



First Presbyterian Church

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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

Happy Easter!!! 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.

Wow, what a Holy Week! And what a Lenten season it has been. Today is Easter! Our Lord and Savior, Jesus, is risen! And that is wonderful news for us, not only today, but every day, and for all days. All the hopes and expectations of Christians are realized in the resurrection of Jesus from the dead, making Easter the most celebrative day of the church year. Easter is a day, a season (Eastertide, "the great fifty days", begins today and goes to Pentecost), an attitude, of joy, celebration, and renewal. May we all rejoice and be glad in it!

Fittingly today we also celebrate Confirmation and Commissioning for eight young women and men who are reaffirming their baptismal covenants and professing their faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. This class has been meeting weekly since September of 2023 to explore, discover, and grow in their faith. We have called it a journey of "becoming," recognizing the spiritual journey is one of constant growth and striving toward God's way and Jesus' teachings as best we can each and every day. Today, they profess their faith publicly and become official, active members in the life and ministries of First Presbyterian Church- Lynchburg. I pray you will join me in praying for and welcoming them all.

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 down the main hallway from the entrance Foyer. The Elevator is also located down the main hallway from the entrance 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 (the room prior to our worship space). 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 year olds 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... Easter Sunday

March 31, 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

New Testament Reading: Matthew 28:1-9

The Message

Prelude

Trumpet Voluntary

J. Stanley

Cory Whittier, Director of Music and Organist

Welcome and Announcements

Litany for Easter and Prayer of the Day

This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!

This the good news we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved:

Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!

That Christ died for our sins, and was buried, and rose again on the third day.

Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!

He appeared to Peter, and to the twelve, and to many faithful witnesses.

Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!

At last he came to us, that we might come to believe and proclaim this good news to the world.

Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Glory to you, O God: On this day you won victory over death, raising Jesus from the grave and giving us eternal life. We give you thanks for the hope we have in Jesus. We praise you for his presence with us. Because He lives, we look for eternal life, knowing that nothing past, present, or yet to come can separate us from your great love made know in Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

*Hymn #123: Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

Easter Hymn

Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!
Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
Who did once, upon the cross, Alleluia!
Suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!

Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!
Unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia!
Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!
Sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!

But the pains which He endured, Alleluia!
Our salvation have procured; Alleluia!

Now above the sky He's king, Alleluia!
Where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!

Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!
Praise eternal as God's love; Alleluia!
Praise our God, ye heavenly host, Alleluia!
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Children's Moment

Peter Thompson

Choral Anthem

The Day of Resurrection
Chancel Choir

S. R. Love

*The day of resurrection! Earth, tell it out abroad; the passover of gladness the passover of God.
From death to life eternal, from earth unto the sky, our Christ hath brought us over, with hymns of victory.
Our hearts be pure from evil, that we may see aright the Lord in rays eternal of resurrection light;
and listening to his accents, may hear, so calm and plain, his own "All hail!" and, hearing, may raise the victor strain.
Now let the heavens be joyful! Let earth the song begin! Let the round world keep triumph, and all that is therein! Let all
things seen and unseen their notes in gladness blend, for Christ the Lord hath risen, our joy that hath no end. He is risen!*

"Do You Want a Donut?"

Peter Thompson

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Celebrating Confirmation and Commissioning: Class of 2024

Presentation and Professions of Faith

Abigail Bane Baldwin
Mary Grace Baldwin

Taylor Weston Cleland
Rosa Dillard East

Charles Holt Landes
Althea Belle O'Brian

Cullen Beatrice O'Brian
Eliza Bruce Rhodes

Affirmation of Faith

derived from Faith Statements of Confirmation Class 2024

I believe in God: creator of heaven and earth, who created life in the palm of His hand and let it grow; omniscient, omnipresent, omnipotent, and eternal; who is with us and will stay with us; who has endless forgiveness and love for each and every one of his children. We are his children. Each of us, a masterpiece, that God made full of love that it couldn't all fit in our hearts, so it runs through our bloodstream. I believe in Jesus Christ: fully God and fully human; who was a human reflection of God's love and light sent to earth; who modeled forgiveness and the power of loving one another; who made the ultimate sacrifice for us, for me; who died on the cross for our sins, went to hell, and then rose to heaven. Jesus' life and example guides me to believe that fear should not hold me back. I believe in the Holy Spirit: the dove sent to protect us and give us faith, who lives freely within us and guides us down the path of life, helps us up the mountains of struggles, up the trees of happiness, and down the rivers of emotions. I believe God put a piece of Himself in everyone, and when you keep in touch with that side of you, God will guide you in the right direction and protect you regardless of what you have done. Everything we go through is God developing us as a person like a piece of art. Through my faith in God, I find strength and comfort and am inspired to make a positive difference in the lives of those around me and contribute to the betterment of society. My faith in God gives me hope and purpose, reminding me that there is a meaning to my existence.

