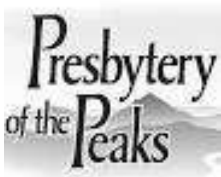




FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
celebrating & inspiring



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Welcome to First Presbyterian Church- Lynchburg, VA

Happy New Year to all of you!!! It is a joy to be with you this morning and I pray you know just how loved and important you are. You are love by God unconditionally and you are a very important part of God's mission for the church in the world. Whether you are here today 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 curious...whether you have grown up in the church or are finding your way back...whether you are in search of comfort or wanting to be challenged... whatever reason brought you to worship today, I pray you know you matter and are welcome here.

As God's children and Jesus' disciples here at First Presbyterian, 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 leans more traditional and seeks to remain 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 paramount, and relationships with one another 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

January 28, 2024

*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

Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring
Cory Whittier, Director of Music and Organist

J. S. Bach

Choral Introit

O Worship the Lord
Chancel Choir

Welcome and Announcements

***Hymn #438: Blest Be the Tie That Binds**

Dennis

Blest be the tie that binds
Our hearts in Christian love;
The fellowship of kindred minds
Is like to that above.

Before our Father's throne
We pour our ardent prayers;
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,
Our comforts and our cares.

We share our mutual woes,
Our mutual burdens bear,
And often for each other flows
The sympathizing tear.

From sorrow, toil, and pain,
And sin we shall be free;
And perfect love and friendship reign
Through all eternity.

CELEBRATING BAPTISM

Sacrament of Baptism:

Henry Teague Brodeck
Parents: Meg and Dan Brodeck
Session Representative: Ferrell Nexsen

Presentation of Purpose and Promise
Questions to the Parents, Congregation, and Children
Prayer of Thanksgiving over the Water

Act of Baptism

... I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. You are now a child of the covenant, may God bless you, and keep you, and may you always be open to God's guidance.

Prayer and Welcome

Leader: Henry has been received into the one holy catholic and apostolic church through baptism. God has made him a member of the household of God, to share with us in the priesthood of Christ.

All: With joy and thanksgiving, we welcome Henry into Christ's church to share with us in his ministry, for we are all one in Christ. We promise to love, encourage, and support Henry, and his parents Meg and Dan, to share the good news of the gospel with them, and to help them know and follow Christ.

*Hymn #304: Jesus Loves Me!

Jesus Loves Me

Jesus loves me, this I know,
for the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to him belong;
they are weak, but he is strong.

Refrain:

Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me, this I know,
as he loved so long ago,
taking children on his knee,
saying, "Let them come to me." [Refrain]

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Choral Anthem

O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High

Arr. Schalk

Chancel Choir

*O love, how deep, how broad, how high, How passing thought and fantasy,
That God, the Son of God, should take Our mortal form for mortals' sake.
For us to wicked men betrayed, Scourged, mocked, in purple robe arrayed,
He bore the shameful cross and death; For us gave up His dying breath.
For us He rose from death again, For us He went on high to reign;
For us He sent His Spirit here, To guide, to comfort, and to cheer.
All glory to our Lord and God. For love so deep, so high, so broad,
The Trinity, whom we adore, Forever and forever more.*

New Testament Reading: John 17

(pew Bible NT, p.111-112)

"When We Are One"

Peter Thompson

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Reception of New Members: Bucky Neal and Matthew Fontana

Minute for Education

Offertory Anthem

Be Still My Soul

K. von Schlegel

Braden Jarosz, soloist

*Be still, my soul; the Lord is on thy side bear patiently the cross of grief or pain.
Leave to thy God to order and provide; in every change He faithful will remain.
Be still, my soul; thy best, thy heav'nly Friend through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.
Be still, my soul; thy God doth undertake to guide the future as He has the past.
Thy hope, thy confidence let nothing shake; all now mysterious shall be bright at last.
Be still, my soul; the waves and winds still know His voice who ruled them while He dwelt below.
Be still, my soul; when dearest friends depart, and all is darkened in the veil of tears,
then shalt thou better know His love, His heart, who comes to soothe thy sorrow and thy fears.
Be still, my soul; thy Jesus can repay from His own fullness all He takes away.
Be still, my soul; the hour is hast'ning on when we shall be forever with the Lord,
when disappointment, grief, and fear are gone, sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored.
Be still, my soul; when change and tears are past, all safe and blessed we shall meet at last.*

***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 #435: We All Are One in Mission**

Es Klog Ein Kleins Waldvoegelein

*We all are one in mission, we all are one in call,
Our varied gifts united by Christ, the Lord of all.
A single, great commission compels us from above
To plan and work together that all may know Christ's love.*

*We all are called for service to witness in God's name;
Our ministries are different, our purpose is the same:
To touch the lives of others by God's surprising grace
So every folk and nation may feel God's warm embrace.*

*Now let us be united and let our song be heard.
Now let us be a vessel for God's redeeming word.
We all are one in mission, we all are one in call,
Our varied gifts united by Christ, the Lord of all.*

***Benediction and Choral Amen**

Postlude

Trumpet Tune

J. Clarke

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 before participating in one of the many spiritual growth opportunities available for all ages.

