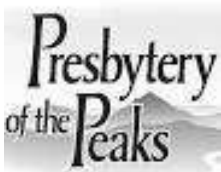




FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

celebrating & inspiring



1215 Virginia Episcopal School Road
(434) 384-6231 · www.fpclly.org · e-mail: info@fpclly.org
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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

It is a joy to be with you 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. 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

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

February 4, 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

Andante Sostenuto

F. Mendelssohn

Cory Whittier, Director of Music and Organist

Choral Introit

This is the Day

D. Moore

Chancel Choir

Welcome and Announcements

***Hymn #440: In Christ There Is No East or West**

Mc Kee

*In Christ there is no east or west,
In Him no south or north;
But one great fellowship of love
Throughout the whole wide earth.*

*In Christ shall true hearts everywhere
Their high communion find;
His service is the golden cord,
Close-binding humankind.*

*Join hands, disciples of the faith,
Whate'er your race may be.
All children of the living God
Are surely kin to me.*

*In Christ now meet both east and west,
In Him meet south and north;
All Christly souls are one in Him
Throughout the whole wide earth.*

Call to Confession and Prayer of Confession

Lord, you are a God who keeps promises. In our prayers and songs, we say that we want to be Christians, those who believe in and follow Jesus' example, but then we forget our promises. Our actions do not match up with our words. We say mean things to other people, we hurt their feelings, we think of ourselves first, and worst of all, we ignore you. Lord, forgive us and hear our prayer for Jesus' sake. (*Silent Prayer of Confession*)

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Hear the good news! God's love is no matter what. Nothing, nothing at all, can separate us from the love of God given to us through the gift of Jesus the Christ.

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

*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: The Apostles' Creed

Traditional, Hymnal p. 14

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Children's Moment

Marcia Thom-Kaley

Choral Anthem

How Can I Keep from Singing?

B. Ellingboe

Chancel Choir

*My life flows on in endless song above earth's lamentation.
I hear the real, tho' far off, hymn that hails a new creation.
No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that rock I'm clinging.
Since love is lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing?
Thru' all the tumult and the strife, I hear the music ringing!
It sounds and echoes in my soul. How can I keep from singing?
What tho' the tempest 'round me roar, I hear the truth. It liveth.
What though the darkness 'round me close, songs in the night, it giveth.
No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that rock I'm clinging.
Since love is lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing?*

Prayer for Illumination

New Testament Reading: Ephesians 3:14-20

(pew Bible NT, p.193)

"When We Have Shared Vision"

Peter Thompson

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Celebrating the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Call to Offering

Offertory Anthem

Fairest Lord Jesus

M. Gesangbuch

Loring Ray, soloist

*Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nature, O thou of God to earth come down,
thee will I cherish, thee will I honor, thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown.
Fair are the meadows, fairer still the woodlands, robed in the blooming garb of spring.
Jesus is fairer; Jesus is purer, who makes the woeful heart to sing.
Fair is the sunshine, fairer still the moonlight, and all the twinkling, starry host.
Jesus shines brighter; Jesus shines purer, than all the angels heaven can boast.
Beautiful Savior, Ruler of the nations, Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor, praise, adoration, now and forevermore be thine!*

***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 #343: Called as Partners in Christ's Service**

Beecher

*Called as partners in Christ's service, called to ministries of grace,
we respond with deep commitment fresh new lines of faith to trace.
May we learn the art of sharing, side by side and friend with friend,
equal partners in our caring to fulfill God's chosen end.*

*Christ's example, Christ's inspiring, Christ's clear call to work and worth,
let us follow, never faltering, reconciling folk on earth.
Men and women, richer, poorer, all God's people, young and old,
blending human skills together gracious gifts from God unfold.*

*Thus new patterns for Christ's mission, in a small or global sense,
help us bear each other's burdens, breaking down each wall or fence.
Words of comfort, words of vision, words of challenge, said with care,
bring new power and strength for action, make us colleagues, free and fair.*

*So God grant us for tomorrow ways to order human life
that surround each person's sorrow with a calm that conquers strife.
Make us partners in our living, our compassion to increase,
messengers of faith, thus giving hope and confidence and peace.*

***Benediction and Choral Amen**

Postlude

Postlude on "O God, Our Help"

F. Swann

Cory Whittier, Director of Music and Organist

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.

