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



Welcome to First Presbyterian Church- Lynchburg, VA

Grace and peace to you from our Lord Jesus Christ!!! It is so wonderful to be together as we worship God this morning. I pray today that you will feel and experience God's presence with you and that the rest of this day is filled with opportunities for you to live into God's light and love in all you do and with all you may be with.

Today is the Second Sunday in the season of Lent, an Old English word meaning springtime. The season of Lent is a time for growth in faith- through prayer, spiritual discipline, and self-examination in preparation for the commemoration of the dying and rising of the Lord Jesus Christ. Lent is a season of 40 days- remembering the flood in Genesis, Moses' sojourn at Sinai, Elijah's journey to Mt. Horeb, Jonah's call to Ninevah, and Jesus' testing in the wilderness. Lent officially began on Ash Wednesday, March 5, and concludes with the Great Easter Vigil, April 19. Not included in the 40 days are Sundays, as the Lord's Day is a celebration of Christ's resurrection. Throughout Lent, we are called to a pilgrimage of prayer, in which we learn to be God's people once more. Therefore, I invite you in the name of Christ, to observe a holy lent by self-examination and penitence, by prayer and fasting, by works of love, and by meditating on God's word. In our observance and service, God brings us back to God's heart, opens our eyes to God's presence in the world and frees our hands to lead others to the wonders of God's grace.

Many opportunities abound here at First Presbyterian Church of Lynchburg to engage, impact, and expect. Engage in the life and ministries of God's church and mission. Impact our neighbors by sharing the love and light of Christ. Expect God's faithfulness and goodness to unfold before our very eyes. We welcome and encourage all to walk together in being who God has created us to be in this time and place. God has blessed us and bestowed on us many gifts and we acknowledge the call and responsibility we have to share those blessings and gifts with one another. We try but we don't always get things right; therefore, we give thanks for God's gifts of grace and forgiveness and acknowledge the importance of offering grace to one another. May God continue to fill us and use us to bring glory to God's kingdom here on earth as it is in heaven.

Run the Race, Fight the Fight, Keep the Faith,
Rev. Dr. Peter Thompson

Building Hospitality

Our building is a wonderful resource. 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. In addition to locations, 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. 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 (downstairs below the library) 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?

First Presbyterian has welcomed 20 new members over the last year, and we are ready to welcome more. 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... Second Sunday in Lent

March 16, 2025

*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

Welcome and Announcements

*Hymn #376: Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Hyfrydol

Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven to earth come down,
Fix in us Thy humble dwelling, all Thy faithful mercies crown!
Jesus, Thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love Thou art;
Visit us with Thy salvation, enter every trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit into every troubled breast!
Let us all in Thee inherit, let us find the promised rest;
Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be;
End of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty to deliver, let us all Thy life receive;
Suddenly return, and never, nevermore Thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing, serve Thee as Thy hosts above,
Pray, and praise Thee without ceasing, glory in Thy perfect love.

Finish, then, Thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be;
Let us see Thy great salvation perfectly restored in Thee;
Changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before Thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.

CELEBRATING BAPTISM

Sacrament of Baptism:

Elizabeth Kelly Burton

Parents: Louis and Emma Burton

Session Representative: Jeb Burton

Presentation of Purpose and Promise

Questions to the Parents, Congregation, and Children

Prayer of Thanksgiving over the Water

Act of Baptism

... I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. You are now a child of the covenant, may God bless you, and keep you, and may you always be open to God's guidance.

Prayer and Welcome

Leader: Libby has been received into the one holy catholic and apostolic church through baptism. God has made her a member of the household of God, to share with us in the priesthood of Christ.

All: With joy and thanksgiving, we welcome Libby into Christ's church to share with us in his ministry, for we are all one in Christ. We promise to love, encourage, and support Libby, and her parents Louis and Emma, to share the good news of the gospel with them, and to help them know and follow Christ.

***Hymn #492: Baptized in Water**

Bunessan

Baptized in water, Sealed by the Spirit,
Cleansed by the blood of Christ our King:
Heirs of salvation, Trusting the promise,
Faithfully now God's praises we sing.

