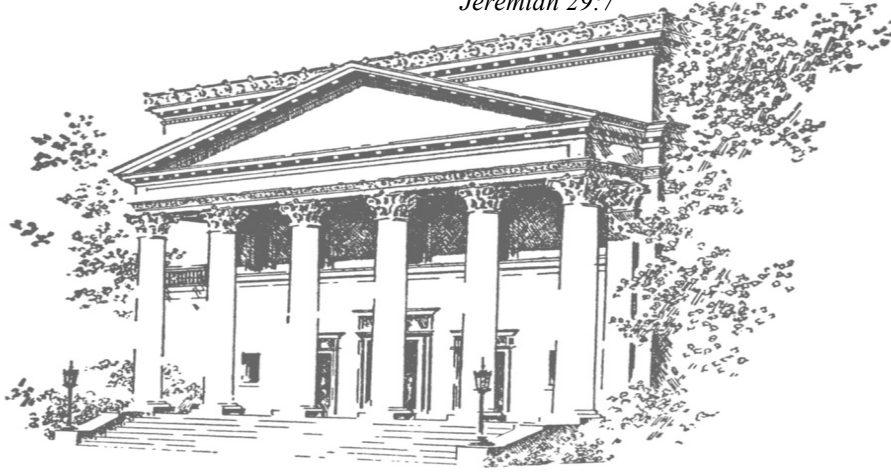


Seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you...
And pray to the Lord on its behalf

Jeremiah 29:7



First Presbyterian Church

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

Pastors:
The Rev. Dr. William C. Myers
The Rev. Marietta Macy

Ministers:
All members of the congregation

The Worship of Our Lord

Easter
March 31, 2024
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 are provided for silent Meditation during the Prelude.

Acts 10:34-43 Isaiah 25:6-9 Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 John 20:1-18 Mark 16:1-8

*"The stone has rolled away And death cannot imprison!
O sing this Easter Day, For Jesus Christ has risen, has risen, has risen!"*

*Shirley Erena Murray,
Because You Live, O Christ*

* indicates congregation standing, as able

THE CHURCH GATHERS TO . . .

PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE	Fanfare	Bart Leys, arr. Jayson Keeton
INTROIT	I Know That My Redeemer Liveth (from Messiah)	G.F. Handel
WELCOME	One: He is risen! All: He is risen, indeed!	Pastor Myers
CHIMING OF THE TRINITY		

PRAISE ALMIGHTY GOD

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Beth Vorhees

One: Do not be afraid; I know you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here.
He has been raised!

All: Alleluia!

Cantor: *Low in the grave he lay, Jesus my Savior. Waiting the coming day, Jesus my Lord!*

One: Come, with amazement and great joy. Come with wonder and praise.
Even in the deserts of our lives,

All: Let us shout the good news!

Cantor: *Vainly they watch his bed, Jesus my Savior. Vainly they seal the dead, Jesus my Lord!*

One: Christ is risen!

All: Christ is risen indeed!

Cantor: *Death cannot keep his prey, Jesus my Savior. He tore the bars away, Jesus my Lord!*

All: *(Sung, see insert)*

Up from the grave he arose, with a mighty triumph o'er his foes;
He arose a victor from the dark domain, and he lives forever with his saints to reign.
He arose! He arose! Hallelujah! Christ arose!

*HYMN OF PRAISE #232

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

EASTER HYMN

CONFESS TO OUR FORGIVING CREATOR

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(unison)*

Pastor Macy

One: Jesus rising from the dead assures us that we, too, have been given new life.

All: Let us confess our sin before God and each other, certain of God's mercy, hopeful of God's forgiveness

On this bright and joyful day,
We bring our whole selves to you, great God,
Honestly naming the truth about our lives.
We are sinking under the weight of shame, judgment, and self-pity,
Feeling closer to hell than heaven.
Christ, rend our veil of tears.
Restore us. Renew us. Revive us.
In the name of the risen Christ we pray.

(Silence is kept for personal confession)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: God who has raised Jesus from the dead has not given us over to death. In the name of Jesus Christ,
we are forgiven.

All: Once we were lost and condemned to death—now Christ has become our life and salvation.
Thanks be to God!

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *(insert)*

Awakening Chorus

Charles H. Gabriel

*SHARING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Pastor Macy

One: The Peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Isaiah 25:6-9 *(OT p. 652)*

Beth Vorhees

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Shout Hallelujah to the Risen Lamb

Victor C. Johnson

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Mark 16:1-8 *(NT p. 17)*

Pastor Myers

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

"Faith over Fear!"

Pastor Myers

*HYMN #238

Thine Is the Glory

JUDAS MACCABEUS

DEDICATE OUR LIVES TO GOD

JOYS & CONCERNS

Pastor Macy

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD

Pastor Macy

Offertory

Good Christians All, Rejoice

arr. Cynthia Dobrinski

First Presby Handbells

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION *(insert)*

Pastor Myers & Pastor Macy

Invitation to the Lord's Table

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord's Prayer *(unison)*

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.

The Words of Institution

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

This morning we share the bread and the cup together, gathered and scattered, united in Christ at the Table.

Prayer of Thanksgiving after Communion *(unison)*

Gracious God, you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. You have fed us with the bread of life, and renewed us for your service. Filled with your Spirit help us who have shared Christ's body and received this cup, to be Christ's faithful disciples so our daily living may be part of the life of your kingdom, and our love be your love reaching out into the life of the world; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

*HYMN #233

The Day of Resurrection!

LANCASHIRE

*BENEDICTION

Pastor Myers

*POSTLUDE

Finale

Camille Saint-Saëns, arr. Jayson Keeton

(Excerpts, from Symphony No. 3, "Organ")

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.

WORSHIP LEADERS

The Rev. Dr. William C. Myers
The Rev. Marietta Macy
Beth Vorhees

THE MUSIC TODAY

Jayson Keeton, Director of Music & Organist
Lindsay Marchio, soprano
The Sanctuary Choir
First Presby Handbells
Kathy Lynch, handbell director
David Porter, trumpet
Jeremy Severn, trumpet
Todd Wilson, trumpet
Marsha Palmer, horn
Steve Lawson, horn
Ben Stingo, trombone
Rick Tolbert, trombone
Garrett Maner, tuba
Seth Robinson, percussion
Brandon Willard, percussion

ALSO SERVING TODAY

Chiming the Trinity: David Cottrell
Greeters: Kim, Maddie and Eli Smith
Harriet Hoy

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.

The Flowers in the Sanctuary this Sunday are given for the glory of God and in loving memory of William R. and Betty J. Lickert by their children, Constance, Mary and William, Jr.

The Staff of First Presbyterian Church

William Myers, Senior Pastor/Head of Staff
Marietta Macy, Associate Pastor of Christian Education
Jayson Keeton, Director of Music & Organist
Jenny Pitchford, Financial Services Manager
Diana Vorhees, Office Administrator

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