



**First Presbyterian Church**  
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<https://www.facebook.com/firstpresoflynchburg/>



# Welcome to First Presbyterian Church- Lynchburg, VA

Grace and peace to you!!! 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. Whatever reason brought you to worship today, I pray you know you matter and are welcome here.

Today is the Fifth Sunday in the season of Lent, an Old English word meaning springtime. The season of Lent is a time for growth in faith- through prayer, spiritual discipline, and self-examination in preparation for the commemoration of the dying and rising of the Lord Jesus Christ. In total, Lent is a season of 40 days- remembering the flood in Genesis, Moses' sojourn at Sinai, Elijah's journey to Mt. Horeb, Jonah's call to Ninevah, and Jesus' testing in the wilderness. Lent began on Ash Wednesday, February 14, and concludes with the Great Easter Vigil, March 30. Not included in the 40 days are Sundays, as the Lord's Day is a celebration of Christ's resurrection. Throughout Lent, we are called to a pilgrimage of prayer, in which we learn to be God's people once more. Even though we are most of the way through the season, you are still invited to observe a holy lent by self-examination and penitence, by prayer and fasting, by works of love, and by meditating on God's word. In our observance and service, God brings us back to God's heart, opens our eyes to God's presence in the world and frees our hands to lead others to the wonders of God's grace.

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. 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 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 on the hallways 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 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)).

# Service of the Lord's Day... Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 17, 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

### Fellowship

### Prelude

### Welcome and Announcements

### Call to Worship

Leader: Let us worship God for whom our souls long and our spirits seek.

**All: We come with eagerness, questions, openness and concerns and we look to the Lord who breathes new life into us.**

Leader: Come listen to God's word to us today that we may be filled with peace and joy.

**All: May our spirits soar together in praise and glory to God.**

### Prayer of the Day

### \*Hymn

### What Wondrous Love Is This

Wondrous Love

1. What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul, What wondrous love is this, O my soul!

What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss,

To bear the \*heavy cross for my soul, for my soul, To bear the \*heavy cross for my soul!

2. To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing, To God and to the Lamb, I will sing;

To God and to the Lamb who is the great I Am,

While millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing; While millions join the theme, I will sing!

3. And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on. And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on;

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be,

And through eternity, I'll sing on, I'll sing on. And through eternity I'll sing on.

### \*Call to Confession and Prayer of Confession (Psalm 51 selected verses)

**Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love. Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin. For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. Against you, you only, have I sinned; so you are right in your verdict and justified when you judge. Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow. Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation. Amen. (Silent Prayer of Confession)**

### \*Kyrie:



Kyrie

Lord, have mer-cy up-on us. Christ, have mer-cy up-on us. Lord have mer-cy up-on us.

### \*Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Jesus said, "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart and you will find rest for your souls. Know that Jesus has taken our sins upon himself and we are forgiven. Find hope and peace in God's love.

**All: By God, through 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**

Catherine Adams

Children ages 4 to 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade are invited to join together in Room 101 for Worship Workshop.

**Choral Anthem**

**Be Thou My Vision**

C. Young

*Chancel Choir*

*Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart, Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art  
Thou my best thought, by day or by night, Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light  
Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise Thou mine inheritance, now and always  
Thou and Thou only first in my heart Great God of heaven, my treasure Thou art  
Be Thou my wisdom, and Thou my true word I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord  
Heart of my own heart whatever befall Still be my vision, O ruler of all.*

**New Testament Reading: Hebrews 5:5-10**

The Message

**"Eternal Salvation"**

Nancy Dawson

**WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**

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

**WE GO OUT IN GOD'S SERVICE**

**\*Hymn:**

**Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine!**

Assurance

1. Blessed assurance: Jesus is mine! O what a foretaste of glory divine!  
Heir of salvation, purchase of God, Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.

*Refrain:*

This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long;  
This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long.

2. Perfect submission, perfect delight, Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;  
Angels, descending, bring from above Echoes of mercy, whispers of love. (*Refrain*)

3. Perfect submission, all is at rest, I in my Savior am happy and blest,  
Watching and waiting, looking above, filled with His goodness, lost in His love. (*Refrain*)

**\*Benediction**

*Offering of our Tithes and Offerings  
Visitor Information (Friendship Pads near the exit of the FH)  
Passing the Love, Joy, and Peace of Christ  
Lemonade and Cookies*

**\*Postlude**

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# Holy Week 2024



## **PALM SUNDAY WORSHIP**

**March 24, 9:30am**

Palm Sunday is the first day of Holy Week - a celebration of Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem as the long awaited King. Worship will include waving palm branches, shouting hosannas, music, and a message.

## **HOLY WEEK WALK: FOLLOWING JESUS**

**March 24, 4:00pm**

Gain new perspective on the events of Jesus' last days as you walk through the scriptures of Holy Week on the campus of FPCLY. We will meet in the front circle. Nursery will be available for children 3yo and under.

## **MAUNDY THURSDAY - SEDER MEAL**

**March 28, 6:00pm, Fellowship Hall**

Experience and recall the events taking place in the Upper Room as Jesus shared His last meal with His disciples. A modern Mediterranean menu will be served family style to symbolize the elements in the traditional Passover Seder meal and fill your stomachs too. Kid-friendly options will be available.

