



# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

*celebrating & inspiring*



**First Presbyterian Church**  
1215 Virginia Episcopal School Road  
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<https://www.facebook.com/firstpresoflynchburg/>  
LIVE Video Streaming on [www.fpclly.org](http://www.fpclly.org) at 9:30 a.m.  
LIVE Radio Broadcast on WLNI 105.9 FM at 9:30 a.m.



# 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 is holy. That's why we gather for fellowship, cookies, and lemonade in the Narthex 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 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. Wayfinding signs are also posted at all intersections throughout the building. Third, 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. Fourth, please ask anyone with a nametag or wearing a robe if you need assistance in finding your way or answering other questions.

## **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 101 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](mailto:marcia@fpcly.org)) or Catherine Adams ([communications@fpcly.org](mailto: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](mailto:peter@fpcly.org)) or Alex Collier ([alex@fpcly.org](mailto:alex@fpcly.org)).

# Service of the Lord's Day

July 14, 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

Prelude

**It Is Well with My Soul**

Ville Du Havre

*Marcia Thom-Kaley, pianist*

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Leader: We will give thanks to you, O Lord, with our whole heart; we will tell of all your wonderful deeds.

**All: We will be glad and exult in you; we will sing praise to your name, O Most High.**

**\*Hymn #324: Open My Eyes That I May See**

Open My Eyes

Open my eyes that I may see glimpses of truth thou hast for me.  
Place in my hands the wonderful key that shall unclasp and set me free.  
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.  
Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my ears that I may hear voices of truth thou sendest clear,  
and while the wave notes fall on my ear, ev'rything false will disappear.  
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.  
Open my ears, illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my mouth and let me bear gladly the warm truth ev'rywhere.  
Open my heart and let me prepare love with thy children thus to share.  
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.  
Open my mouth, illumine me, Spirit divine!

Call to Confession and Prayer of Confession

**God of compassion, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have not obeyed your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; and we have done those things which we ought not to have done. O Lord, have mercy upon us. Restore us all according to your promises declared to the world in Jesus Christ, our Lord, and grant that we may live a holy, just, and humble life to the glory of your holy name.**

Silent Prayer of Confession

## Assurance of Pardon

Leader: For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

All: **Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. By God, through our Lord Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and can be at peace.**

## \*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: Westminster Confession (MESV), Ch. 2, Sec. 1

**There is only one living and true God, who is infinite in being and perfection. God is a most pure spirit, invisible, with neither body, parts, nor passive properties. God is unchangeable, boundless, eternal, and incomprehensible. God is almighty, most wise, most holy, most free, and most absolute. God works all things according to the counsel of God's own unchangeable and most righteous will, for God's own glory. God is most loving, gracious, merciful, long-suffering, abundant in goodness and truth, forgiving iniquity, transgression, and sin, and God is the rewarder of those who diligently seek God.**

## WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

### Children's Moment

Marcia Thom-Kaley

### Prayer for Illumination

New Testament Reading: Mark 6: 30-44

(pew Bible NT, p.41)

### "Balance, Rest, and Renewal"

Nancy Dawson

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

### Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer

### Call to Offering

### Offertory Anthem

### Jesus Christ the Apple Tree

Poston

*Marcia Thom-Kaley, soloist*

*The tree of life my soul hath seen Laden with fruit, and always green:  
The trees of nature fruitless be Compared with Christ the apple tree*

*His beauty doth all things excel: By faith I know, but ne'er can tell  
The glory which I now can see In Jesus Christ the apple tree*

*For happiness I long have sought And pleasure dearly I have bought:  
I missed of all; but now I see 'Tis found in Christ the apple tree*

*I'm weary with my former toil Here I will sit and rest awhile:  
Under the shadow I will be Of Jesus Christ the apple tree*

*This fruit doth make my soul to thrive It keeps my dying faith alive;  
Which makes my soul in haste to be With Jesus Christ the apple tree*

## \*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 #172: My Shepherd Will Supply My Need**

St. Catherine

My Shepherd will supply my need; Jehovah is His Name:  
In pastures fresh He makes me feed, beside the living stream.  
He brings my wandering spirit back, when I forsake His ways,  
And leads me, for His mercy's sake, In paths of truth and grace.

When I walk through the shades of death Your presence is my stay;  
One word of Your supporting breath drives all my fears away.  
Your hand, in sight of all my foes, does still my table spread;  
My cup with blessings overflows, Your oil anoints my head.

The sure provisions of my God attend me all my days;  
O may Your house be my abode, and all my work be praise.  
There would I find a settled rest, while others go and come;  
No more a stranger, or a guest, but like a child at home.

