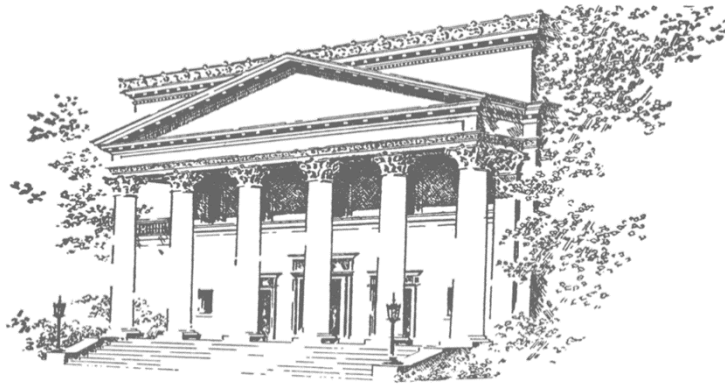


Seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you... and pray to the Lord on its behalf
for in its welfare you will find your welfare.

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

The Second Sunday of Easter

April 12, 2026

10:30am

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 to keep in touch about church events. We hope you will take a moment to read about news and events happening in the life of the church, found in the weekly Green Sheet. Please share news and notes with your friends and neighbors!

REFLECTION FOR WORSHIP

*"If you are going to walk with Jesus Christ, you are going to be opposed.
In our days, to be a true Christian is really to become a scandal."
- George Whitefield*

*The following lectionary readings are provided for silent meditation during the prelude:
Acts 2:14a, 22-32 • Psalm 16 • 1 Peter 1:3-9 • John 20:19-31*

*indicates congregation standing, as able

THE CHURCH GATHERS TO...

PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

OPENING VOLUNTARY Trumpet Tune (from *Voluntary No. 1*) John Stanley

INTROIT The Strife Is O'er Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina
The congregation is invited to join in singing the final Alleluias.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
The strife is o'er, the battle done; the victory of life is won;
The song of triumph has begun. Alleluia!



WELCOME Pastor Myers

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

PRAISE ALMIGHTY GOD

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Barb Hopta

One: Christ is risen.

All: He is risen indeed.

One: When we gather in fear or uncertainty,

All: Christ meets us with peace.

One: When hope feels fragile,

All: God gives us a living hope.

One: When we wonder if we are enough,

**All: Christ calls us and sends us. Let us worship the risen Lord,
who is still showing up among us.**

*PRAYER OF ADORATION

Barb Hopta

**All: Risen Christ, You come to us again and again - not waiting for us to be ready,
but meeting us as we are. You speak peace into our fear, breathe life into weary hearts,
and plant hope where none seemed possible. Open us to your presence - our eyes to see
you, our hearts to trust you, our lives to follow you. For you are alive and at work among
us, now and always. Amen.**

*HYMN OF PRAISE #245 Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

LLANFAIR

CONFESS TO OUR FORGIVING CREATOR

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Pastor Myers

One: Christ offers peace, new life, and hope – even when we refuse it.

All: Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

Gracious God,

We don't always live as Easter people.

We cling to fear instead of your peace.

We settle for what is safe instead of your new life.

We doubt your power to change us and this world.

Forgive us.

Meet us in our questions.

Speak your peace again.

Renew us by your grace.

**Help us trust that you are still at work –
and your story is not finished.**

(Silence is kept for personal confession.)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Hear the good news: The risen Christ come to his disciples and says, "Peace be with you."
That same peace is for you.

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, renewed, and set free to live in hope. Thanks be to God!

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE** Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!

HALLE, HALLE



***SHARING 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

Acts 2:14a, 22-32

Barb Hopta
page 119, New Testament

SCRIPTURE LESSON

1 Peter 1:3-9

Barb Hopta
page 232, New Testament

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia

Tanzanian melody, Bernard Kyamanywa

Christ has arisen, alleluia. Rejoice and praise him, alleluia.

For our redeemer burst from the tomb, even from death, dispelling its gloom.

Let us sing praise to him with endless joy.

Death's fearful sting he has come to destroy.

Our sin forgiving, alleluia! Jesus is living, alleluia!

For three long days the grave did its worst until its strength by God was dispersed.
He who gives life did death undergo, and in its conquest his might did show.

The angel said to them, "Do not fear. You look for Jesus who is not here.
See for yourselves the tomb is all bare. Only the grave clothes are lying there."

"Go spread the news: he's not in the grave. He has arisen this world to save.
Jesus' redeeming labors are done. Even the battle with sin is won."

