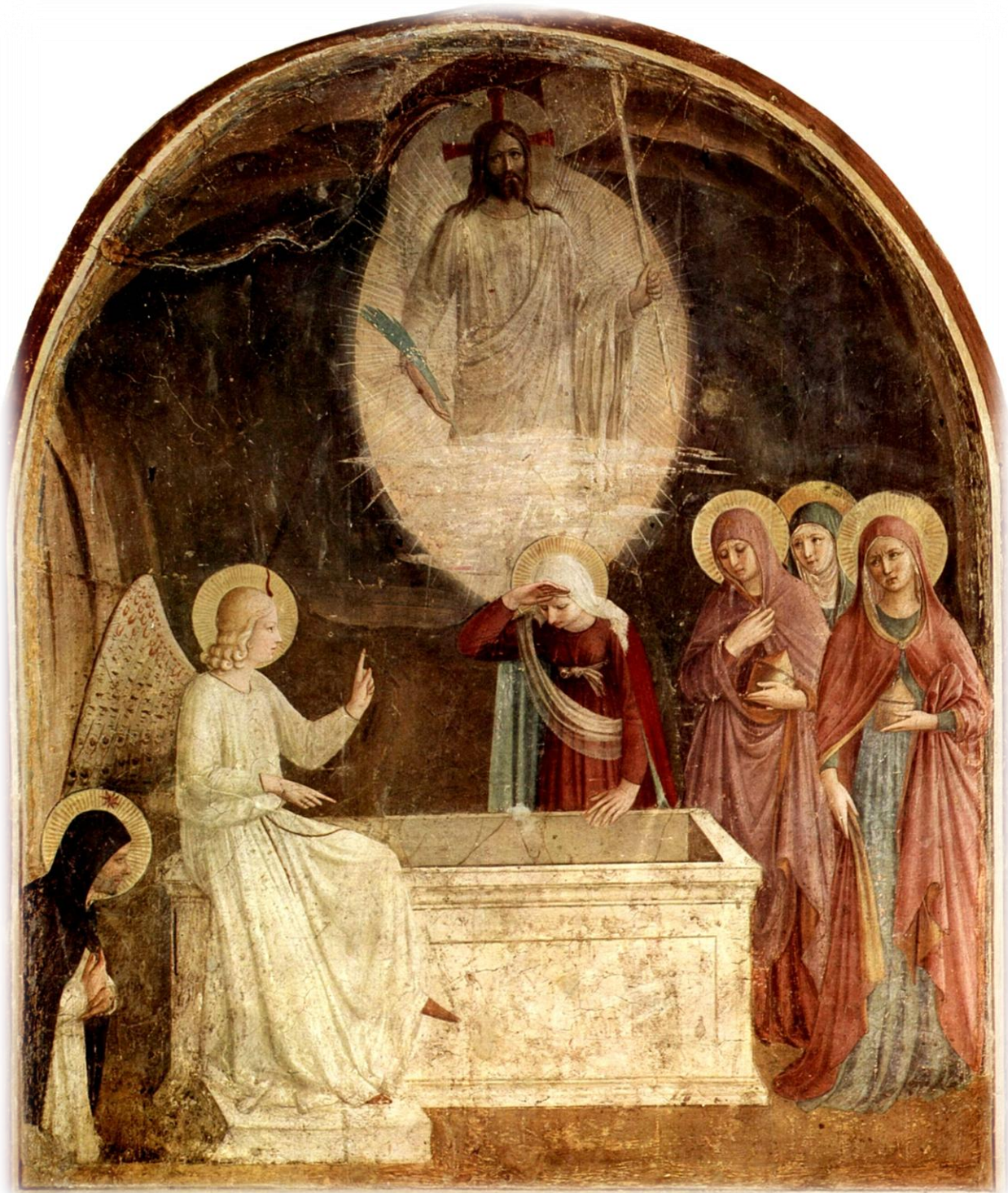


# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Bringing hope to the heart of Charleston and beyond.



Easter Sunday  
April 5, 2026 | 10:30am

# Welcome to First Presbyterian Church

16 Leon Sullivan Way • Charleston, WV 25301 • 304-343-8961 • [www.firstpresby.com](http://www.firstpresby.com)

**Pastor:** The Rev. Dr. William C. Myers

**Ministers:** All members of the congregation

*A warm welcome is extended to all who worship today.  
May the gift of worship we offer honor God and serve as a blessing to you.*

*We are grateful you chose to worship with us today. Please take a moment to sign in via the Friendship Pads located at the ends 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 worship bulletin after this morning's order of service. Please share news and notes with your friends and neighbors!*

**All children are welcome and encouraged to participate in worship.**

## **A reflection for worship:**

*"Easter says you can put truth in a grave, but it won't stay there."  
— Clarence W. Hall*

