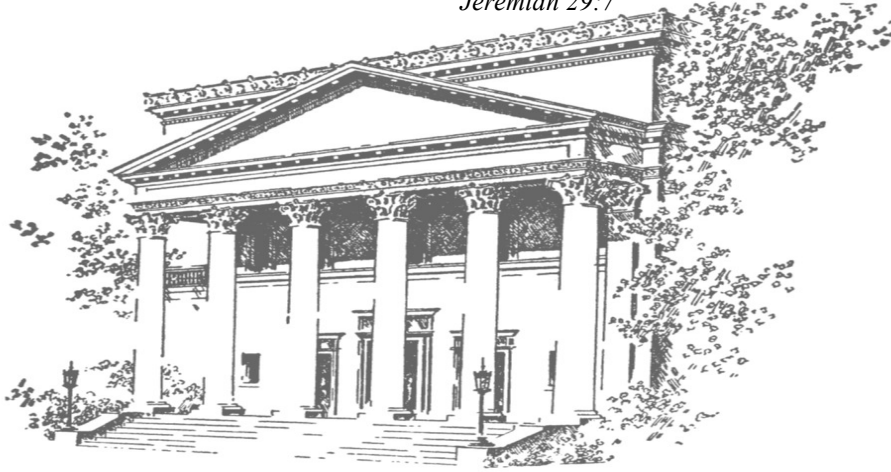


Seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you...
And pray to the Lord on its behalf

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

Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 19, 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

1 Samuel 16:1-13 Psalm 23 Ephesians 5:8-14 John 9:1-41

This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.

1 John 4:10-12

* indicates congregation standing, as able

THE CHURCH GATHERS TO . . .

PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE Watch and Pray Matthew McConnell

WELCOME Pastor Myers

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

PRAISE ALMIGHTY GOD

*CALL TO WORSHIP Pastor Myers

One: The Lord leads us like a shepherd.
All: God nourishes our lives and restores our souls.
One: The Lord is with us, even in the darkest valley.
All: God's goodness and mercy are always close.

*HYMN OF PRAISE #806 I'll Praise My Maker OLD 113TH

CONFESS TO OUR FORGIVING CREATOR

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Ed Thompson

One: Jesus calls us to enter the joy of discipleship, the joy of following in his way. But sin clings closely, and we struggle to respond fully to Christ's invitation.

All: Let us seek God's forgiveness so that we may know more deeply the joy God intends.

God of perfect love,
You continually bring forth life,
Transforming sadness to joy,
And despair to hope.
We are weak but you are strong.

Our ways are flawed,
But your ways are true.
We are seldom right,
But you are never wrong.
Forgive us, redeem us, transform us.
Take away the sin that burdens us,
And restore us to the people
You would have us be,
For the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior.
Amen.

(Silence is kept for personal confession)

KYRIE ELEISON

Lord, Have Mercy upon Us
*Lord, have mercy upon us;
Christ, have mercy upon us;
Lord, have mercy upon us*

MERBECKE

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Relentlessly, God seeks us out. With abundant grace and boundless mercy, God seeks us out.

All: This is good news! In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #581 Glory Be to the Father

GLORIA PATRI

*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.*

LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSON

1 Samuel 16:1-13 (OT p. 259) & Psalm 23 (OT p. 501)

Pastor Myers

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Fairest Lord Jesus
Tom Marchio, tenor

CRUSADERS' HYMN

SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 9:1-41 (NT p. 102)

Ed Thompson

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.)*

SERMON

"Beyond Blindness"

Ed Thompson

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.

WORSHIP LEADERS

The Rev. Dr. William C. Myers
Ed Thompson, General Presbyter

THE MUSIC TODAY

Jayson Keeton, Director of Music and Organist
Tom Marchio, tenor
The Sanctuary Choir

ALSO SERVING TODAY

Chiming the Trinity: David Cottrell
Greeters: Kathy Bruner, Art Doumaux
Carol Susman

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
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
Keith Avery, Custodial Services