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<https://www.facebook.com/firstpresoflynchburg/>
LIVE Video Streaming on www.fpcly.org at 9:30 a.m.
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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

October 15, 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

Tuba Tune

C.S. Lang

Cory Whittier, Director of Music and Organist

Introit

Jesus

First Presbyterian Sunday School Kids

Welcome and Announcements

***Hymn #430: Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!**

Darwall's 148th

Come sing, O church, in joy. Come join, O church, in song!
For Christ the Lord has led us through the ages long!
In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now And praise the Lord!

Long years have come and gone, and still God reigns supreme
Empowering us to catch the vision, dream the dream!
In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now
And praise the Lord!

Let courage be our friend, let wisdom be our guide,
As we in mission magnify the Crucified!
In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now
And praise the Lord!

Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church, in song!
For Christ the Lord has triumphed O'er the ages long!
In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now
And praise the Lord!

***Prayer of the Day and Lord's Prayer**

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Children's Moment

Catherine Adams

Choral Anthem

Behold, Now Praise the Lord (Psalm 134)

E. Titcomb

Chancel Choir

*Behold now, praise the Lord, all ye servants of the Lord.
Ye that by night, stand in the house of the Lord, even in the courts of the house of our God.
Lift up your hands in the sanctuary and praise the Lord.*

Prayer for Illumination

New Testament Reading: John 15

The Message

“Rooted and Reaching”

Rev. Dr. Peter Thompson

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

Litany of Rooted and Reaching

Leader: We are	All: rooted!	Leader: We are	All: reaching!
Leader: Rooted	All: in God, in Christ.		
Leader: Reaching	All: as God’s children, Christ’s church.		
Leader: Rooted	All: in God’s Spirit and strength.		
Leader: Reaching	All: with devoted faith, unwavering hope, and boundless love.		
Leader: Rooted	All: in God’s grace and glory.		
Leader: Reaching	All: with a common sense of call, community, and commission.		
Leader: Rooted	All: in God’s truth, testament, and testimony.		
Leader: Reaching	All: to witness and reveal God’s light to all God’s children.		
Leader: Rooted	All: in God’s purpose, possibility, and providence.		
Leader: Reaching	All: to celebrate and inspire in worship, education, and outreach.		
Leader: We are	All: rooted!	Leader: We are	All: reaching!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Call to Offering

Offertory Anthem

The Call

R. Vaughan Williams

Loring Ray, Soloist

*Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life: Such a Way, as gives us breath:
Such a Truth, as ends all strife: Such a Life, as killeth death*

*Come, My Light, my Feast, my Strength: Such a Light, as shows a feast:
Such a Feast, as mends in length: Such a Strength, as makes his guest*

*Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart: Such a Joy, as none can move:
Such a Love, as none can part: Such a Heart, as joys in love*

***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 #150: Come, Christians, Join to Sing

Madrid

Come, Christians, join to sing Alleluia! Amen!
Loud praise to Christ our King; Alleluia! Amen!
Let all, with heart and voice, Before His throne rejoice;
Praise is His gracious choice; Alleluia! Amen!

Come, lift your hearts on high; Alleluia! Amen!
Let praises fill the sky; Alleluia! Amen!
He is our guide and friend; To us He'll condescend;
His love shall never end; Alleluia! Amen!

Praise yet our Christ again; Alleluia! Amen!
Life shall not end the strain; Alleluia! Amen!
On heaven's blissful shore His goodness we'll adore,
Singing forevermore, "Alleluia! Amen!"

*Benediction

*May today there be peace within. May you trust that you are exactly where you are meant to be.
May you not forget the infinite possibilities that are born of faith in yourself and others.
May you use the gifts that you have received and pass on the love that has been given to you.
May you be content with yourself just the way God has created you.
Let this knowledge settle into your bones, and allow your soul the freedom to sing, dance,
praise and love. It is there for each and every one of us.*

Choral Benediction

May the Grace of Christ Our Savior
Chancel Choir

J. Stainer

*Postlude

Postlude on "Now Thank We All Our God"
Cory Whittier, Director of Music and Organist

Karg-Elert/Bock

We encourage all to share the love, joy, and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ with one another.

Please note that due to the Rooted and Reaching Celebration Brunch taking place in the Fellowship Hall immediately following worship, there will not be any lemonade and cookies this morning.

Lemonade and cookies will return next Sunday, October 22.



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.fpclj.org.

