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<https://www.facebook.com/firstpresoflynchburg/>  
LIVE Radio Broadcast on WLNI 105.9 FM at 10:30 a.m.  
LIVE Video Streaming on [www.fpcl.org](http://www.fpcl.org) at 10:30 a.m.

# Worship... Third Sunday in Advent

December 12, 2021

\*Those who are able, please stand.

Children are welcome and encouraged to remain in Worship. If needed, Nursery (Room 8) is available for children 3-years-old and under. Please ask an usher or greeter if you need any assistance locating the Nursery.

## WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Prelude

Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland BWV 659  
(Come, Savior of the Nations)

J. S. Bach

Choral Introit

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

Williams/Mason

## Welcome, Announcements, and Lighting of Advent Wreath

\*Hymn #9: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Veni Emmanuel

O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
And ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appear.

Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice!  
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Thou Day-spring, come and cheer  
Our spirits by Thine advent here;  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
And death's dark shadows put to flight. (Refrain)

O come, Desire of nations, bind  
All peoples in one heart and mind;  
Bid envy, strife, and discord cease;  
Fill the whole world with heaven's peace. (Refrain)

## Call to Confession

### Prayer of Confession

God of peace, it is Advent. It is the season in which we prepare our hearts to welcome Christ, who is the bringer of all peace. We confess to you the ways in which we block the peace of Christ in our lives: the rushing and scurrying to get things done; the worry about the little details; the financial burdens we put on ourselves; the impatience and irritability we feel and take out on one another; the bickering and quarreling we get into because we are too busy. Though we make ourselves less than peaceful at this time of the year, your peace is always there for us: when we feel overwhelmed; when we are filled with worry; when we become irritable; when the guilt of our ways threatens to overcome us. God of peace, may we remember that in Christ we are forgiven. May the peace we have in Christ help us to make choices that brings us closer to you and spread Christ's peace to others.

### Silent Prayer of Confession

### Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose coming we announce in this season, is our righteousness.  
All: In Jesus Christ, we are made right with God. Thanks be to God! Amen.

\*Gloria

Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Hymn #23

## \*Affirmation of Faith: Colossians 1:15-20

Jesus Christ is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible. All things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

## WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

### Children's Moment

Kathleen Lifsey

### Anthem

#### Noel

C. Tomlin

*Whitney and Robert O'Brian; Mary Dalton, Cello;  
Chancel Choir*

*Love incarnate love divine, Star and angels gave the sign, Bow to babe on bended knee, The Savior of humanity  
Unto us a Child is born, He shall reign forevermore*

*Noel, Come and see what God has done, Noel, The story of amazing love, The light of the world given for us, Noel  
Son of God and Son of man, There before the world began, Born to suffer born to save, Born to raise us from the grave  
Christ the everlasting Lord, He shall reign forevermore*

### Prayer for Illumination

### New Testament Reading: Luke 3:7-18

(pew Bible NT, p 60)

### "Make Room"

Peter Thompson

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

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

### Minute for Education

Dr. Marcia Thom-Kaley

### Call to Offering

### Offertory Anthem

#### The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns

*Amy Pugh, Soloist*

Prichard/ DeCesare

*The King shall come when morning dawns And light triumphant breaks,  
When beauty gilds the eastern hills And life to joy awakes.  
O brighter than that glorious morn Shall this fair morning be,  
When Christ our King, in beauty comes, And we His face shall see!  
Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;  
From our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee.  
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;  
Dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.  
The King shall come when morning dawns And light and beauty brings,  
Hail, Christ, the Lord! Thy people pray; Come quickly King of kings.  
Come, quickly King of kings!*

