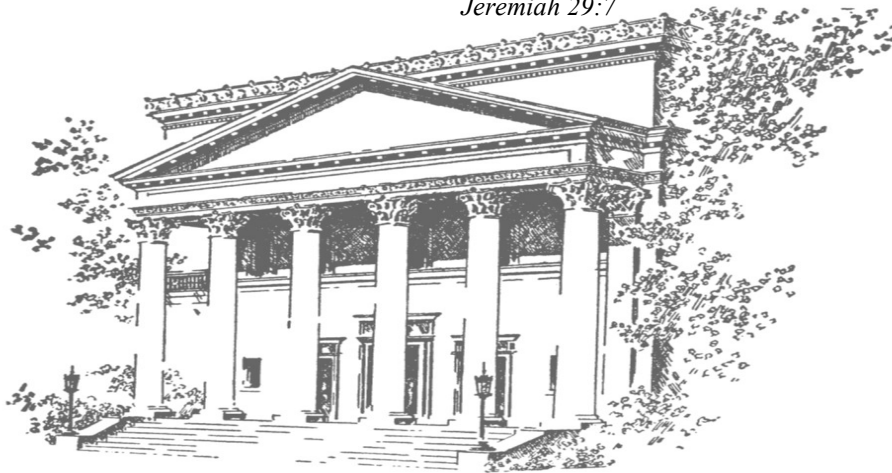


Seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you...  
And pray to the Lord on its behalf

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

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

July 7, 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 5:1-5, 9-10 Psalm 48

#### Complementary

Ezekiel 2:1-5 Psalm 123 2 Corinthians 12:2-10 Mark 6:1-13

*It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us—that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion—that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain—that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom—and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.*

Abraham Lincoln  
The Gettysburg Address

\* indicates congregation standing, as able

### THE CHURCH GATHERS TO . . .

#### PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Prelude on "My Country, 'Tis of Thee"

arr. Eleanor Whitsett

WELCOME

Pastor Myers

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

#### PRAISE ALMIGHTY GOD

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Bob Welty

One: Beloved, let us gather together with glad and generous hearts.

All: For many signs and wonders are being done among us.

One: Let us break bread together and share our lives in common.

All: Let us give what we can to all who have needs, so all people may regard us with good will.

One: Let us devote ourselves to our prayers and to the gospel.

All: For in this way God will add to our numbers every day.

CONFESS TO OUR FORGIVING CREATOR

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Pastor Myers

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,  
despair to hope,  
death to life.

We look to you to change our hearts,  
to take away the sin that burdens us,  
and to restore us to the people you would have us be.

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)*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Beloved, once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

All: In the name of Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #288 Spirit of the Living God

LIVING GOD

\*SHARING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Pastor Myers

One: The Peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Ezekiel 2:1-5 (OT p. 770)

Bob Welty

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

This Is My Song Jean Sibelius, Lloyd Stone, Georgia Harkness

This is my song, O God of all the nations, a song of peace for lands afar and mine.  
This is my home, the country where my heart is; here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine;  
But other hearts in other lands are beating with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.

My country's skies are bluer than the ocean, and sunlight beams on cloverleaf and pine.  
But other lands have sunlight too, and clover, and skies are everywhere as blue as mine.  
So hear my song, O God of all the nations, a song of peace for their land and for mine.

This is my prayer, O Lord of all earth's kingdoms: thy kingdom come; on earth thy will be done.  
Let Christ be lifted up till all shall serve him, and hearts united learn to live as one.  
So hear my prayer, O God of all the nations: myself I give thee; let thy will be done.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Mark 6:1-13 (NT p. 40)

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

SERMON "Proclaiming God's Vision in Exile" Pastor Myers

\*HYMN #338 O Beautiful for Spacious Skies MATERNA

DEDICATE OUR LIVES TO GOD

JOYS AND CONCERNS Pastor Myers

\*OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD Pastor Myers  
Offertory Adagio J.C.H. Rinck

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION (insert) Pastor Myers  
Invitation to the Lord's Table

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

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.

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

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 on this Day of Pentecost, 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 #340 This Is My Song FINLANDIA

\*BENEDICTION Pastor Myers

\*POSTLUDE Lift Every Voice and Sing J. Rosamond Johnson

*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.

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#### WORSHIP LEADERS

The Rev. Dr. William C. Myers  
Bob Welty

#### THE MUSIC TODAY

Jayson Keeton, Director of Music and Organist  
Tom Marchio, tenor

#### ALSO SERVING TODAY

Chiming the Trinity: David Cottrell  
Greeters: June Mills  
Marty Martin

Audio & Video: Byron Goodew & David Cottrell  
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.

#### 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