



1215 Virginia Episcopal School Road
(434) 384-6231 · www.fpclly.org · e-mail: info@fpclly.org
<https://www.facebook.com/firstpresoflynchburg/>



Welcome to First Presbyterian Church- Lynchburg, VA

Grace and peace to you and welcome to First Presbyterian Church of Lynchburg. It is awesome that you are here today and will be joining together with all others in our worship and praise of God together. Whatever your past or present circumstances in life have been or are, whatever you might be searching for and longing for from God is, whatever reason brought you to worship here today, I pray you know you matter and are welcome, for this is God's house and God's love and grace welcomes all.

Today, we celebrate and praise God through the celebration and remembrance of saints. Saint's days began as a way to mark the anniversaries of the deaths of martyrs- their birthdays as saints through the completion of their baptism. By the middle of the church's first millennium, there were so many martyrs that it was hard to give them all their due. All Saints' Day was established as an opportunity to honor all the saints, remembered and forgotten, known and unknown. This congregation celebrated All Saints' Day on Friday, November 1, with a Service of Remembrance, including a necrology of those who have passed in the last year. In the Reformed tradition, the emphasis of this festival is on the ongoing sanctification of the whole people of God. While we may give thanks for the lives of particular luminaries of ages past, we also give glory to God for the ordinary, holy lives of believers in this and every age.

I thank God for all those through the centuries who have been faithful to God's call upon their lives, who have set an example of mission and ministry to fulfill God's purpose, who have passed on Christ's teachings and their experiences of Christ throughout their lives. I thank God for all those who are currently faithful to God's call upon their lives, who are filled with the Spirit of God, who are empowered to serve and love others, who embody the very compassion God shows each of us. I thank God for you.

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 2nd 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... All Saints'

November 3, 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

Jesus Paid it All

arr. Schrader

Joshua O'Dell, piano & Tyler Garman, trumpet

Welcome and Announcements

Prayer of the Day

Faithful God, how blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness. In this, our time of worship today, sanctify us by your Word and Spirit so that we may glorify you in the company of the faithful. Eternal God, in every age you have raised up men and women to live and die in faith. We confess that we are at times indifferent to your will. You call us to proclaim your name, but we can often be silent. You call us to do what is just, but we often remain idle. You call us to live faithfully, but we are often afraid to follow through. In your mercy, forgive us. May we all have courage to follow in your way, that joined with those from ages past, who have served you with faith, hope, and love, we may inherit the kingdom you promised in Jesus Christ. Amen.

***Hymn: Blest Be the Tie That Binds**

Dennis

Blest be the tie that binds Our hearts in Christian love;
The fellowship of kindred minds Is like to that above.

Before our Father's throne We pour our ardent prayers;
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, Our comforts and our cares.

We share our mutual woes, Our mutual burdens bear,
And often for each other flows The sympathizing tear.

From sorrow, toil, and pain, And sin we shall be free;
And perfect love and friendship reign Through all eternity.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Children's Moment

Marcia Thom-Kaley

Choral Anthem

Find Us Faithful

arr. Jack Schrader

Chancel Choir

*We're pilgrims on the journey of the narrow road, and those who've gone before us line the way.
Cheering on the faithful, encouraging the weary, their lives a stirring testament to god's sustaining grace.*

*O, may all who've come behind us find us faithful, may the fire of our devotion light their way.
May the footprints that we leave, lead them to believe, and the lives we live inspire them to obey.*

O, may all who come behind us find us faithful.

Surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us run the race not only for the prize, but as those who've gone before us. Let us leave to those behind us, the heritage of faithfulness passed on thru godly lives.

*After all our hopes and dreams have come and gone, and our children sift thru all we've left behind,
may the clues that they discover, and the memories they uncover,
become the light that leads them, to the road we each must find.*

“Blessed and a Blessing”

Peter Thompson

Matthew 5:1-12

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

Celebrating the Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper

Offertory Anthem

Great is Thy Faithfulness

arr. Joel Raney

Joshua O’Dell & Marcia Thom-Kaley, piano

Prayer of Dedication

WE GO OUT IN GOD’S SERVICE

***Hymn: We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight**

Dunlap’s Creek

We walk by faith and not by sight; No gracious words we hear
From Christ Who spoke as none e’er spoke; But we believe Him near.

