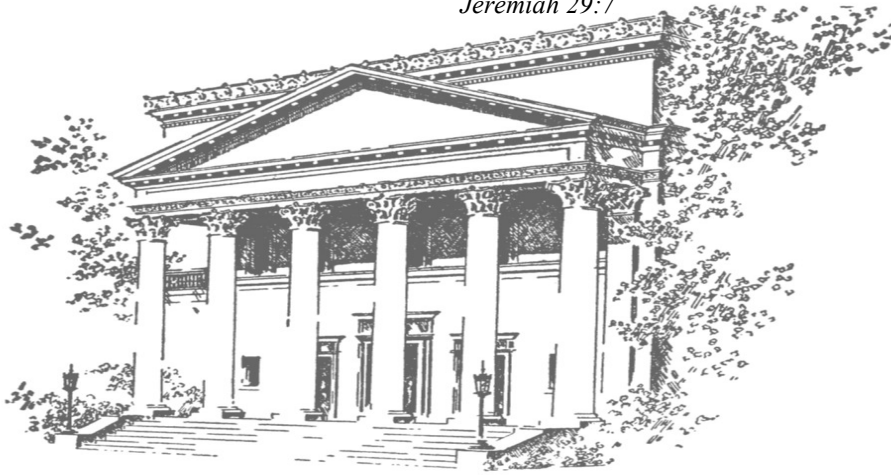


*Seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you...
And pray to the Lord on its behalf*

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

Third Sunday after Epiphany
January 22, 2023
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 for contact tracing and 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

Isaiah 9:1-4 Psalm 27:1, 4-9 1 Corinthians 1:10-18 Matthew 4:12-23

Jesus stuns us with stories like that. In his brief, troubled life, he found out what it's like to walk our streets and feel the joy and sting of relationships. He understood from experience what it means to live like us—to experience sorrow, loneliness, and what it feels like to be misunderstood. Every scar, every injustice is seen in a new light. Each of his stories shot an arrow into the crowd and pierced someone's heart. Not everyone will understand these stories, Jesus said, only the ones who are willing to change.

He Gets Us

* indicates congregation standing, as able

PRELUDE Chorale Prelude on "Helft mir Gottes Güte preisen" Johann Christoph Bach

WELCOME Pastor Myers

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

*CALL TO WORSHIP Andy Ceperley

One: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined.

All: The Lord is my light and my salvation, whom shall I fear?

One: Jesus, the light of the world, says: "Follow me!"

All: My heart says: "Go, and seek the face of God."

*HYMN OF PRAISE #401

Here in This Place

GATHER US IN

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Pastor Myers

One: God offers forgiveness to those willing to change, to people who turn to God in repentance.

All: **Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin and the sin of this world.**

Almighty God,

we confess

**we are not always faithful to you
in our thoughts and actions.**

**We are selfish in our desires and
quarrelsome in our relationships.**

**We allow fear to divide us from those who seem different, and
let distrust separate us from our sisters and brothers.**

Shine your light into our darkened hearts.

Save us from our divisive ways.

Unite us in the same mind as Jesus Christ,

who dwells with you and the Holy Spirit in perfect harmony.

(Silence is kept for personal confession)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

SHARING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

One: The Peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning (vss. 1 & 4)*

MORNING STAR

*Brightest and best of the stars of the morning,
Dawn on our darkness and lend us thine aid;
Star of the east, the horizons adorning,
Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.*

*Vainly we offer each ample oblation,
Vainly with gifts would His favor secure;
Richer by far is the heart's adoration,
Dearer to God are the prayers of the poor.*

SCRIPTURE LESSON *Isaiah 9:1-4 (OT p. 638) & Psalm 27:1, 4-9 (OT p. 503)*

Andy Ceperley

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

The People Who Walked in Darkness

Sally Ann Morris,
Mary Louise Bringle

SCRIPTURE LESSON *Matthew 4:12-23 (NT p. 3)*

Pastor Myers

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

A TIME FOR CHILDREN

*(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.)*

SERMON

"We Can't Hear the Good News, If We're Unwilling to Change"

Pastor Myers

*HYMN #726

Will You Come and Follow Me

KELVINGROVE

JOYS & CONCERNS

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Hope Center

Becky Ceperley

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 PRAYER #479

Ho, All Who Thirst (*refrain*)
*Ho, all who thirst, come now to the water,
And all whose souls are parched and weary, come and drink!
Ho, all who thirst, come now to the water,
And from your heart will flow a never failing spring!*

JACOB'S WELL

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD

Pastor Myers

Offertory

Morceau No. 4

J.L. Battmann

*Offering Response #607 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow
*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.*

OLD HUNDREDTH

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

*HYMN #765

May the God of Hope Go with Us
*First Time Unison
Second Time Canon—1. Congregation 2. Choir 3. Lindsay Marchio
Third Time Unison*

ARGENTINA

*BENEDICTION

Pastor Myers

*POSTLUDE

Morceau No. 1

J.L. Battmann

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 11 AM on WCHS-580AM
Worship is also available through a ZOOM link

All children are welcome and encouraged to participate in worship.

WORSHIP LEADERS

The Rev. Dr. William C. Myers
Andy Ceperley

THE MUSIC TODAY

Jayson Keeton, Director of Music and Organist
Lindsay Marchio, soprano
The Sanctuary Choir

ALSO SERVING TODAY

Chiming the Trinity: David Cottrell
Greeters: Donna Hively, Amy Cottrell

Sound: David Cottrell and Byron Goodew
Custodial Services: David Feibelman

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
Diana Vorhees, Office Administrator
Margie Myers, Interim Christian Education Director

Anne Moses, Director of the Preschool
Erin Stone, Preschool Office Administrator
Bernard Wooten, Preschool Custodian
Steven Barrett, Facilities Manager