Welcome and Charge

Celebrating the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Call to Offering
Offertory Anthem

Consecration
Marcia Thom-Kaley, soloist
Text of Hymn #391: Take My Life

J.N. Beck

***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 #122: Thine Is the Glory**

Judas Maccabeus

Thine is the glory, risen conquering Son!
Endless is the vict'ry Thou o'er death has won
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
kept the folded graveclothes where Thy body lay.

Refrain:

Thine is the glory, risen conquering Son!
Endless is the vict'ry Thou o'er death has won!

Lo! Jesus meets us. Risen from the tomb,
lovingly He greets us, scatters fear and gloom.
Let the church with gladness hymns of triumph sing:
For the Lord now liveth; death has lost its sting. [Refrain]

No more we doubt Thee, glorious Prince of Life!
Life is nought without Thee; aid us in our strife.
Make us more than conquerors through Thy deathless love!
Bring us safe through Jordan, to Thy home above. [Refrain]

***Benediction**

***Response**

Hallelujah (from Messiah)

G.F. Handel

The congregation is invited to sing. Music can be found in each pew rack near the hymnals.

Postlude

Toccata (From Symphony No. V)
Cory Whittier, Director of Music and Organist

C. M. Widor

We encourage all to share the love, joy, and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ with one another.



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.fpclly.org.

Sunday, March 31

- 7:00 am Easter Sunrise Service (Columbarium)
- 9:30 am Easter Worship (Sanctuary)
- 10:45 am Lemonade and Cookies
- 4:00 pm Walk with God

Monday, April 1 – Church Offices Closed

- 6:00 pm Scouts – Cub Pack 7

Tuesday, April 2

- 7:00 pm Scouts - Troop 49

Wednesday, April 3

- 12:30 pm Al-Anon meeting

Thursday, April 4

- 6:30 pm Chancel Ringers Rehearsal
- 7:15 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, April 7

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

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.htm

Notes for Today's Worship

Worship Leader:

Congregation

Ushers and Greeters:

Becky and Caskie Giles, Gwen Maddox, and Scott Kaley

Worship Workshop Leader:

Kim Ryan

Communion Preparers:

Diane Stroud and Bill Perkins

Sound and Video Technicians:

Will Absher & Catherine Adams

Lemonade and Cookies Hosts:

Chancel Choir

Pastor on Call:

Rev. Nancy Dawson
(804) 399-9545

Members Helping Members

March:

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

Members Helping Members

April:

Persis Tinsley (434) 258-1029
Brenda Sanzone (434) 426-8025

Connect with us!

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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

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 local musicians including our Director of Music and Organist Cory Whittier. You may recognize the works of Dan Forrest, Mark Hayes, 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.

April Potluck Dinner – Wednesday, April 24 @ 5:30pm

Come for an evening of community and food as we gather for a good old fashioned potluck dinner in the Fellowship Hall! You're encouraged to bring an entrée, side item, or dessert to share!

Vacation Bible School Registration is LIVE!

We are going on a VBS camp adventure with God at *Camp Firelight*! We are calling all children, youth, and adults to participate in a fun-filled week of Bible stories, crafts, games, and music from June 3 -7! Scan the QR code to the right to register. The registration deadline is April 30th.

If you would like to volunteer as an adult, be sure to email marcia@fpcly.org.



Youth Sunday is coming on May 12 – Mother's Day

We're excited for our children and youth to prepare and lead worship on May 12th. In the weeks ahead, they will be writing and preparing various components of worship based on our traditional order of worship with our newest members (confirmation class of 2023-24) leading the way. As a part of this service, age-appropriate bibles will be distributed to children entering Kindergarten, 3rd grade, 5th grade and 12th grade. If you are interested in working alongside these young people as they prepare, please contact marcia@fpcly.org!

IMPACT Update

So far in 2024 we are aware of over 400 hours of volunteering done by FPCLY folks in our community. Combined with our IMPACT Weekend totals, and that's almost 650 hours of pursuing change and being changed. Our community partners continue to receive higher than normal requests for service, so reach out to alex@fpcly.org for more information on how you might get engaged. Also, keep an eye on the bulletin board near the water fountains in the coming weeks for more details about what FPCLY is doing in the community!

An Encouraging Word: Now is a great time to connect and engage in the life and ministries of First Presbyterian Church. Fancy words can be used to describe what that means but, in the end, it means to be present and participate. Christ's Church here at First Presbyterian runs on 2 main things: the grace of our Lord and Savior Jesus and YOUR willingness to share the grace YOU receive from Jesus with others you know and the neighbors you meet. The church needs YOU and God wants YOU to be connected and engaged! It is even fitting to say that YOU need the church! Step in! Step up! The gift you afford yourself for doing so will be well worth your attention and devotion!

Have a great week! You are loved!