

ONE

HOLY

CATHOLIC

APOSTOLIC



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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 are holy. That's why we gather for fellowship, cookies, and lemonade 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 1 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 20, 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

Share the Love, Joy, and Peace of Christ with others!

Prelude

Savior, Like a Shepherd, Lead Us

arr. Shaw

Joshua O'Dell- Director of Music and Organist, Anne Patterson- violin

Welcome and Announcements

Prayer of the Day and Lord's Prayer

This is the place, O God, and this is the time! Here and now, you wait to break into our experience! To change our minds, to change our attitudes, to change our ways, to change our lives! To help us see the whole of life with your eyes and hear your Word for our own time! To help us smell the fragrance of your glory, to breathe in the freshness of your Holy Spirit! To help us reach out and touch the face of Jesus, to feel your healing touch and taste your mercy! To discover you in the unexpected, to worship you with our whole selves! We pray in the name of Jesus, who taught us to pray, Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

***Hymn: Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!**

Nicaea

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty! Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;
Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty! God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! all the saints adore Thee, Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee, Who wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! though the darkness hide Thee, Though the eye of sinfulness Thy glory may not see,
Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee Perfect in power, in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty! All Thy works shall praise Thy Name, in earth, and sky, and sea;
Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty! God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Children's Moment

Marcia Thom-Kaley

"ONE HOLY CATHOLIC and APOSTOLIC"

Peter Thompson

Colossians 1:15-20, Philippians 2:5-11

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Minute for Mission: Covenant Giving

*Depth of mercy! Can there be Mercy still reserved for me?
Can my God His wrath forbear? Me, the chief of sinners, spare?*

*There for me the Savior stands, Shows His wounds and spreads His hands:
God is love! I know, I feel; Jesus weeps, but loves me still!*

He loves me still.

Prayer of Dedication

WE GO OUT IN GOD'S SERVICE

***Hymn: Take My Life**

Hendon

Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee.
Take my moments and my days; let them flow in endless praise,
let them flow in endless praise.

Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love.
Take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for thee,
swift and beautiful for thee.

Take my voice and let me sing always, only, for my King.
Take my lips and let them be filled with messages from thee,
filled with messages from thee.

Take my will and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne,
it shall be thy royal throne.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store.
Take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee,
ever, only, all for thee

***Benediction**

***Postlude**

Ode to Joy

arr. Quigley

Joshua O'Dell- Director of Music and Organist, Anne Patterson- violin



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

Alex Collier, Director of Outreach
Rev. Dr. Nancy Dawson, Parish Associate
Susan Hall, Financial Manager
Maria Karalekas, Director of FPC Weekday School
Joshua O'Dell, Director of Music and Organist
Kim Ryan, Nursery Care Provider
Jody Sprinkle, Director of Facilities
Dr. Marcia Thom- Kaley, Director of Education
Rev. Dr. Peter Thompson, Senior Pastor



Vision: Connect, Engage, and Draw Near to God and Others
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

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For a full calendar listing and more information, please visit our website www.fpclly.org.

Sunday, October 20

- 9:30 am Worship (Fellowship Hall)
- 10:45 am Lemonade and Cookies
- 11:00 am Sunday School Classes
- 11:00 am Town Hall (Fellowship Hall)
- 4:00 pm Walk with God

Monday, October 21

- 9:00 am FPC Weekday School
- 6:00 pm Scouts - Cub Pack 7
- 7:00 pm Scouts - Troop 7

Tuesday, October 22

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

Wednesday, October 23

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

Thursday, October 24

- FPC Weekday School on Fall Break (Oct. 24-25)
- 7:00 am *Colin Caldwell* Men's Bible Study
- 2:00 pm *GriefShare* Class
- 6:30 pm Chancel Ringers Rehearsal
- 7:15 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, October 27

- 9:30 am Worship (Fellowship Hall)
- 10:45 am Lemonade and Cookies
- 11:00 am Sunday School Classes
- 4:00 pm Trunk or Treat (Back Parking Lot)
- 6:00 pm Meet in the Middle/ For Real... MS & HS Youth

TRUNK OR TREAT – NEXT Sunday, October 27 @ 4pm

Get your costumes and candy ready for FPCLY's fourth annual *Trunk or Treat!* "Trunk Hosts", those willing to decorate their vehicles (or themselves), and pass out candy, are still welcome. Other volunteers to assist with set up, take down, snack distribution, greeting, and other important roles, are welcome too. If you're interested, please contact Alex Collier (alex@fpclly.org). New this year will be Brunswick stew, available by bowl or quart, for a donation.

Notes for Today's Worship

Key Scriptures:

Colossians 1:15-20; Philippians 2:5-11

Sermon Theme:

Marks of the Church

Ushers and Greeters:

Jenny Osinga, Nathan Gowen
Sallie Leslie, Debbie Johnson

Worship Workshop Leader:

Laurie Sommardahl

Lemonade and Cookies Host:

Sallie Leslie, Debbie Johnson

Pastor on Call:

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

Members Helping Members October:

Dorothy Niles (434) 509-6767
Sue Thornton (434) 944-3049

Chancel Flower Guild October:

Betsy Burton

Prayer Joys and Concerns

If you have a prayer request to share with the pastor or staff, please speak with them before or after worship, call the church office, or share your request online at

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

Worship, Grow, Love, Serve

Town Hall- TODAY, October 20 @ 11 am- Fellowship Hall

The Congregational Development Committee would like to invite you to join together for a Town Hall Forum. Topics of discussion will include updates on what has been happening since our last Town Hall in June, Chancel Project, Budget, Personnel, and other questions or comments you may have.