The Chancel Flowers are given to the glory of God and in celebration of the baptism of Henry Teague Brodeck today, January 28, 2024. Flowers are given by the Family.



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.fpclsy.org.

Sunday, January 28

- 9:00 am Nursery Care
- 9:30 am Worship (baptism)
- 10:45 am Lemonade and Cookies
- 11:00 am Sunday School classes
- 12:00 pm College Cares
- 4:00 pm Walk with God

Monday, January 29

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

Tuesday, January 30

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

Wednesday, January 31

- 9:00 am FPC Weekday School
- 10:00 am *Immerse* Bible Study
- 12:30 pm Al-Anon meeting
- 5:30 pm Potluck Fellowship Dinner

Thursday, February 1

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

Saturday, February 3

- 4:00 pm *First Pres Presents* SVU Chamber Singers

Sunday, February 4

- 9:00 am Nursery Care
- 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

Notes for Today's Worship

Worship Leader:

Amy Pugh

Ushers and Greeters:

Barkley, Rob, & Taylor Cleland
and Donnie Ore

Worship Workshop Leader:

Rebekah Trexler

Sound and Video Technicians:

Lloyd Agnew & Catherine Adams

Lemonade and Cookies Hosts:

Gwen Maddox

Pastor on Call:

Rev. Dr. Peter Thompson
(336) 269-7270

Members Helping Members

January:

Ginny McCraw (434) 528-1927
Sally deNiord (434) 384-8153

Members Helping Members

February:

Cathy Oakes (434) 384-9403
Betty Blue (434) 384-6420

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

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

Potluck Fellowship Dinner – THIS Wednesday, January 31 @ 5:30pm

These dinners are a great opportunity for you to connect with others around the table! Please bring a dish (entrée, side, or dessert) to share, as you are able! Contact Alex Collier (alex@fpcly.org) for details.

First Pres Presents Southern Virginia University Chamber Singers – Saturday, February 3 @ 4:00pm

Our next *First Pres Presents Fine Arts Series* concert will feature the Southern Virginia University Chamber Singers under the direction of Dr. Kyle Nielsen. These college students will perform a program that includes James Whitbourn's *Luminosity* and other exciting and moving works. Concert is free. All are welcome!

Ash Wednesday Services – February 14 @ 12pm and 6pm

Gather in the Chapel for a service of repentance as we step into the season of Lent, which prepares us for the celebrations of Easter. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the 40-day (excluding Sundays) Lent season. This is a day that we acknowledge our individual and collective humanity, our need for repentance, and our need to refocus our lives on God as we prepare for the hope and mercy of Easter.

IMPACT Weekend ahead – February 22 - 25

The Outreach Initiative is planning our first winter IMPACT Weekend in partnership with the *Coldest Night of the Year Walk* for Miriam's House on February 24. So far, we have locked in Park View Community Mission, Miriam's House, Lynchburg Daily Bread, Rivermont Area Emergency Food Pantry, and lunches for veterans as ministry connections plus a pizza and service night! A full schedule and sign-up options will be launched the first week in February! Be sure to mark your calendar so that you can join in and serve alongside your church community. It's going to be great!

Walk with God – Sundays at 4pm

Looking for an opportunity to connect and get to know others in the First Presbyterian Church community? Walk with God is a great avenue for that. The group gathers for a short devotional and then hits the sidewalks in conversation and laughter! All are welcome!

Two Opportunities to Share your Time at FPCLY!

Serve as a host for post-worship "Lemonade and Cookies." It's so great to be able to connect and build relationships with others in the church community right after worship. We cannot do it without the wonderful hosts who prepare and set out the delicious treats. If you would like to try your hand at hosting, use the QR code to the right or call the church office to sign up!



Lend a hand as a volunteer receptionist on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, or Thursdays. Volunteer receptionists serve a vital role in the weekly ministry efforts of our church. They serve as the first smiling face guests meet when coming in the door and/or the first joyful voice they hear when calling the church. Use the QR code to the left or call the church office to sign up.

You are loved! Have a great week!



**FIRST
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Clark Spiritual Growth Initiative
presents

**SCREEN
AGERS**

GROWING UP IN THE DIGITAL AGE



Workshop featuring viewing of **Screenagers: Growing Up in the Digital Age** documentary with a professional panel discussion

SATURDAY, MARCH 9

9:00AM - 12:30PM

1215 VES ROAD

LYNCHBURG, VA 24503

Questions? Contact Marcia@fpclly.org or call (434) 384-6231.

Scan the QR code or call
(434) 384-6231 to register!



FREE Admission. Space is limited. Light refreshments will be provided.

The Clark Spiritual Growth Initiative, established in 2018 by Elinor Ann and Joe Clark, supports an annual program with the purpose of promoting unique spiritual and family growth opportunities through insightful and meaningful educational experiences. It's with gratitude to the Clark family that we can offer this powerful screening and discussion to support and encourage the families of the Lynchburg community with God's love and grace.