



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 12, 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

Prelude No. 5, Op. 101

C. V. Stanford

Cory Whittier, Director of Music and Organist

Choral Introit

Praise the Lord for He is Good

H. Davies

Chancel Choir

Welcome and Announcements

***Hymn #420: God of Grace and God of Glory**

CWM Rhondda

God of grace and God of glory, on Thy people pour Thy pow'r;
crown Thine ancient Church's story, bring its bud to glorious flow'r.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
for the facing of this hour, for the facing of this hour.

Lo, the hosts of evil round us scorn the Christ, assail Thy ways.
From the fears that long have bound us, free our hearts to faith and praise.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
for the living of these days, for the living of these days.

Cure your children's warring madness; bend our pride to Thy control;
shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
lest we miss Thy kingdom's goal, lest we miss Thy kingdom's goal.

Set our feet on lofty places; Gird our lives that they may be
Armored with all Christ-like graces, pledged to set all captives free.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
That we fail not them or Thee, That we fail not them or Thee!

Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore;
let the gift of Thy salvation be our glory evermore.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
serving Thee whom we adore, serving Thee whom we adore.

Call to Confession and Prayer of Confession

Loving God, we want to be faithful followers of Christ in our hearts; please forgive our disobedience. We want to be faithful followers of Christ in our actions; please forgive our bad choices. We want to be faithful followers of Christ in our words; please forgive the mean things we say. We want to be faithful followers of Christ throughout our lives; help us, God, to be more loving to you and all your children everywhere.

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: Romans 8:1, 28, 38-39

We believe there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus; for we know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to God's purpose. We are convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Children's Moment

Marcia Thom-Kaley

Choral Anthem

Prayer of Thanksgiving

C. Kremser

Chancel Choir

*We gather together to count the Lord's blessing; He chastens and hastens His will to make known;
the wicked oppressing now cease from distressing, sing praises to His name; He forgets not His own.*

*Beside us to guide us, our God with us joining, ordaining, maintaining His kingdom divine;
so from the beginning the fight we were winning; Thou, Lord, wast at our side; all glory be Thine!*

*We all do extol Thee, Thou leader triumphant, and pray that Thou still our defender wilt be.
Let Thy congregation escape tribulation; Thy name be ever praised! O Lord, make us free!*

Prayer for Illumination

New Testament Reading: 1 Corinthians 10:1-16

(pew Bible NT, p. 172)

"Thanksgiving is the Posture of Covenantal Faithfulness"

Rev. Dr. Peter Thompson

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer

Minute for Covenant Giving

Sutton Tinsley

Call to Offering

Offertory Anthem

Give Me Jesus

Arr. F. Ortega

Sydney Wenger, soloist

*In the morning when I rise, give me Jesus.
You can have all this world but give me Jesus.
When I am alone, give me Jesus.
And when I come to die, give me Jesus.
You can have all this world but give me Jesus.*

***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 #540: God Be with You Till We Meet Again**

Randolph

God be with you till we meet again; Loving counsels guide, uphold you,
With a Shepherd's care enfold you: God be with you till we meet again.

God be with you till we meet again; Unseen wings protecting hide you,
Daily manna still provide you: God be with you till we meet again.

God be with you till we meet again; When life's perils thick confound you;
Put unfailing arms around you: God be with you till we meet again.

God be with you till we meet again; Keep love's banner floating o'er you,
Smite death's threatening wave before you: God be with you till we meet again.

***Benediction and Choral Amen**

***Postlude**

Now Thank We All Our God (from Cantata No. 79)

J. S. Bach, Arr. V. Fox

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.



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 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

Monday, November 13

- 9:00 am FPC Weekday School
- 10:00 am Presbyterian Women Horizons Bible Study
- 2:00 pm Canterbury Crew
- 5:30 pm Warming Shelter Training Session
- 6:00 pm Scouts – Cub Pack 7
- 7:00 pm Scouts – Troop 7

Tuesday, November 14

- 5:30 pm Surviving the Holidays: Grief Share class
- 7:00 pm Scouts - Troop 49

Wednesday, November 15

- 9:00 am FPC Weekday School
- 12:30 pm Al-Anon Meeting

Thursday, November 16

- 7:30 am Host Presbytery of the Peaks Meeting
- 9:00 am FPC Weekday School
- 6:30 pm Chancel Ringers Rehearsal
- 7:15 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Friday, November 17

- 9:00 am FPC Weekday School

Saturday, November 18

- 4:00 pm Lynchburg Symphony Youth Orchestra Concert

Sunday, November 19

- 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
- 4:00 pm Walk with God

Notes for Today's Worship

Worship Leader:

Dickie Stowers

Ushers and Greeters:

Nathan Gowen

Worship Workshop Leader:

Barrett Thompson

Sound and Video Technicians:

Will Absher & Catherine Adams

Lemonade and Cookies Host:

Donna Whitehouse

Pastors on Call:

November 12 – 16

Peter Thompson (336) 269-7270

November 17 – 25

Nancy Dawson (804) 399-9545

Members Helping Members

November:

Katy Nunn (434) 229-5289

Trenea Koroneos (434) 944-9014

Diane Stroud (434) 485-3712

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.

Connect with us!

Phone: (434) 384-6231

Email: office@fpclly.org

Website: www.fpclly.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 fpclly.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 still have a few names available for pick up in the Foyer. Stop by and pick one up 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@fpclly.org or marcia@fpclly.org with any questions!

The Christmas Play Sign up deadline is TODAY! 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@fpclly.org with any questions.



Emergency Warming Shelter Training – TOMORROW - Monday, November 13 @ 5:30pm

We are partnering with Interfaith Outreach to host a volunteer training for a warming shelter that will open during the coldest stretches this winter. This shelter at Salvation Army serves the 75+ neighbors who live outside or in a vehicle. Volunteers are needed to assist with a wide range of tasks. If you are interested in being on the volunteer list, please plan to attend. Email Alex Collier at (alex@fpclly.org) with questions or to RSVP.

Surviving the Holidays Grief Share class – THIS 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@fpclly.org, with any questions.

First Pres Presents Lynchburg Symphony Youth Orchestra – THIS 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. 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!

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. 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.