Baptized in water, Sealed by the Spirit,
Dead in the tomb with Christ our King:
One with His rising, Freed and forgiven,
Thankfully now God's praises we sing.

Baptized in water, Sealed by the Spirit,
Marked with the sign of Christ our King:
Born of the Spirit, We are God's children,
Joyfully now God's praises we sing.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Children's Moment

Judy Stowers

Prayer for Illumination

New Testament Reading: Luke 13:1-9

"Micro-Movements of Faith: Truth"

Peter Thompson

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer

Call to Offering

Offertory Anthem

Offertory

John Ness Beck

*With what shall I come before the Lord and bow myself before God on high?
Shall I come before Him with burnt offerings, Shall I come before Him with yearling calves.*

*Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousand rivers of oil?
Shall I give my first-born for my transgressions, The fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?*

*He has shown you, O man, He has shown you what is good.
And what does the Lord require of you but to do justice and to love kindness,
And to walk humbly with your God?*

***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 #298: There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

In Babilone

There's a wideness in God's mercy, like the wideness of the sea.
There's a kindness in God's justice, which is more than liberty.
There is no place where earth's sorrows Are more felt than up in heaven;
There is no place where earth's failings Have such kindly judgment given

For the love of God is broader than the measures of the mind,
and the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.
If our love were but more faithful, we would gladly trust God's word,
and our lives reflect thanksgiving for the goodness of our Lord.

*Benediction

Postlude

*Fed by the Word that has been read, sung, and proclaimed,
Inspired by the presence of God who is with us in this place and with us wherever it is we are,
Let us all now depart from this time together, empowered and encouraged on the wings of the Holy Spirit
who gives us the courage, strength, and hope we need each and every day.*

Lent and Easter @ FPCLY

Sundays, March 16, 23, 30 & April 6

Congregational Worship @ 10:45 am (Sanctuary)

Sweet Hour of Prayer @ 5:15 – 6:15 pm (Chapel)

Wednesdays, March 19, 26 & April 9, 16

Taking the Time to See... Lenten Class + Dinner @ 5:30 pm (Sanctuary... RSVP Desired)

Sunday, April 13

Palm Sunday Worship @ 10:45 am (Sanctuary)

Thursday, April 17

Maundy Thursday Seder Meal @ 6 pm (Fellowship Hall... RSVP Needed)

Friday, April 18

"Seven Last Words" Good Friday Concert @ 7 pm (Sanctuary)

Sunday, April 20

Easter Sunrise @ 7 am (Columbarium)

Flowering the Cross

Easter Worship... No Choir @ 8:30 am (Sanctuary)

Easter Worship (With Choir) @ 10:45 am (Sanctuary)



**FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN**

2025... A Year to... ENGAGE IMPACT EXPECT

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.fpcl.org.

Sunday, March 16... Second Sunday in Lent

- 9:30 am Sunday School Classes for all ages
- 10:15 am Coffee, Lemonade, Goodies, and Cookies
- 10:45 am Worship (Sanctuary)... *Baptism (Burton)*
- 12:00 pm Stated Session Meeting
- 4:00 pm Walk with God
- 5:00 pm Meeting in the Middle -MS Youth Group
- 5:00 pm For Real -HS Youth Group
- 5:15 pm *Sweet Hour of Prayer (Chapel)*

Monday, March 17

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

Tuesday, March 18

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

Wednesday, March 19

- 9:00 am FPC Weekday School
- 10:00 am *Immerse Bible Study*
- 12:30 pm Al-Anon meeting
- 5:30 pm *Taking the Time to See (Sanctuary)*

Thursday, March 20

- 7:00 am *Colin Caldwell Men's Bible Study*
- 9:00 am FPC Weekday School
- 6:00 pm Chancel Ringers Rehearsal
- 7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, March 23... Third Sunday in Lent

- 9:30 am Sunday School Classes for all ages
- 10:15 am Coffee, Lemonade, Goodies, and Cookies
- 10:45 am Worship (Sanctuary)... *Baptism (Osinga)*
- 12:00 pm Shepherding Field Trip... *4th -12th grade youth*
- 4:00 pm Walk with God
- 5:15 pm *Sweet Hour of Prayer (Chapel)*

