

FALL
AFRESH
ON
ME



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Welcome to First Presbyterian Church- Lynchburg, VA

Grace and peace to you from our Lord Jesus Christ!!! You are welcome here and I think it is awesome that we get to be together to worship God this morning. As we gather today, I pray you remember that the beauty of God's goodness and glory surrounds you, God's mercy is new every morning, and the joy of the Lord shines like the noonday sun! I also pray you will feel and experience God's presence with you and know of the unconditional love and abounding hope that comes from our Lord.

Here at FPCLY, Pentecost, or the Holy Spirit's arrival upon and activity within the church (which we celebrated on Sunday, June 8), has sparked a churchwide focus on spiritual gifts. Spiritual gifts are divine abilities bestowed by God to us through the power of the Holy Spirit. A focus on spiritual gifts is now guiding us through this Summer and well into this coming Fall. A sermon series called "Fall Afresh on Me" is diving deeply into the meaning of each spiritual gift mentioned in the scriptures to help us all learn how God has equipped each of us to be partners in God's mission and ministry. Complimentary opportunities for study and a variety of tools will also be available for further discernment and discovery. Equipped with this knowledge, we will all be able to work together with God to build up God's church here at FPCLY and throughout the world.

During these Summer months, I would like to encourage you to be intentional about your spiritual growth in at least one way. It could be praying, reading scripture, or coming to worship more often. It could be allowing yourself to serve others more often, teach someone something, get outside in creation, or even play more. God is all around us, each and every day. How can you be engaged in the work God is doing? How can you be an impact partner in God's work? How are you expecting God to be there in your life? And may God be with you till we meet again.

Run the Race, Fight the Fight, Keep the Faith,
Rev. Dr. Peter Thompson

Building Hospitality and Welcoming Children

Just as God's arms are open wide with grace and welcome, so too are the doors of FPCLY open wide with hospitality. We are grateful you are here today and pray you feel at home! The following are a few notes to help be a comfort and guide during your time here:

- Ushers are available and willing to assist you in finding your way or answering other questions.
- Hearing-assist devices, Large Print Bulletins, and Large Print Hymnals can be found in the Narthex.
- Wayfinding signs are also posted at all intersections throughout the building.
- 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 (ages 0 to 3) and Nursery Nook are located on this level through the Chapel in Room 101. A Nursery Care Provider is there to help assist you.
- Welcoming Children: Just as Jesus welcomes the little children to come, so we welcome children of all ages in worship. In order to make the worship service as welcoming for our littlest ones as possible, we provide worship carts in the Narthex 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.

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) or Alex Collier (alex@fpcly.org).

Service of the Lord's Day

June 22, 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

How Great is Our God

arr. Pethel

Welcome and Announcements

*Hymn #523: God the Spirit, Guide and Guardian

Bethany

God the Spirit, guide and guardian, Windsped flame and hovering dove,
Breath of life and voice of prophets, Sign of blessing, power of love:
Give to those who lead Your people Fresh anointing of Your grace;
Send them forth as bold apostles To Your church in every place.

Christ our Savior, Sovereign, Shepherd, Word made flesh, Love crucified,
Teacher, Healer, suffering Servant, Friend of sinners, foe of pride:
In Your tending may all pastors Learn and live a Shepherd's care;
Grant them courage and compassion Shown through word and deed and prayer.

Great Creator, Life-bestower, Truth beyond all thought's recall,
Fount of wisdom, womb of mercy, Giving and forgiving all:
As You know our strength and weakness, So may those the church exalts
Oversee her life steadfastly, Yet not overlook her faults.

Triune God, mysterious Being, Undivided and diverse,
Deeper than our minds can fathom, Greater than our creeds rehearse:
Help us in our varied callings Your full image to proclaim,
That our ministries uniting May give glory to Your name.

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession: Psalm 51

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love: according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.

For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.

Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment.

You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.

Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.

Do not cast me from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me.

(Please take a moment for Silent Prayer)

***Assurance of Pardon**

There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ. This is good news. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and death.

Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. God embraces me, forgives me, and strengthens me to live a renewed life. Thanks be to God.

***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: Exodus 18:13-26

New Testament Reading: Acts 6:1-7

"FALL AFRESH ON ME: To Pilot or Steer"

Peter Thompson

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn of Response: Spirit of the Living God

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me; Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer

Call to Offering

Offertory Anthem

Midnight Cry

arr. Fettke

*I hear sound of a mighty rushing wind And it's closer now than it's ever been
I can almost hear the trumpet As Gabriel sounds the chord
And at the midnight cry, we'll be going home*

*When Jesus steps out on a cloud to call God's children
The dead in Christ shall rise to meet Him in the air
And then those that remain will be quickly changed
At the midnight cry (at the midnight cry) When Jesus comes again*

*I look around me, and I see prophecies fulfilling,
And signs of the times, they're appearing everywhere
I can almost hear my Father, as He says
"Son, go get my children at the midnight cry The bride of Christ will rise"*

*And then those that remain will be quickly changed
At the midnight cry (at the midnight cry) When Jesus comes again*

***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 #522: Lord, When I Came Into This Life**

Land of Rest

Lord, when I came into this life You called me by my name;
Today I come, commit myself, Responding to Your claim.

Within the circle of the faith As member of Your cast,
I take my place with all the saints Of future, present, past.

In all the tensions of my life, Between my faith and doubt,
Let Your great Spirit give me hope, Sustain me, lead me out.

So, help me in my unbelief And let my life be true:
Feet firmly planted on the earth, My sights set high on you.

***Benediction**

Postlude

A Mighty Fortress is our God

arr. Curnow

*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.*