



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).

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

November 17, 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

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

Prelude

Morning Has Broken

arr. McMichael

Heather Hurd & Medley Lovelace, flutes & Josh O'Dell, piano

Welcome and Announcements

Prayer of the Day and Lord's Prayer

We praise you, great God, for you are ruler of the universe and have sent your Son to be the all in all- Prophet, Priest, and King- for all your people. We rejoice that he has triumphed over all the powers of this world and governs the nations in justice and righteousness. We celebrate his victory in his life, death, resurrection, and ascension to honor and might at your side. By your Spirit, claim our complete loyalty, establish Christ's rule in every land and in every heart. Accept our homage as we offer our lives in the serve of Christ's kingdom. He is Lord forever and ever. 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: Just as I Am, Without One Plea

Woodworth

Just as I am, without one plea but that Thy blood was shed for me,
And that Thou bidst me come to Thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

Just as I am, though tossed about with many a conflict, many a doubt,
Fightings and fears within, without, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

Just as I am, Thou wilt receive, wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
Because Thy promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

Just as I am, Thy love unknown has broken every barrier down;
Now, to be Thine, yea, Thine alone, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Children's Moment

Marcia Thom-Kaley

"Christ the PRIEST"

Peter Thompson

Leviticus, Isaiah 61, Luke 4:17-19, Hebrews 2:9

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Prayers of the People

**Call to Offering
Offertory Anthem**

The King of Love My Shepherd Is
Chancel Choir

arr. Mack Wilberg

*The King of love my shepherd is, whose goodness faileth never.
I nothing lack if I am his, and he is mine forever.*

*Where streams of living water flow, my ransomed soul he leadeth;
and where the verdant pastures grow, with food celestial feedeth.*

*And so through all the length of days, thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise within thy house forever. Amen!*

Prayer of Dedication

WE GO OUT IN GOD'S SERVICE

***Hymn: Live Into Hope**

Truro

Live into hope of captives freed, of sight regained, the end of greed.
The oppressed shall be the first to see the year of God's own jubilee!

Live into hope the blind shall see with insight and with clarity,
Removing shades of pride and fear- a vision of our God brought near.

Live into hope of liberty, the right to speak, the right to be,
The right to have one's daily bread, to hear God's word and thus be fed.

Live into hope of captives freed from chains of fear or want or greed.
God now proclaims our full release to faith and hope and joy and peace.

***Benediction**

***Postlude**

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

arr. McMichael

Heather Hurd & Medley Lovelace, flutes & Josh O'Dell, piano



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



**FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN**

Vision: Connect, Engage, and Draw Near to God and Others
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, November 17

- 9:30 am Worship (Fellowship Hall)
- 10:30 am Lemonade and Cookies
- 11:00 am Sunday School Classes (Last Class until Jan. 5, 2025)
- 4:00 pm Walk with God
- 5:00 pm "The Greatest Gift" Advent Study
- 5:00 pm College Cares Thanksgiving Dinner

Monday, November 18

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

Tuesday, November 19

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

Wednesday, November 20

- 9:00 am FPC Weekday School
- 10:00 am *Immerse* Bible Study
- 12:30 pm Al-Anon meeting
- 5:30 pm Fellowship Dinner – Potluck (Fellowship Hall)

Thursday, November 21

- 7:00 am *Colin Caldwell* Men's Bible Study
- 9:00 am FPC Weekday School
- 2:00 pm Grief Share Class

Sunday, November 24

- 10:15 am Lemonade and Cookies
- 10:45 am Worship (Fellowship Hall)
- 4:00 pm Walk with God
- 5:00 pm "The Greatest Gift" Advent Study
- 5:00 pm Meet in the Middle and For Real (MS & HS Youth)

Notes for Today's Worship

Key Scriptures:

Leviticus, Isaiah 61,
Luke 4:17-19, Hebrews 2:9

Sermon Theme:

Christ the PRIEST

Ushers and Greeters:

Gary Williams, Beth Williams
Maurice Hickson, Martin Knight

Worship Workshop Leader:

Laurie Sommardahl

Lemonade and Cookies:

Judy Stowers

Pastor on Call:

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

Members Helping Members

November:

Treena Koroneos (434) 944-9014
Diane Stroud (434) 485-3712

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 fpclly.org/ministries/care-nurture.html.

Sunday Morning Schedule Change

Beginning NEXT Sunday, November 24, 2024, our main congregational worship will begin at 10:45 am with a time of fellowship preceding at 10:15 am. This new time for worship will continue through Advent, Christmas, and into the New Year!

Worship, Grow, Love, Serve

"Share the Warmth" Coat Drive - Through November

Our friends at One Community, One Voice are once again collecting coats, hats, gloves, and blankets for men, women, and children throughout our area. A donation bucket will be outside Alex's office through the end of November. Many sizes and styles are needed--gently used or new items are welcomed!

"The Greatest Gift" Advent Study- November 3 through December 8 @ 5 pm

The Education Initiative would like to invite you to an ADVENT STUDY on Sundays from 5:00-7:00PM. This wonderful study features "The Greatest Gift," by Ann Voskamp, and explores the lineage of Jesus' family up to his birth. Kara Byrne is helping lead us to Bethlehem! The class has begun but all are still welcome to join and jump in when you are able!

