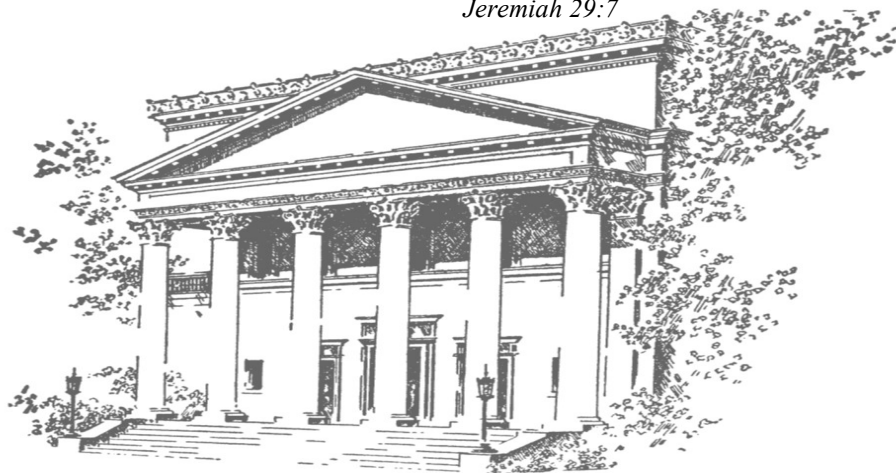


Seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you...
And pray to the Lord on its behalf

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

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

August 4, 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 11:26-12:13a Psalm 51:1-12

Complementary

Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15 Psalm 78:23-29 Ephesians 4:1-16 John 6:24-35

I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.
Ephesians 4:1-7

* indicates congregation standing, as able

THE CHURCH GATHERS TO . . .

PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE Chorale Prelude on "Vater unser im Himmelreich" Johann Christoph Bach

WELCOME Pastor Myers

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

PRAISE ALMIGHTY GOD

*CALL TO WORSHIP Lindsay Marchio

One: All you with grumbling stomachs, hungry for bread, nourishment, and abundance:

All: draw near to God.

One: All you with dry throats, thirsting for water, wisdom, and justice:

All: draw near to God.

One: All you with empty arms, searching for a warm embrace, a meaningful life, and a loving community:

All: draw near to God.

CONFESS TO OUR FORGIVING CREATOR

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Pastor Myers

One: When we gather to worship God, we remember we are God's people and realize we have often preferred our own way instead of God's.

All: Trusting God's promise to create anew, let us confess our sin before God and each other.

O God of mercy,
 We confess that we live self-centered lives.
 We are your children,
 But we turn from your wisdom
 And walk in our own ways.
 We live carelessly and squander time.
 We are foolish and fail to understand your will.
 You offer the joy of your Spirit,
 Yet we waste away in sin and grief.
 You offer the life of your Word,
 Yet we turn away in doubt and despair.
 Forgive us, God of grace.
 By the power of your Spirit make us more tender and kind,
 Living as your beloved children,
 Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

(Silence is kept for personal confession)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: If God is for us, who is against us? In Jesus Christ you are set free. Know you are forgiven, and be at peace.

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

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #240 Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks (vss. 1 & 4)

ALLELUIA NO. 1

*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 Exodus 16:2-4,9-15(OT p. 62) & Ephesians 4:1-16 (NT p. 193)

Lindsay Marchio

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

O God Have Mercy
(from Saul)

Felix Mendelssohn

O God have mercy upon me and blot out my transgressions
 According to thy loving kindness, Yea, even for thy mercy's sake!
 Deny me not, O cast me not away from thy presence,
 And take not thy spirit from me, O Lord.
 Lord! A broken heart and a contrite heart is offered before thee;

I will speak of thy salvation, I will teach transgressors,
 And sinners shall be converted unto thee.
 Then open thou my lips, O Lord!
 And my mouth shall shew forth thy glorious praise!
 O blot out my transgressions, according to thy loving kindness, Lord!
 And for thy mercy's sake, Lord.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 6:24-35 (NT p. 98)

Pastor Myers

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

A TIME FOR CHILDREN Barefoot Sunday Pastor Myers
Valerie Saunders - Asst. Manager Oakwood Terrace
Rashida Gelabert - Property Manager Oakwood Terrace
(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.)

SERMON "Trusting God's Providence" Pastor Myers

*HYMN #504 We Come as Guests Invited WIE LIEBLICK DER MAIEN
DEDICATE OUR LIVES TO GOD

*OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD Pastor Myers
Offertory Lento J.L. Battmann

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 Pastor Myers
Gracious God, how can we thank you for such a gift? For you have met us, fed us, drawn us to you, and bound us to one another. Now send us out to share your love and proclaim our hope until Christ comes again. Amen

*HYMN #343 Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life GERMANY

*BENEDICTION Pastor Myers

*POSTLUDE Maestoso J.L. Battmann

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
Lindsay Marchio

CHILDRENS CHURCH LEADERS

Amy Isaac
Sandy Campbell

THE MUSIC TODAY

Jayson Keeton, Director of Music and Organist
Tim Holbrook, baritone

NURSERY VOLUNTEERS

Margaret Jones
Becky Adams

ALSO SERVING TODAY

Chiming the Trinity: David Cottrell
Greeters: Sherry & Jack Harrison

Audio & Video: Byron Goodew & David Cottrell
Custodial Services: Bernard Wooten

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