



FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
celebrating & inspiring

1215 Virginia Episcopal School Road
(434) 384-6231 · www.fpclly.org · e-mail: info@fpclly.org
<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

Whether you are at First Presbyterian 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 different...

Whether you grew up Presbyterian or Baptist or Episcopalian or Lutheran or Methodist or Jewish or Agnostic...

Whether you are in search of comfort or wanting to be challenged...

Whatever reason brought you to worship today, you are welcome here. As God's children and Jesus' disciples, 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 is traditional and 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 important, and friendship is holy. That's why we gather for fellowship, cookies, and lemonade in the Narthex 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

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 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

September 17, 2023

*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

Meditation in G

S. Peberdy

Cory Whittier, Director of Music and Organist

Choral Introit

O Worship the Lord

Chancel Choir

Welcome and Announcements

***Hymn #492: Baptized in Water**

Buessan

Baptized in water, Sealed by the Spirit,
Cleansed by the blood of Christ our King:
Heirs of salvation, Trusting the promise,
Faithfully now God's praises we sing.

Baptized in water, Sealed by the Spirit,
Dead in the tomb with Christ our King:
One with His rising, Freed and forgiven,
Thankfully now God's praises we sing.

Baptized in water, Sealed by the Spirit,
Marked with the sign of Christ our King:
Born of the Spirit, We are God's children,
Joyfully now God's praises we sing.

CELEBRATING BAPTISM

Sacrament of Baptism:

Tanner Peter Thompson

Parents: Peter and Barrett Thompson

Administering: Rev. T.J. Thompson

Session Representative: Catherine Adams

Presentation of Purpose and Promise

Questions to the Parents, Congregation, and Children

Prayer of Thanksgiving over the Water

Act of Baptism

... I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. You are now a child of the covenant, may God bless you, and keep you, and may you always be open to God's guidance.

Prayer and Welcome

Leader: Tanner has been received into the one holy catholic and apostolic church through baptism. God has made him a member of the household of God, to share with us in the priesthood of Christ.

All: With joy and thanksgiving, we welcome Tanner into Christ's church to share with us in his ministry, for we are all one in Christ. We promise to love, encourage, and support him, and his parents Barrett and Peter, to share the good news of the gospel with them, and to help them know and follow Christ.

Anthem

Something in the Water
Whitney O'Brian and Robert O'Brian

C. Underwood

At this time, we welcome all children ages 4 to 2nd Grade to attend Worship Workshop

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

New Testament Reading: John 15:9-17

(pew Bible NT, p. 109-110)

"Jesus Loves Me"

Rev. Dr. Peter Thompson

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Prayers of the People

Call to Offering

Offertory Anthem

Ye Servants of God
Chancel Choir

D. Halls

*Ye servants of God, your Master proclaim, And publish abroad his wonderful name:
The name all victorious of Jesus extol: His kingdom is glorious, and rules over all.
God ruleth on high, almighty to save; And still he is nigh, his presence we have:
The great congregation his triumph shall sing, Ascribing salvation to Jesus our King.
Salvation to God who sits on the throne! Let all cry aloud, and honor the Son:
The praises of Jesus, the angels proclaim, Fall down on their faces, and worship the Lamb.
Then let us adore, and give him his right: All glory and power, all wisdom and might,
All honor and blessing, with angels above, And thanks never ceasing, and infinite love.*

*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 #304: Jesus Loves Me!**

Jesus Loves Me

Jesus loves me, this I know,
for the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to him belong;
they are weak, but he is strong.

Refrain:

Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me, this I know,
as he loved so long ago,
taking children on his knee,
saying, "Let them come to me." [Refrain]

***Benediction**

*May today there be peace within. May you trust that you are exactly where you are meant to be.
May you not forget the infinite possibilities that are born of faith in yourself and others.
May you use the gifts that you have received and pass on the love that has been given to you.
May you be content with yourself just the way God has created you.
Let this knowledge settle into your bones, and allow your soul the freedom to sing, dance,
praise and love. It is there for each and every one of us.*

***Choral Benediction**

Lord, Let Us Now Depart In Peace
Chancel Choir

G. Whelpton

Postlude

Rondo in G
Cory Whittier, Director of Music and Organist

J. Bull

We encourage all to share the love, joy, and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ with one another. All are also encouraged to join in the Narthex for lemonade and cookies.

