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# Welcome to First Presbyterian Church- Lynchburg, VA

Grace and peace to you from our Lord Jesus Christ!!! It is so wonderful to be together as we worship God this morning. I pray today that you will feel and experience God's presence with you and that the rest of this day is filled with opportunities for you to live into God's light and love in all you do and with all you may be with.

Today is Palm Sunday and it marks the start of Holy Week. The events framed by Jesus' entry into Jerusalem and his resurrection are some of the most dramatic and theologically important of the entire scriptural narrative. These days feature not only the drama of the triumphal entry, trial, last supper, and crucifixion but also poignant prayers and prophetic teachings of our Lord. Our focus today will be on the entry of Christ into Jerusalem to shouts of "Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!" It is important to note the irony of this day. This is the day on which Jesus entered the city in triumph, but as a part of his journey to the cross; this is the week in which the crowd's cries of "Hosanna" would soon turn to "Crucify him!" It has become my firm belief that taking the time to recall and reflect on the powerful events throughout this week, including the Holy Week Walk, Maundy Thursday Seder Meal, and Good Friday Tenebrae, help to enhance and illuminate the life-changing, earthshaking, good news and hope of Easter. I pray you will join me in the journey this week.

Many opportunities abound here at First Presbyterian Church of Lynchburg to engage, impact, and expect. Engage in the life and ministries of God's church and mission. Impact our neighbors by sharing the love and light of Christ. Expect God's faithfulness and goodness to unfold before our very eyes. We welcome and encourage all to walk together in being who God has created us to be in this time and place. God has blessed us and bestowed on us many gifts and we acknowledge the call and responsibility we have to share those blessings and gifts with one another. We try but we don't always get things right; therefore, we give thanks for God's gifts of grace and forgiveness and acknowledge the importance of offering grace to one another. May God continue to fill us and use us to bring glory to God's kingdom here on earth as it is in heaven.

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 2<sup>nd</sup> grade aged children are invited to participate in worship workshop in Room 1 (downstairs below the library) 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)).

## Interested in joining?

First Presbyterian has welcomed 20 new members over the last year, and we are ready to welcome more. 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... Palm Sunday

April 13, 2025

*\*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

The Holy City

Stephen Adams

## Welcome and Announcements

### Call to Worship: Luke 19:35-40, John 12:12-15

Leader: They brought the colt of a donkey to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they helped Jesus get on it.

People: **As he rode along, the people who heard he was coming gathered to give him a grand welcome, breaking off palm branches and spreading their cloaks on the road.**

Leader: As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples burst into enthusiastic praise over all the mighty works they had witnessed:

People: **"Hosanna! Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!"**

Leader: Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, get your disciples under control and order them to stop." Jesus answered them,

People: **"I tell you, if the disciples kept silent, the stones would do it for them, shouting praise."**

Choral Introit

Antiphonal Hosanna

G. Alan Smith

*Children's Choir and Chancel Choir*

### \*Hymn #88: All Glory, Laud, and Honor

Valet Will Ich Dir Geben

*All are invited to wave palm branches during the singing of this hymn.*

*The children up front will lay down their palms at the conclusion of the first verse and return to parents and/or guardians.*

### \*Call to Confession and Corporate Prayer of Confession

**God of heaven and earth, we give you thanks for sending us Jesus Christ in your name. Even though we profess to follow him, we confess that in times of trial we too often deny him. Forgive us and heal us, we pray. Help us to put our faith not in the princes of this world but only in the Prince of Peace. (Silent Prayer of Confession)**

### \*Assurance of Pardon

Leader: It is the Lord who helps us; who will declare us guilty? Because of the grace we received in baptism, we have nothing to fear.

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.*

**\*Sharing the Love, Joy, and Peace of Christ**

*In response to God's love, grace, and forgiveness given as a gift to us, we are called and encouraged to share those gifts with others. During this time, we invite all to share the love, joy, and peace of Christ you have been given with those around you with a handshake, fist bump, peace sign, or hug. You may also use the words: "May the peace of Christ be with you." And a response would be, "And also with you."*

**WE HEAR GOD'S WORD**

**Children's Moment**

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Old Testament Reading: Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29**

**"Micro-Movements of Faith: Participation"**

Peter Thompson

**WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**

**Celebrating the Reception of New Members**

*Welcome... Deborah Goode, Jeanne Walton, Christopher Hill, Brianna Hill, Mike Manning, Julie Manning, Rob DeRise, Brittany DeRise, Larry Redmond, Will Absher... we look forward to serving God together in mission and ministry here at FPCLY.*

