

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
11 WASHINGTON STREET CUMBERLAND, MD 21502



SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY  
MAY 12, 2024 11:00 AM

GATHERING

OPENING VOLUNTARY

ANDANTE IN G MAJOR  
JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

G.P. TELEMANN (1681-1767)

11:00 AM

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

O GOD, YOU ARE MY GOD  
THE SANCTUARY CHOIR  
O God, You are my God  
And I will ever praise you.  
I will seek you in the morning  
And I will learn to walk in your ways  
And step by step you'll lead me  
And I will follow you all of my days.

"STEP BY STEP"

\* CALL TO WORSHIP & PRAYER FOR THE DAY

From comfortable pews, from tricycle seats, from easy chairs in our homes:

**God gathers us in to hear the truth of the Gospel.**

At kitchen sinks, at laptops, at nursing stations;

**Christ calls us to share in service to all of creation.**

In communities gathered in prayer, in memories of where we have been

**The Holy Spirit fills us with God's joy.**

From the past, to the present, and even as we look to the future

**God's faithfulness is revealed, and we find hope.**

Let us pray -

Holy One, we enter worship ready to hear what you would say to us this day. May the words spoken renew within us a sense of your call. Strengthen us for the work ahead so that we can make a difference in this world. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

\* HYMN #839

BLESSED ASSURANCE, JESUS IS MINE!

"ASSURANCE"

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Forgiving and gracious God, you have called us to be the church, to live out our Resurrection faith. You have asked us to place our trust in you and to bring everyone the good news of your saving love. We have failed to do this. We have given our faith a back seat to the troubles of the world and the stresses in our own lives. We look for quick and easy answers.

Forgive us for the smallness of our faith. You, who raised Christ from the dead, have promised to raise our spirits and bring us to new life. Clear our spirits of the clutter of everyday living. Help us to be open always to your word and your love. Challenge us to move in directions of peace and hope for all people. Amen.

*(Silence for personal prayer and reflection.)*

RESPONSE #231

CHRIST HAS RISEN WHILE EARTH SLUMBERS (Verse 3)

“SUO GAN”

Christ has risen and forever lives to challenge and to change  
all whose lives are messed or mangled, all who find religion strange.  
Christ is risen, Christ is present making us what he has been:  
evidence of transformation in which God is known and seen.

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 1:1-6

Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked or take the path that sinners tread or sit in the seat of scoffers,  
<sup>2</sup>but their delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law they meditate day and night.  
<sup>3</sup>They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither.  
In all that they do, they prosper.<sup>4</sup>The wicked are not so but are like chaff that the wind drives away.  
<sup>5</sup>Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous,  
<sup>6</sup>for the LORD watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish

ANTHEM

O LOVE

ELAINE HAGENBERG

THE SANCTUARY CHOIR

O Love that will not let me go,  
I rest my weary soul in thee;  
I give thee back the life I owe,  
that in thy ocean depths its flow  
may richer, fuller be.

O Joy that seeks me through pain,  
I cannot close my heart to thee;  
I trace the rainbow through the rain,  
and feel the promise is not vain,  
that morn shall tearless be.

SECOND READING

JOHN 17:6-19

<sup>6</sup>“I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. <sup>7</sup>Now they know that everything you have given me is from you, <sup>8</sup>for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you, and they have believed that you sent me. <sup>9</sup>I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. <sup>10</sup>All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I have been glorified in them. <sup>11</sup>And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. <sup>12</sup>While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. <sup>13</sup>But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. <sup>14</sup>I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. <sup>15</sup>I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. <sup>16</sup>They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. <sup>17</sup>Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. <sup>18</sup>As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. <sup>19</sup>And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.

SERMON

“OUT OF THE WORLD”

REV. ALISON PETERS

\* HYMN #450

BE THOU MY VISION

“SLANE”

**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

ALLEGRO IN C MAJOR  
JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

18<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY ENGLISH

\* DOXOLOGY #250

IN THE BULB THERE IS A FLOWER (VERSE 3)

“PROMISE”

In our end is our beginning; in our time, infinity; in our doubt there is believing; in our life, eternity.  
In our death, a resurrection; at the last, a victory, unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS 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 #366

LOVE DIVINE, ALL LOVES EXCELLING

“HYFRYDOL”

\* 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

LOVE DIVINE, ALL LOVES EXCELLING  
JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

“HYFRYDOL”

\* 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.....Michael Levitas  
Director of Music Ministries/Organist.....Judith Brown  
Musicians.....The Sanctuary Choir  
Audio/Video Technicians.....Joe Aurigemma and Eric Ringler  
Ushers..... Sharon Squires and John Mullan  
Nursery.....Kathy Dowell and Carol Morgan



**WELCOME:** A very warm welcome to everyone who comes to worship with us here at First Presbyterian Church! We are proud of being a “Big Tent Church” where everyone is welcome to join us in worshipping 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 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. **Nursery care is provided during worship for all children 4 years of age and younger!**

**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 flowers in the sanctuary this morning are given to the Glory of God in loving memory of their mothers, Audrey Mills and Jane Adams. They provided them with strong roots from which to grow. They miss them very much. Phil and Kim Mills. The flowers in the sanctuary are also given to the Glory of God in loving memory of their loving mother, Carlotta Shaffer, whom they miss dearly by, Christine, Brenda and Gary.

