



FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
celebrating & inspiring

1215 Virginia Episcopal School Road
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<https://www.facebook.com/firstpresoflynchburg/>
LIVE Video Streaming on www.fpcly.org at 9:30 a.m.
LIVE Radio Broadcast on WLNI 105.9 FM at 9:30 a.m.

The Welcome to First Presbyterian Church- Lynchburg, VA

Whether you are at First Presbyterian for the first time, a repeat visitor, or a long-time member...

Whether you are familiar with reformed traditions or find some of it a bit different...

Whether you grew up Presbyterian or Baptist or Episcopalian or Lutheran or Methodist or Jewish or Agnostic...

Whether you are in search of comfort or wanting to be challenged...

Whatever reason brought you to worship today, you are welcome here. As God's children and Jesus' disciples, we believe it is important to take seriously God's commandment and Jesus' teachings to love God, love one another, and love our neighbors. We don't all look alike, act alike, or think alike. We don't all read the Bible the same way. We bring different questions and carry different burdens. Still, every Sunday we are called by God to worship together as one unified community. Our worship style is traditional and true to our Reformed heritage. At the same time, we seek to bring our faith into conversation with the world around us and the events of our lives. We do our best to sing with joy and pray with honesty. Hospitality is important, and friendship is holy. That's why we gather for fellowship, cookies, and lemonade in the Narthex after worship. We hope you will join us in sharing the love, joy, and peace of Christ with one another during this time.

If you're looking for a perfect church, although there are many wonderful things happening in the life and ministries of First Presbyterian, perfect is not in the cards. We're real people. We do the very best we can, but we don't always get it right. We understand how much we all need grace in our lives. And we believe that God's love, which never gives up and never let's go, is for everyone. We truly believe this a place for all God's children to be a part of celebrating God's grace and inspiring the next generation for Christ.

Run the Race, Fight the Fight, Keep the Faith,

Rev. Dr. Peter Thompson

Building Hospitality

Our building is a wonderful resource. It can also feel like a labyrinth when you are learning your way around. A few key locations may be helpful to you: Accessible Restrooms can be located down the main hallway from the Foyer. The Elevator is also located down the main hallway from the Foyer. The Nursery is located on the ground floor just outside the elevator. In addition to locations, there are two supports available to worship participants should they be needed: Hearing-assist devices and Large Print Hymnals can be found in the Narthex. Ushers are available and willing to assist you in finding your way or answering other questions. Wayfinding signs are also posted at all intersections throughout the building.

Welcoming Children

Just as Jesus welcomes the little children to come, so we welcome children of all ages in worship. We believe we are better when all members of God's family are included! In order to make the worship service as welcoming for our littlest ones as possible, we provide worship carts with a variety of resources to make a worship bag. After the children's moment, 4 years to 2nd grade aged children are invited to participate in worship workshop in room 101 or stay for the remainder of worship. It is always a joy to have your children and all the wiggles, giggles, questions, noises, and insights they bring. If you have any questions about how to enhance your child's worship experience, or if you're looking to get involved with our children's ministries, please contact Dr. Marcia Thom-Kaley (marcia@fpcly.org) or Catherine Adams (communications@fpcly.org).

Interested in joining?

If you'd like to be here in a more official capacity, you are invited to join First Presbyterian as a member. Everyone who is part of our community is treated the same. Joining isn't about special treatment, but rather about a commitment you make to following Jesus alongside others trying to do the same. New member gatherings take place throughout the year based on interest. If you are interested in learning more, please contact Rev. Dr. Peter Thompson (peter@fpcly.org) or Alex Collier (alex@fpcly.org).

Service of the Lord's Day

November 5, 2023

*From the beginning of the early church, God's people have met to worship on the first day of the week, the day Christ Jesus rose from the dead. We **gather** to praise the Triune God, confess our sin, and seek God's grace. We **hear** the good news of the gospel and are invited to **respond** to that good news in prayer, mission, offering, and celebrating the Lord's Supper. We are **sent** forth to glorify God through the service of daily living.*

**Those who are able, please stand.*

All are invited to join together in saying liturgy printed in bold.

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Prelude

Communion

C. Gounod

Cory Whittier, Director of Music and Organist

Choral Introit

O Worship the Lord

Chancel Choir

Welcome and Announcements

***Hymn #507: I Come with Joy**

Dove of Peace

I come with joy, to meet my Lord, forgiven, loved and free,
in awe and wonder to recall, His life laid down for me,
His life laid down for me.

I come with Christians far and near to find, as all are fed,
the new community of love in Christ's communion bread,
in Christ's communion bread.

As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud division ends.
The love that made us, makes us one, and strangers now are friends,
and strangers now are friends.