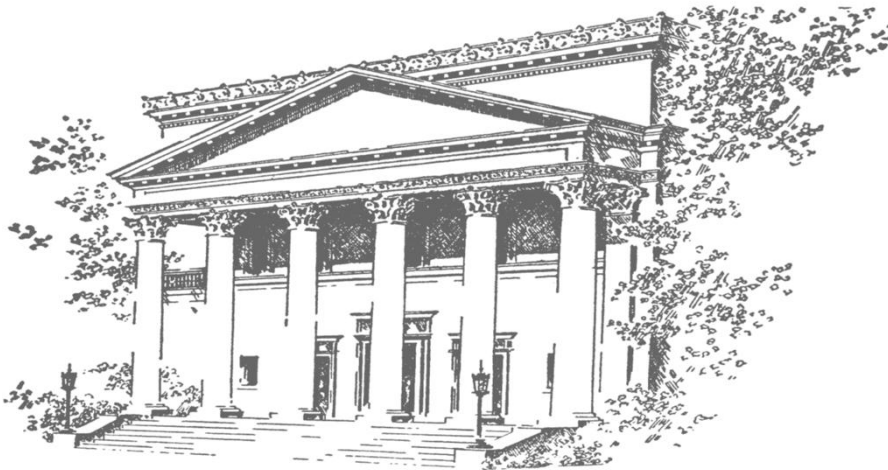
*"What happened on that day (of Easter)...the love of God which was expressed in the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead lasts forever. Because this event took place...there is every reason to hope." —  
— Karl Barth*

## **The following scriptures are provided for silent meditation during the prelude:**

Acts 10:34-43 • Jeremiah 32:1-6 • Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 • Colossians 3:1-4  
John 20:1-18 • Matthew 28:1-10

## **Cover art:**

*The Risen Christ*  
Fra Angelico (c.1395-1455)  
Florence, Italy



*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

# The Worship of Our Lord

THE CHURCH GATHERS TO...  
PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

*\*indicates congregation standing, as able.*

**PRELUDE** Crown Imperial William Walton

**WELCOME** Pastor Myers

One: He is risen!

**All: He is risen, indeed!**

**CHIMING OF THE TRINITY**

**PRAISE ALMIGHTY GOD**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** Lindsay Marchio

One: Christ is risen!

**All: Christ is risen indeed!**

One: This is the day that the Lord has made;

**All: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

One: When fear rises, and the world feels uncertain -

**All: We remember Christ is alive!**

One: When hope feels fragile -

**All: We remember God's love is eternal!**

**\*PRAYER OF ADORATION** Lindsay Marchio

**All: Risen Christ, you meet us in the early morning of this day - not when everything is settled, but while questions still linger and hearts still tremble. Speak your word to us again: "Do not be afraid." Open our eyes to your presence, our hearts to your hope, and our lives to your future. For you are alive, and your life is at work among us. Amen.**

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE #232** Jesus Christ Is Risen Today EASTER HYMN

**CONFESS TO OUR FORGIVING CREATOR**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** Pastor Myers

One: "Do not be afraid," the angel said. Yet fear still lingers within us. Beloved, we are not alone — the risen Christ meets us with mercy.

**All: Let us come before God, trusting in grace as we confess our sin.**

**Gracious God,**

**We confess that fear often shapes us more than faith.**

**We hold back, cling to what is safe,**

**and trust our worries more than your promises.**

**Forgive us, renew us,**

**and raise us to new life.**

**Teach us to live as resurrection people,**

**trusting your future.**

*(Silence is kept for personal confession.)*

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON** Pastor Myers

One: Hear the good news. Christ is risen. The tomb is empty. Sin, fear, and death do not have the last word.

**All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and made new.**

**\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE** Awakening Chorus

Charles H. Gabriel

1. A - wake! (*A - wake!*) A - wake! (*A - wake!*) And sing the bless - ed sto - ry; A -  
2. Ring out! (*Ring out!*) Ring out! (*Ring out!*) O bells of joy and glad - ness; Re -

- wake! (*A - wake!*) A - wake! (*A - wake!*) And let your song of praise a - rise; A -  
- peat, (*Re - peat,*) re - peat, (*re - peat*) a - new the sto - ry o'er a - gain, till

- wake! (*A - wake!*) A - wake! (*A - wake!*) The earth is full of glo - ry, and  
all (*Till all*) the earth (*the earth*) shall lose its weight of sad - ness, and

light (*And light*) is beam- (*is beam*)- ing from the ra - diant skies; The rocks and  
shout (*And shout*) a - new (*a - new*) the glo - ri - ous re - frain; Ye an - gels

rills, the\_ vales and\_ hills re - sound with glad - ness. All  
in the heights, sing\_ of the great Re - deem - er, who

na - - ture\_ joins to sing the tri - umph song. The Lord Je -  
saves us\_ from the pow'r of sin and death.