Pastor on Call... March 16 to March 23

Rev. Dr. Peter A. Thompson- 336.269.7270

Members Helping Members... March

Betsy Jones- 434.384-7633 & Judie Cleland 434.444-2797

Notes for Today

Coffee, Lemonade, Goodies, and Cookies:

Sharon Hovda

Ministers:

Congregation Gathered

Baptized:

Elizabeth Kelly Burton- "Libby"

Born September 4, 2024

Worship Leader/ Preaching:

Rev. Dr. Peter A. Thompson
Senior Pastor/ Head of Staff

Key Scripture:

Luke 13:1-9

Message Title:

"Micro-Movements of Faith: Truth"

Music Leaders/ Accompaniment:

Joshua O'Dell

Director of Music and Organist

Heather Hurd

Flute

Chancel Choir

Offertory Anthem

Ushers and Greeters:

Kathryn Overstreet, Nancy Strosnider

Bobby O'Brian, Becky O'Brian

Worship Workshop Leaders:

Pat Adams, Sarah Short

Video and Sound Technicians:

Jody Sprinkle, Lloyd Agnew, Will Absher

Chancel Flowers Today:

Chancel Guild

Connect with us!

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Website: www.fpcly.org



@firstpresoflynchburg



FPC Lynchburg

Sweet Hour of Prayer... Women of the church (and friends), join Kara Byrne in the chapel for a time of peaceful prayer for family, friends, faith, and future. We will meet each Sunday during Lent, from 5:15-6:15 (Chapel), beginning TONIGHT.

Taking the Time to See... Beginning Wednesday, March 12th Gary and Beth Williams will lead a series of reflections based on the stained-glass windows of the Church. We will meet in the Sanctuary from 5:30 - 6pm, then transition to the Fellowship Hall for a simple dinner and conversation. All ages are welcome! Please RSVP with Alex Collier, Gary Williams, or by Sign-Up sheet at FPCLY by Monday, March 10th.

A Look Ahead to HOLY WEEK- April 13-20

- Sunday, April 13 is Palm Sunday with worship at 10:45 am
- Thursday, April 17 is Maundy Thursday with a Seder Meal at 6 pm (RSVP).
- Friday, April 18 is Good Friday with First Pres Presents "Seven Last Words" Tenebrae Concert at 7 pm.
- Sunday, April 20 is Easter with Sunrise Service at 7 am and Easter Worship at both 8:30 am (No Choir) and 10:45 am.

PW Spring Luncheon – March 30

Join PW for lunch and a guest speaker on Sunday, March 30. Dr. Joe Pond will report on "Plastic People: They Are Us!" – a review of plastic pollution and how it affects us. \$10 fee for lunch and the program, and please RSVP on the sign-up sheet on the hallway table by March 24th.

First Pres Presents will open its 2025 Fine Arts Series with a vocal recital on Sunday March 30th at 4:00 PM entitled, "**It Might as Well Be Spring: A Recital of Opera and Musical Theatre Favorites.**"

Featuring works by: Mozart, Handel, Delibes, Rogers & Hammerstein, and many more. Soprano- Grace Meade, Mezzo-Soprano- Dr. Marcia Thom-Kaley, and Baritone- Bennett Umhau will be the featured performers. Collectively these three amazing artists have performed in some of the finest opera houses and concert halls of both Europe and the United States as well as maintaining extensive vocal studios.

WHEN EVERYONE LEADS...

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! To Sharon Hovda, Deb Goode, Helen Gilmer, Tracy and Al Baker, Sally Leslie, and Deborah Johnson, for hosting our Coffee, Lemonade, Goodies, and Cookies the last several weeks.

