



1215 Virginia Episcopal School Road
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<https://www.facebook.com/firstpresoflynchburg/>



Welcome to First Presbyterian Church- Lynchburg, VA

Grace and peace to you!!! I wanted you to know how much of a joy it is to have you here 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. Therefore; 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 are holy. That's why we gather for fellowship, cookies, and lemonade 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

First, our Hospitality and Welcome Desk is a great source of information and all visitors, repeat visitors, and members too, are encouraged to stop and interact with the host or hostess present today. Second, our building is a wonderful resource, however, 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 in the hallway 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 2nd grade aged children are invited to participate in worship workshop in room 1 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).

World Communion Sunday

October 6, 2024

*Today's worship is structured within the Service of the Lord's Day **gathering, proclaiming, responding, and sending**, and is centered around the Lord's table, which is set for the Lord's Supper. The Lord's Supper is a physical, ritual action, mandated by Jesus, through which God acts to nourish, sustain, comfort, challenge, teach and assure us. The celebration of the Lord's Supper nourishes our faith and stirs our imaginations to perceive the work of God and the contours of the gospel more clearly.*

**Those who are able, please stand.*

All are invited to join together in saying liturgy printed in bold.

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Share the Love, Joy, and Peace of Christ with others!

Prelude

The God of Abraham Praise

arr. Joel Raney

Joshua O'Dell- Director of Music and Organist, Heather Hurd- Flute, Josh Davis- Percussion

Welcome and Announcements

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving and Lord's Prayer

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

With joy we praise you, gracious God... **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

We give thanks to God the Father that our Savior, Jesus Christ... **Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

Lord, our God, send your Holy Spirit... **We pray in the name of Jesus, who taught us to pray, Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

***Hymn: Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ**

Linstead

Let us talents and tongues employ, reaching out with a shout of joy.

Bread is broken, the wine is poured, Christ is spoken and seen and heard.

Refrain: Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again; pass the Word around: loaves abound!

Christ is able to make us one. At the table he sets the tone,
teaching people to live to bless, love in word and in deed express. [Refrain]

Jesus calls us in, sends us out bearing fruit in a world of doubt,
gives us love to tell, bread to share. God (Emmanuel) everywhere! [Refrain]

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Children's Moment

Peter Thompson

"Enough"

Peter Thompson

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Celebrating the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Minute for Mission: Covenant Giving

Call to Offering
Offertory Anthem

Welcome Table
Chancel Choir

arr. Joel Raney

*I'm gonna sit at the welcome table, O Lord,
I'm gonna sit at the welcome table one of these days, Hallelujah!
I'm gonna sit at the welcome table one of these days.*

*I'm gonna feast on the bread of Heaven, O Lord,
I'm gonna feast on the bread of Heaven one of these days, Hallelujah!
I'm gonna sit at the welcome table one of these days.*

*There's a land that is fairer than day, and by faith we can see it afar.
For the Father waits over the way, to prepare us a dwelling place there.
In the sweet by and by, we shall meet on that beautiful shore.*

*I'm gonna share my cup with Jesus, O Lord,
I'm gonna share my cup with Jesus one of these days, Hallelujah!
I'm gonna sit at the welcome table one of these days.*

Prayer of Dedication

WE GO OUT IN GOD'S SERVICE

***Hymn: *Siyahamba*/We are Marching in the Light of God**

ZULU

*Siyahamba, ekukanyen' kwenkos',
Siyahamba, ekukanyen' kwenkos',
Siyahamba, ekukanyen' kwenkos',
Siyahamba, ekukanyen' kwenkos',
Siyahamba, siyahamba, oh,
Siyahamba ekukanyen' kwenkos'.
Siyahamba, siyahamba, oh,
Siyahamba ekukanyen' kwenkos'.*

ENGLISH

We are marching in the light of God.
We are marching in the light of God.
We are marching in the light of God.
We are marching in the light of God.
We are marching, we are marching, ooh,
We are marching in the light of God.
We are marching, we are marching, ooh,
We are marching in the light of God.

***Benediction**

***Postlude**

When We Are Living (*Somos del Senor*)

arr. Joel Raney

Joshua O'Dell- Director of Music and Organist, Heather Hurd- Flute, Josh Davis- Percussion



Session Leadership

Diane Stroud, Clerk of Session
Becky Giles- '24, Education, Cong. Development
Elsie Howerton- '24, Education/ Weekday School Board
Gary Williams- '24, Outreach/ S&O/ Cong. Development
Peter Baldwin- '25, Worship
Nathan Gowen- '25, Finance
Denise McDonald- '25, Outreach/ Cong. Development
Mary Ann Tate- '25, Personnel
Marilyn Hartman- '26, Outreach/ C&N
Sam Howe- '26, Outreach/ Cong. Development
Martin Knight- '26, Facilities
John Osinga- '26, Worship
Kathryn Overstreet- '26, Education/ Weekday School Board

