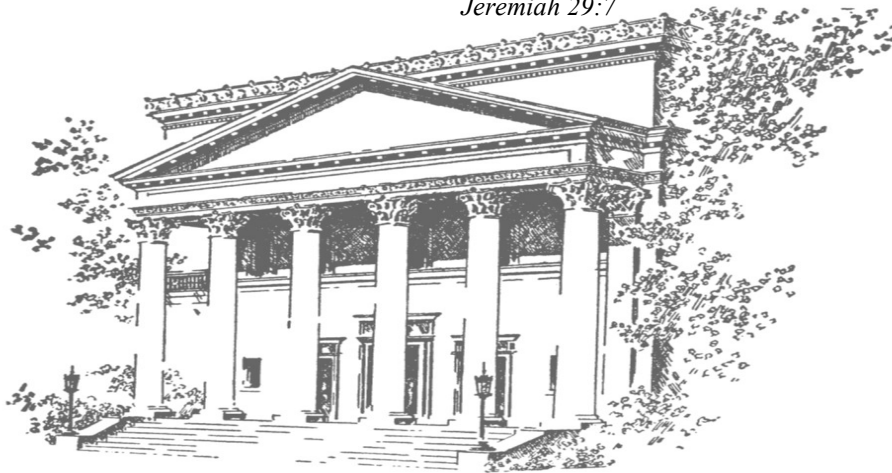


Seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you...
And pray to the Lord on its behalf

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

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

July 14, 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 lectionary readings are provided for silent Meditation during the Prelude.

Semicontinuous

2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19 Psalm 24

Complementary

Amos 7:7-15 Psalm 85:8-13 Ephesians 1:3-14 Mark 6:14-29

The good news calls our whole way of existence into question. If we are indeed 'in God's image,' then the central task of our life is covenant-making and covenant-keeping. It is a promise both rich and heavy for us to say that finally we shall be like God... Our central human vocation is to be with brothers and sisters and for brothers and sisters. That is who God is... that is who we are called to be, expected to be, promised to be.

Walter Brueggeman

* indicates congregation standing, as able

THE CHURCH GATHERS TO . . .

PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE Voluntary in C Major John Stanley
WELCOME Jayson Keeton
CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

PRAISE ALMIGHTY GOD

*CALL TO WORSHIP Terry Potesta

One: The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live therein,

All: for God has founded it on the seas and established it on the rivers.

One: Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord? And who shall stand in God's holy place?

All: Those who have clean hands and pure hearts, who do not lift up their souls to what is false and do not swear deceitfully.

One: Such is the company of those who seek God, who seek the face of the God of Jacob.

All: O God, we seek your face! Let us worship God with gladness.

CONFESS TO OUR FORGIVING CREATOR

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Jayson Keeton

One: Praise is on our lips, but in our hearts we know how far we have fallen from the glory of God.
Yet God meets us in our sin, picks us up, and promises forgiveness.

All: Let us make our confession and open ourselves to God's mercy.

Ever-present God,
There is no place where you are not with us.
You see us at our worst and at our best.
There is much we would hide from you -
The ways we harm your creation,
The ways we mistreat others,
The ways we turn away when we should turn toward.
Even as you know us, forgive us.
Guide our thoughts, our words, our actions,
That you may delight in us as we delight in you.

(Silence is kept for personal confession)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Jayson Keeton

One: Friends, the Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness. We need not fear God's judgment but rather rejoice in the Lord's saving grace that frees and transforms us. Believe the good news; in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

All: Praise be to God for the mercy and grace that forgives our sins and sets us free!

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #288 Spirit of the Living God

LIVING GOD

*SHARING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Jayson Keeton

One: The Peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Amos 7:7-15 (OT p. 855) & Psalm 24 (OT p. 502)

Terry Potesta

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Simple Gifts
Joe Marchio, organ

Russell Schulz-Widmar

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Mark 6:14-29 (NT p. 40)

Jayson Keeton

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-117/119 or they may remain in the sanctuary with their parents.)

Rev. Marchio

SERMON

Rev. Marchio

*HYMN #321

The Church's One Foundation

AURELIA

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH—from the Confession of 1967 - PC(USA)

Terry Potesta

To be reconciled to God is to be sent into the world as God's reconciling community. This community, the church universal, is entrusted with God's message of reconciliation and shares God's labor of healing the enmities which separate people from God and from each other. Christ has called the church to this mission and given it the gift of the Holy Spirit. The church maintains continuity with the apostles and with Israel by faithful obedience to Christ's call.

DEDICATE OUR LIVES TO GOD

JOYS & CONCERNS

Rev. Marchio

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 #286 Breathe on Me, Breath of God

TRENTHAM

*Breathe on me, Breath of God;
Fill me with life anew,
That I may love what thou dost love,
And do what thou wouldst do.*

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD

Rev. Marchio

Offertory

Adagio

J.C.H. Rinck

(Please bring your offering forward during the offertory.)

*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 #370

This Is My Father's World

TERRA BEATA

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Marchio

*POSTLUDE

Toccata in C Major

Johann Pachelbel

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
Rev. T. Joseph Marchio
Jayson Keeton
Terry Potesta

Rev. T. Joseph Marchio, a native of Charleston, is Pastor and Director of Music at First Congregational Church of Chatham, Massachusetts. He is also currently the Music Director of the Chatham Chorale. He holds degrees from The College of Wooster, Yale University, and Boston Conservatory, where he received his master of music degree in conducting, studying under Dr. William Cutter.

THE MUSIC TODAY

Jayson Keeton, Director of Music and Organist
Joe Marchio, organ

Joe Marchio will return to First Presby in September to present an organ recital - the first event in our Fall 2024 Concert Series. Stay tuned for more details.

ALSO SERVING TODAY

Chiming the Trinity: David Cottrell
Greeters: June Mills, Terry Potesta
Jordan, Kathryn, Stella and Evie Pinto

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 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

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