



First Presbyterian Church

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<https://www.facebook.com/firstpresoflynchburg/>
LIVE Video Streaming on www.fpclly.org at 9:30 a.m.
LIVE Radio Broadcast on WLNI 105.9 FM at 9:30 a.m.



Welcome to First Presbyterian Church- Lynchburg, VA

Grace and peace to 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 loved by God unconditionally and you are a very important part of God's mission for the church in the world. Whatever reason brought you to worship today, I pray you know you matter and are welcome here.

Today we celebrate Pentecost. Ten days after the ascension of Christ and fifty days after his resurrection, the Holy Spirit descended on the disciples on the day of Pentecost. Pentecost symbolizes a new beginning. It celebrates the unleashing of the Holy Spirit on the world and the empowering of the church to reach the world with the gospel. In celebrating Pentecost, the church expresses its gratitude for the faithfulness of Christ in fulfilling his promise to send "another counselor" (John 14:16); celebrates the work of the Spirit in renewing all of creation; professes its confidence and security in knowing the Spirit's power is available for its mission; and grows in awareness of the immensity of its calling to reach the world with the gospel. The traditional color for Pentecost is red, after the flames described in Acts 2:3.

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. 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

First, our Hospitality and Welcome Desk is a great source of information and all visitors, repeat visitors, and members too, are encouraged to stop and interact with the host or hostess present today. Second, our building is a wonderful resource, however, 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. Wayfinding signs are also posted at all intersections throughout the building. Third, 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. Fourth, please ask anyone with a nametag or wearing a robe if you need assistance in finding your way or answering other questions.

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... Day of Pentecost

May 19, 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

Largo

G. F. Handel

Cory Whittier, Director of Music and Organist

Choral Introit

There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit

Sweet, Sweet Spirit

Chancel Choir

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Leader: The God of the whirlwind and fire sweeps into our presence in this hour.

All: Glory be to God, who strengthens us and blesses all people with peace.

Leader: God, who called all the world into being, calls forth new life in us today.

All: Glory be to God, in whose creative purpose we are claimed and empowered.

Leader: God, whose Spirit unites all people in a common language of love, confirms God's gifts in us as we gather here.

All: Glory be to God, who created light in which we can walk in confident expectation.

*Hymn #128: On Pentecost They Gathered

Munich

On Pentecost they gathered quite early in the day,
A band of Christ's disciples, to worship, sing, and pray.
A might wind came blowing, filled all the swirling air,
And tongues of fire a glowing inspired each person there.

The people all around them were startled and amazed
To understand their language, as Christ the Lord they praised.
What universal message, what great good news was here?
That Christ, once dead, is risen to vanquish all our fear.

God pours the Holy Spirit on all who would believe,
On women, men, and children who would God's grace receive.
That Spirit knows no limits, bestowing life and power.
The church, formed and reforming, responds in every hour.

O Spirit, sent from heaven on that day long ago,
Rekindle faith among us in all life's ebb and flow.
O give us ears to listen and tongues aflame with praise,
So folk of every nation glad songs of joy shall raise.

Call to Confession and Prayer of Confession

Generous God, you send us the Spirit of courage, but we have been afraid. You send us the Spirit of truth, but we cling to our illusions. You send us the Spirit of healing, but we cannot let go of our hurts. Holy Spirit of forgiveness, come to us again; shake our hearts, set our souls on fire with your love: send us out into the world rejoicing in your power. We hold out to you all our particular burdens of guilt and sin, and we ask for your help to live the ways of your justice and love.

Silent Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: In Christ we are marked with the Holy Spirit, a seal of our redemption in Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit we become dead in sin and alive anew in Christ.

All: **By God, through Jesus 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: A Brief Statement of Faith

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the church. The Spirit rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the church. In a broken and fearful world, the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, Come, Lord Jesus!

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Children's Moment

Marcia Thom-Kaley

Prayer for Illumination

New Testament Reading: Romans 8:18-30

(pew Bible NT, p.158)

"The Glory About to Be Revealed"

Peter Thompson

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer

Call to Offering

Offertory Anthem

Draw us in the Spirit's Tether

H. W. Friedell

Chancel Choir

*Draw us in the Spirit's tether, For when humbly in Thy name,
Two or three are met together Thou are in the midst of them;
Alleluia! Alleluia! Touch we now Thy garment's hem.
As the brethren used to gather In the name of Christ to sup,
Then with thanks to God the Father Break the bread and bless the cup,
Alleluia! Alleluia! So knit Thou our friendship up.
All our meals and all our living Make as sacraments of Thee,
That by caring, helping, giving We may true disciples be.
Alleluia! Alleluia! We will serve Thee faithfully.*

***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 #129: Come, O Spirit, Dwell Among Us**

Ebenezer

Come, O Spirit, dwell among us, come with Pentecostal power;
Give the church a stronger vision, help us face each crucial hour.
Built upon a firm foundation, Jesus Christ, the cornerstone,
Still the church is called to mission that God's love shall be made known.