Sunday, October 15

- 9:00 am Nursery
- 9:30 am Worship
- 11:00 am *Rooted and Reaching* Celebration Brunch
- 4:00 pm Walk with God

Monday, October 16

- 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, October 17

- 9:00 am FPC Weekday School
- 7:00 pm Scouts - Troop 49

Wednesday, October 18

- 9:00 am FPC Weekday School
- 10:00 am Immerse Bible Study, *Fearless*
- 11:00 am *Embracing Grief, Renewing Joy* class
- 12:30 pm Al-Anon Meeting

Thursday, October 19

- 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

Sunday, October 22

- 9:00 am Nursery
- 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 Leaders:

Nancy Dawson, Catherine Adams,
Alex Collier, Marcia Thom-Kaley

Ushers and Greeters:

Elsie Howerton, Rob Cleland, and
Laurie & Camp Sommardahl

Worship Workshop Leader:

Becky O'Brian

Sound and Video Technicians:

Will Absher & Catherine Adams

Pastor on Call:

Peter Thompson (336) 269-7270

Members Helping Members

October:

Sheila Modjeska (434) 386-3606
Sue Thornton (434) 384-5299 or (434)
944-3049

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 fpclj.org/ministries/care-nurture.html.

The Organ Returns to Worship Today! The mechanical and technical elements of the organ installation are now complete. Last week, Milo and Dave from Foley-Baker, worked to begin the tedious process of tuning and “tonally finishing” the organ. This process is slow, but perhaps most important in shaping the organ from a machine to a musical instrument. While it begins its role in worship today, the coming months will include more tonal finishing, tuning, and adjusting. The “break-in” period of the next several months may come with a mechanical hiccup or two as the many components of the organ settle into their new climate and environment.

Connect with us!

Phone: (434) 384-6231

Email: office@fpcly.org

Website: www.fpcly.org



Partner with God by Giving to FPCLY

1. Place your gift in the offering plate today.
2. Mail a check 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

Covenant Giving is Coming!

You show your commitment and love to God and the church here at First Presbyterian through the offering of your time in prayer, presence, and participation. Many of you also share your talents and skills in leadership. Thank you! Another way you can show your commitment and love to God and the church is through the giving of financial gifts. The time is coming in which you will be encouraged to consider making a financial commitment in partnership with God and God's church. We ask all of you to be in prayerful consideration of how you will be able to contribute financially to the life and ministries of First Presbyterian.

Trunk or Treat – Sunday, October 29 from 4-6pm

We invite you to join us for our 3rd annual night of candy, costumes, and community! There are many ways to participate. All are welcome to this fun-filled evening!

- **Dress in your favorite costume or festival fall attire and join the fun!** There will be trick or treating, playground time, backyard games, and music.
- **Sign up to be a “Trunk Host”** on the clipboard below the Outreach bulletin board or by contacting Alex (alex@fpcly.org).
- If you can't host a “trunk” but still want to help, there are a few **volunteer** roles needed to help make the event happen.
- **Donate a snack item** (granola bars, fruit snacks, Rice Krispie treats, peanut butter or cheese crackers, Slim Jims, individual fruit cups or applesauce) for Park View Community Mission.

All Saints' Day Service Remembrance – Wednesday, November 1 @ 11:00am - Columbarium

All Saints' Day is a time to honor those who have gone before us, passing from their earthly life into their eternal life. This service will include a reading of each name of those from this church community who have passed away in the last year, the ringing of a bell in honor of each person, and the sacrament of communion.

College Exam Care Packages

This year we are rallying around our college students with love and encouragement during December exam season! Mark your calendars for November 5th to pick up the name of a college student and a USPS box to fill with goodies. For more information contact alex@fpcly.org or marcia@fpcly.org!

Election Day Hospitality Team – Tuesday, November 7

Every year, FPCLY serves as a host site for various elections. As an outreach, we have volunteers serve as greeters and hosts for community members. The goal is simply to provide a kind, welcoming presence, and guide people to the Fellowship Hall. If you (and a friend) would like to assist with this, contact Michael Trexler at mtrex7553@gmail.com or scan the QR code to the right.



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. *First Pres Presents* is thrilled to host this ensemble made up of fine youth musicians in the Lynchburg and 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 required and can be purchased at the door.

In the Presbyterian Church (USA), it is the responsibility and privilege of the congregation to elect active and skilled individuals to serve as a representative body of ruling elders called the Session. The Session is elected, ordained, and installed to serve in governance and leadership of the ministries of God's church here at First Presbyterian Church of Lynchburg. The time is near to elect our next Session Elders. As a result, the current Session has called a congregational meeting for Sunday, October 29 immediately following worship to elect **one** Ruling Elder to serve on Session in the class of 2024 and **five** Ruling Elders to serve on Session in the class of 2026. Below is biographical information and a picture of each of the Elders-elect for your reference!

