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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. 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.

Just last weekend, the Session, staff, and other initiative and committee leaders spent time together in a retreat to discern God's call for FPCLY in this season. With an incredibly rich history of worship, music, Christian education, including the FPC Weekday School, and missional outreach, it may seem like the key is to just keep doing what we have been doing. In some ways, that will be the case, but in other ways, we acknowledge "church" is not what it has always been to people. For a variety of reasons people have fallen away from participating in the life and ministries of the church, thus, we believe, effecting their relationship with God and others within the church. I hope you agree that this is not ideal. We need God and we need each other. Therefore, with a strong desire to help build and grow our relationship with God and others, 2025 has been designated by Session as a year to ENGAGE, IMPACT, and EXPECT. We want you to engage in the mission of God's church here at FPCLY knowing that you will not only be an impact to others but be impacted by your work and others. We expect God to be with us every step of the way and we expect good things from our engagement and impact- for God's Kingdom, for the community, for the church, for ourselves.

Enriching opportunities abound 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

February 2, 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

Jesus Paid it All

arr. Jack Schrader

Welcome and Announcements

*Hymn: Let Christ Be in Our Hearts

Aurelia

Expect the Lord's great calling, to serve in every land,
Engage with love and passion, together we will stand.
Inspire hearts with goodness, by grace, we take our part,
Impact the world with kindness, let Christ be in our hearts!

Expect the Spirit's leading, in every step we take,
Engage in holy service, for Christ and other's sake.
Inspire those around you, to stand and take their part,
Impact the world with justice, let Christ be in our hearts!

Expect the Lord's returning, with hope, we look ahead,
Engage in Christ's great mission, by faith, we shall be led.
Inspire all believers, His mission now impart;
Impact the world with mercy, let Christ be in our hearts!

Call to Confession and Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, we confess how hard it is to be your people.

You have called us to be the church,

to continue the mission of Jesus Christ to our lonely and confused world.

**Yet we acknowledge we are more apathetic than active, isolated than involved,
callous than compassionate, obstinate than obedient, legalistic than loving.**

Gracious Lord, have mercy upon us and forgive our sins.

Remove the obstacles preventing us from being your representatives to a broken world.

Awaken our hearts to the promised gift of your indwelling Spirit.

Please take a moment for Silent Prayer

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Hear the good news! By grace we have been saved through faith, and this is not our 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.*

*Sharing the Love, Joy, and Peace of Christ

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Children's Moment

Nancy Ann Gowen

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Reading: Jeremiah 1:4-10

"Before You and With You"

Peter Thompson

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Celebrating the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Call to Offering

Offertory Anthem

Come, Thou Almighty King

arr. Molly Ijames

*Come, Thou Almighty King, help us Thy name to sing; help us to praise:
Father, all glorious, o'er all victorious, come, and reign over us, Ancient of Days.*

*Come, Thou Incarnate Word, gird on Thy mighty sword, our pray'r attend:
come, and Thy people bless, and give Thy Word success: Spirit of holiness, on us descend.*

*Come, Holy Comforter, Thy sacred witness bear in this glad hour:
Thou who almighty art, now rule in every heart, and ne'er from us depart, Spirit of pow'r.*

*To Thee, great One in Three, eternal praises be hence, evermore.
His sov'reign majesty may we in glory see, and to eternity love and adore!*

***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 #514: Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ**

Linstead

Let us talents and tongues employ, reaching out with a shout of joy.
Bread is broken, the wine is poured, Christ is spoken and seen and heard.

Refrain:

Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again; pass the Word around: loaves abound! (X2)

Christ is able to make us one. At the table he sets the tone,
teaching people to live to bless, love in word and in deed express. [Refrain]

Jesus calls us in, sends us out bearing fruit in a world of doubt,
gives us love to tell, bread to share. God (Emmanuel) everywhere! [Refrain]

***Benediction**

Postlude

On Christ the Solid Rock I Stand

arr. Stan Pethel

*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.*



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.fpclly.org.