### \*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 #13: Prepare the Way

Bereden Vag For Herran

*Prepare the way O Zion  
Your Christ is drawing near  
Let every hill and valley  
A level way appear  
Great One who comes in glory  
Foretold in sacred story  
Refrain: On blest is Christ that came  
In God's most holy name  
Christ bring God's rule O Zion  
He comes from heaven above  
His rule is peace and freedom  
And justice truth and love  
Lift high your praise resounding  
For grace and joy abounding (Refrain)  
Fling wide your gates, O Zion  
Your Savior's rule embrace  
And tidings of salvation  
Proclaim in every place  
All lands will bow rejoicing  
Their adoration voicing (Refrain)*

### \*Benediction

### \*Choral Benediction

### Threefold Amen

Traditional

### Congregational Meeting

### Postlude

### Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

P. Manz

*Share the Love, Joy, and Peace of Christ*

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### Worship Leader: Kirk Todd

**Interested in growing closer to God and others? How about learning more about FPCLY?**

We believe as the body of Christ, we are here to worship joyfully, grow spiritually, love boldly, and serve faithfully. We welcome any opportunities to build relationships with one another and would love to walk alongside you in God's gift of life. Conversations, coffee, and/or church tours can be arranged by calling or emailing Peter at the church office (434-384-6231, [peter@fpcly.org](mailto:peter@fpcly.org).

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**Called Congregational Meeting: TODAY following 10:30 a.m. worship** (Sanctuary)

Nominating Committee presents Matt Foster, Elsie Howerton, and Gary Williams as Elders' Elect Class of 2024 and Personnel Committee presents 2022 Terms of Call for The Rev. Dr. Peter A. Thompson

**Jolly Jamboree! TODAY, 4:30–6:00 p.m.** (Fellowship Hall)

Stations, Service, Study, Santa, and Sustenance for Advent and Christmas

**Service of Lessons and Carols – Next Sunday, December 19, 10:30 a.m.** (Sanctuary)

featuring strings and the FPCLY Chancel Choir

**“In Memory of” or “In Honor of” Christmas Poinsettias**

To order, use sign-up sheet and envelope just off the foyer or at [fpcl.org](http://fpcl.org) "Giving" page

\$15 per plant, to be picked up after worship, December 19

Deadline to order is **December 13 - Tomorrow**

**Christmas Eve Carols and Communion: December 24, 4:00 p.m.** (Front Circle, Outside)

**Christmas Eve Communion and Candlelight: December 24, 11:00 p.m.** (Sanctuary)

**Pastor on Call:** Peter Thompson (336) 269-7270

**Members Helping Members for December:** Elinor Ann Clark (434) 386-3889 and Gail Kowalski (434) 384-6058

**Prayer Chain, Prayer Shawls, Cards of Encouragement:** Email [peter@fpcl.org](mailto:peter@fpcl.org) or [stroudiane@comcast.net](mailto:stroudiane@comcast.net)

**DON'T FORGET! GET YOUR TICKETS TODAY BEFORE THEY SELL OUT!**

**First Pres Presents: "The King's Singers" – February 25, 2022**

**TICKETS AVAILABLE @ [WWW.FPCLY.ORG/GIVING](http://WWW.FPCLY.ORG/GIVING)**

**Year-End Reminders from the Business Office**

#### **2021 Contribution Deadlines**

Contributions received in the office by close of business December 31 or postmarked by December 31 will be posted to contribution statements for the 2021 tax year.

**Electronic Contributions** Gifts by credit card or draft of your checking account need to be given to Lori Wright by December 22, for credit to the 2021 Tax Year.

Make your **stock gift transfers right away**. This will allow time for the gifts to be transferred to our accounts and for proceeds to be received by year end.

**Annual Pledges** Please contact Lori Wright if you have not completed your **2022 pledge card** or have any questions about the balance outstanding.

**Rooted & Reaching Campaign** If you have not completed your annual portion of your pledge commitment, please also submit before December 31.

#### **Expense Reimbursements**

Please submit any requests for reimbursement of 2021 budget year expenses by **December 29**. Any checks written after December 31 will be charged to the 2022 budget.