The Chancel Flowers are given by the Stowers to honor the service, dedication, and hard work of those who serve on Session and with Initiatives and Committees: all 90+ of you. Thank you for all the work you do behind the scenes to keep the church humming!



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

For a full calendar listing and more information, please visit our website www.fpcls.org.

Sunday, February 4

- 9:00 am Nursery Care
- 9:30 am Worship (Communion)
- 10:45 am Lemonade and Cookies
- 11:00 am Sunday School classes
- 12:00 pm College Cares
- 4:00 pm Walk with God

Monday, February 5

- 9:00 am FPC Weekday School
- 2:00 pm Canterbury Crew
- 6:00 pm Scouts – Cub Pack 7
- 7:00 pm Scouts – Troop 7

Tuesday, February 6

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

Wednesday, February 7

- 9:00 am FPC Weekday School
- 10:00 am *Immerse* Bible Study
- 12:30 pm Al-Anon gathering

Thursday, February 8

- 7:00 am Colin Caldwell Men's Bible Study
- 9:00 am FPC Weekday School
- 6:30 pm Chancel Ringers Rehearsal
- 7:15 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Friday, February 9

- 9:00 am FPC Weekday School

Sunday, February 11

- 9:00 am Nursery Care
- 9:30 am Worship (Scout Sunday)
- 10:45 am Lemonade and Cookies
- 11:00 am Sunday School classes
- 12:00 pm College Cares
- 4:00 pm Walk with God

Notes for Today's Worship

Worship Leader:

Dave Tate

Ushers and Greeters:

Sutton Tinsley, Martin Knight, and
Becky & Caskie Giles

Worship Workshop Leader:

Rebekah Trexler

Sound and Video Technicians:

Will Absher & Catherine Adams

Lemonade and Cookies Host:

Mary Ann Tate

Pastor on Call:

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

Members Helping Members

February:

Cathy Oakes (434) 384-9403
Betty Blue (434) 384-6420

**Thank you Ginny McCraw and
Sally deNiord for serving in
January!**

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 fpcls.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 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

Next Sunday, February 11 is SCOUT SUNDAY!

We're excited to once again host Cub Pack 7 and Scout Troops 7 & 49 for Scout Sunday worship this year! It's a great outreach to our community to serve as a host site for these young, growing leaders. These young people will assist with various components of worship including greeting you at the door when you arrive! ***Troop 49 will be selling baked goods as a fundraiser before and after worship to support some of their programs.***

Lenten Education Material – available Sundays, February 11 and February 18

As we approach the Lenten season, check out the Education Initiative table in the Narthex to pick up a resource for your journey through Lent. For adults, we will have a devotional book called *The Hope of Easter – 40 Days of Reading and Reflection* and for children a 40-day kid-friendly activity devotional called *Every Day of Lent and Easter – A book of Activities for Children*.

Ash Wednesday Services – February 14 @ 12pm and 6pm

Gather in the Chapel for a service of repentance as we step into the season of Lent! The services will be the same whether you come early or in the evening. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the 40-day (excluding Sundays) Lent season. This is a day that we acknowledge our individual and collective humanity, our need for repentance, and our need to refocus our lives on God as we prepare for the hope and mercy of Easter.

Walk with God – Sundays at 4pm

Looking for an opportunity to connect and get to know others in the First Presbyterian Church community? Walk with God is a great avenue for that. The group gathers for a short devotional and then hits the sidewalks in conversation and laughter! All are welcome!

2024 Covenant Commitment Update

Thank you so much for being a part of the First Presbyterian Church of Lynchburg church community. We are very glad you are here and in our church family. As we have shared in previous communications, we have started a program of **Covenant Giving**. ***We are encouraging all congregants to make a commitment to God and one another through the offering of time, sharing of talents, and making a financial contribution*** toward our mission of celebrating God's grace and inspiring the next generation for Christ.