ELDER ELECT, CLASS OF 2024



Becky Giles

Becky has lived in Lynchburg since 1999, when she moved from Charlotte, NC with her husband, Caskie. Shortly afterward, they started a family and have two children, Harrison (22) and Liza (20) - each baptized as 6th generation members of First Presbyterian. Becky owns and operates a boutique furniture company, White Fine Furnishings, which caters to the design trade. She also works with Caskie at Blue Ridge Mortgage. Becky is currently serving as a Trustee at Westminster Canterbury.

Becky has been involved in multiple ministries and programs at FPCLY including serving with children and youth and in leadership. She has previously served as Clerk of Session, Elder and Deacon, chaired multiple committees (Communications, Worship & Music, and Buildings) and co-chaired a Pastor Nominating Committee and Discernment Committee and served on the Strategic Planning & Implementation Committees. Currently, she is teaching Sunday School to our Middle Schoolers.

Her favorite scripture verse is Isaiah 41:13.

ELDERS ELECT, CLASS OF 2026, continued on back



**Marilyn
Hartman**

Marilyn joined First Presbyterian with her husband, David, after they relocated from San Jose, CA. She has served at FPCLY previously as a Deacon and twice as an Elder. Her continued activities at the church include Presbyterian Women, Sunday School, Members Helping Members, prayer chain, Chancel Guild and after church refreshments. Marilyn also is a member of the choir and bells. In the Lynchburg community, Marilyn is a Red Cross blood donor and volunteers at Daily Bread and Rivermont Area Emergency Food Pantry.

After retiring from Centra as a VBH Medical Technologist, Marilyn has enjoyed reading, listening to Audible books, and working with flowers. She also began hiking and completed the 88 miles of NBATC, then all of the VA AT, and finally completed the entire AT in 2020. She enjoys going with her husband to visit their two daughters (Skye [veterinarian] & Leah [forensic human factors consultant]) for long weekends. Marilyn has a heart for serving those in need and being a loving member of God's Kingdom.

A favorite scripture verse is Hebrews 11:1.



Sam Howe

Sam moved to Lynchburg after attending Lynchburg College and is employed with Moore and Giles in purchasing. He is married to Cameron Craddock Howe. They have two children Alden (9) and Sawyer (7). Cameron has attended First Presbyterian her whole life while Sam joined the church prior to getting married.

Sam has volunteered as President of Peakland Pool and currently serves on the board for the Lynchburg Business Development Center. In recent years, Sam has taken on the hobby of running. He competes in the Virginia 10 Miler for fun!

His favorite scripture verse is 1 Corinthians 16: 13-14 Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love.



John Osinga

John and his wife, Jenny, have been a part of this church community for 20 years. They have three married children, Helen, Amber, and Jon, and two grandchildren, Eva and Mia. John grew up at Sweet Briar Dairy and attended Amherst Presbyterian Church. He is forever a Hokie and until recently worked as a small business owner for Dutch Yoghurt Inc, Osinga's Grocery, and a freight services

company. His hobbies include woodworking and the honeydo list.

Over the years at First Presbyterian, he has attended Sunday School classes, participated in summer choir, joined the Walk with God group, and helped with various youth group activities. His favorite memory overall with this church was winning the FPCLY cornhole competition. John wishes to support our church mission in every way. Since being newly retired, he feels that he has more time to offer his service to this ministry!



Martin Knight

Martin has been attending First Presbyterian since 2021; his wife Kelly (Will) grew up here. They are parents to two children, William (6) and Margaret (5). Martin works as a Sales Manager for Construction Equipment Manufacturer. His experience in this area has been incredibly valuable in his role as chair of the Facilities Committee. Martin enjoys fly fishing, playing

tennis, and having movie nights with his family. As a fun fact related to movies, Martin has seen every single Star Trek movie in the theatre. His favorite thing about being a part of this church community is seeing the kids participating and growing in the church. He is passionate to serve because he wants to help create a sense of community around a shared journey of faith and love.

His favorite scripture is James 1:19 Remember this my dear friends! Let every person be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger.



Kathryn Overstreet

Kathryn has been a part of this church family since the early 1990s. She and her husband, Chuck, have three children and one grandson. All three of her kids grew up in here and attended the FPC Weekday School. She currently works at ACE Hardware store in event rentals. Kathryn enjoys spending time with her family (especially her grandson), working in the yard, knitting, and traveling. As a fun fact, Kathryn has flown in a

glider plane.

Over the years at FPCLY, Kathryn has served on the Worship and Music and Stewardship Committees, as a Sunday School teacher, and on a Pastor Nominating Committee. Her favorite memory as a part of this community is seeing her daughter get married in the Sanctuary. She is excited to serve First Presbyterian as an Elder because she is passionate about people becoming connected to the church community.

Her favorite scripture is Psalm 23.