



Joy Riders by Rassouli (Image of *Infinite Guidance*)



1215 Virginia Episcopal School Road, Lynchburg, VA 24503
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<https://www.facebook.com/firstpresoflynchburg/>



Welcome to First Presbyterian Church- Lynchburg, VA

Happy New Year and grace and peace to you from our Lord Jesus Christ!!! It is so wonderful to be together as we worship God this morning. The beauty of God's goodness and glory surrounds us! God's mercy is new every morning! The joy of the Lord shines like the noonday sun! 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 in worship, we are celebrating a Service of Ordination and Installation. This worship is centered on the truth that in baptism, each Christian is called to ministry in Christ's name. God calls some persons from the midst of congregations to fulfill particular functions, so that the ministry of the whole people of God may flourish. "*Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone* (1 Cor. 12:4-6)." Occasions of ordination and installation have to do more with the ministry of the whole church than with any individual, therefore, we will practice the laying on of hands (*a modern form of anointing*) to ordain and install the new ruling elders. As a priesthood of all believers, all present are encouraged to enact the power of the Spirit within to pray for and affirm all those who are being called, ordained, and installed into an official role within the church.

Here at First Presbyterian Church of Lynchburg, we acknowledge the many blessings God has bestowed on us and trusted us with; we acknowledge the call and responsibility we have to share those blessings with one another; we acknowledge that we don't always fulfill our call to be God's church perfectly and thus need to ask God for forgiveness; we acknowledge our need for God's grace, and the grace we can offer one another; we acknowledge the truth that we are all better together. Faith is a journey and one we believe God has called us and gifted us to walk together as God's beloved children. Welcome to this journey!

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

Service of Ordination and Installation

January 5, 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 #523: God the Spirit, Guide and Guardian**

Bethany

Call to Confession and Prayer of Confession

Mighty and merciful God, you have called us to be your people and claimed us for the service of Jesus Christ. We confess that we have not lived up to our calling. We are often quick to speak when we ought to listen and remain silent when it is time to speak. We often put too much faith in our own actions and fail to trust the strength of your Spirit. We are often timid and frightened, forgetful of your powerful presence. Forgive our foolish and sinful ways. As you have chosen us and claimed us in our baptism, strengthen us anew to choose Christ's way in this world, through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior... Please take a moment for Silent Prayer

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Hear the good news! By grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God.

All: **In the name of Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

***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**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Children's Moment

Marcia Thom-Kaley

Prayer for Illumination
New Testament Reading: 2 Timothy 1:13-14

“Rekindle the Flame”

Peter Thompson

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

Ordination, Installation, and Commissioning of Ruling Elders

Celebrating the Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper

Call to Offering
Offertory Anthem

Star Child
Chancel Choir

*Star child, earth child, go between of God,
love child, Christ child, heaven’s lightning rod, (refrain)*

Refrain: This year, this year, let the day arrive when Christmas comes for everyone, everyone alive!

*Grown child, old child, memory full of years,
sad child, lost child, story told in tears, (refrain)*

*Spared child, spoiled child, memory full of years,
wise child, faith child, knowing joy in store, (refrain)*

*Hope-for-peace child, God’s stupendous sign,
down-to-earth child, star of stars that shine, (refrain)*

***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 #343: Called as Partners in Christ’s Service**

Beecher

***Benediction and Choral Amen**

Postlude

*Fed by the Word that has been read, sung, proclaimed, and encountered,
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.*



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.fpcls.org.

Sunday, January 5, 2025

- 9:30 am Sunday School Classes for all ages
- 10:15 am Coffee, Lemonade, Goodies, and Cookies
- 10:45 am Worship (Sanctuary)- Ordination/ Installation
- 4:00 pm Walk with God

Monday, January 6

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

Tuesday, January 7

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

Wednesday, January 8

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

Thursday, January 9

- 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, January 12

- 9:30 am Sunday School Classes for all ages
- 10:15 am Coffee, Lemonade, Goodies, and Cookies
- 10:45 am Worship (Sanctuary)
- 4:00 pm Walk with God

Pastor on Call... January 5 to 12

Rev. Dr. Peter A. Thompson- 336.269.7270

Members Helping Members... January

Ginny McCraw- 434.528.1927 & Sally deNiord- 434.384.8153

Prayer Joys and Concerns

If you would like to ask for others to be in prayer with you or for you or a loved one, you are welcome to speak with an usher, a pastor/ staff member, before or after worship, call the church office, or share your request online at fpcls.org/ministries/care-nurture.html.