FPCLY LEADERSHIP

Session

Diane Stroud- Clerk of Session,
Education (Chair)
Denise McDonald- Finance Dev. (Chair)
Nancy Strosnider-Finance
Mary Ann Tate- Personnel (Chair)
Marilyn Hartman- Outreach/ C&N
Sam Howe- Cong. Engagement (Chair)
Martin Knight- Facilities (Chair)/
Nominating
John Osinga-Worship (Chair)
Kathryn Overstreet- Education/
Weekday School Board Session Rep
David Cheatham- Personnel
Caskie Giles- Finance/ Facilities
Bucky Neal- Worship

Corporation

David Tate, President
Tom Pettyjohn, Vice-President
William Paxton, Treasurer
Diane Stroud, Secretary
Johnny Alford, At-Large
Trustees, Session

Other

David Tate, Finance (Chair)
Cathy Oakes, C&N (Chair)
Gary Williams, S&O (Chair)
Bill Perkins, Malawi Mission Partnership
Marilyn Hartman, Presbyterian Women
Becky O'Brian, Chancel Guild
Arline Ore, Wedding Guild
Joan Roberson, Bereavement
Becky Giles, Nominating (Chair)
Sue Thornton- Redmond & Diane Stroud,
First Pres Presents (Co-Chairs)

Staff

Alex Collier, Director Outreach
Rev. Dr. Nancy Dawson, Parish Assoc.
Susan Hall, Financial Manager
Maria Karalekas, Director FPC WDS
Joshua O'Dell, Director Music/Organist
Ellie Quillen, Communications Coord.
Kim Ryan, Nursery Care Provider
Jody Sprinkle, Director Facilities
Dr. Marcia Thom- Kaley, Director Educ.
Rev. Dr. Peter Thompson, Senior Pastor





Welcome Ellie Quillen, Communications Coordinator

Please join us in welcoming Elizabeth (Ellie) Quillen as our new Communications Coordinator for First Presbyterian Church.

As Communicators Coordinator, Ellie coordinates and delivers official messaging across internal and external channels for our Church community.

Ellie comes to us from Wilmington, DE. She is a recent graduate of Maine College of Art & Design with a BFA in Painting.

Ellie, a PK (pastor's kid), brings many skills and talents to her role, including work as a photographer, videographer, video producer, curator, instructor, and livestream consultant.

As an artist, Ellie paints traditional oil portraits both from life and from photographs. She takes inspiration from painters throughout history including John Singer Sargent, Rembrandt van Rijn, and Elisabeth Louise Vigée le Brun.

Take a moment to meet Ellie whose first day on staff is tomorrow, March 17. She will be in the office from 9 am to 3 pm, Monday through Thursday each week.

-The FPCLY Personnel Committee

FPCLY FINANCIAL SUMMARY

FEBRUARY 2025

2025 OPERATING BUDGET

	Year To Date		Annual Budget
	Actual	Budgeted	
<u>INCOME</u>			
Covenant Giving	\$136,047	\$130,000	\$625,410
Other Income	\$17,334	\$18,160	\$154,066
Endowment Withdrawal	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$94,275</u>
TOTAL =	\$153,381	\$148,160	\$873,751
<i>Income to date was <u>5,221 More</u> than budgeted</i>			

<u>EXPENSE</u>			
Outreach	\$919	\$7,867	\$60,200
Worship	\$2,527	\$3,317	\$12,050
Education	\$2,312	\$3,833	\$22,000
Personnel	\$83,166	\$89,776	\$538,658
Operations	\$15,286	\$19,081	\$100,734
Facilities	\$18,012	\$16,525	\$99,148
Utilities	<u>\$11,784</u>	<u>\$8,682</u>	<u>\$52,089</u>
TOTAL =	\$134,005	\$149,080	\$884,879
Budget Deficit			-\$11,128
<i>Expense to date was <u>15,075 Less</u> than budgeted</i>			

2025 BALANCE SHEET

Endowment =	\$2,299,635
All Other Funds * =	<u>\$1,193,289</u>
* Some are restricted	\$3,492,925
<i>No unusual or unexpected gifts or withdrawals</i>	

2025 COVENANT GIVING

COVENANT GIVING GOAL	\$625,410
COMMITMENTS TO DATE	<u>\$578,650</u>
COMMITMENTS NEEDED	\$46,760
<p>Thank you for answering God's call to give abundantly in response to God's abundant love for you.</p>	

The FPCLY Finance Committee