Sunday, February 2

- 9:30 am Sunday School Classes for all ages
- 10:15 am Coffee, Lemonade, Goodies, and Cookies
- 10:45 am Worship (Sanctuary) - Communion
- 4:00 pm Walk with God
- 5:00 pm Meeting in the Middle -MS Youth Group
- 5:00 pm For Real -HS Youth Group

Monday, February 3

- 9:00 am FPC Weekday School
- 10:00 am Presbyterian Women Board Meeting (Library)
- 6:00 pm Scouts - Cub Pack 7
- 7:00 pm Scouts - Troop 7

Tuesday, February 4

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

Wednesday, February 5

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

Thursday, February 6

- 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, February 9

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

Pastor on Call... February 2 to February 9

Rev. Dr. Peter A. Thompson- 336.269.7270

Members Helping Members... February

Cathy Oakes- 434.384-9403 & Betty Blue- 434.384-6420

Prayer Joys and Concerns

Please share with a pastor, staff member, in person or share your request online at fpclly.org/ministries/care-nurture.html.

Notes for Today

Ministers:

Congregation Gathered

Worship Leader/ Preaching:

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

Key Scriptures:

Jeremiah 1:4-10
Psalm 71:1-6

Message Title:

Before you and With you

Music Leader/ Accompaniment:

Joshua O’Dell
Director of Music and Organist

Josh Davis
Percussion

Sarah Abell
Trumpet

Chancel Choir
Offertory Anthem

Ushers and Greeters:

Sam Howe, Cameron Howe
John Craddock, Lou Mekanik

Communion Prep:

Bobby and Becky O’Brian

Worship Workshop Leader:

Whitney O’Brian

Sound and Video Technicians:

Alex Collier

Chancel Flowers Today:

Chancel Guild

Connect with us!

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Website: www.fpcly.org



@firstpresoflynchburg



FPC Lynchburg

Scout Sunday is Coming... Next Sunday, February 9

Worship leadership from Troop 7, Troop 49, and Cub pack 7.

SAVE THE DATE: Vacation Bible School @ FPCLY

Mark your calendars and get ready to register fast! Vacation Bible School @ FPCLY will be hosted June 9 through 13 this year. Lots of fun and learning will be had by all, including the 50+ youth and adult volunteers we will need to make it happen. Interested in helping? Reach out to Marcia Thom-Kaley (marcia@fpcly.org).

WHEN EVERYONE LEADS...

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! To David Tate, Becky Giles, David Cheatham, Donna Whitehouse, Denise McDonald, Gary Williams, Michael Trexler, Sam Howe, and Nancy Strosnider, who have worked devotedly with the Congregational Development Task Force over the last year. Your time and talents are appreciated!

Presbyterian Women Invitation!

PW will host a board meeting tomorrow, February 3 @ 10 am in the Library. If you are a woman and involved in FPCLY, you are invited and encouraged to come participate and learn more about the important work PW is doing and will be doing.

Ever wonder how you can be the one greeting others at the door on Sunday mornings? Ushering and Greeting spots are open each week for you to help welcome and support those coming to worship on Sunday mornings. Never done it before. No problem. There are plenty who can walk you through it. If you would like to join the ushering team, scan the QR code to the right to sign up on the online sign up genius.



IMPACT Weekend – February 19-22

Opportunities to IMPACT: Pursuing Change, Being Changed with fellow FPCLY congregants in our community during our Impact Weekend are now posted and available for sign-ups in the Narthex! Opportunities vary with intensity and we pray you are able to find one or more ways in which you are able to engage and impact.

Youth Group (MS & HS)... TONIGHT@ 5 PM

Meeting in the Middle (MS) and For Real (HS) will meet tonight in the Fellowship Hall for another great opportunity to be together and learn more of how God is working in and through our lives. A home-cooked meal will be served, and a great time will be had by all. All are welcome and all are encouraged to invite a friend.

FPCLY LEADERSHIP

Session

Diane Stroud- Clerk of Session,
Education (Chair)

Denise McDonald- Cov. Giving (Chair)

Nancy Strosnider- Finance

Mary Ann Tate- Personnel (Chair)

Marilyn Hartman- Outreach/ C&N

Sam Howe- Cong. Engagement

Martin Knight- Facilities (Chair)/
Nominating

John Osinga- Worship

Kathryn Overstreet- Education/
Weekday School Board

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)

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