**Call to Offering**

**Offertory Anthem**

**The Palms**

Faure

*O'er all the way, green palms and blossoms gay  
Are strewn this day in festal preparation.  
Where Jesus comes to wipe our tears away,  
E'en now the throng to welcome Him prepare.*

*His word goes forth, and peoples by its might  
Once more regain freedom from degradation.  
Humanity doth live to teach His right,  
While those in darkness find restored the light.*

*Sing and rejoice, O blest Jerusalem,  
Of all thy sons sing the emancipation.  
Through boundless love the Christ of Bethlehem  
Brings hope and faith to thee forevermore.*

*Refrain:*

*Join all and sing, His Name declare,  
Let ev'ry voice resound with acclamation.  
Hosanna! Praise to the Lord! Bless Him who cometh to bring us salvation!*

**\*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 #540: God Be with You Till We Meet Again**

Randolph

**\*Benediction**

**Postlude**

**To God Be the Glory**

arr. Stan Pethel

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*Fed by the Word that has been read, sung, and proclaimed,  
Inspired by the presence of God who is with us in this place and with us wherever it is we are,  
Let us all now depart from this time together, empowered and encouraged on the wings of the Holy Spirit  
who gives us the courage, strength, and hope we need each and every day.*



**FIRST  
PRESBYTERIAN**

**2025... A Year to... ENGAGE IMPACT EXPECT**

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

### Sunday, April 13... Palm Sunday

- 9:30 am Sunday School Classes for all ages
- 10:15 am Coffee, Lemonade, Goodies, and Cookies
- 10:45 am Worship (Sanctuary)... *Reception of New Members*
- 4:00 pm Walk with God
- 5:00 pm Meeting in the Middle – MS Youth Group
- 5:00 pm For Real – HS Youth Group
- 5:15 pm *Sweet Hour of Prayer* (Chapel)

### Monday, April 14

- 6:00 pm Scouts - Cub Pack 7
- 7:00 pm Scouts - Troop 7

### Tuesday, April 15

- 7:00 pm Scouts - Troop 49

### Wednesday, April 16

- 12:30 pm Al-Anon meeting
- 5:30 pm *Taking the Time to See* (Sanctuary)
- 7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

### Thursday, April 17

- 6:00 pm Maundy Thursday Seder Meal (FH)

### Friday, April 18

- 7:00 pm Good Friday- "Seven Last Words"

### Sunday, April 20... Easter

- 7:00 am Easter Sunrise Service (Columbarium)
- 8:30 am Easter Worship (Sanctuary)... *Communion*
- 10:15 am Coffee, Lemonade, Goodies, and Cookies
- 10:45 am Easter Worship (Sanctuary)... *Communion*
- 4:00 pm Walk with God

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### Pastor on Call... April 13 to April 20

Rev. Dr. Peter A. Thompson- 336.269.7270

### Members Helping Members... April

Persis Tinsley- 434.258.1029 & Brenda Sanzone- 434.426.8025

### WHEN EVERYONE LEADS...

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! To the Middle School Sunday School class for stepping up and providing Lemonade & Cookies last Sunday! And to Terry Adams, Caskie Giles, and Jody Sprinkle for all their hard work around the building, including the new wall in the Admin Office!

### Notes for Today, April 13, 2025

#### Ministers:

Congregation Gathered

#### Worship Leaders/ Preaching:

Rev. Dr. Peter Thompson  
*Senior Pastor*

Alex Collier

*Director of Outreach*

Dr. Marcia Thom-Kaley  
*Children's Moment*

#### Key Scripture:

Psalms 118:1-2, 19-29

#### Message Title:

Micro-Movements of Faith: Participation

#### Music Leaders/ Accompaniment:

Joshua O'Dell

*Director of Music and Organist*

Chancel Choir

*Choral Introit, Choral Anthem*

Josh Davis, *percussion*

Claudia Patterson, *piano*

Sara Abell, *trumpet*

Bennet Umhau, *baritone*

#### Ushers and Greeters:

David Cheatham, Bob & Noel Thomas, &  
Gary Williams

#### Worship Workshop Leaders:

Laurie Sommardahl

#### Video and Sound Technicians:

Jody Sprinkle, Will Absher, Lloyd Agnew

#### Chancel Flowers Today:

Chancel Guild

## Connect with us!

Phone: (434) 384-6231      Email: office@fpcly.org

Website: www.fpcly.org



@firstpresoflynchburg



FPC Lynchburg

### Upcoming IMPACT Service Opportunities – Save the Dates!

The Service & Outreach Committee has confirmed a few IMPACT opportunities for the rest of 2025. Stay tuned for more details and sign-ups for the following times of learning and serving together:

- Park View Café Dinner Host – June 18<sup>th</sup>, Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup>, and Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup>
- Summer IMPACT Week – August 4<sup>th</sup> through 9<sup>th</sup>

### Come, the feast is prepared!... Seder Meal- April 17 @ 6 pm

You are invited to the table of our Lord for a celebration feast of Mediterranean Fare remembering “The Last Supper”. Peter and crew will be preparing a scrumptious 3 course meal including some of the traditional elements of the first seder meals served during Passover; roast lamb and chicken, charoset, matza, humus, olives, etc. The meal is free and open to all who are able to come participate, including children. Please RSVP on the sign-up in the Foyer so we know how much food to prepare.

**First Pres Presents** will host its next event in the 2025 Fine Arts Series on Good Friday, April 18 @ 7 pm. Theodore Dubois' *The Seven Last Words of Christ* will be presented in eight movements: an introduction for soprano and orchestra followed by a movement for each of the seven words of Christ from the cross. At the end of the Seventh Word, Dubois concludes his sacred cantata with a hymn-like setting of the medieval hymn *Adoramus Te, Christe*. This serene hymn provides the listener with a foretaste of the resurrection after the compelling drama of the Passion story. This work will be performed by our Chancel Choir and soloists and will be accompanied by our organ and a chamber orchestra. Soloists will include: Grace Mead, soprano; Dr. Marcia Thom-Kaley, mezzo-soprano; Dr. Christopher Swanson, tenor; and Bennett Umhau, baritone. Brandon Mock will be our guest organist, and Josh O'Dell will be conducting. *This concert is free for all and nursery care will be provided.*

### EASTER @ FPCLY... Sunday, April 20

The Resurrection of the Lord will be celebrated at three worship opportunities this Easter. A Sunrise service will be hosted in the Columbarium @ 7 am. Easter Worship, with no choir, will be hosted in the Sanctuary @ 8:30 am and Easter Worship, with choir, will be hosted in the Sanctuary @ 10:45 am. Our traditional Flowering of the Cross will also be available throughout the day on Easter, so please bring fresh flowers from home or the store to place on the cross in the circle drive.

### G. Rudolph Leonard Scholarship Grant...Apply Now

This grant is available to active members of any Presbyterian Church that is located within a nine-mile radius of Lynchburg, VA. Applicants may be preparing for undergraduate or graduate study at a four-year accredited college, university, or theological institution. The scholarships will be awarded on merit and financial need, taking into consideration each applicant's academic record and test scores, community, school, & church activities, and other extracurricular activities. Contact finance@fpcly.org for the guidelines and application, due by 3pm on May 2, 2025.

## FPCLY LEADERSHIP

### Session

Diane Stroud- Clerk of Session,  
Education (Chair)  
Denise McDonald- Finance Dev. (Chair)  
Nancy Strosnider-Finance  
Mary Ann Tate- Personnel (Chair)  
Marilyn Hartman- Outreach/ C&N  
Sam Howe- Cong. Engagement (Chair)  
Martin Knight- Facilities (Chair)/  
Nominating  
John Osinga-Worship (Chair)  
Kathryn Overstreet- Education/  
Weekday School Board Session Rep  
David Cheatham- Personnel  
Caskie Giles- Finance/ Facilities  
Bucky Neal- Worship

### Corporation

David Tate, President  
Tom Pettyjohn, Vice-President  
William Paxton, Treasurer  
Diane Stroud, Secretary  
Johnny Alford, At-Large  
Trustees, Session

### Other

David Tate, Finance (Chair)  
Cathy Oakes, C&N (Chair)  
Gary Williams, S&O (Chair)  
Bill Perkins, Malawi Mission Partnership  
Marilyn Hartman, Presbyterian Women  
Becky O'Brian, Chancel Guild  
Arline Ore, Wedding Guild  
Joan Roberson, Bereavement  
Becky Giles, Nominating (Chair)  
Sue Thornton- Redmond & Diane Stroud,  
First Pres Presents (Co-Chairs)

### Staff

Alex Collier, Director Outreach  
Rev. Dr. Nancy Dawson, Parish Assoc.  
Susan Hall, Financial Manager  
Maria Karalekas, Director FPC WDS  
Joshua O'Dell, Director Music/Organist  
Ellie Quillen, Communications Coord.  
Kim Ryan, Nursery Care Provider  
Jody Sprinkle, Director Facilities  
Dr. Marcia Thom- Kaley, Director Educ.  
Rev. Dr. Peter Thompson, Senior Pastor