## 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: call, text, or email: 814-715-1681 / [revalisonpeters@gmail.com](mailto:revalisonpeters@gmail.com)

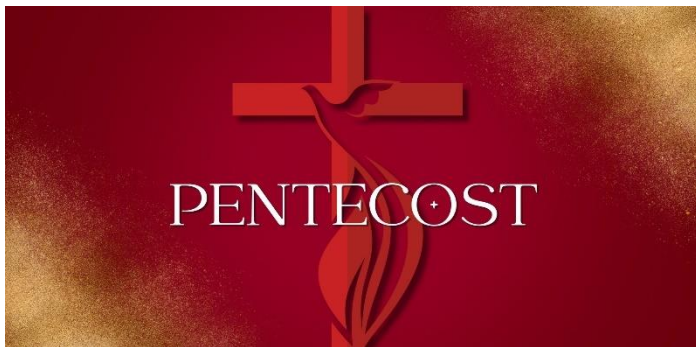
To help with scheduling,  
please reach out to the Church Office:  
301-777-3700/ [firstpresbyteriansecretary@gmail.com](mailto:firstpresbyteriansecretary@gmail.com)

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



<b>ANNUAL GIVING YEAR-TO-DATE:</b>	<b>as of May 5, 2024</b>
Total 2024 Pledges Promised	\$220,460.00
Pre-paid pledges	\$ 21,721.00
<u>2024 Pledge Balance Promised</u>	<u>\$198,738.00</u>
Pledge Balance Received Year-to-Date	\$ 76,790.00
Pledge Balance Promised Year-to-Date	\$ 68,205.00
Over/(Under)	\$ 8,584.00

**ONLINE GIVING**



**PENTECOST SUNDAY:** On Sunday, May 19th, we will celebrate Pentecost. You are invited to wear red, orange or yellow to celebrate the birthday of the church.

**PENTECOST OFFERING:** On Pentecost Sunday our congregation will have the opportunity to donate to the Pentecost Offering.

Since the Pentecost Offering started in 1998, Presbyterians have raised more than \$16 million for ministries that benefit younger members of God’s family. We believe we are called to do even more – to support and care for young people as they build a strong foundation of faith.

**40% of the Pentecost Offering will be used to support a local youth-based program.**

**25% goes to Young Adult Volunteer (YAV) experience.** This will train and equip volunteers to engage in mission in the U.S. and around the world. It will reduce barriers to serve by providing assistance with student loan debt, medical insurance, and a simple living stipend. It will provide additional funding to ensure all young adults have the opportunity to participate.

**25% supports ministries with youth, ages 12–18.** This project offers a path and plan for graduating seniors to explore their next steps in faith, community, and vocation.

**10% supports the “Educate a Child, Transform the World” national initiative,** to better the lives of children by working to ensure equitable, accessible, quality public education so that all children may grow into the fullness of life.

**Please give generously to the Pentecost Special Offering.**



**MONDAY, MAY (13)**

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN UNTIL NOON  
**BRITTANY OUT OF THE OFFICE FOR TRAINING**  
 4:45 PM ADMIN & FINANCE MEETING

**TUESDAY, MAY (14)**

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN UNTIL NOON  
**BRITTANY OUT OF THE OFFICE FOR TRAINING**  
 5:00 PM FAITH FORMATION MEETING

**WEDNESDAY, MAY (15)**

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN UNTIL NOON  
**BRITTANY OUT OF THE OFFICE FOR TRAINING**  
 6:30 PM JOYBELLS REHEARSAL  
 7:00 PM NA MEETING

**THURSDAY, MAY (16)**

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN  
 7:00 PM SESSION MEETING

**FRIDAY, MAY (17)**

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN

**SATURDAY, MAY (18)**

1:00 PM SOUTH DAKOTA CAMP TRAINING

**SUNDAY, MAY (19)**

9:45 AM ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL  
 11:00 AM SERVICE FOR THE LORD’S DAY:  
**PENTECOST SUNDAY**