Notes for Today's Worship

Worship Leader/ Preaching:

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

Diane Stroud
Clerk of Session

Key Scriptures:

1 Cor. 12:4-6; 2 Timothy 1:13-14
Hebrews 12:1-4, 12-14; 1 Peter 4:7-11

Message Title:

Rekindle the Flame

Music Accompaniment:

Joshua O'Dell
Director of Music and Organist

Anthem:

Chancel Choir

Ruling Elders Ordained/ Installed:

Bucky Neal

Ruling Elders Installed:

David Cheatham
Caskie Giles
Nancy Strosnider

Ushers and Greeters:

Donnie Ore, Rich Stallings, Jane Stallings
Matt Fontana, Jason Landes

Coffee, Lemonade, Goodies, & Cookies:

Kara Byrne and Sunday School Kiddos

Worship Workshop Leader:

Pat Adams

Sound Technicians:

Will Absher and Lloyd Agnew

Chancel Flowers Today:

Given to the glory of God in loving memory
of Sally D. Wood, mother of
W. Bass Wood.

Connect with us!

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Website: www.fpcly.org



@firstpresoflynchburg



FPC Lynchburg

Bible Studies are Back on Wednesday and Thursday

Beginning January 8 and 9, the Immerse and Colin Caldwell Bible Studies will resume their learning together with a study called "Facing the Future: Heaven or Hell?" All are welcome!!

Informational Gathering for 2025 Malawi Trip – Sunday, January 12th at 12 pm

A June 2025 trip to Malawi is being planned, with an informational meeting on Sunday, January 12th at 12pm. Lunch will be provided, and anyone interested in hearing more about our partnership OR that has even a remote interest in traveling with the group is encouraged to attend! Please RSVP to Alex by Sunday, January 5th.

Youth Group Returns- January 19 @ 5 pm

Come get the new year started off right by getting into gear with Meeting in the Middle (MS) and For Real (HS). With each gathering focused on a nugget of faith, you are sure to be inspired and equipped for all life has to offer you in this adventurous time of your life. Come explore, discover, and grow with others who are looking to connect and engage more with God and others. Homecooked dinner included!

Park View Café Dinner – Wednesday, January 22nd, 2025

Service & Outreach has suggested that we partner with Park View in this new way a couple of times each year, with the first opportunity on 1/22. The sign-up board is in the Narthex and on-line for cooking (1-3pm) and serving roles (3-6pm), split between FPCLY and Park View. Contact Alex for more information!

Fellowship Dinner Schedule – Jan. 15th, Feb. 19th, March 19th

3rd Wednesday Potluck dinners will resume this month at 5:30pm in the Fellowship Hall - all are invited! Bring a dish to share as you are able, or just come and enjoy some food and fellowship.

Covenant Giving @ FPCLY

- Place your gift in the offering basket today
- Checks payable and mailed to First Presbyterian Church
1215 V.E.S. Road
Lynchburg, VA 24503
- Use a credit card online at fpcly.org
- Download and use the *Vanco Mobile Faith App* on your phone
- Set up an automatic bank draft or bill pay

FPCLY LEADERSHIP

Session

Diane Stroud, Clerk of Session
Denise McDonald- '25, Outreach
Nancy Strosnider- '25, Finance
Mary Ann Tate- '25, Personnel (Chair)
Marilyn Hartman- '26, Outreach/ C&N
Sam Howe- '26, Outreach
Martin Knight- '26, Facilities (Chair)
John Osinga- '26, Worship
Kathryn Overstreet- '26, Education/
Weekday School Board
David Cheatham- '27, Personnel
Caskie Giles- '27, Finance/ Facilities
Bucky Neal- '27, 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

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
Kim Ryan, Nursery Care Provider
Jody Sprinkle, Director Facilities
Dr. Marcia Thom- Kaley, Director Educ.
Rev. Dr. Peter Thompson, Senior Pastor