**\*\*\*VISIT [WWW.FPCLY.ORG](http://WWW.FPCLY.ORG) FOR CALENDAR AND MORE\*\*\***

# ELDERS ELECT, CLASS OF 2024

## MATT FOSTER



Matt and his wife, Susan, have lived in Lynchburg for almost 20 years. They have three daughters, Emily, Megan, and Kirsten. After working as a pathologist for years, Matt now serves as the Chief Physician Executive and Senior Vice President at Centra Health. Matt is excited to serve at FPCLY and looking forward to “the opportunity to continue creating a community of faith” and shares that “forging a deeper relationship with one another and with God can fill all our cups. In a time of so much uncertainty, fear and doubt, 1st Pres can and does serve as a stabilizing force grounding us in a common faith and love for one another.”

**Favorite scripture:** Micah 6:8

Matt's past and present involvement the life and ministries of FPCLY

- Served as a deacon and an elder
- Served on two Associate Pastor Nominating Committees (APNC)
- Middle School and adult spiritual growth teacher

## ELSIE HOWERTON

Lynchburg has been home to Elsie most of her life; she attended the FPC Weekday school as a child and has distinct, fond memories of her days as a middle school youth at FPCLY. Elsie enjoys playing tennis and is both a cat and dog lover; she has a barn cat named Honey and a Great Dane named Easton. Elsie works as a school psychologist with Bedford County Public Schools. Elsie is excited about the opportunity to serve God and the church as an elder. **Favorite scripture:** Jeremiah 29:11



Elsie's past and present involvement in the life and ministries of FPCLY

- Served as a deacon
- Spiritual Growth class teacher
- Served on multiple committees (Discernment, APNC, & Director of Spiritual Growth search)

## GARY WILLIAMS



Gary and his wife, Beth, have been married for 38 years. They have raised three children, Hannah (married to Alex with a daughter named Alanna), Rachel (married to Kevin), and Caleb (living in Wilmington, NC). Earlier this year, Gary retired from Framatome after a 40+ year career as a mechanical engineer. For fun, Gary likes to swim, walk & sail with Beth, study the bible, engage in community outreach, and work on projects at home. Gary is passionate about loving God and loving others. His favorite memories with FPCLY have been serving on mission trips with his children, “these times were priceless to me as a father in the opportunity to model and build our faith as a family and to joyfully recall

the shared fun and yet deep experiences even today. There is no greater blessing than having your young collegiate son share how proud he was of his dad and how much the time together meant to him after an eye-opening and heart-changing mission trip to Chicago’s southside.” **Favorite scripture:** Romans 8:38-39

Gary's past and present involvement in the life and ministries of FPCLY

- Served as a deacon and an elder
- Served as an adult leader/teacher for high school youth and teacher for adult classes
- Led multiple mission trips and served on and chaired the national and world mission committee
- Participated in the LOGOs family ministry and served on the board of the Weekday School
- Class member in the Immerse bible study and with Beth is part of a Covenant Partnership group
- Leading Food for Thought outreach opportunities with FPCLY



**2022 Terms of Call**  
**The Reverend Doctor Peter A. Thompson**

**Effective Salary**

Base Salary	\$44,590.95
Housing	\$50,000.00
<b>Total Effective Salary</b>	<b>\$94,590.95*</b>
(10% increase from 2021 to 2022)	

**SECA (7.65% of Effective)** **\$7,236.21**

**Dental (Add on)** **\$1,448.16**

**Health, Pension, Death and Disability (37% of Effective)** **\$34,998.65**

**Other Benefits**

Vacation- 4 weeks	Paid
Study Leave- 2 weeks	Paid
Paternity Leave-up to 4 weeks	Paid
Sabbatical (2 months after 6 years)	Paid

**Professional Reimbursement**

***Auto/Professional Expenses*** **\$2,500**  
(\$2500 decrease from 2021 following completion of Doctor of Ministry Degree)

***Continuing Education*** **\$2,500**  
(\$2500 decrease from 2021 following completion of Doctor of Ministry Degree)

***Cell Phone*** **\$1,200**

***2022 Total for Senior Pastor/ Head of Staff*** **\$144,473.97**

# Advent at First Pres\*

Advent is a season of waiting and preparing for God's greatest gift to us-Jesus!

