



Renewing our

Covenant



First Presbyterian Church
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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!!! I wanted you to know how much of a joy it is to have you here 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. Therefore; 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

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

August 11, 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

There's Something About That Name

Gaither

Marcia Thom-Kaley, pianist

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship: Psalm 98:1-6

Leader: Sing a new song to the Lord, who has worked wonders, whose right hand and holy arm have brought salvation.

All: The Lord has made known salvation; has shown justice to the nations; has remembered truth and love for the house of Israel.

Leader: All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

All: Shout to the Lord, all the earth, sing out your joy.

Leader: Sing psalms to the Lord with the harp, with the sound of music.

All: With trumpets and the sound of the horn acclaim the King, the Lord.

*Hymn #483: Sing Praise to God, Who Reigns Above

Mit Freuden Zart

Sing praise to God who reigns above, the God of all creation,
the God of power, the God of love, the God of our salvation.

With healing balm my soul is filled
and every faithless murmur stilled:
To God all praise and glory.

What God's almighty power hath made, God's gracious mercy keepeth
By morning glow or evening shade God's watchful eye ne'er sleepeth

Within the Kingdom of God's might, Lo!

All is just and all is right
To God all praise and glory

The Lord is never far away, but through all grief distressing,
an ever present help and stay, our peace and joy and blessing.

As with a mother's tender hand,
God gently leads the chosen band:
To God all praise and glory.

Thus all my gladsome way along, I sing aloud thy praises,
that all may hear the grateful song, my voice unwearied raises.

Be joyful in the Lord, my heart,
both soul and body take your part:
To God all praise and glory.

Call to Confession

Corporate Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

Silent Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: All the prophets testify about Christ that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.

All: **Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God.**

*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: Heidelberg Catechism, Q&A 1

My only comfort in life and in death is that I am not my own, but belong- body and soul, in life and in death- to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ. He has paid fully for all my sins with his precious blood and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven; in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Children's Moment

Marcia Thom-Kaley

New Testament Reading: 2 Corinthians 9

(pew Bible NT, p. 183-184)

“Renewing our Covenant: Impant, Multiply”

Peter Thompson

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer

Offertory Anthem

My Tribute

Andre' Crouch

Marcia Thom-Kaley, soloist

*How can I say thanks... For the things You have done for me?
Things so undeserved... Yet You gave to prove Your love for me;
The voices of a million angels... Could not express my gratitude
All that I am and ever hope to be... I owe it all to Thee*

[Chorus 1]

To God be the glory... To God be the glory... To God be the glory... For the things He has done

[Chorus 2]

*With His blood He has saved me... With His power He has raised me;
To God be the glory... For the things He has done*

[Bridge]

*Just let me live my life... Let it be pleasing, Lord to Thee
And if I gain any praise... Let it go to Calvary*

***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 #428: We Give Thee but Thine Own**

Schumann

*We give Thee but Thine own, Whate'er the gift may be;
All that we have is Thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from Thee.*

*May we Thy bounties thus as stewards true receive,
And gladly, as Thou blesses us, to Thee our first-fruits give.*

*To comfort and to bless, to find a balm for woe,
To tend the lonely in distress, is angels' work below.*

*The captive to release, to God the lost to bring,
To teach the way of life and peace- it is a Christ-like thing.*

*And we believe Thy Word, though dim our faith may be;
Whate'er for Thive we do, O Lord, we do it unto Thee.*

***Benediction**

Postlude

I've Got Peace Like a River

African American Spiritual

Marcia Thom-Kaley, pianist

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, August 11

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

Monday, August 12

FPC Weekday School Teachers Return

Tuesday, August 13

7:00 pm Scouts - Troop 49

Wednesday, August 14

12:30 pm Al-Anon meeting
7:00 pm Scouts – Troop 7

Sunday, August 18

9:30 am Worship (in the Fellowship Hall)
Blessing of the Backpacks & Student Commissioning
10:45 am Lemonade and Cookies
4:00 pm Walk with God

WALK WITH GOD- Every Sunday afternoon @ 4:00 pm

Are you looking for a group of folks to fellowship with? Are you looking for an opportunity to get some steps in? Why not do both and join the Walk with God walking group on Sunday evenings. The communion of friends is enriching and the walk down Peakland Place is doable for all. The time together is 45 minutes to an hour and very worth it. If you have any questions, contact Noël Thomas.

