!

Matthew 28:18-20 is called “**The Great Commission,**” and in these words we see Jesus send out his followers to make disciples, to baptize, and to teach people to obey all that Jesus taught them. He promises to be with them no matter what. Since this promise, followers of Jesus have welcomed new disciples into Christian community for almost two thousand years into and helped people come to know Christ and grow in faith.

In this unit, participants will learn that making disciples, at its simplest, is an invitation to others to live as followers of Christ. Although Christian beliefs and practices may vary within the same faith community, disciples of Jesus gather to worship and serve God together. Making disciples is not inviting others to have an identical faith to one’s own; it is an invitation to live into a faith that meets a person’s spiritual needs and contributes to the goodness of the community. The six dimensions of this practice that are discussed include: live like a disciple, go, be a witness, baptize, teach, and learn about Jesus, and trust in Jesus’ presence always.



A Weekend with Carl McColman

“To Be God’s Pride and Joy!”

**Fri. October 23 – Community Cafe –
127 N Centre St. (6 pm)**

**"For ALL the Saints: Unusual
Spirituality from Surprising Saints"**

**Sat. October 24 – First Presbyterian Church –
11 Washington St. (9 am–2 pm) RSVP recommended**

“Coffee with Carl”

Sun. October 25 – FPC (9:45 am)

Pride Festival – Canal Place (12 pm–4 pm)

**Carl will be leading Sunday School followed by an appearance
in our booth at the 10th annual Cumberland Pride Festival!**

Please RSVP to 301-777-3700 by 10/19



FALL BIBLE STUDY WITH PASTOR ALISON

"DANIEL: FAITHFUL IN EXILE"



Oct. 29th

DANIEL 1

"Faithful in Exile"



Nov. 5th

DANIEL 2-3

"Whose Kingdom?"



Nov. 12th

DANIEL 4-6

"Faithfulness under power."

Dinner will be served at 5pm followed by
bible study from 5:30-6:30.

Please RSVP to the church office by 10/26.



Save the Dates:

October 9th - Kids Adventure Day with
Miss Carolyn at Rocky Gap 4:30pm

October 11th - Family Sunday School,
Second Sunday Baked Potato Bar & Trunk
or Treat 2-3:30

October 17th - Fellowship Dinner
at the Roper's (RSVP by 10/9)

October 18th - Stewardship Kickoff
"Imagine..."

October 23rd, 24th, 25th
A Weekend with Carl McGolman
Friday - Community Cafe
Saturday - FPC
Sun - FPC & PRIDE Festival

October 25th - 12:00-4:00 PM
Cumberland PRIDE Festival

October 29th, Nov. 5th, Nov. 12th
Thursday Night Bible Study
with Pastor Alison
Dinner at 5, study 5:30-6:30 PM

November 8th - Family Sunday School &
Second Sunday Thanksgiving

November 21st 2:00 - 4:00 PM
Fall Retreat with Marth
Elder Wisdom, Second Half of Life Spirituality
and a Theology of Aging

November 29th - Hanging of the Greens

Additional information may be found
by contacting firstpresbyterianevents@gmail.com
or the church office.