



# AN OINTED

EXPERIENCING A SACRED EASTER



**FIRST  
PRESBYTERIAN**  
*celebrating & inspiring*

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(434) 384-6231 · [www.fpclly.org](http://www.fpclly.org) · e-mail: [info@fpclly.org](mailto:info@fpclly.org)  
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# Welcome to First Presbyterian Church- Lynchburg, VA

Whether you are at First Presbyterian 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 different...

Whether you grew up Presbyterian or Baptist or Episcopalian or Lutheran or Methodist or Jewish or Agnostic...

Whether you are in search of comfort or wanting to be challenged...

Whatever reason brought you to worship today, you are welcome here. As God's children and Jesus' disciples, 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 is traditional and 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 important, and friendship 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 lets 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

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 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)).



## Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Hear the good news! The Lord is faithful in all his words, and gracious in all his deeds.  
The Lord upholds all who are falling and raises up all who are bowed down.

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

## \*Affirmation of Faith: Heidelberg Catechism, Q&A's 32 &34

**I am called a Christian because by faith I am a member of Christ and so I share in his anointing. I am anointed to confess his name, to present myself to him as a living sacrifice of thanks, to strive with a free conscience against sin and the devil in this life, and afterward to reign with Christ over all creation for all eternity. We call him "our Lord" because- not with gold or silver, but with his precious blood- he has set us free from sin and from the tyranny of the devil, and has bought us, body and soul, to be his very own.**

### **WE HEAR GOD'S WORD**

## Children's Moment

Marcia Thom-Kaley

## Choral Anthem

### **God So Loved the World**

J. Stainer

*Chancel Choir*

*God so loved the world, That He gave His only begotten Son,  
That who so believeth in Him Should not perish But have everlasting life.  
God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world.  
But that the world through Him might be saved.*

## Prayer for Illumination

**Old Testament Reading:** Lamentations 2

(pew Bible OT, p.764-766)

**"The Purpose (and Power) of Lament"**

Alex Collier

### **WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**

## Celebrating the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

## Call to Offering

### Offertory

### **Blessings**

Laura Story

*Marcia Thom-Kaley, soloist*

*We pray for blessings, We pray for peace comfort for family, Protection while we sleep  
We pray for healing for prosperity, We pray for Your mighty hand, To ease our suffering  
And all the while You hear each spoken need, Yet love is way too much to give us lesser things*

*We pray for wisdom, Your voice to hear, We cry in anger when we cannot feel You near  
We doubt Your goodness, We doubt Your love, As if every promise from Your Word is not enough  
And all the while You hear each desperate plea, And long that we'd have faith to believe*

*When friends betray us, When darkness seems to win,  
We know that pain reminds this heart, That this is not this is not our home*

*Because what if Your blessings come through raindrops  
What if Your healing comes through tears, And what if a thousand sleepless nights  
Are what it takes to know You're near, What if my greatest disappointments  
Or the aching of this life, Is a revealing of a greater thirst, This world can't satisfy  
And what if trials of this life, The rain the storms the hardest nights, Are Your mercies in disguise*

## \*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 276: Great is Thy Faithfulness

Faithfulness

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father,  
there is no shadow of turning with Thee.  
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not;  
as Thou hast been, Thou forever wilt be.

Refrain:

Great is Thy faithfulness!  
Great is Thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
all I have needed Thy hand hath provided.  
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,  
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above  
join with all nature in manifold witness  
to Thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. [Refrain]

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,  
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,  
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,  
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! [Refrain]

### \*Benediction and Choral Amen

### \*Postlude

### My Tribute (To God Be the Glory)

*Marcia Thom-Kaley, piano*

Andrae Crouch

*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 before participating in one of the many spiritual growth opportunities available for all ages.*



**Vision:** Draw Near to God

**Mission:** Celebrating God's Grace and Inspiring the Next Generation for Christ  
*Worshipping Joyfully. Growing Spiritually. Loving Boldly. Serving Faithfully.*

## This Week at First Presbyterian Church

For a full calendar listing and more information, please visit our website [www.fpclly.org](http://www.fpclly.org).