CHANCEL PROJECT UPDATE!!

A new design for the Chancel has been approved by Session and we have received confirmation of an expected start date for reconstruction for Monday, August 19; however, preparations are required this week to cover the organ console and place protection over the pews. What does this mean? TODAY will be our last Sunday of worship in the Sanctuary until the project is completed in late November. Next Sunday, August 18, we will begin worship in the Fellowship Hall. All other church ministries (Office, Sunday School, Bible Studies, etc.) will continue as scheduled in their regular spaces during this time.

Notes for Today's Worship

Ushers and Greeters:

Sally and Bob Leslie,
Becky and Bobby O'Brian, and
Gwen Maddox

Worship Workshop Leaders:

Emma and Sutton Tinsley

Sound and Video Technicians:

Diane Stroud & Catherine Adams

Lemonade and Cookies Host:

Diane Stroud

Pastor on Call:

Rev. Peter Thompson
(336) 269-7270

Members Helping Members

August:

Bonnie Miles (434) 386-3845
Kathryn Pumphrey (434) 401-3451

Chancel Flower Guild August:

Treena Koroneos and Arline Ore

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@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

We Celebrate IMPACT Week 2024!

Thank you to everyone who participated in IMPACT week. Whether you served with one of our partner organizations, attended a dinner, spread the word, or prayed, your participation was a blessing! *We had over 85 people participate in an activity or dinner.* It was an incredible week filled with community and connection!

Blessing of the Backpacks and School Year Commissioning – August 18 @ 9:30am

Students of all ages, bring your school backpack (with or without supplies) to worship NEXT Sunday in the FH for a special blessing and prayer during worship. As you prepare for the school year, we want to send (commission) you into the year with God's love, guidance, and protection with blessings and prayers.

College Cares Kick-Off Brunch – Sunday, August 25 after worship

All college students and 20-somethings are invited to our fall College Cares Kick-Off Bruch hosted by Helen Gilmer. We will enjoy good food, great company, and have planning discussions for fall programming. If you are interested in attending or have any questions, contact Marcia, Director of Education, at marcia@fpcly.org.

Back-to-School Season is upon us!

We invite and covet your prayers as we prepare for Back-to-School season! Many from our community will begin the transition into the new school year. We ask your prayers for teachers, administrators, bus drivers, support staff, parents, and students as they return to the rhythm to getting up early, riding yellow buses, class schedules, after school activities, and all that life sends their way in between.

Shared below are the dates that our central Virginia students will return to classrooms for specific prayer:

August 12—Appomattox and Bedford County Schools, Elizabeth's Early Learning Center, Montessori Children's House, New Covenant Rhetoric School (High School), and New Vistas Schools

August 13—Campbell County Schools

August 14—Amherst County Schools, Liberty Christian Academy, and New Covenant Grammar & Middle Schools

August 19—CVCC, Compass Academy, FPC Weekday School, Liberty University, Timberlake Christian Schools

August 20—Lynchburg City Schools

August 21—James River Day School and Onward Christian Academy

August 22—Peakland Preschool and University of Lynchburg

August 26—St. John's Preschool and Sweet Briar College

SPARK SUNDAY- SAVE THE DATE- September 8

2 Corinthians 9:8 says, "And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work." Throughout the month of August and leading into this fall, we, as a church community, will be seeking to learn from and live into this text. *Spark Sunday on September 8 will be a big part of this journey together: Spark Sunday celebrates the launch of a new program year involving the life and ministries of First Presbyterian Church.* From the core of our covenant relationship with God and one another, opportunities to learn and live through worship, education, outreach, and a variety of office/admin support ministries, are available for all to connect and engage with all God is doing in this time and place.