Chancel flowers today are given to the glory of God in honor of Tanner Peter Thompson's baptism by Tanner's parents Peter and Barrett. Special appreciation to Arline Ore for the arrangement.



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

Sunday, September 17

- 9:00 am Nursery available
- 9:30 am Worship (baptism)
- 10:45 am Lemonade and Cookies
- 11:00 am Sunday School classes
- 12:00 pm College Cares
- 12:00 pm Presbyterian Women Kick Off Luncheon
- 4:00 pm Walk with God

Monday, September 18

- 9:00 am FPC Weekday School
- 9:45 am Presbyterian Women Horizons Circle
- 2:00 pm Canterbury Crew
- 6:00 pm Scouts – Cub Pack 7
- 7:00 pm Scouts - Troop 7

Tuesday, September 19

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

Wednesday, September 20

- 9:00 am FPC Weekday School
- 10:00 am Immerse Bible Study, *Fearless*
- 11:00 am *Embracing Grief: Renewing Joy* class
- 12:30 pm Al-Anon Meeting

Thursday, September 21

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

Friday, September 22

- 9:00 am FPC Weekday School

Sunday, September 24

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

Notes for Today's Worship

Worship Leader:

Quinn Jones

Ushers and Greeters:

Theresa and Charlie Burton,
Becky & Caskie Giles, and
Elsie Howerton

Worship Workshop Leader:

Rebekah Trexler

Sound and Video Technicians:

Lloyd Agnew & Ken Slusher

Lemonade and Cookies Hosts:

Kelly and Martin Knight

Pastor on Call:

Peter Thompson (336) 269-7270

Members Helping Members

September:

Dorothy Niles (434) 509-6767
Diana Smack (434) 384-7046

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.html.

Connect with us!

Phone: (434) 384-6231

Email: office@fpcly.org

Website: www.fpcly.org



Partner with God by Giving to FPCLY

1. Place your gift in the offering plate today.
2. Mail a check 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

Presbyterian Women Kick Off Luncheon – TODAY, September 17 @ 12:00pm

Gather for community and conversation in the Fellowship Hall as we celebrate the new program year with lunch around the table and inspirational insight from the Malawi mission field. Lisa Ackers and Catherine Adams from the June 2023 mission trip will enlighten and engage us with tales of their adventures!

Potluck Fellowship Dinner – Wednesday, September 27 @ 5:30pm

Come to the Fellowship Hall for a time of fellowship and good food! Please bring a dish to share (entrée, side, or dessert) as you are able! Contact Alex Collier (alex@fpcly.org), Director of Outreach, for details.

First Pres Presents Concert #2 – Thursday, September 28 @ 7:30pm

We are excited to partner with *Forte Chamber Music* for this unique concert featuring *Three Notch'd Road: The Virginia Baroque Ensemble*. This group of musicians specializes in playing instruments and a repertoire of pieces from the Baroque era of music (think 1600s – 1750s). This IS a ticketed event: \$35 for adults and free for students. Tickets can be purchased at the door or online. Scan the QR code to the right to get yours today!



Come & Be Fed Dinner #2 – October 1 @ 5:00pm



Thanks to all that participated in the conversation on September 10th! If you couldn't make it, materials from that conversation will be available on the table in the Foyer. The second conversation on October 1st is open to all—whether you were able to attend the first conversation or not! Join us for this time of fellowship and conversation. All food will be provided as well as activities for children will be provided.

Rooted and Reaching Celebration Brunch – Sunday, October 15 @ 11:00am

Let's come together and celebrate all that God has done through the *Rooted and Reaching* campaign over a catered brunch! We will share a few stories of impact, share photos and artifacts of the projects, and enjoy a meal. We will have an activity for children. Call Theresa Burton at (434) 660-7611 to RSVP!

Trunk or Treat – Tuesday, October 31st from 4-6pm

It's almost time to dust off your best costumes and car trunk decorations! Sign-ups to be a "Trunk Host" will begin shortly. Mark your calendar for this fun community event - now in its 3rd year!

You're Invited to Host Lemonade and Cookies!

We LOVE the opportunity to stay after worship and visit with folks while enjoying lemonade and treats! It's a great way to connect and engage with others! But we cannot do it without the hospitable hands of this community. If you would like to lend a hand as a host one Sunday, a few spots remain! Scan the QR code to the right to head to the online form.

You are loved! Have a great week!