Staff Leadership

Alex Collier, Director of Outreach
Rev. Dr. Nancy Dawson, Parish Associate
Susan Hall, Financial Manager
Maria Karalekas, Director of FPC Weekday School
Joshua O'Dell, Director of Music and Organist
Kim Ryan, Nursery Care Provider
Jody Sprinkle, Director of Facilities
Dr. Marcia Thom- Kaley, Director of Education
Rev. Dr. Peter Thompson, Senior Pastor



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, October 6

- 9:30 am Worship (Fellowship Hall)
- 10:45 am Lemonade and Cookies
- 11:00 am Sunday School Classes
- 12:00 pm Called Session Meeting
- 4:00 pm Walk with God

Monday, October 7

- 9:00 am FPC Weekday School
- 6:00 pm Scouts - Cub Pack 7
- 7:00 pm Scouts - Troop 7

Tuesday, October 8

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

Wednesday, October 9

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

Thursday, October 10

- 7:00 am *Colin Caldwell* Men's Bible Study
- 9:00 am FPC Weekday School
- 2:00 pm *GriefShare* Class
- 6:30 pm Chancel Ringers Rehearsal
- 7:15 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, October 13

- 9:30 am Worship (Fellowship Hall)
- 10:45 am Lemonade and Cookies
- 11:00 am Sunday School Classes
- 12:00 pm Called Session Meeting
- 4:00 pm Walk with God
- 5:00 pm Meet in the Middle (Middle School) Youth
- 5:00 pm For Real! (High School) Youth

Notes for Today's Worship

Chancel Flowers:

Given to the glory of God and in memory of Scott and Dippy Reams from Gwen and Phil Maddox.

Ushers and Greeters:

Rob Cleland, Taylor Cleland, Barkley Cleland, Nathan Gowen

Worship Workshop Leader:

Pat Adams

Communion Preparer:

Diane Stroud

Lemonade and Cookies Host:

Peter Baldwin

Pastor on Call:

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

Members Helping Members

October:

Dorothy Niles (434) 509-6767
Sue Thornton (434) 944-3049

Chancel Flower Guild October:

Betsy Burton

Prayer Joys and Concerns

If you have a prayer request to share with the pastor or staff, please speak with them before or after worship, call the church office, 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 basket 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

Care and Nurture Church Notecards for Sale – Sundays until the cards are gone!

The Care and Nurture committee has created packets of 8 notecards – one set features seasonal pictures of First Presbyterian Church and the other set features a sketch of the building and a few of our stained-glass windows. The packets will be sold for \$10 each after worship starting September 22 and continuing while supplies last.

Weekday School Spaghetti Fellowship Dinner – Wednesday, October 16 from 5 to 7 pm- Fellowship Hall

The Weekday School is hosting a community building spaghetti meal and ALL are invited! Let's fellowship with them over a meal as one big First Presbyterian family. There will be spaghetti, garlic bread, and cookies to delight your tastebuds, conversation and love to delight your soul, and if that's not enough, *Balloon Dude Travis* will be here to make fun balloon creations! This is a ticketed FUNdraiser for all ages: \$6 per person or \$25 per family. Tickets will be available for purchase by cash or check (made out to FPC Weekday School) on Sunday, September 29 AND October 6. The ticket deadline is today, October 6th!

SAVE THE DATE – *Trunk or Treat* is Coming – Sunday, October 27 @ 4pm

The fall season is here, and we are gearing up for a great afternoon of costumes, candy, and community at our fourth annual *Trunk or Treat*! We are eager to find "trunk host" volunteers willing to decorate their vehicles (or themselves) to pass out candy, as well as other volunteers to assist with set up, take down, snack distribution, greeting, and other important roles. If you're interested, please contact alex@fpcly.org.

All Saints' Service of Remembrance- Friday, November 1 @ 11 am- FPCLY Columbarium

All Saints' Day is a time to honor those who have gone before us, passing from their earthly life into their eternal life. This service will include a reading of each name of those from this church community who have passed away in the last year, the ringing of a bell in honor of each person, and the sacrament of communion. There will also be a time to share the names of other individuals who have passed on followed by a bell toll.

God's Steady Presence invites Covenant Giving—join us today!

God is always with us... "a steady presence," as FPC elder Martin Knight shared last Sunday. Just as God is present with us, He invites us to renew our covenant and be a steady presence with Him: at Sunday worship, through volunteer service, and with our financial commitment. God calls us to *abundant living and abundant giving (II Cor.9:8)*. You are invited to join us in our fall "**Covenant Giving 2025 Annual Campaign**" by pledging your time, talent and treasure to support the ministry of our church.

Thank you if you have already picked up your **Covenant Giving packet** at church. If you don't have your packet yet, a Team Captain will deliver it. Need a packet? contact Susan Hall, Church Finance Manager (434-384-6231 or finance@fpcly.org). *We invite you to make your commitment by Oct. 15, and thank you!*

FPC Congregational Development Committee (David Tate, Becky Giles, David Cheatham, Sam Howe, Denise McDonald, Nancy Strosnider, Michael Trexler, Donna Whitehouse, and Gary Williams)

You are loved! Have a great week!