**\*Benediction**

**Postlude**

**Down in My Heart (I've Got the Joy!)**

*Marcia Thom-Kaley, pianist*

Cooke

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*We encourage all to share the love, joy, and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ with one another. All are also encouraged to join in the Narthex for lemonade and cookies.*

*We share a special thanks to today's sermon support team:*

*Gary Williams as Jesus, Russ Hovda as Disciple James, John Osinga as Disciple Thomas, Bill Perkins as Disciple Levi, and Dave Tate as Disciple John.*



**Vision:** Draw Near to God

**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.fpcls.org](http://www.fpcls.org).

### Sunday, July 14

9:30 am Worship  
10:45 am Lemonade and Cookies  
4:00 pm Walk with God

### Tuesday, July 16

7:00 pm Scouts - Troop 49

### Wednesday, July 17

12:30 pm Al-Anon meeting  
7:00 pm Scouts – Troop 7

### Sunday, July 21

9:30 am Worship  
10:45 am Lemonade and Cookies  
4:00 pm Walk with God

### Prayer Cares and Concerns

If you have a prayer request to share with the pastor or staff, please share it directly, write it on a blue prayer card in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate (or the prayer box off the front hallway) or share your request online at [fpcls.org/ministries/care-nurture.html](http://fpcls.org/ministries/care-nurture.html). We are praying with and for you!

### Prayer Chain

Would you like to be a part of a group that engages in on-going prayers for our community? If so, consider joining our prayer chain! Each week our staff sends an email communication with prayers and praises for that week. Contact [alex@fpcls.org](mailto:alex@fpcls.org) to be added to the list.

### Traveling somewhere this summer?

We'd love to see photos of your summer adventures whether you enjoy a staycation or travel somewhere far or whether you go on a solo journey or the whole family is involved! You can share any photos by emailing [communications@fpcls.org](mailto:communications@fpcls.org) or by tagging @firstpresoflynchburg on Facebook or Instagram!

### Communication Emails and Updates



With all the travel that comes with summer, we want to do our best to stay connected. If you aren't already receiving our weekly "FPCLY Happenings" email newsletter or aren't already following us on any of our social media platforms, we encourage you to get connected today. The "FPCLY Happenings" email contains important information about worship each week, event and program updates, celebrations, and other congregational updates (births, baptisms, new members, projects and more); you can use the QR code to the left or follow the link on our home page to sign up. Our social media handles are noted on the back of this insert.

### Notes for Today's Worship

#### **Ushers and Greeters:**

Theresa and Charlie Burton,  
Tracy and Al Baker, and  
Denise McDonald

#### **Worship Workshop Leader:**

Kim Ryan

#### **Sound and Video Technicians:**

Will Absher & Catherine Adams

#### **Lemonade and Cookies Hosts:**

Beth and Gary Williams

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#### **Pastor on Call:**

Rev. Peter Thompson  
(336) 269-7270

#### **Members Helping Members**

##### **July:**

Diane Stroud (434) 485-3712

## Connect with us!

**Phone:** (434) 384-6231

**Email:** [office@fpcly.org](mailto:office@fpcly.org)

**Website:** [www.fpcly.org](http://www.fpcly.org)



@firstpresoflynchburg

FPC Lynchburg

## Partner with God by Giving to FPCLY

1. Place your gift in the offering plate today.
2. Mail checks to FPCLY, 1215 V.E.S. Road, Lynchburg, VA 24503.
3. Use a credit card online at [fpcly.org](http://fpcly.org).
4. Download and use the *Vanco Mobile Faith* App on your phone.
5. Set up an automatic bank draft or bill pay.

# Worship, Grow, Love, Serve

## **IMPACT week – August 5 – 10**

This week of service and outreach in our community is designed as an intentional way for the FPCLY family to pursue change and be changed by connecting with our neighbors throughout Lynchburg. We have over 30 opportunities for you to share Christ's light and love with others. We've highlighted a few below. *Check out the full calendar or sign up using the boards in the Narthex or by scanning your phone camera over the QR code to the right.*



- Serve a meal and engage in conversation with neighbors at the *Park View Café* (new opportunity).
- Bake a batch of cookies at home in preparation for packing thank you trays for community partners.
- Organize furniture and/or build ramps with *Interfaith Outreach Association*.
- Enjoy eating **pizza and** then participate in a variety of **service** activities in the Fellowship Hall.
- Get your creative juices flowing by signing and/or creating birthday cards for FPC members.
- Go on a tour of the *Presbyterian Cemetery* with Noël Thomas, Beth Williams, and Susan Craighill.
- Visit some of our church family at *Westminster Canterbury* or those in their own homes.

Serving others is always a special experience when shared with others. Consider inviting a friend or family member to learn and grow with you!

## **Looking for ways to share your time and talents with the FPCLY community? If so, consider signing up to participate in one of the leadership spots below:**

- **Be a part of our usher/greeter team.** This is an important role on Sunday mornings welcoming all those who enter with a smile and warm heart and assisting them with their worship experience.
- **Step in as a Lemonade and Cookies host.** This post-worship time of community is a powerful time of connection and relationship building made possible by simple cups of lemonade and tasty treats. We are looking for hosts for Sundays throughout the rest of the year.
- **Serve as a volunteer receptionist during the week.** This team assists the staff with answering the phones, opening the doors, and other small tasks during Church Office hours. Plus, you can be the first smiling face or encouraging voice that folks connect with when contacting the church.
- **Assist with Worship Workshop.** Encourage, inspire, and teach children during this 30ish minute educational offering for 4-year-olds through 2<sup>nd</sup> graders on Sunday mornings.

Contact the church office at (434) 384-6231 if you would like to sign up to serve!

*You are loved! Have a great week!*