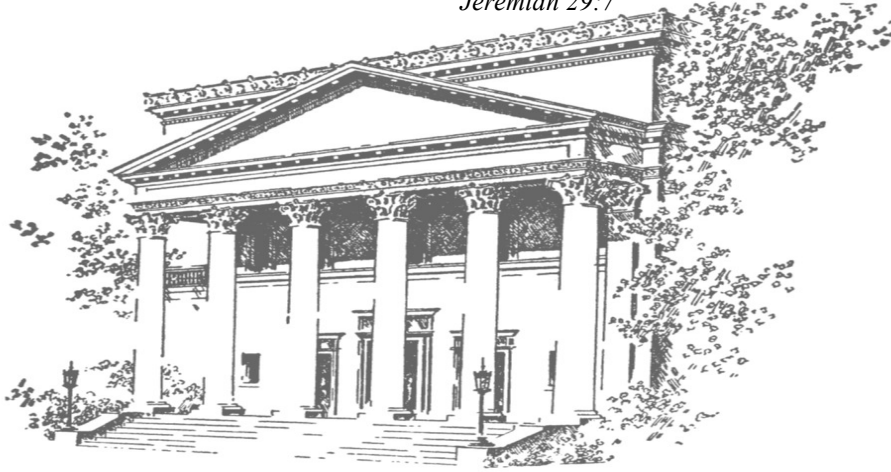


Seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you...  
And pray to the Lord on its behalf

Jeremiah 29:7



# First Presbyterian Church

16 Leon Sullivan Way  
Charleston, WV 25301-2487  
304/343-8961  
www.firstpresby.com

Pastor:  
The Rev. Dr. William C. Myers

Ministers:  
All members of the congregation

## The Worship of Our Lord

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 22, 2022

10:30 AM

Welcome to First Presby! We are grateful you chose to worship with us today. Please take a moment to sign in via the Friendship Pads located at the end of the pews. We use this information to keep in touch about church events. We hope you will take a moment to read the electronic newsletter "First Presby Press" and the weekly Green Sheet. Please share news and notes with your friends and neighbors. Thank you!

### REFLECTION FOR WORSHIP

*The following scriptures and reflection are provided for silent Meditation during the Prelude*

Acts 16:9-15 Psalm 67 Revelation 21:10, 21:22-22:5 John 5:1-9

*We have no mission but to serve In full obedience to our Lord:  
To care for all without reserve, And spread Christ's liberating word.  
The Church of Christ in Every Age*

\* indicates congregation standing, as able

### THE CHURCH GATHERS TO . . .

#### PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE Meditation on "Deep River" arr. Joel Raney

WELCOME Pastor Myers

#### CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

#### PRAISE ALMIGHTY GOD

\*CALL TO WORSHIP Pam Healy

One: God's goodness is breaking into the world.

All: **We do not expect the Spirit's movement.**

One: God gathers in those we judged to be outsiders.

All: **We witness this in-breaking as healing, wholeness, restoration, and peace.**

\*HYMN OF PRAISE #475 Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing NETTLETON

## CONFESS TO OUR FORGIVING CREATOR

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Pastor Myers

One: We are a people living in sin. We are a people in need of God's vision, praying for our eyes to be opened. We are a people in need of God's reversal, praying for our hearts to be softened. We are a people in need of God's reconciliation, praying that our faces might be illumined by God's presence.

All: Let us claim our need of God, confessing our sin together.

Gracious God,

We equate our judgment with your judgment,  
And often consider our ways to be your ways.

We define peace as the absence of disruption,  
Holding our comfort as your aim

And thinking our preferences reflect your way.

Too often we act as if we are your authoritative witnesses,  
Believing our worldview corresponds with your vision,

And our narrative contains your hope for the future.

O God, dislodge us from our sinful assumptions.

Forgive our selfish views.

Correct us with your truth and

Teach us by your Spirit.

*(Silence is kept for personal confession)*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: It is the Lord who opens eyes to see. It is the Lord who softens hearts to hear. It is the Lord who returns us to God's presence. Peace, peace, peace—you are loved. You are enough. You belong. In Jesus Christ you are restored.

All: Thanks be to our God forever and ever.

SHARING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

One: The Peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #587

Alleluia!