Christ has arisen to set us free. Alleluia, to him praises be.
Jesus is living! Let us all sing; he reigns triumphant, heavenly King.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 20:19-31

Pastor Myers
page 115, New Testament

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

A TIME FOR CHILDREN

Pastor Myers

Birth - K may meet in the Nursery (Room 114) for a lesson and a snack.
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

"Still Showing Up"

Pastor Myers

***HYMN 231**

Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers

SUO GAN

DEDICATE OUR LIVES TO GOD

JOYS & CONCERNS

Pastor Myers

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor Myers

All: 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

Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing

GELOBT SEI GOTT

Good Chris - tians all, re - joice and sing! Now is the tri - umph
of our King! To all the world glad news we bring:
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

OFFER OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD

Please bring your offering forward during the offertory.

You may also text "firstpresby" to 73256 to give from your mobile device.

OFFERTORY

Adagio (from *Voluntary No. 1*)

John Stanley

***OFFERING RESPONSE #607** Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all people here below
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

OLD HUNDREDTH

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & DEDICATION**

Pastor Myers

GO FORTH TO SERVE

***HYMN #238**

Thine Is the Glory

JUDAS MACCABEUS

***BENEDICTION**

Pastor Myers

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Allegro (from *Voluntary No. 1*)

John Stanley

OUR WORSHIP CONTINUES IN OUR SERVICE TO OTHERS.

Worship is broadcast at 11:00am on WCHS 580AM

Worship is also available on our YouTube channel: First Presby WV

Follow us on Facebook: First Presbyterian Church Charleston, WV

WORSHIP LEADERS

The Rev. Dr. William C. Myers
Barb Hopta

NURSERY

Margaret Jones

AUDIO & VIDEO

Byron Goodew
David Cottrell

THE MUSIC TODAY

Jayson Keeton, Director of Music & Organist
The Sanctuary Choir

CUSTODIAL SERVICES

David Feibelmann

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IN CASE OF EMERGENCY:

An AED machine, Pediatric/Adult Resuscitators, and a First Aid Kit are located in the main church hallway on the wall by the front offices.

THE STAFF OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

William Myers, Pastor/Head of Staff
Jayson Keeton, Director of Music & Organist
Jenny Pitchford, Financial Services Manager
Susan Smith, Christian Education Coordinator
Diana Vorhees, Office Administrator
Chelsea Greathouse, Office Assistant

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

An open letter to the congregation from Susan Smith, Christian Education Coordinator

I was recently diagnosed HER2Positive breast cancer, stage 2a. I have had surgery and will start chemotherapy on Monday, April 13th. I will receive chemo treatments once every three weeks for about a year. I know prayer works, so I welcome your prayers for a good outcome and as few side effects from chemo as possible. I am staying positive as I have a great care team working with me and have many people praying for me. I am comfortable answering any questions you may have regarding my cancer, its treatment, and how I am doing. I know God and this congregation are with me as I travel this path.

SUNDAY ADVENTURE FOR APRIL

Join us for the last Sunday Adventure this Spring next week, April 19th from 2:00 – 4:00. We will have a scavenger hunt throughout the church building for children, adults and families. This scavenger hunt will challenge those who think they know their way around the church. Prizes for all those who are successful in their hunting.

5TH GRADE YOUTH GROUP

All 5th graders are invite to a special youth group meeting just for them on Sunday, May 3rd from 3:00 – 5:00. This will be an introduction to what Youth Group is all about and will include fun, food, fellowship, and Faith Formation. This event is to introduce the Youth group to fifth graders. If you have any questions please feel free to talk with Susan. You can reach Susan by email susan@firstpresby.com or phone 304-343-8961 ext. 127

YOUTH GROUP

The Youth group will meet today, Sunday April 12th, from 3:00 – 5:00. There will be fun, food, fellowship, and Faith Formation. This group is for middle school and high school students. If you have any questions please feel free to talk with Susan. Youth Group will not meet in May due to Mother's Day; we will meet during the summer. Our Next Meeting is Sunday, June 14th.

VBS SAVE THE DATE

This year's Vacation Bible School will be held Monday, June 1st – Thursday, June 4th from 5:00 – 7:00. Come join us for "Kids Who Make a Difference to Neighbors Near and Far." More information coming soon. To find out more or to volunteer contact Susan Smith, Christian Education Coordinator. You can reach Susan by email susan@firstpresby.com or phone 304-343-8961.

BLUESTONE SPRING RETREAT

Bluestone invites everyone to the Spring Retreat May 1-3. You can expect hiking trails, campfires, gardening projects, and just time and space to relax and enjoy the spring weather in a beautiful setting in the mountains of Hinton, WV. Registration deadline is Friday, April 24th. For more information contact mark@bluestonecamp.org or call (304) 397-5050 and leave a message.