All Saints' Service of Remembrance- Friday, November 1 @ 11 am- FPCLY 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. There will also be a time to share the names of other individuals who have passed on followed by a bell toll.

Celebration Brunch for Catherine Adams- Sunday, November 3 following worship

The Personnel Committee would like to invite everyone to join in celebrating Catherine Adams, our former Communications Coordinator and Children's Ministry Assistant. In one way or another, whether you know it or not, Catherine's commitment to FPCLY and dedicated work as a staff member impacted you. Please plan to come say thank you and share your appreciation with her at a celebration brunch following worship on Sunday, November 3 in the Fellowship Hall. You are invited to bring a food item to share, a sign-up sheet is available near the hospitality desk or you can talk with Mary Ann Tate, as well as share a love offering either by giving to the church (Susan Hall, Financial Manager) or preparing a card/gift and giving to her directly.

"The Greatest Gift" Advent Study- Beginning Sunday, November 3 @ 5 pm

The Education Initiative would like to invite you to an ADVENT STUDY on Sundays from 5:00-7:00PM. This wonderful study will feature "The Greatest Gift," by Ann Voskamp, and explore the lineage of Jesus' family up to his birth. Kara Byrne will lead us to Bethlehem! A sign-up form is located on the Hospitality Desk outside of the Fellowship Hall. The online sign-up link may be found in this week's "Happenings."

Share God's blessings--join Covenant Giving today!

Thank you to our 69 congregants who have pledged to contribute \$253,000 toward our Covenant Giving 2025 campaign goal of \$700,000! So far 25% of our congregants have pledged, and we invite everyone to join us and help us reach 100% participation. Each and every commitment is greatly appreciated and much needed. As Christ's body, we rely on all parts of our body to be working and healthy and supportive. May we all remember, God's abundant love inspires us to give abundantly and live abundantly in Him (II Cor. :8). All are invited to join together in pledging your time, talent and treasure to support the mission and ministries of God's church. This year we ask everyone to consider increasing their financial commitment so that we can raise \$50,000 more than last year and meet our budget expense goal. If you need a Covenant Giving packet, please call 434-384-6231) or visit the Church. Susan Hall, Church Finance Manager, or others will be glad to help you. Thank you and God bless you, FPC Congregational Development Committee

Sunday Morning Schedule Change- Starting Sunday, November 24, 2024

After receiving a great deal of congregational input from the survey sent out in July and prayerfully assessing many options over the last couple of months, the Session voted on October 6th to change the Sunday morning schedule of opportunities at FPCLY. Beginning Sunday, November 24, 2024, our main **congregational worship will begin at 10:45 am with a time of fellowship preceding at 10:15 am**. All Sunday School classes will conclude on November 17 and plan resume at 9:30 am starting January 5, 2025. A listing of all classes, times, and locations will be available toward the end of the year. The Session would like to express gratitude to you for your patience during this discernment process. In considering various schedule possibilities, the Session's primary focus was on being sure to include congregational worship, congregational fellowship, and spiritual growth opportunities, as all three (alongside outreach/mission) are vitally important in being the church Christ calls us to be. As the doors of the church swing wide, we pray all of you, and anyone else we have yet to meet, will be able to connect and engage in the life and ministries of God's church here at FPCLY.

FPCLY FINANCIAL SUMMARY SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

2024 OPERATING BUDGET

	Year To Date		Annual Budget
	Actual	Budgeted	
<u>INCOME</u>			
Covenant Giving	\$478,666	\$487,500	\$650,000
Other Income	\$96,217	\$107,750	\$142,944
Endowment Withdrawal	<u>\$131,250</u>	<u>\$131,250</u>	<u>\$175,000</u>
TOTAL =	\$706,133	\$726,500	\$967,944
<i>Income to date was <u>20,367.00 Less</u> than budgeted</i>			
<u>EXPENSE</u>			
Outreach	\$34,303	\$54,000	\$72,000
Worship	\$9,047	\$8,663	\$11,550
Education	\$13,668	\$14,500	\$18,000
Personnel	\$439,358	\$479,639	\$639,519
Operations	\$56,969	\$63,657	\$83,851
Facilities	\$49,928	\$64,807	\$86,410
Utilities	<u>\$37,651</u>	<u>\$39,817</u>	<u>\$53,089</u>
TOTAL =	\$640,923	\$725,083	\$964,419
Budget Surplus			\$3,525
<i>Expense to date was <u>67,339 Less</u> than budgeted</i>			

2024 BALANCE SHEET

Endowment =	\$1,956,607
All Other Funds * =	<u>\$1,675,992</u>
* Some are restricted	\$3,632,598
<i>No unusual or unexpected gifts or withdrawals</i>	

2025 COVENANT GIVING

COVENANT GIVING GOAL	\$700,000
COMMITMENTS TO DATE	<u>\$124,470</u>
COMMITMENTS NEEDED	\$575,530
Thank you for answering God's call to give abundantly in response to God's abundant love for you.	

~ The FPCLY Finance Committee

September Memorial Gifts

We gratefully acknowledge all memorial gifts to First Presbyterian Church and are honored to recognize them in our bulletin.

In Memory of Deedy Cleland by:
The Gowen Family; Mr. & Mrs. Bob Thomas