CELTIC ALLELUIA

LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Revelation 21:10, 21:22-22:5

NT pages 259 & 260

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Shall We Gather at the River

Robert Lowry

*Shall we gather at the river, where bright angel feet have trod,  
With its crystal tide forever flowing by the throne of God?  
Yes, we'll gather at the river, the beautiful, the beautiful river;  
Gather with the saints at the river that flows by the throne of God.*

*On the margin of the river, washing up its silver spray,  
We will walk and worship ever, all the happy golden day.*

*Ere we reach the shining river, lay we every burden down;  
Grace our spirits will deliver, and provide a robe and crown.*

*Soon we'll reach the shining river; soon our pilgrimage will cease;  
Soon our happy hearts will quiver with the melody of peace.*

SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 5:1-9

NT page 96

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

A TIME FOR CHILDREN

Pastor Myers

*(Children in grades 1-5 are dismissed to Children's Church in Room E-117 or they may remain in the sanctuary with their parents.)*

CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM Benjamin Liles Adams and James Christopher Adams  
*Benjamin & Elizabeth Adams, (parents), Hoy & Catherine Adams (siblings), Steve & Cathy Taylor (grandparents),  
Candy & Dave Strader (grandparents) and Trip & Becky Adams (grandparents)*

SONG OF JOY

One: Keep me, keep me as the apple of the eye. Hide me, hide me in the shadow of thy wings.

All: Keep me, keep me as the apple of the eye. Hide me, hide me in the shadow of thy wings.

One: Keep me,

All: Keep me,

One: Hide me,

All: Hide me. Keep me, keep me as the apple of the eye. Hide me, hide me in the shadow of thy wings.

SERMON

*"Becoming a House of Grace"*

Pastor Myers

\*HYMN #301

Let Us Build a House

TWO OAKS

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH—from *The Shorter Catechism - PC(USA)*

Pam Healy

Q. 1. What is the chief end of [humanity]?

A. [Our] chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy [God] forever.

DEDICATE OUR LIVES TO GOD

JOYS & CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

Pastor Myers

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;  
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

SUNG RESPONSE TO PRAYER #239 Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing! (vs. 2)

GELOBT SEI GOTT

*The Lord of life is risen today!  
Death's mighty stone is rolled away.  
Let all the earth rejoice and say:  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD

Pastor Myers

Offertory

Morceau No. 39

J.L. Battmann

\*Offering Response #607

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

OLD HUNDREDTH

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;*

*Praise Christ, all people here below;*

*Praise Holy Spirit evermore;*

*Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.*

\*Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

\*HYMN #320

The Church of Christ in Every Age

WAREHAM

\*BENEDICTION

Pastor Myers

\*POSTLUDE

Toccata in F Major

Dietrich Buxtehude

*Our worship continues in our service to others.*

A warm welcome is extended to all who worship today.  
May the gift of worship we offer today honor God and serve as a blessing to you.  
Worship is broadcast at 11AM on WCHS-580AM  
Worship is also available on our YouTube channel.

All children are welcome and encouraged to participate in worship.  
A nursery is provided for children from birth to 3 years old.  
It is located through the door in the front right of the sanctuary straight down the hall on the left.

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#### WORSHIP LEADERS

The Rev. Dr. William C. Myers  
Pam Healy

#### THE MUSIC TODAY

Jayson Keeton, Director of Music and Organist  
The Sanctuary Choir

#### ALSO SERVING TODAY

Chiming the Trinity: David Cottrell  
Greeters:

Audio & Video: Byron Goodew & David Cottrell  
Custodial Services: David Feibelmann

#### WORSHIP NOTES

Please remember that we worship every **Sunday Sabbath Day**, and that is available via YouTube and the radio broadcast. Thank you for connecting for worship with First Presby.

#### Staff of First Presbyterian Church

William Myers, Pastor/Head of Staff  
Jayson Keeton, Director of Music & Organist  
Jenny Pitchford, Financial Services Manager  
Anne Moses, Director of the Preschool  
Christina Belcher, Assistant Director of the Preschool

Tammy Hudnall, Office Administrator  
John Pettry, Facilities Manager  
Tim Kidd, Custodian  
Bernard Wooten, Preschool Custodian