



1215 Virginia Episcopal School Road, Lynchburg, VA 24503
(434) 384-6231 · www.fpclly.org · e-mail: info@fpclly.org
<https://www.facebook.com/firstpresoflynchburg/>



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. In the spirit of this Eastertide Season, three weeks removed from the glorious and celebrative Easter Sunday in which the tomb that once held Jesus' body is now empty, for Christ is Risen!, may we all remember that the beauty of God's goodness and glory surrounds us, God's mercy is new every morning, and the joy of the Lord shines like the noonday sun! I pray today, and the rest of this Eastertide Season, that you will feel and experience God's presence with you and know of the unconditional love and abounding hope that comes from our Lord.

PILLARS: Jesus preaches and teaches us about faith and life using parables, and there is one in particular found in Matthew 7:24-27 in which the structure of our life is compared to the structure of a house. At the base of our life as Christians is God's grace. The gift of God's grace forms the bedrock of our spiritual life. Implanted within the bedrock of grace are PILLARS, or 4 main characteristics of God, that help support a strong foundation. The foundation is a beam, connected to the PILLARS, and that beam is our faith. A life built on this foundation is one built on the promises of God. In worship the next several weeks, I would like to invite you to reflect on what a life built on God's "PILLARS" looks like: God knows (May 4), God cares (May 11), and God is willing/God is able (May 25). On May 18, we will celebrate the work God is doing and the foundation God is laying in the lives of our children, youth, and young adults as they share in worship leadership.

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 2nd 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@fpclly.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@fpclly.org) or Alex Collier (alex@fpclly.org).

Service of the Lord's Day

May 11, 2025

*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

Prelude

Grace Greater Than Our Sin

arr. Pethel

Welcome and Announcements

*Hymn #482: Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty

Lobe Den Herren

*Call to Confession and Prayer of Confession

Eternal and merciful God, you love us with a love beyond our understanding, and you set us on paths of righteousness for your name's sake. Yet, we have strayed from your way; we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, through what we have done and what we have left undone. When we cut corners and put our faith in worldly things, we are grateful, God, for your grace that sustains us and secures us. When we get tossed around by trials, we are grateful, God, for pillars of faith that reassure us of your knowledge, care, willingness, and ability to provide a strong foundation. Have mercy on us and forgive us now, so the cracks in our foundation may be filled, so our hearts may be restored and renewed. *(Please take a moment for Silent Prayer)*

*Assurance of Pardon

Leader: The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation; the old life has gone, and a new life has begun.

All: **By God, through Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and can be at peace. Alleluia, 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 23

“PILLARS: God Cares”

Peter Thompson

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

Prayers of the People and Lord’s Prayer

Minute for Covenant Giving

Call to Offering
Offertory Anthem

God Gives Us Those Who Love Us

Carter & Beall

*God gives us those who love us
to help us on our way
God gives us those who love us
To love us come what may
God gives us those who love us
That we may love them too*

*God gives us those who love us
Who give us life at birth
God gives us those who love us
Who care for us on earth
God gives us those who love us
To show what love can be*

*God gives us those who love us
Our families and friends
God gives us those who love us
Whose love both guides and mends
God gives us those who love us
To teach us loves reward*

*God gives us those who love us
Because God loves us too
God gives us those who love us
To show what love can do
God gave us Christ who loves us
The greatest love of all!*

***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 #387: Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us**

Bradbury

***Benediction
Postlude**

Blessed Assurance

arr Ed Dickinson

*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.

Sunday, May 11

- 9:30 am Sunday School Classes for all ages
- 10:15 am Coffee, Lemonade, Goodies, and Cookies
- 10:45 am Worship (Sanctuary)
- 4:00 pm Walk with God

Monday, May 12

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

Tuesday, May 13

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

Wednesday, May 14

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

Thursday, May 15

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

Sunday, May 18

- 9:30 am Sunday School for All Ages (Various Classrooms)
- 10:15 am Coffee, Lemonade, Goodies, and Cookies
- 10:45 am Worship (Sanctuary)... *All God's Children Sunday*
- 4:00 pm Walk with God

Pastor on Call... May 12 to May 18

Rev. Dr. Peter A. Thompson- 336.269.7270

Members Helping Members... May

Jenny Osinga- 434-426-1675 & Marilyn Hartman 434-665-7043

WHEN EVERYONE LEADS...

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! To the Personnel Committee and the Director of Music/Organist Search Committee for a wonderful Reception for Josh O'Dell last week!... To Kirk Todd, Bob McCurley, and Scott Kaley for leading the Eagles Aviation Group last Sunday!... To our awesome volunteer team helping with the Miriam's House move last week!

Notes for Today, May 11, 2025

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!!!

Ministers:

Congregation Gathered

Worship Leaders/ Preaching:

Rev. Dr. Peter Thompson

Senior Pastor

Dr. Marcia Thom-Kaley

Children's Moment

Dave Tate

Minute for Covenant Giving

Key Scripture:

Psalm 23

Message Title:

PILLARS: God Cares

Music Leaders/ Accompaniment:

Joshua O'Dell

Director of Music and Organist

Chancel Choir

Offertory Anthem

Bradyn Taylor

Saxophone

Ushers and Greeters:

Marilyn Hartman, Martin Knight,

Bill Semones, Becky Semones,

Alex Short, Natalie Short, John Short

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

All God's Children Sunday... Sunday, May 18

The Education Initiative is proud to present "A Christian Carol" on May 18th, All God's Children Sunday, during Worship! Please join our Children and Youth on a journey AHEAD to post-apocalyptic earth that will ask the question: *what would YOU do with a 'do over'?*

Hymn Sing and Picnic... Sunday, June 1 @ 10:45am

Please join us for an outdoor worship service of hymns and communion, taking the place of our regular worship service. We will celebrate our Malawi team as they prepare to depart and kickoff our summer programs here at First Presbyterian Church. Following the service, there will be a picnic lunch, games, socializing and music. Casual attire and fun for the whole family. Hope to see you there!

2025 Malawi Mission Team... Donation Deadline: May 18

A group comprised of FPCLY members and other folks from Central VA are preparing to travel to see our brothers and sisters in Malawi this June. They are meeting to discuss potential projects and connections, and Service & Outreach is also working to support this group. There are 2 ways you can help:

1. Pray for the team's preparations, for God's guidance, and for all the necessary details to fall into place.
2. Donate some of the following items - ball point pens, soccer balls, air pumps and needles, construction paper or other small school supplies (markers, crayons, etc.), functioning laptop computers (these can be wiped clean if you don't before donating). Items can be dropped off with Alex Collier in the Church Office until May 18th.

Potluck Dinner... Wednesday, May 21

Please join us for a potluck dinner in the Fellowship Hall!

**Park View Cafe Dinner Host... June 18
sign up now!**



SCAN HERE TO SIGN UP!

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