We would raise our alleluias for the grace of yester years;
for tomorrow's unknown pathway, hear, O Lord, our humble prayers.
In the church's pilgrim journey you have led us all the way,
Still in presence move before us, fire by night and cloud by day.

Come, O Spirit, dwell among us; Give us words of fire and flame.
Help our feeble lips to praise you. Glorify your holy name.
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, three in one: what mystery!
We would sing our loud hosannas now and through eternity.

***Benediction and Choral Alleluia**

Postlude

Toccata in Seven

J. Rutter

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 in memory of the shared May 19 birthdays of Kay Davis Terrell and Harriet Taylor Ramsey by Diane Terrell Stroud.

Thank you!

The life and ministries of God's church here at First Presbyterian are full of celebration and inspiration. All of our opportunities to connect and engage with God and one another through worship, music, education, outreach, and many other support initiatives are made possible by the grace of God and the commitment of so many within this church community participating and leading. As we close in on the end of spring and inch closer to summer, we wish to share our thankfulness for everyone who has shared their time in prayer, presence, and participation, and their God-given gifts and talents in leadership this *spring*.

We believe you know who you are and again "Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!"

- **Worship:** Initiative Team, Sound and Video support, Worship Leaders, Worship Workshop, Baptism, Communion, Chancel Guild, Ushers, Greeters, Pew Wranglers, Funeral Guild, Wedding Guild, Maundy Thursday Seder Meal, Good Friday Service, Easter Sunrise Service and Easter Worship, "A Place of Welcome" Garden Dedication
- **Music:** Chancel Choir, Chancel Ringers, First Pres Presents Series, Section Leaders, Guest Instrumentalists, Guest Soloists, Organ Project team, Spring Chancel Choir Concert
- **Education:** Initiative Team, Sunday School teachers, Nursery Care, FPC Weekday School, *Immerse* Bible Study, *Colin Caldwell* Men's Bible Study, College Cares, Canterbury Crew, Confirmation, Presbyterian Women, Walk with God, Scouting, Clark Spiritual Growth *Screenagers*, Holy Week Walk, Youth Sunday, Vacation Bible School
- **Outreach:** Initiative Team, Service and Outreach Committee, Care and Nurture Committee, Congregational Development Committee, Lemonade and Cookies, New Members, IMPACT Weekend, Volunteers with Local Mission Partners, Westminster Canterbury Lunch and Devotions, Fellowship Dinners, Malawi Mission, Prayer Shawl, Members Helping Members, Flower Visitations, Pastoral Care Visitations, Hospitality Desk, Bereavement, Al-Anon, 2 Cents a Meal, Encountering Worship
- **Resources:** Session, Officers of Corporation, Staff, Facilities Committee, Personnel Committee, Finance Committee, Congregational Development Committee, Office Receptionist Volunteers, Communications, Memorial Gifts, Columbarium, Covenant Giving, Congregational Meetings, Church Workday, FPC Weekday School clean up team



FPCLY FINANCIAL SUMMARY

APRIL 30, 2024

2024 OPERATING BUDGET

	Year To Date		Annual Budget
	Actual	Budgeted	
<u>INCOME</u>			
Covenant Giving	\$268,855	\$216,667	\$650,000
Other Income	\$34,224	\$45,238	\$142,944
Endowment Withdrawal	<u>\$43,750</u>	<u>\$43,750</u>	<u>\$175,000</u>
TOTAL =	\$346,829	\$305,655	\$967,944
<i>Income to date was <u>41,174 More</u> than budgeted</i>			
<u>EXPENSE</u>			
Outreach	\$12,057	\$22,750	\$72,000
Worship	\$7,656	\$3,850	\$11,550
Education	\$5,373	\$6,000	\$18,000
Personnel	\$212,163	\$213,173	\$639,519
Operations	\$31,225	\$28,000	\$83,851
Facilities	\$18,910	\$28,803	\$86,410
Utilities	<u>\$19,478</u>	<u>\$17,696</u>	<u>\$53,089</u>
TOTAL =	\$306,861	\$320,273	\$964,419
Budget Surplus			\$3,525
<i>Expense to date was <u>13,412 Less</u> than budgeted</i>			

2024 BALANCE SHEET

Endowment =	\$1,835,861
All Other Funds * =	<u>\$1,723,102</u>
* Some are restricted	\$3,558,964
<i>No unusual or unexpected gifts or withdrawals</i>	

