

FALL
AFRESH
ON
ME



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Welcome to First Presbyterian Church- Lynchburg, VA

Grace and peace to you on this Lord's Day. What a wonderful opportunity we have been gifted to be together in worship this morning and I pray the power and presence of God's Holy Spirit is felt by all in our time together. As a new page turns in our storybook of life, from July to August, from steaming hot to variably warm, from summer vacation and rest to school preparation and gearing up for fall programs, we continue to dive deeply into the work of God's Holy Spirit as it relates to spiritual gifts bestowed on us by God. If you have been here for each dive that is wonderful, I pray God is working in you. If you have been gone and haven't been able to catch up, no problem and welcome on board.

In short, we believe God has gifted us with an expression of God's Holy Spirit to support God's vision and mission of the church. Part of our call as the body of Christ is to participate in the establishment of God's kingdom here on earth as it is in heaven. It is a worldwide vision to reach all people with the gospel of Christ. As a servant leader, God desires that we know how God has gifted us. This leads us to where God would have us serve as part of God's vision and mission for the church. To do this, we have heard Paul's summary of definitions in Romans, 1 Corinthians, and Ephesians, and we have explored the meaning behind the divine enablement of administration, apostleship, encouragement, evangelism, and faith. As we continue to dive, I encourage us all to remember that God qualifies the called and I encourage us all to keep praying, "Spirit of the Living God, Fall Afresh on Me."

Throughout this Summer, I have encouraged you all 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. How is this journey going for you? Have you seen God? Felt God's presence? It is never too late to start being more intentional about your relationship with God. I encourage you to stop and listen and wait for God and then watch and witness the glory of God being revealed through the many blessings God bestows.

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. Please note: Worship Workshop will not be available for children 4 years to 2nd grade in July and August.

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

August 3, 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

Welcome and Announcements

*Hymn #507: I Come with Joy

Dove of Peace

I come with joy, to meet my Lord, forgiven, loved and free,
in awe and wonder to recall, His life laid down for me,
His life laid down for me.

I come with Christians far and near to find, as all are fed,
the new community of love in Christ's communion bread,
in Christ's communion bread.

As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud division ends.
The love that made us, makes us one, and strangers now are friends,
and strangers now are friends.

And thus with joy we meet our Lord, His presence always near,
is in such friendship better known, we see and praise Him here,
we see and praise Him here.

Together met, together bound we'll go our different ways,
And as His people in the world we'll live and speak His praise,
we'll live and speak His praise.

*Call to Confession and Prayer of Confession

Holy and merciful God, you promise to pardon all who truly repent and turn to you. I humbly confess my sin and ask your mercy. I have not always loved you with a pure heart, nor have I always loved my neighbor as myself. I have not always done justice, loved kindness, or walked humbly with you. Have mercy on me, O God, in your loving kindness. In your great compassion, cleanse me from my sin. 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. Restore to me the joy of your salvation and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit through Jesus Christ. *(Please take a moment for Silent Prayer)*

*Assurance of Pardon

As the water is poured into the baptismal font, and the good news of God is shared, know that anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. God embraces you, forgives you, and strengthens you to live a renewed life. Glory be to God. Alleluia. Amen.

*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.*

***Affirmation of Faith: A Brief Statement of Faith**

The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the church. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the church. In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

***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

*All children are welcome and encouraged to return to their seats for the remainder of worship.
Worship carts are available for those who might like an activity to learn more about God and worship.*

Prayer for Illumination

New Testament Reading: Romans 12:1-8, Luke 21:1-4

"FALL AFRESH ON ME: To give part of, share"

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.*

Celebrating the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Call to Offering

Offertory Anthem

Just a Little Talk with Jesus

*I once was lost in sin, but Jesus took me in,
And then a little light from heaven filled my soul.
He bathed my heart in love and He wrote my name above
And just a little talk with Jesus makes me whole.*

*Chorus: Let us have a little talk with Jesus, (Let us) tell Him all about our troubles
(He will) hear our faintest cry, (And He will) answer by and by
(And now when you) feel a little prayer wheel turnin', (Lord, you know) know a little fire is burnin'
(You will) find a little talk with Jesus makes it right.*

*Well, I may have doubts and fears, My eyes be filled with tears
Jesus is a friend who watches day and night.
I go to Him in prayer, He knows my every care,
And just a little talk with Jesus makes it right.*

***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 #514: Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ**

Linstead

Let us talents and tongues employ,
reaching out with a shout of joy.
Bread is broken, the wine is poured,
Christ is spoken and seen and heard.

Refrain:

Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again;
pass the Word around: loaves abound!
Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again;
pass the Word around: loaves abound!

Christ is able to make us one.
At the table he sets the tone,
teaching people to live to bless,
love in word and in deed express. [Refrain]

Jesus calls us in, sends us out
bearing fruit in a world of doubt,
gives us love to tell, bread to share.
God (Emmanuel) everywhere! [Refrain]

***Benediction
Postlude**

*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 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.*