We may not touch His hands and side, Nor follow where He trod;
But in His promise we rejoice, And cry, “My Lord and God!”

Help then, O Lord, our unbelief; And may our faith abound
To call on You when You are near And seek where You are found:

That, when our life of faith is done, In realms of clearer light
We may behold You as You are, With full and endless sight.

***Benediction**

***Postlude**

Majesty

arr. Schrader

Joshua O’Dell, piano & Tyler Garman, trumpet

*The Chancel Flowers today are given to the glory of God and in celebration of all the saints
By the L. Bradford Waters family.*



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



**FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN**

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.

Sunday, November 3

- 9:30 am Worship (Fellowship Hall)
- 10:30 am Celebration Brunch for Catherine Adams
- 11:00 am Sunday School Classes
- 4:00 pm Walk with God
- 5:00 pm "The Greatest Gift" Advent Study

Monday, November 4

FPC Weekday School Closed for Professional Development

- 6:00 pm Scouts - Cub Pack 7
- 7:00 pm Scouts - Troop 7

Tuesday, November 5

**FPCLY Offices and FPC Weekday School Closed for Elections*

- 7:00 pm Scouts - Troop 49

Wednesday, November 6

- 9:00 am FPC Weekday School (*Halloween Costume Parades*)
- 10:00 am *Immerse* Bible Study
- 12:30 pm Al-Anon meeting

Thursday, November 7

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

Sunday, November 10

- 9:30 am Worship (Fellowship Hall)
- 10:45 am Lemonade and Cookies
- 11:00 am Sunday School Classes
- 4:00 pm Walk with God
- 5:00 pm "The Greatest Gift" Advent Study

Sunday Morning Schedule Change

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 winter and spring classes, times, and locations will be available toward the end of the year. 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.

Notes for Today's Worship

Key Scriptures:

Matthew 5:1-12

Sermon Theme:

Blessed and a Blessing

Ushers and Greeters:

Martin Knight, Bo Gravely
Maurice Hickson, Caskie Giles

Communion Preparer:

Becky O'Brian, Michael Trexler,
Rebekah Trexler

Worship Workshop Leader:

Pat Adams

Celebration Brunch:

Personnel Committee with Bill and
Ida Perkins and many more 😊

Pastor on Call:

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

Members Helping Members

November:

Treena Koroneos (434) 944-9014
Diane Stroud (434) 485-3712

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.

Connect with us!

Phone: (434) 384-6231

Email: office@fpcly.org

Website: www.fpcly.org



@firstpresoflynchburg

FPC Lynchburg

Partner with God by Giving to FPCLY

1. Place your gift in the offering basket today.
2. Mail checks to FPCLY, 1215 V.E.S. Road, Lynchburg, VA 24503.
3. Use a credit card online at 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

"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!

"The Greatest Gift" Advent Study- BEGINS TODAY, 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."

Coping with the Holidays- Grief Share- Thursday, November 21 @ 2 pm

Grief from the loss of a loved one can be especially difficult during the holidays; therefore, we would like to invite you to come, surround yourself with community and learn helpful suggestions for coping with the lows of this time of year. Feel free to bring a snack to share. Contact Rev. Dr. Nancy Dawson, nancy@fpcly.org, with any questions.

Share God's blessings--join Covenant Giving today!

Thank you to our 107 congregants who have pledged to contribute \$394,510 toward our Covenant Giving 2025 campaign goal of \$700,000! So far 40% 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 of our church. Thank you for your consideration!

God's abundant love inspires us to give abundantly and live abundantly in Him (II Cor. :8). You are invited to join us by pledging your time, talent and treasure to support the ministry of our church. This year we ask everyone to consider prayerfully increasing their financial commitment by 8%, if possible, 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

2024 Advent and Christmas @ FPCLY is right around the corner!

PREPARING: Sunday, December 1...

Worship: 1st Sunday in Advent

REMEMBERING: Sunday, December 8...

Worship: 2nd Sunday in Advent- Christmas Play

Fellowship: Christmas Brunch

PRAISING: Sunday, December 15...

Worship: 3rd Sunday in Advent- Lessons and Carols

ENCOUNTERING: Sunday, December 22...

Worship: 4th Sunday in Advent- Outreach and Mission

CELEBRATING: Tuesday, December 24...

Carols, Candlelight, Communion (4 pm & 11 pm)