MISSION UPDATE

Each Sunday's bulletin quotes Jeremiah's exhortation to seek the welfare of the city and pray to the LORD on its behalf...

During the Lenten/Easter season First Presby has responded generously to the 40 Cans for 40 Days food drive by reaching our goal of 3,000 food items donated to Covenant House! In addition, One Great Hour of Sharing (PGHS) will receive \$3,200 from our congregation.

...for in its welfare you will find your welfare. (Jeremiah 29:7)

Thank you, First Presby, for your care of our brothers and sisters both locally and globally.

LIFT: WEDNESDAY NIGHT PROGRAM

Wednesday, April 15th will be the final LIFT and LIFT After Dark for the season. Join us for one last dinner at 5:45, classes at 6:15 and Communion at 7:00. If you have any questions please contact Susan Smith, Christian Education Coordinator. You can reach Susan Smith, by email susan@firstpresby.com or phone 304-343-8961 ext. 127.

LIFT AFTER DARK with PASTOR MYERS

April 8 WEEK 6 — “Reforming How We See the Future”

Living Out a Reshaped Worldview

Purpose: Bring the whole course together and help each participant name their “corrected lenses.”

Core Elements:

- Reflection on the series:
 - What has shifted?
 - Where is there resistance?
- Introduce a **Worldview Rule of Life** (a short, personal set of commitments shaped by the course).
- Engagement:
 - Each participant drafts a 5–7 point “Corrective Lenses Covenant.”
- Scripture anchor: **2 Corinthians 5:17 — New creation.**

Goal: Participants leave with concrete commitments—not just interesting ideas.

CHANDLER FOOD BAGS

We are continuing with our mission of packing weekend food bags for 10 Chandler Academy students every Friday. If you would like to help this mission, you may donate individual items such as pop top pastas, chicken noodle soup, granola bars, mini muffins, snacks, sweets, and 16 oz creamy peanut butter. You may also donate funds designated for Chandler. This mission will continue through the school year.

PRESBYTERY CHURCH PRAYERS

Each week we pray for other congregations in our presbytery, along with the Presbytery of West Virginia and other ministry partners. This week please pray for Spring Valley Presbyterian Church in Huntington and Upper Glade Presbyterian Church.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBY

Sunday, April 12

9:00am	Easter Breakfast	<i>Dining Room</i>
10:30am	Worship – Easter Sunday	<i>Sanctuary & YouTube</i>
11:00am	Worship Radio Broadcast	<i>WCHS-580AM</i>

Monday, April 13

8:30am	Aerobics	<i>Bud Francis Rec. Room</i>
9:30am	PEO Meeting	<i>Ruffner Room</i>
6:30pm	Mission Grant Meeting	<i>E117</i>
7:00pm	CS Choir Rehearsal	<i>Sanctuary</i>

Tuesday, April 14

10:00am	Staff Meeting	<i>Ruffner Room</i>
4:30pm	Finance Meeting	<i>E117</i>

Wednesday, April 15

8:30am	Aerobics	<i>Bud Francis Rec. Room</i>
10:00am	Knitting Group	<i>Room 406</i>
5:45pm	LIFT	<i>Dining Room/Various</i>
6:15pm	LIFT After Dark	<i>Ruffner Room</i>
7:00pm	Session Meeting	<i>A201</i>

Thursday, April 16

8:00am	Shoney's Group	<i>Zoom</i>
1:00pm	Shepherd Center Meeting	<i>E117</i>
4:30pm	Time for Refreshment	<i>Ruffner Room</i>
5:30pm	Bell Choir	<i>Choir Room</i>

Friday, April 10

8:30am	Aerobics	<i>Bud Francis Rec. Room</i>
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Saturday, April 11

Sunday, April 12

9:15am	Discovery Class	<i>Bud Francis Rec. Room</i>
10:30am	Worship	<i>Sanctuary</i>
11:00am	Worship Radio Broadcast	<i>WCHS-580AM</i>

DISCOVERY CLASS

April 12	Red Cross
April 19	WV HealthRight – Angie Settle, CEO
April 26	Mark - The Man and The Gospel – Paul Kinneberg

DAILY SCRIPTURE READING

Sunday, April 12	John 14:1-7
Monday, April 13	John 14:8-17
Tuesday, April 14	John 14:18-31
Wednesday, April 15	John 15:1-11
Thursday, April 16	John 15:12-27
Friday, April 17	John 16:1-15
Saturday, April 18	John 16:16-33