And thus with joy we meet our Lord, His presence always near,
is in such friendship better known, we see and praise Him here,
we see and praise Him here.

Together met, together bound we'll go our different ways,
And as His people in the world we'll live and speak His praise,
we'll live and speak His praise.

Call to Confession and Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, we confess how hard it is to be your people. You have called us to be the church, to continue the mission of Jesus Christ to our lonely and confused world. Yet we acknowledge that we are often more apathetic than active, isolated than involved, callous than compassionate, obstinate than obedient, legalistic than loving. Have mercy upon us and forgive our sins. Remove all the obstacles preventing us from being your faithful representatives to a broken world and awaken our hearts to the promised gift of your indwelling Spirit.

Silent Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Hear the good news! The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation; the old life has gone and a new life has begun.

All: **In Christ, our sins are forgiven. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

*Gloria Patri

Hymn #579

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.*

*Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles' Creed

Hymnal, p. 14

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Children's Moment

Catherine Adams

Choral Anthem

A Hymn for Thanksgiving

D. H. Williams

Chancel Choir

*Praise, O praise our God and King; Hymns of adoration sing;
For His mercies still endure, Ever faithful, ever sure.
Praise Him that He made the sun day by day His course to run;
Praise Him that He gave the rain to mature the swelling grain.
He hath bid the fruitful field crops of precious increase yield;
For His mercies still endure, ever faithful, ever sure.
Glory to our bounteous King! Glory let creation sing,
Glory to the Father, Son, and blest Spirit, Three in One! Amen.*

Prayer for Illumination

New Testament Reading: Philippians 4:4-9

(pew Bible NT, p. 198-199)

“with thanksgiving... keep on”

Rev. Dr. Peter Thompson

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Celebrating the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Minute for Covenant Giving

Denise McDonald

Call to Offering

Offertory Anthem

Let Us Break Bread Together

Traditional

Braden Jarosz, soloist

*Let us break bread together on our knees. Let us break bread together on our knees.
Refrain: When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun, O Lord have mercy on me.
Let us drink wine together on our knees. Let us drink wine together on our knees. [Refrain]
Let us praise God together on our knees. Let us praise God together on our knees. [Refrain]*

***Doxology**

Hymn #592

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*

***Prayer of Dedication**

WE GO OUT IN GOD'S SERVICE

***Hymn #554: Let All Things Now Living**

Ash Grove

Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving
To God our Creator triumphantly raise,
Who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,
By guiding us on to the end of our days.
God's banners are o'er us, Pure light goes before us,
A pillar of fire shining forth in the night,
Til shadows have vanished, all fearfulness banished,
As forward we travel from light into light.

By law God enforces. The stars in their courses,
The sun in its orbit, obediently shine;
The hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains,
The deeps of the ocean proclaim God divine,
We too should be voicing our love and rejoicing,
With glad adoration a song let us raise,
Till all things now living unite in thanksgiving
To God in the highest, hosanna and praise.

***Benediction and Choral Amen**

Postlude

Trumpet Tune

D. Stanley

Cory Whittier, Director of Music and Organist

We encourage all to share the love, joy, and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ with one another. All are also encouraged to join in the Narthex for lemonade and cookies.

The Rosebud on the Baptismal Font today is given to the glory of God and in celebration of the birth of Rosemary Wren Nelsen on October 24, 2023, to Graham and Olivia Nelsen. Nash and Rooney are proud brother and sister. Rod and April Shuck are proud grandparents.



Vision: Draw Near to God

Mission: Celebrate God's Grace and Inspire the Next Generation for Christ
Worship Joyfully. Grow Spiritually. Love Boldly. Serve Faithfully.

This Week at First Presbyterian Church

For a full calendar listing and more information, please visit our website www.fpcls.org.

Sunday, November 5

- 8:45 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- 9:30 am Worship (Communion)
- 10:45 am Lemonade and Cookies
- 11:00 am Sunday School classes
- 12:00 pm College Cares
- 4:00 pm Walk with God

Monday, November 6

- 9:00 am FPC Weekday School
- 2:00 pm Canterbury Crew
- 6:00 pm Scouts – Cub Pack 7
- 7:00 pm Scouts – Troop 7

Tuesday, November 7—Church Offices Closed

- 7:00 pm Scouts - Troop 49

Wednesday, November 8

- 9:00 am FPC Weekday School
- 10:00 am Immerse Bible Study, *Fearless*
- 12:30 pm Al-Anon Meeting

Thursday, November 9

- 7:00 am Colin Caldwell Men's Bible Study, *Fearless*
- 9:00 am FPC Weekday School
- 6:30 pm Chancel Ringers Rehearsal
- 7:15 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Friday, November 10

