



AN OINTED

EXPERIENCING A SACRED EASTER



**FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN**
celebrating & inspiring

1215 Virginia Episcopal School Road
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<https://www.facebook.com/firstpresoflynchburg/>
LIVE Video Streaming on 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

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 2nd 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) or Catherine Adams (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) or Alex Collier (alex@fpcly.org).

Service of the Lord's Day... Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 19, 2023

*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.*

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Prelude

Elegy

E. Grieg

Cory Whittier, Director of Music and Organist

Choral Introit

O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High

Deo Gracias

Chancel Choir

Welcome and Announcements

Minute For Education

Becky Giles

***Hymn 420: God of Grace and God of Glory**

CWM Rhondda

God of grace and God of glory, on Thy people pour Thy pow'r;
crown Thine ancient Church's story, bring its bud to glorious flow'r.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
for the facing of this hour, for the facing of this hour.

Lo, the hosts of evil round us scorn the Christ, assail Thy ways.
From the fears that long have bound us, free our hearts to faith and praise.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
for the living of these days, for the living of these days.

Cure your children's warring madness; bend our pride to Thy control;
shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
lest we miss Thy kingdom's goal, lest we miss Thy kingdom's goal.

Set our feet on lofty places; Gird our lives that they may be
Armored with all Christ-like graces, pledged to set all captives free.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
That we fail not them or Thee, That we fail not them or Thee!

Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore;
let the gift of Thy salvation be our glory evermore.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
serving Thee whom we adore, serving Thee whom we adore.

Prayer of the Day and Lord's Prayer

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Children's Moment

Catherine Adams

Choral Anthem

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

Arr. M. Wilberg

Chancel Choir

*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 Thy 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.*

Prayer for Illumination

New Testament Reading: Ephesians 5:8-14

(pew Bible NT, p. 194)

"Good Neighbor"

Peter Thompson

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

*Encountering

Offering: Baskets are available at all exits of the Sanctuary to fulfill your tithes and offerings to God. You are also welcome to give by visiting www.fpclly.org and going to our online giving page. Offerings of our time, talents, and lives are also part of our partnering with God and God's church and these are celebrated by God as well. If you are not actively involved in giving back to the church through volunteering or leading and would like to be, please reach out to a church staff member, session member, or connect with the church office.

Sanctuary: "Where am I in the Story?"

How do you resonate/ connect with the various characters in the Good Samaritan story? Explore how and where we might identify with The Wounded, The Robbers, The Priest & Levite, The Good Samaritan, and The Innkeeper. Then, participate in a visual activity that names how often we feel connected with each character. This opportunity takes place at the front of the Sanctuary, on both sides of the aisle.

Narthex: "Go and do likewise"

Learn more about how you can get involved in hands-on service to folks in our community, here at First Pres, and beyond! Folks from Service & Outreach and Care & Nurture Committees will be present to talk through several ways you can engage with neighbors near and far.

Hallways and Officers' Room: "What is Justice?"

Explore the concept of "Justice"—what is it, what are the iterations of it, and how are we called to pursue it?—through reflection, a 6 minute video, and an interactive reflection. This is a multi-stop station beginning at the bulletin board in the hallway near the elevator. It will then continue into the Officers' Room and down the hallway towards the Martin-Gifford Classroom. The video will be shown 3 times in the Officers' Room at roughly 10:15, 10:25, and 10:35.

Chapel: "Lifting our neighbors in prayer"

Four opportunities to pray for each other, ourselves, our community, and the world:

1. Lighting of candles in remembrance or memory of, or as a symbol of putting more light into the world.
2. Individual prayers for wholeness and healing and anointing with oil with Rev. Dr. Nancy Dawson.
3. Self-guided time of prayer with printed liturgies.
4. Hands-on activity where you can lift different types of prayer in a tangible way.

Hallway Across from Columbarium Entrance: Create a Lenten Banner

If you and your family haven't had a chance to pick up your Lenten Banner activity, this is a great opportunity to get caught up! Crayons, colored pencils, and markers will be available for kids to color each symbol to add to the Banner, as well as corresponding devotions to go with each symbol.