**Please sign up by March 25 using the sign up sheet at the church or by scanning the QR code to the left.**



## **GOOD FRIDAY - TENEBRAE SERVICE**

**March 29, 6:00pm, Chapel**

Worship and recall Jesus' ultimate sacrifice in this reflective Tenebrae service. A stripping of colors and light will take place throughout the service. Tenebrae means "darkness."



# Celebrate Easter at First Pres!

**MARCH 31**



## **SUNRISE SERVICE**

**7:00am, Columbarium**

*Rejoice, Christ is Risen!* Celebrate Christ's resurrection as the sun rises this Easter morning with music, prayer, and a joy-filled message. Communion will be served.

## **WORSHIP**

**9:30am**

*He is risen!* Let us come together in celebration of the empty tomb with an Easter message, joyful music featuring brass and timpani, and communion. Please invite others to this hope-filled celebration!



## **FLOWER THE CROSS**

**all day, front circle**

*Together,* let's bring the cross (in front of the church) to life by adorning it with freshly cut flowers. It makes a great spot for a family Easter photo!



**We will NOT have Sunday School on Easter Sunday!**



**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.fpchy.org](http://www.fpchy.org).

### Sunday, March 17

- 9:30 am Worship
- 10:45 am Lemonade and Cookies
- 11:00 am Sunday School classes
- 12:00 pm Stated Session Meeting
- 4:00 pm Walk with God

### Monday, March 18

- 2:00 pm Canterbury Crew
- 6:00 pm Scouts – Cub Pack 7
- 7:00 pm Scouts – Troop 7

### Tuesday, March 19

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

### Wednesday, March 20

- 9:00 am FPC Weekday School
- 10:00 am *Immerse* Bible Study
- 12:30 pm Al-Anon [meeting](#)

### Thursday, March 21

- 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, March 22

- 9:00 am FPC Weekday School

### Sunday, March 24

- 9:30 am Worship (Palm Sunday)
- 10:45 am Lemonade and Cookies
- 11:00 am Sunday School classes
- 12:00 pm College Cares
- 4:00 pm Holy Week Walk

### **Notes for Today's Worship**

#### **Worship Leader:**

Bill Perkins

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

Becky and Caskie Giles, Gwen Maddox, and Elsie Howerton

#### **Worship Workshop Leader:**

Barrett Thompson

#### **Lemonade and Cookies Host:**

Diane Stroud

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

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

#### **Members Helping Members**

##### **March:**

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

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

If you have a prayer request to share with the pastor or staff, you can write it on a blue prayer card located on the table near the Fellowship Hall doors and place it in the offering basket. Or share your request online at [fpchy.org/ministries/care-nurture.html](http://fpchy.org/ministries/care-nurture.html).

**Connect with us!**

**Phone:** (434) 384-6231

**Email:** [office@fpcly.org](mailto:office@fpcly.org)

**Website:** [www.fpcly.org](http://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](http://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

### Vacation Bible School Registration is LIVE!

We are calling all children, youth, and adults to participate in a fun-filled week of Bible stories, crafts, recreation, and music from June 3 -7! We are going on a VBS camp adventure with God at *Camp Firelight!* Head to [www.fpcly.org/children](http://www.fpcly.org/children) to register your child or youth helper. The registration deadline is April 30<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to volunteer as an adult, be sure to email [marcia@fpcly.org](mailto:marcia@fpcly.org).

### Easter Egg Hunt with the FPC Weekday School – Saturday, March 30 @ 10:00am, back parking lot

The FPC Weekday School invites **all** church families to a joint Easter Egg Hunt in the rear parking lot! Let us come together as an FPCLY community for fun, food, and...the Easter Bunny! This family event will include a massive egg hunt, games, activities, music, and more. No RSVP is needed. If you would like to donate plastic eggs or small, pre-packaged candies, there will be a donation bin at the church entrance through March 25<sup>th</sup>!

### First Pres Presents Chancel Choir Concert April 23 @ 7:00pm

We're excited to host our final First Pres Presents concert of the 2023-2024 season on a Tuesday night led by our very own Chancel Choir accompanied by an assortment of local musicians including our very own Cory Whittier on our new organ. You will recognize the works of Dan Forrest, Mark Hayes, Gabriel Fauré, J.S. Bach, and Andrew Lloyd-Weber as the choir performs a variety of requiem movements. The concert is free and open to the public.

### 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!

### Two Opportunities to Share your Time and Talents at FPCLY!

**Serve as a host for post-worship “Lemonade and Cookies.”** It's so great to be able to connect and build relationships with others in the church community right after worship. We cannot do it without the wonderful hosts who prepare and set out the delicious treats. If you would like to try your hand at hosting, use the QR code to the right or call the church office to sign up!



**Be a hand as a volunteer receptionist throughout the week.** Volunteer receptionists serve a role in the weekly ministry efforts of our church. They serve as the first smiling face guests meet when coming in the door and/or the first joyful voice they hear when calling the church offices. Use the QR code to the left or call the church office to sign up.

**Have a great week! You are loved!**