- 9:00 am FPC Weekday School

Sunday, November 12

- 8:45 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- 9:30 am Worship
- 10:45 am Lemonade and Cookies
- 11:00 am Sunday School classes
- 12:00 pm College Cares
- 12:00 pm Session Meeting
- 4:00 pm Walk with God

Notes for Today's Worship

Worship Leader:

Jenny Osinga

Ushers and Greeters:

Arline & Donnie Ore and
Becky and Bill Semones

Worship Workshop Leader:

Rebekah Trexler

Communion Preparers:

Diane Stroud and Bill Perkins

Sound and Video Technicians:

Lloyd Agnew & Catherine Adams

Lemonade and Cookies Host:

Becky O'Brian

Pastor on Call:

Peter Thompson (336) 269-7270

Members Helping Members November:

Katy Nunn (434) 229-5289
Treena Koroneos (434) 944-9014
Diane Stroud (434) 485-3712

Thank you to Sheila Modjeska and
Sue Thornton for serving during
October.

Prayer Cares and Concerns

If you have a prayer request to share with the pastor or staff, you can write it on the blue prayer card in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate (or the prayer box off the front hallway) or share your request online at fpcls.org/ministries/care-nurture.html.

Church Offices will be closed this Tuesday, November 7 for Election Day!

Connect with us!

Phone: (434) 384-6231

Email: office@fpcly.org

Website: www.fpcly.org



@firstpresoflynchburg

FPC Lynchburg

Partner with God by Giving to FPCLY

1. Place your gift in the offering plate today.
2. Mail checks to FPCLY, 1215 V.E.S. Road, Lynchburg, VA 24503.
3. Use a credit card online at fpcly.org.
4. Download and use the *Vanco Mobile Faith* App on your phone.
5. Set up an automatic bank draft or bill pay.

Worship, Grow, Love, Serve

College Exam Care Packages – Pick Up Today After Service!

We are rallying around our college students with love and encouragement during the December exam season! Mary Burger & Marcia Thom-Kaley will be at the table in the Foyer with the names of 45 college students. Stop by and pick up one (or more), as well as a USPS box and helpful tips for what to put in it. Please return these to Alex by Sunday, November 19th. Email alex@fpcly.org or marcia@fpcly.org with any questions!

The Christmas Play Sign up deadline is extended to November 12! If your child is interested in serving as a lamb, angel, manger animal, shepherd, or wise person for our December 10 remembering of Jesus' birth through *The Christmas Play*, be sure to sign up using the online form; use the QR code to the right for a quick sign-up. Contact marcia@fpcly.org with any questions.



Surviving the Holidays Grief Share class – Tuesday, November 14 @ 5:30pm

We know grieving is hard on any day, but it can be especially difficult during the holidays. As an arm of support, we invite you to this one-night program. Come, surround yourself with community and learn helpful suggestions for coping with the lows of this time of year. We will meet in the Martin-Gifford room. Feel free to bring a snack to share. Contact Rev. Nancy Dawson, nancy@fpcly.org, with any questions.

First Pres Presents Lynchburg Symphony Youth Orchestra – Saturday, November 18 @ 4:00pm



The Lynchburg Symphony Youth Orchestra will present their fall concert at First Presbyterian Church. *First Pres Presents* is thrilled to host this ensemble made up of fine youth musicians from Lynchburg and the surrounding communities. The program will feature a variety of orchestral music with works by Berlioz, Respighi, Purcell, and more and is sure to be an exciting event! Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$6 for students. Use the QR code to the left to get yours today!

Last Sunday School classes of 2023 will be November 19th!

Oh, how wonderful Sunday School classes have been this fall as we have learned and grown together! As we approach the Advent season, Sunday School classes will come to an end so we can experience Advent celebrations together as a full church community. A special thanks to the many folks who taught a Sunday School class this fall! We look forward to resuming classes again on January 7.

Share the Warmth Coat Drive – November 1 – November 30

During November we're partnering with *One Community, One Voice* to collect winter clothing for neighbors throughout Lynchburg. There will be a bin in the foyer for all sizes of new or gently used coats, gloves, socks, stocking hats, scarves, and blankets. Last year we collected 196 items. Can we make it over 200 this year?

Christmas Poinsettias are coming!

If you would like to purchase a poinsettia "in honor" or "in memory" of someone to help decorate the Sanctuary for worship during Advent, the time is upon us. The cost is \$20 per poinsettia (pot is 6"). You can place your order on the sheet in the front entry or by using the QR code to the right. The order deadline is December 3. You may take your poinsettia home after worship on December 17.

