



Renewing our

Covenant



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<https://www.facebook.com/firstpresoflynchburg/>



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 just outside the Fellowship Hall doors. The Elevator can be accessed from this level on the hallway near the Weekday School Offices. The Nursery is also located on this level in the hallway near the Weekday School Offices. 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

August 25, 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

Congregational Fellowship

Welcome and Announcements

Prayer of the Day and Lord's Prayer

This is the day that you have made, Lord. Help us to rejoice in it and be glad! Remind us all of the privileges we enjoy as your people: to come together with you in these moments, to confess our sins, to receive forgiveness and give it, to celebrate your grace, to pray and sing and listen, to renew our fainting spirits, to rest in all your promises, to inspire others in the name of Christ. Open our eyes to see you, Lord. Open our ears to hear your Word. Visit us through your Holy Spirit, and help us to celebrate our faith...

*Praising God in Song

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Children's Moment

Catherine Adams

New Testament Reading: 2 Corinthians 9

(pew Bible NT, p. 183-184)

"Renewing our Covenant: I.M.P.A. Consecration. Thanksgiving."

Peter Thompson

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Renewing our Covenant with God through the Reaffirmation of Baptism

**All participants who wish to make a renewal and reaffirm their baptism, are invited to come forward to one of the bowls in the front and select a water marble to help you "Remember your baptism and be thankful."*

*Corporate Prayer of Renewal and Commitment

God, go with us. Help us to be an honor to the Church. Give us the grace to follow Christ's word, to be clear in our task and careful in our speech. Give us open hands and joyful hearts. Let Christ be on our lips. May our lives reflect a love of truth and compassion. Let no one come to us and go away sad. May we offer hope to the poor, and solace to the disheartened. Let us so walk before God's people, that those who see us will witness God's love and light and faithfully follow. Let us sow living seeds, words that are quick with life, that faith may be the harvest in people's hearts. In word and in example let your light shine in the dark like the morning star. Do not allow the wealth of the world or its enchantment flatter us into silence as to your truth. Do not permit the powerful, or judges, or our dearest friends to keep us from professing what is right. Amen.

**Call to Offering
Offertory Anthem**

Trust in You
Whitney O'Brian, guitar

Lauren Daigle

*Letting go of every single dream, I lay each one down at Your feet
Every moment of my wandering, Never changes what You see
I've tried to win this war, I confess, My hands are weary, I need Your rest
Mighty Warrior, King of the fight, No matter what I face, You're by my side*

*When You don't move the mountains I'm needing You to move
When You don't part the waters I wish I could walk through
When You don't give the answers as I cry out to You
I will trust, I will trust, I will trust in You*

*Truth is, You know what tomorrow brings, There's not a day ahead You have not seen
So, in all things be my life and breath, I want what You want, Lord, and nothing less*

*You are my strength and comfort, You are my steady hand
You are my firm foundation; the rock on which I stand
Your ways are always higher, Your plans are always good
There's not a place where I'll go, You've not already stood*

WE GO OUT IN GOD'S SERVICE

***Benediction**

***Praising God in Song**

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

**Two-Cents A Meal Offering, that helps goes to support our local neighbors who are hungry, will be collected today. Baskets will be available near the doors as you exit the Fellowship Hall.
Please give as you are able.**



Session Leadership

Diane Stroud, Clerk of Session
Becky Giles- '24, Education, Cong. Development
Elsie Howerton- '24, Education/ Weekday School Board
Gary Williams- '24, Outreach/ S&O/ Cong. Development
Peter Baldwin- '25, Worship
Nathan Gowen- '25, Finance
Denise McDonald- '25, Outreach/ Cong. Development
Mary Ann Tate- '25, Personnel
Marilyn Hartman- '26, Outreach/ C&N
Sam Howe- '26, Outreach/ Cong. Development
Martin Knight- '26, Facilities
John Osinga- '26, Worship
Kathryn Overstreet- '26, Education/ Weekday School Board

Staff Leadership

Catherine Adams, Communications Coordinator
Alex Collier, Director of Outreach
Rev. Dr. Nancy Dawson, Parish Associate
Susan Hall, Financial Manager
Maria Karalekas, Director of FPC Weekday School
Kim Ryan, Nursery Care Provider
Jody Sprinkle, Director of Facilities
Dr. Marcia Thom- Kaley, Director of Education
Rev. Dr. Peter Thompson, Senior Pastor



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.fpclly.org.

Sunday, August 25

- 9:30 am Worship (in the Fellowship Hall)
- 10:45 am Lemonade and Cookies
- 11:00 am College Cares Kick-Off Brunch
- 4:00 pm Walk with God

Monday, August 26

- 9:00 am FPC Weekday School

Tuesday, August 27

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

Wednesday, August 28

- 9:00 am FPC Weekday School
- 12:30 pm Al-Anon meeting
- 7:00 pm Scouts – Troop 7

Thursday, August 29

- 9:00 am FPC Weekday School
- 2:00 pm GriefShare Class

Friday, August 30

- 9:00 am FPC Weekday School

Sunday, September 1

- 9:30 am Worship (in the Fellowship Hall & Communion)
- 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.

Notes for Today's Worship

Ushers and Greeters:

Marilyn Hartman, Russ Hovda, and
Mary Ann and Dave Tate

Worship Workshop Leader:

Barrett Thompson

Lemonade and Cookies Hosts:

Marilyn Hartman and Yn Do Jones

Pastor on Call:

Rev. Peter Thompson
(336) 269-7270

Members Helping Members

August:

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

Members Helping Members

September:

Sheila Modjeska (434) 384-2021
Diana Smack (434) 384-7046

Chancel Flower Guild August:

Trenea 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 fpclly.org/ministries/care-nurture.html.

