

**ONE**

**HOLY**

**CATHOLIC**

**APOSTOLIC**



1215 Virginia Episcopal School Road  
(434) 384-6231 · [www.fpclly.org](http://www.fpclly.org) · e-mail: [info@fpclly.org](mailto:info@fpclly.org)  
<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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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).

## **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 27, 2024

*\*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

### Just a Little Talk with Jesus

*Chancel Choir, David Dorris- soloist, Joshua O'Dell- piano, Russ Hovda- bass, Joshua Davis- percussion*

### Welcome and Announcements

### Prayer of the Day and Lord's Prayer

**God, we praise you for creating this world in all beauty, for redeeming the world through Christ, our Lord, and for sending us the gift of your Spirit to encourage, instruct, and sustain us. We long for you Spirit to work among us now, to inspire our praise, to challenge us with your truth, and to equip us for service in your world. Show us the way to fullness of life, Lord Jesus; that our hearts might be filled with joy, hope, and peace; that we might respond to opportunities; that we might be strengthened to face challenges; that we might become the persons we are called to be; that we might learn to respect our sisters and brothers; that we might see the needs of others and give help. 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: I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

I'm Gonna Live

*I'm gonna (live) so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!*

*I'm gonna (live) so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!*

*(work, pray, sing)*

## WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

### Children's Moment

Marcia Thom-Kaley

### Choral Anthem

### He Never Failed Me Yet

arr. Robert Ray

*Chancel Choir, Marcia Thom-Kaley- soloist*

*I will sing of God's mercy Every day, every hour He gives me power.*

*I will sing and give thanks to Thee For all the dangers, toils and snares That He has brought me out.*

*He is my God and I'll serve Him No matter what the test Trust and never doubt  
Jesus will surely bring you out He never failed me yet.*

*I know God is able to deliver In times of storm  
And I know that He'll keep you safe From all earthly harm.*

*One day when my weary soul is at rest I'm going home to be forever blessed  
Trust and never doubt Jesus will surely bring you out He never failed me yet.*

*Didn't my God deliver Moses from King Pharaoh?  
And didn't He cool the fiery furnace For Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego?*

*When I think of what my God can do He delivered Daniel I know He will deliver you.  
Trust and never doubt Jesus will surely bring you out He never failed me yet!*

**“ONE HOLY CATHOLIC and APOSTOLIC”**

Peter Thompson

*2 Timothy 1:1-14, 2 Cor. 5:20, Mark 10:45, John 20:21, 1 Peter 2:9*

**WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD**

**Minute for Mission: Covenant Giving**

**Offertory Anthem**

**More than Wonderful**

*David Dorris & Eleanor Betts- soloists*

**Prayer of Dedication**

**WE GO OUT IN GOD’S SERVICE**

**\*Hymn: In the Sweet By and By**

There's a land that is fairer than day, and by faith we can see it afar,  
For the Father waits over the way To prepare us a dwelling place there.

Refrain:

In the sweet by and by, We shall meet on that beautiful shore;  
In the sweet by and by, We shall meet on that beautiful shore.

We shall sing on that beautiful shore The melodious songs of the blest;  
And our spirits shall sorrow no more- Not a sigh for the blessing of rest. (Refrain)

To our bountiful Father above We will offer our tribute of praise  
For the glorious gift of His love And the blessings that hallow our days. (Refrain)

**\*Benediction**

**\*Postlude**

**Soon and Very Soon**

*Joshua O'Dell- Director of Music and Organist*

arr. Schrader

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*The Chancel Flowers today are given to the glory of God and in celebration of the marriage of  
Sue Thornton to Larry Redmond on Friday, October 25, 2024.*



**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

For a full calendar listing and more information, please visit our website [www.fpclly.org](http://www.fpclly.org).

### 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

### Monday, October 28

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

### Tuesday, October 29

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

### Wednesday, October 30

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

### Thursday, October 31

- 7:00 am *Colin Caldwell* Men's Bible Study
- 9:00 am FPC Weekday School
- 2:00 pm *GriefShare* Class

### Friday, November 1

- 9:00 am FPC Weekday School
- 11:00 am All Saints' Service of Remembrance (Columbarium)

### Sunday, November 3

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

### Notes for Today's Worship

#### Key Scriptures:

2 Timothy 1:6-14, 1 Peter 2:9

#### Sermon Theme:

Marks of the Church

#### Ushers and Greeters:

Jenny Osinga, Nathan Gowen  
Noel Thomas, Bob Thomas

#### Worship Workshop Leader:

Nancy Ann Gowen

#### Lemonade and Cookies Host:

Walk with God Contingent

#### Pastor on Call:

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

#### Members Helping Members

##### October:

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

#### 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](http://fpclly.org/ministries/care-nurture.html).

### TRUNK OR TREAT – TODAY @ 4pm

Get your costumes and candy ready for FPCLY's fourth annual *Trunk or Treat!* "Truck 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](mailto:alex@fpclly.org)). New this year will be Brunswick stew, available by bowl or quart, for a donation.

# Worship, Grow, Love, Serve

## **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. An All Saints' themed worship will also be taking place on Sunday, November 3 at 9:30 am in the Fellowship Hall.

## **"Share the Warmth" Coat Drive - Through November**

Our friends at One Community, One Voice are once again collecting coats, hats, gloves, and blankets for men, women, and children throughout our area. A donation bucket will be outside Alex's office through the end of November. Many sizes and styles are needed--gently used or new items are welcomed!

## **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), giving online, 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 80 congregants who have pledged to contribute \$308,120 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.