## Sunday Worship

*Let us come together for one worship service as we await Christ's coming!*

**10:30am, Sanctuary, livestream, & radio**

**November 28:** Service of Praise and Singing

*featuring music by Whitney and Robert O'Brian & seasonal songs*

**December 5:** Advent Service, Make Room

*featuring FPCLY Chancel Ringers*

**December 12:** Advent Service, Make Room

**December 19:** Service of Lessons and Carols

*featuring music by our Chancel choir and a string quartet*

## Advent Activities

**December 4 @ 4pm, Sanctuary**

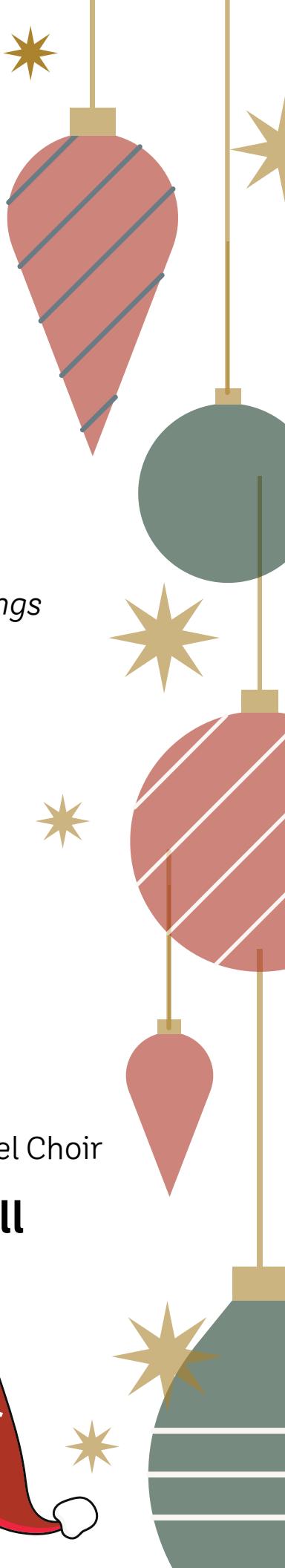
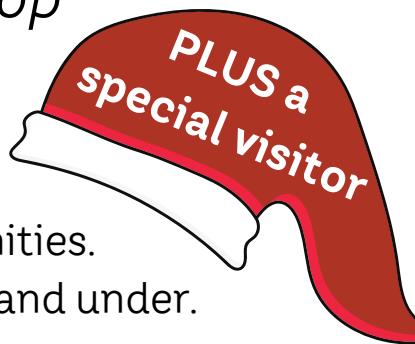
*Songs of Good Cheer Advent Concert*

*featuring John Rutter's Gloria performed by the FPCLY Chancel Choir*

**December 5 & 12, 4:30-6pm, Fellowship Hall**

*Jolly Jamboree: Advent Workshop*

- cookie & ornament decorating,
- advent wreath lighting & carols,
- "It's a Wonderful Life" study, and
- outreach & alternative giving opportunities.
- Nursery will be available for children 3 and under.



The culmination of Advent is the season of Christmas  
celebrating the arrival of Christ as Emmanuel – God with us.  
Christ comes bearing gifts of light, love, hope, joy, and peace  
for all!

# Christmas Eve

*Friday, December 24*

**4:00pm**

Carols and Communion  
outside, in the front circle  
family-friendly  
*festive attire encouraged! (pajamas included!)*

**11:00pm**

Carols, Communion, & Candlelight  
Sanctuary

# Sunday Worship

*December 26*

**10:30am**

One Service Only