### Sunday, March 5

- 8:30 am Coffee & Conversation
- 9:30 am Worship
- 10:45 am Lemonade and Cookies
- 11:00 am Sunday School Classes
- 3:30 pm Scouts Cub Pack 7
- 4:00 pm Walk with God

### Monday, March 6

- 9:00 am FPC Weekday School
- 2:00 pm Canterbury Crew (Westminster Canterbury)
- 6:00 pm College Cares
- 7:00 pm Scout Troop 7

### Tuesday, March 7

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

### Wednesday, March 8

- 9:00 am FPC Weekday School
- 11:30 am Embracing Grief: Renewing Joy (FPCLY)
- 12:00 pm Lenten Prayer Service
- 12:30 pm Al-Anon

### Thursday, March 9

- 9:00 am FPC Weekday School
- 6:30 pm Chancel Ringers Rehearsal
- 7:15 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

### Friday, March 10

- 9:00 am FPC Weekday School

### Saturday, March 11

- 9:00 am Church Grounds Workday (outside)

### Sunday, March 12

- 8:30 am Coffee & Conversation
- 9:30 am Worship
- 10:45 am Lemonade and Cookies
- 10:50 am AED Information Session
- 11:00 am Sunday School Classes
- 11:50 am AED Information Session
- 3:30 pm Scouts Cub Pack 7
- 4:00 pm Walk with God

### Notes for Today's Worship

#### **Worship Leaders:**

Diane Stroud and Nancy Dawson

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

Becky & Caskie Giles, Elsie Howerton, and Sally & Bob Leslie

#### **Worship Workshop Leaders:**

Kara and Darby Byrne

#### **Sound Technician:**

Lloyd Agnew

#### **Communion Preparers:**

Becky and Caskie Giles

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

Gwen Maddox

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

Nancy Dawson (804) 399-9545

#### **Members Helping Members**

##### **March:**

Betsy Jones (434) 384-7633 or  
(434) 941-7401

Judie Cleland (434) 444-2797

*Thank you to Cathy Oakes and Betty Blue for leading MHM in February!*

#### **Prayer Cares and Concerns**

If you have a prayer request to share with the pastor or staff, you can write it on the 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 [fpclly.org/ministries/care-nurture.html](http://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 plate today.
2. Mail a check 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

### **Lenten Prayer Services – every Wednesday in Lent (March 8, 15, 22, & 29, and April 5) @ 12pm**

Let us come together in the Chapel to lift up prayers for the cares and concerns of our individual lives, the lives of others, and our world.

### **Lenten Reflection Devotional**

Draw nearer to God during Lent with this weekly devotional that focuses on Christ and His journey to the cross. Pick up this week's meditation and coordinating Lenten symbol in the front foyer after worship.

### **First Presbyterian Church Facilities Workday – THIS Saturday, March 11 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

It's time for a little cleanup of the grounds at First Presbyterian Church! The Facilities team is organizing a workday to cut, clear and haul brush, move a few items, and complete light landscaping. If you're able to help for part or all of the morning, please contact Martin Knight, Facilities Chair, at martinknight1981@gmail.com.

### **Automated External Defibrillator (AED) Information Sessions – NEXT Sunday, March 12**

Because we believe it is important for the general FPCLY congregation and leaders to be aware of where our life-saving AEDs are located and what is included in the kits, we are hosting two 25-minute information sessions in the Chapel immediately following worship (10:50 a.m.) and Sunday School (11:50 a.m.) on March 12. The instructor will briefly share what an AED is, how it operates, and how the automatic features of these devices support an untrained person in an emergency while waiting for medical professionals to arrive.

### **The G. Rudolph Leonard Scholarship Application process is open!**

This scholarship is awarded to active members of First Presbyterian Church, as well as PCUSA churches within a nine-mile radius of the Presbytery of the Peaks. The grant is offered for undergraduate and graduate study at a four-year accredited college, university or theological institution. If you are interested in an application, please contact Michelle Wyman, Officer Administrator, at office@fpcly.org. All application materials must be received in the church office by **3:00 p.m. on May 5, 2023**.

### **Vacation Bible School is coming! Save the date for June 5-9, 2023!**

Children, youth, and adults, clear your calendars for morning time the week of June 5 as a *Food Truck Party* will be rolling in for Vacation Bible School (VBS)! We're excited for children (3 years old through completed 4<sup>th</sup> grade) to grow and learn as participants and youth (completed 5<sup>th</sup> grade and above) and adults to grow and learn as volunteers! Registration will be available on the website starting March 15<sup>th</sup>.

### **“Lemonade and Cookies” hosts needed!**

We need some extra hands hosting this special fellowship time throughout the remainder of the spring. If you would like to lend a hand as a host one Sunday, sign up using the QR code to the right or contact the church office. If you're interested, but not sure how it works, let us know and we will connect you to an expert Lemonade and Cookie host!



*As a reminder, NEXT Sunday, March 12 is when we “spring forward” one hour to start daylight savings time. Don't forget to change your clocks so you don't miss any worship or education opportunities!*