Everyone in this church community counts! Our programs and ministry activities won't be complete without you! ***So far we have received \$543,300 in financial pledges from 174 families, representing 71% of this community.*** We are seeking to go far beyond these numbers, and your pledge will help our church leaders to plan for the year ahead. ***If you have already made your Covenant commitment for 2024, whether time, talent, or treasure, we thank you! If you have not yet shared your commitment, please join us in living out our mission, and send in your commitment card as soon as possible*** indicating your Covenant commitment.

Becky Giles, David Tate, Denise McDonald, and Donna Whitehouse

FPCLY **IMPACT** WEEKEND SCHEDULE – FEBRUARY 22–25

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
<p>11:45am - 1pm Lunch @ W.C. -Join Staff at Westminster Canterbury for lunch and devotion with residents at W.C.</p> <p>1pm - 3pm Visits @ W.C. -Visit with our FPCLY members who cannot consistently get to church</p> <p>5:30 - 7pm Pizza & Service -Pizza dinner, then various service projects (food prep for Miriam’s House, Lunches for Veterans, and Daily Bread; writing note cards; etc.)</p>	<p>10am - 12pm Park View Food for Families Pantry Prep -Sort and prep the Pantry for Saturday distribution</p> <p>11am - 1:30pm Lunches for Veterans @ Monument Steps -Serve prepared lunches to Veterans that gather downtown on Fridays</p> <p>12 - 3pm Park View Clothing Connection -Sort and hang clothes to prepare for Monday hours</p> <p>2 - 4pm RAEFP Starter Bags -Pack the bags Rivermont Area Emergency Food Pantry uses to assist folks in our area</p>	<p>9:30 - 11am Park View Food for Thought Bags @ Warehouse -Great for all ages! Pack bags at the PV Warehouse</p> <p>9:30am - 12:30pm Daily Bread Lunch Service -Pack and serve lunches to neighbors downtown</p> <p>11:30am - 2:30pm Park View Food for Families Pantry Assistance -Assist with shopping and organization at the Pantry</p> <p>4 - 6:30pm Coldest Night of the Year Walk -Fundraiser walk to support Miriam’s House’s goal to end homelessness in Lynchburg. 2k and 5k options along Rivermont. Great for all ages!</p>	<p>9:30 - 10:30am Sunday Worship -Includes testimonies & updates from Malawi trip and local partners</p> <p>Noon - 1:30pm Fellowship Meal - A time of food, fellowship, and hearing more about the IMPACT of being together as a congregation</p> <p>-----</p> <p>(Thursday - Sunday) Visiting Home-Centered Members -Staff will connect you with a home-centered FPCLY member and can help arrange a time for you to visit during the weekend.</p>

= Least Strenuous Activity
 = Moderately Strenuous Activity
 = Most Strenuous Activity

Our IMPACT events are designed to present new and different ways for folks to get involved in the FPCLY and Lynchburg-area communities. Service to others is a major part of our calling as people of faith, and these opportunities provide a wide range of locations, activities, and age-appropriate options for us to explore that call. We invite you to consider participating in one or more activities alongside other FPCLY folks and our community partners.

Sign-up boards will be available in the Narthex through February 18th as well as on-line through Sign-Up Genius. You only need to sign up in one place: names from the sign-up board will be transferred to Sign-Up Genius and vice versa. Contact Alex Collier, Director of Outreach (alex@fpclly.org) with any questions!



Clark Spiritual Growth Initiative *presents*



Workshop featuring a viewing of *Screenagers: Growing Up in the Digital Age* documentary with a professional panel discussion

SATURDAY, MARCH 9

9:00AM - 12:30PM

1215 VES ROAD

LYNCHBURG, VA 24503

Questions? Contact Marcia@fpcly.org or call (434) 384-6231.

Scan the QR code or call
(434) 384-6231 to register!



FREE Admission. Space is limited. Light refreshments will be provided.

The Clark Spiritual Growth Initiative, established in 2018 by Elinor Ann and Joe Clark, supports an annual program with the purpose of promoting unique spiritual and family growth opportunities through insightful and meaningful educational experiences. It's with gratitude to the Clark family that we can offer this powerful screening and discussion to support and encourage the families of the Lynchburg community with God's love and grace.