Connect with us!

Phone: (434) 384-6231

Email: office@fpcls.org

Website: www.fpcls.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 fpcls.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 Cares Kick-Off Brunch – TODAY after worship

All college students and 20-somethings are invited to our fall College Cares Kick-Off Brunch 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@fpcls.org.

***Embracing Grief: Renewing Joy Returns* – THIS Thursday, August 29 @ 2:00pm**

Starting Thursday, August 29, Rev. Dr. Nancy Dawson will lead another *GriefShare* class for those who have experienced the loss of a loved one (whether it's been the last couple of weeks or been in the last couple of years.) This class offers the opportunity to embrace grief with the support and encouragement of others who are walking on a similar path. To join the class, contact Nancy at (804) 399-9545 or nancy@fpcls.org.

SPARK SUNDAY- SAVE THE DATE- September 8

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. We have a great slate of educational opportunities for children, youth, and adults. It's never too early to be praying about where you can be present and participate. Print copies of classes will be available next Sunday. Until then, check out your email inbox or our website for more details!

FPC Hosts Red Cross Blood Drive – Thursday, September 12 from 12:00 – 6:00pm

Your next IMPACT opportunity is on the church calendar as we are seeking both blood donors and volunteers to assist with our annual Red Cross Blood Drive! If you are eligible to donate blood, sign up on redcrossblood.org and use the sponsor code FPC. If you would like to assist as a walker, snack/drink provider, registration, or cleanup support, hover over the QR code to the right!



Meeting in the Middle Evening Youth Gathering – Sunday, September 15 @ 5:00 pm

Calling ALL middle school students! It's time to meet in the Fellowship Hall for food, faith, and fun as a special youth gathering. We will have ice breakers, play games, and get to know one another! Contact marcia@fpcls.org if you have any questions.

Back-to-School Season is winding down!

Many from our community have transitioned into the new school year. We ask your prayers for teachers, administrators, bus drivers, support staff, parents, and students as they continue the rhythm of getting up early, riding yellow buses, class schedules, after school activities, and all that life sends their way in between. ***This week, we have two final schools set to head back to class (St. John's Preschool and Sweet Briar College) on August 26.*** We invite your continued prayers throughout the entire school year!

The Church Offices will be closed Monday, September 2 for the Labor Day holiday.

Ever Be

by Bethel Music

Your love is devoted
Like a ring of solid gold
Like a vow that is tested
Like a covenant of old
And Your love is enduring
Through the winter rain
And beyond the horizon
With mercy for today

[Pre-Chorus]

Faithful You have been
And faithful You will be
You pledge yourself to me
And it's why I sing

[Chorus]

Your praise will ever be on my lips,
ever be on my lips (4x)

You Father the orphan,
Your kindness makes us whole
And You shoulder our weakness,
And Your strength becomes our own
Now You're making me like You,
Clothing me in white
Bringing beauty from ashes,
For You will have Your bride
Free of all the guilt,
And rid of all the shame
And known by her true name,
And it's why I sing

[Chorus]

[Bridge]

You will be praised,
You will be praised,
With angels and saints we sing worthy are You
Lord (4x)

[Chorus]

You are My All in All

by Dennis Jernigan

You are my strength when I am weak
You are the treasure that I seek
You are my all in all

Seeking You as a precious jewel
Lord, to give up I'd be a fool
You are my all in all

[Chorus]

Jesus, Lamb of God, Worthy is Your name
Jesus, Lamb of God, Worthy is Your name

Taking my sin, my cross, my shame
Rising up again I bless Your name
You are my all in all

When I fall down You pick me up
When I am dry You fill my cup
You are my all in all

[Chorus]

Lord, I Lift Your Name on High

by Jonathan Butler

Lord, I lift Your name on high
Lord, I love to sing Your praises
I'm so glad You're in my life
I'm so glad You came to save us

[Chorus]

You came from heaven to earth
To show the way
From the earth to the cross
Our debt You paid
From the cross to the grave
From the grave to the sky
Lord, I lift Your name on high

How Sweet the Sound

by Citizen's Way

Yea though I walk through the valley
I know that You are always right beside me
And I will fear no evil
You're my rock
And my strength
You comfort me

[Chorus]

Amazing grace how sweet the sound
I hear You singing over me
I once was lost but now I'm found
And it's beautiful
Amazing grace how sweet the sound
It covers every part of me
My soul is silent
I am found
And it's a beautiful sound
It's a beautiful, beautiful sound

Carry me through the waters
Where Your peace clears away
All my sorrows
And nothing can separate us
From Your love, oh Your love
It will always be

[Chorus]

You were healing in the pain
You were shelter in the storm
Hallelujah You restore my soul (2x)

[Chorus]

Baptized

by Mac Powell

I heard an old song
What can wash away my sin?
Went to the water
Found a way to start again
Filled with a fire
And now His spirit lives within
I heard an old song
What can wash away my sin?

[Chorus]

Tell me, how deep and wide
Is the love of Jesus?
My soul will testify
To the One who saves us
I've been born again
Had to die to find new life
In the water, in the fire
I've been baptized

Come sing a new song
At the well that won't run dry
Living waters
All who thirst are satisfied
Hallelujah
Let your heart be set on fire
Come sing a new song
All who thirst are satisfied

[Chorus]

[Bridge]

And I'm never gonna be,
never gonna be the same again
No, I'm never gonna be,
never gonna be the same again
Oh, God is gonna move
God is gonna send His spirit again
And I'm never gonna be,
never gonna be the same again

[Chorus 2x]

[Bridge]