Sunday, March 19

9:30 am Worship
 10:45 am Lemonade and Cookies
 11:00 am Sunday School Classes
 12:00 pm Session Meeting
 3:30 pm Scouts Cub Pack 7
 4:00 pm Walk with God

Monday, March 20

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 21

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

Wednesday, March 22

9:00 am FPC Weekday School
 10:00 am Immerse Bible Study
 11:30 am Embracing Grief: Renewing Joy (FPCLY)
 12:00 pm Lenten Prayer Service
 12:30 pm Al-Anon
 5:30 pm Potluck Fellowship Dinner

Thursday, March 23

7:00 am Colin Caldwell Men's Bible Study
 9:00 am FPC Weekday School
 11:45 am Staff Lunch & Devotion at Westminster Canterbury
 6:30 pm Chancel Ringers Rehearsal
 7:15 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Friday, March 24

9:00 am FPC Weekday School

Sunday, March 26

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

Notes for Today's Worship**Worship Leader:**

Gwen Maddox

Ushers and Greeters:

Becky & Caskie Giles,
 Laurie & Camp Sommardahl, and
 Becky and Bobby O'Brian

Worship Workshop Leaders:

Nancy Ann and Nathan Gowen

Sound and Livestream**Technicians:**

Lloyd Agnew and Ken Slusher

Lemonade and Cookies Host:

Becky and Bobby O'Brian

Pastor on Call:

Peter Thompson (336) 269-7270

Members Helping Members**March:**

Betsy Jones (434) 384-7633 or
 (434) 941-7401
 Judie Cleland (434) 444-2797

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

fpcly.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 22 & 29, and April 5) @ 12pm

Let's come together in the Chapel to lift up prayers for the cares and concerns of others, our world, & ourselves.

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.

Potluck Fellowship Dinner – THIS Wednesday, March 22 @ 5:30pm

Come to the Fellowship Hall for a time of fellowship and good food! Please bring a favorite dish (entrée, side, or dessert) to share, as you are able! Contact Alex Collier (alex@fpcly.org), Director of Outreach, for details.

Music of Remembrance and Reflection: A Lenten Choral Concert – Saturday, April 1 @ 4:00pm

First Pres Presents the FPCLY Chancel Choir in concert as they perform Mark Hayes' "Requiem" and a variety of other Lenten themed songs and anthems. This requiem was composed in 2013 and includes both Latin and English texts. The Chancel Choir will be joined by a wind ensemble of local musicians. All are welcome!

Easter Flowers “in honor or memory of a loved one”

Celebrate a friend or loved one this Easter season with a gift to FPCLY “in memory” or “in honor of” him/her. Your gift (of any amount) will go toward the beautiful flower arrangement in the Sanctuary on Easter morning! A sign-up sheet and envelopes (for cash or checks) are on the table just off the foyer. Make checks out to First Presbyterian Church with “Easter Flowers” in the memo. Gifts can also be made at fpcly.org using the QR code to the right. Please make gifts by Sunday, April 2.



Upcoming Holy Week + Easter Offerings (more details to come in next week's bulletin)

April 2	9:30am	Palm Sunday worship
	5:00pm	Holy Week Walk
April 6	6:00pm	Maundy Thursday Seder Meal
April 7	7:00pm	Good Friday Tenebrae Service
April 9	7:00am	Easter Sunrise Service
	9:30am	Easter worship

Vacation Bible School: Food Truck Party – Registration is live!

June 5 – 9 from 8:30am – 12pm

A Food Truck Party is rolling into town for VBS where children will be reminded that everything we have comes from God and it is He who meets our daily needs! Head to



fpcly.org or scan the QR code to the left using your phone to register a child Participant (3 years old through completed 4th grade) or youth helper (completed 5th grade and above). We are still looking for additional adults interested in volunteering for or supporting VBS in any way may contact Dr. Marcia Thom-Kaley (marcia@fpcly.org). Everyone is encouraged to be in prayer for this powerful week of fun, faith, food, and friends!