College Cares is celebrating THANKSGIVING!- TODAY from 5-7 pm

All college students, and friends, are invited to join together for a pre-thanksgiving Thanksgiving Dinner and Fellowship at Marcia and Scott's home on Sunday, November 17 from 5 to 7 pm. Please contact Marcia (marcia@fpclly.org) if you have any questions or would like to rsvp. Let us break bread and give thanks together!!!

Fellowship Potluck Dinner – THIS Wednesday, November 20 @ 5:30pm

We hope to see you for our next Fellowship Dinner, THIS Wednesday! Come for an evening of food and fun with your church family as we gather at the table for a meal. You are encouraged to bring a dish (side item, dessert, or main dish) to share...or just yourself!

Share God's blessings--join Covenant Giving today!

Thank you to our 121 congregant units who have pledged to contribute \$472,110 toward what is now our NEW 2025 Covenant Giving goal of \$625,000! This new goal is a prudent estimate of the calculated projection of committed income that is helpful in assisting the Session in their important responsibility of setting a balanced budget for 2025. So far 45% of our congregants have pledged, and again, we thank you! We think this is a great start, however – if you haven't yet pledged--we are seeking 100% participation to help support the mission and ministries at FPCLY, including Worship, Music, Education, FPC Weekday School, Outreach, Staff Leadership, Facility care, among many others.

We need everyone's pledge to meet our campaign goal, so we invite *you* to return your commitment card and if possible, to prayerfully consider any increase you might be able to make over your 2024 commitment to the church. Commitment cards are available at the Church Welcome Desk at the entrance to the Fellowship Hall or call the church 434-384-6231. ***God's abundant love inspires us to give abundantly and live abundantly in Him (II Cor. 9:8).*** Thank you and God bless you, FPC Congregational Development Committee

Jericho Toy Barrell: November 17th through December 13th

Jericho Baptist Missionary Chapel is hosting their 47th Annual Toy Drive, benefiting kids and families throughout Lynchburg. Please drop off *NEW toys still in their original packaging* in the red barrel in the Foyer through December 13th.

Highlights of Advent and Christmas Worship Opportunities:

REMEMBERING: Sunday, December 8... Worship on this 2nd Sunday in Advent will feature a production of "Remember the Manger" with a full cast of angels, stable animals, shepherds, magi, Mary, Joseph, Simeon, Anna, and more. Come remember! Come praise the good news of Christ, the Messiah!

PRAISING: Sunday, December 15... Worship on this 3rd Sunday in Advent will feature a Service of Lessons and Carols presented by the Chancel Choir, an instrumental ensemble, and narrators. Come praise! Come encountering the good news of Christ, the Messiah, through inspirational music!

FPCLY FINANCIAL SUMMARY			
OCTOBER 31, 2024			
2024 OPERATING BUDGET			
	Year To Date		Annual Budget
	Actual	Budgeted	
<u>INCOME</u>			
Covenant Giving	\$530,306	\$541,668	\$650,000
Other Income	\$83,175	\$115,625	\$142,944
Endowment Withdrawal	<u>\$131,250</u>	<u>\$131,250</u>	<u>\$175,000</u>
TOTAL =	\$744,731	\$788,543	\$967,944
<i>Income to date was <u>43,810 Less</u> than budgeted</i>			
<u>EXPENSE</u>			
Outreach	\$47,232	\$58,750	\$72,000
Worship	\$10,314	\$9,625	\$11,550
Education	\$15,234	\$15,667	\$18,000
Personnel	\$482,939	\$532,932	\$639,519
Operations	\$65,381	\$70,389	\$83,851
Facilities	\$56,904	\$72,008	\$86,410
Utilities	<u>\$41,139</u>	<u>\$44,241</u>	<u>\$53,089</u>
TOTAL =	\$719,144	\$803,612	\$964,419
Budget Surplus			\$3,525
<i>Expense to date was <u>84,468 Less</u> than budgeted</i>			
2024 BALANCE SHEET			
Endowment =		\$1,922,389	
All Other Funds * =		<u>\$1,587,926</u>	
* Some are restricted		\$3,510,315	
<i>No unusual or unexpected gifts or withdrawals</i>			
2025 COVENANT GIVING			
COVENANT GIVING GOAL		\$700,000	
COMMITMENTS TO DATE		<u>\$394,510</u>	
COMMITMENTS NEEDED		\$305,490	
Thank you for answering God's call to give abundantly in response to God's abundant love for you.			
~ The FPCLY Finance Committee			

October Memorial Gifts

We gratefully acknowledge all memorial gifts to First Presbyterian Church and are honored to recognize them in our bulletin.

In Memory of Betty Jo Hamner, Leta Reinhardt, Bonnie Stewart, Eleanor Dennis, & Joe Clark by:

Dr. & Mrs. Jim Price

In Honor of Jim Cleland, & Joe Mullen by:

Susan Arthur