2024 COVENANT GIVING

Phase 1 Actual =	\$558,440
Phase 2 Goal =	<u>\$91,560</u>
TOTAL GOAL =	\$650,000
Phase 1 Actual =	\$558,440
Phase 2 Actual =	<u>\$74,680</u>
REMAINING	\$16,880

The FPCLY Finance Committee



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, May 19

- 9:30 am Worship
- 10:45 am Lemonade and Cookies
- 11:00 am Sunday School classes (last Sunday of spring classes)
- 12:00 pm Sister Stories
- 4:00 pm Walk with God

Monday, May 20

- 6:00 pm Scouts – Cub Pack 7
- 7:00 pm Scouts – Troop 7

Tuesday, May 21

- 7:00 pm Scouts - Troop 49

Wednesday, May 22

- 12:30 pm Al-Anon meeting

Thursday, May 23

- 11:45 am Staff Lunch and Devotion at Westminster Canterbury
- 7:15 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, May 26

- 9:30 am Worship
- 10:45 am Lemonade and Cookies
- 4:00 pm Walk with God

Summer Office Hours

We have made the transition to our summer office hours of 9:00am to 3:00pm on Mondays – Thursdays with the offices closed on Fridays and Saturdays. Please keep these days and hours in mind as you make plans to come to the church to pick up or drop off items, meet with a staff member, plan for an event, program, or committee meeting, or complete other church office related tasks.

Notes for Today's Worship

Worship Leader:

Camp Sommardahl

Ushers and Greeters:

Peter Baldwin, Gwen Maddox,
Sam Howe, and Elsie Howerton

Worship Workshop Leader:

Olivia Nelsen

Sound and Video Technicians:

Will Absher and Catherine Adams

Lemonade and Cookies Host:

Sally Leslie and Debbie Johnson

Pastor on Call:

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

Members Helping Members

May:

Marilyn Hartman (434) 665-7043
Jenny Osinga (434) 426-1675

The Church Offices will be closed Monday, May 27 for the Memorial Day Holiday!

Prayer Cares and Concerns

If you have a prayer request to share with the pastor or staff, please share it directly, write it on a 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. We are praying with and for you!

Prayer Chain

Would you like to be a part of a group that engages in on-going prayers for our community, both within the walls of FPCLY and beyond? If so, consider joining our prayer chain! Each week our staff sends an email communication with prayers and praises for that week. Contact alex@fpcls.org to be added to the list.

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

Last Sunday of Spring Sunday School Classes – TODAY!

Sunday School classes for adults, youth, and children will conclude for the summer season TODAY May 19th.

Potluck Fellowship Dinner – May 29 @ 5:30pm

Come for an evening of food and fun with your church family as we gather for a potluck meal! You are encouraged to bring a dish (side item, dessert, or main dish) to share!

Vacation Bible School Request: camping equipment and folks to join the cleanup team.

Marcia and the VBS decorating team want to create a camplike atmosphere in classrooms and shared spaces, but they need help collecting camping equipment (pop up tents, camping chairs, lanterns, sleeping bags, etc.). If you have some camping items you'd like to share as props for the week, please contact Marcia@fpcly.org. Be sure to mark the items with your name so they can be returned to the right owner. *And if you're looking for a one-time way to be a part of the week*, we still need a few folks to form a cleanup squad for June 7.

Vacation Bible School Prayer Requests

We covet your prayers over the next couple of weeks as we prepare for Vacation Bible School. Prayers for the final logistics and details to fall into place; prayers for the teachers as they prepare lessons; prayers for volunteers and youth helpers as they get ready to love, encourage, and share God's truths; prayers for the children and families who will be a part of this amazing week!

Save the Date: Reception for Cory Whittier, Director of Music/Organist – June 23

Cory's last Sunday at First Presbyterian Church is Sunday, June 23. Join us in celebrating Cory and his faithful leadership of the music ministry with a reception immediately following worship on June 23. At the reception, we will give Cory a "love offering" as we share our thanks and appreciation.

- **If you would like to bring a side dish**, please add your name and dish on the sign-up sheet (located on the table off the main foyer) by June 16.
- **If you would like to write a card**, please mail it to the church or place it in Susan Hall's mailbox by June 16. The cards will be collected and given to Cory at the reception.
- **If you wish to contribute to the "love offering,"** you may mail checks or hand deliver cash to the church (Attn: Susan Hall) or give online at fpcly.org or using the QR code to the right. You can place a gift in the offering plate, but please ensure that it's in an envelope with a note for "Cory's love offering."



Organ Dedication Concert Series Postponed until the fall!

To avoid further rescheduling of the organ recital concert dates, we are going to wait to announce the updated organ dedication concert schedule upon receipt of the Chancel Project rebuild timeline. Stay tuned!

You are loved! Have a great week!