- ho - vah reigns and sin is back - ward hurled! Re -  
*(Sin is back - ward hurled!)*

- joice! *(Re - joice!)* Re - joice! *(Re - joice!)* Lift heart *(Lift heart)* and voice, *(and voice,)* Je -

- ho - vah reigns! Pro - claim his sov - 'reign pow'r to all the world, and  
*(Je - ho - vah) (pow'r to all the world,)*

let his glo - - rious ban - ner be un - furled! Je - ho - vah  
*(and let his grand and glo - rious) (Je - ho - vah reigns! Je - ho - vah)*

reigns! Re - joice! *(Re - joice!)* Re - joice! *(Re - joice!)* Re - joice! *(Re - joice!)* Je - ho - vah reigns!

**\*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

Jeremiah 32:1-6

Lindsay Marchio  
*page 736, Old Testament*

### SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 28:1-10

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Lindsay Marchio  
*page 33, New Testament*

### ANTHEM

Christ Has Risen (from *Judas Maccabeus*)

G.F. Handel

Good Christians all rejoice and sing; to all the world good news we bring.  
Let all the earth in triumph say, the Lord of Life is ours today!  
For Christ has risen from the grave, born to be conqueror, born to save. Alleluia!

### SCRIPTURE LESSON

Colossians 3:1-4

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Pastor Myers  
*page 201, New Testament*

### A TIME FOR CHILDREN

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.

Pastor Myers

### SERMON

"Do Not Be Afraid"

Pastor Myers

### \*HYMN #249

Because You Live, O Christ

VRUECHTEN

## DEDICATE OUR LIVES TO GOD

### JOYS & CONCERNS

Pastor Myers

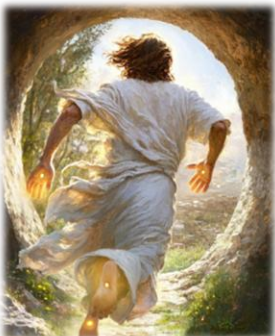
### OFFER OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD

*Please bring your offering forward during the offertory.  
You may also text "firstpresby" to 73256 to give from your mobile device.*

### OFFERTORY

Arise, Shine, Thy Light Has Come

Kevin McChesney  
*First Presby Handbells*



## CELEBRATE OUR COMMUNION WITH CHRIST AND EACH OTHER

### INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

### GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

One: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

**All: We lift them up to the Lord.**

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

One: Glorious God, we thank you for revealing your light and love through Jesus Christ, your beloved Son...

...With all who have seen your glory and all who praise your name, we join the song of heaven:

### SUNG RESPONSE

Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks (*refrain*)

ALLELUIA No. 1

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give\_ thanks to the ris - en Lord.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give\_ praise to his\_ name.

One: Blessed is your Son, who revealed your love in word and deed...

...We proclaim the mystery of faith.

### SUNG RESPONSE

Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks (*refrain*)

ALLELUIA No. 1

One: Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us...

...Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours almighty God, now and forever. Amen.

### SUNG RESPONSE

Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks (*refrain*)

ALLELUIA No. 1

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

### 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 AFTER COMMUNION

**All: Risen Christ, you have met us at this table and fed us with your life. Send us now into the world not as people who are afraid, but as people who carry your hope. Teach us to live as those who trust your future and follow where you lead. Amen.**

## GO FORTH TO SERVE

<b>*HYMN #233</b>	The Day of Resurrection!	LANCASHIRE
<b>*BENEDICTION</b>		Pastor Myers
<b>POSTLUDE</b>	Rigaudon	André Campra

### OUR WORSHIP CONTINUES IN OUR SERVICE TO OTHERS

Worship is broadcast on Sundays 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  
Lindsay Marchio

#### AUDIO & VIDEO

Byron Goodew  
David Cottrell

#### CUSTODIAL SERVICES

David Feibelmann

#### THE MUSIC TODAY

Jayson Keeton, Director of Music & Organist  
The Sanctuary Choir  
First Presby Handbells  
Kathy Lynch, director  
Todd Wilson, trumpet  
Jeremy Severn, trumpet  
Brandon Layman, trumpet  
Marsha Palmer, horn  
Stephen Lawson, horn  
Ben Stingo, trombone  
Rick Tolbert, trombone  
Garrett Maner, tuba  
Seth Robinson, timpani  
Ken Johnson, percussion

*Service music is reprinted under CCLI License No. 3604127.*



*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*



#### 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

## FLAT JESUS ADVENTURES

Grab a flat Jesus from the back table in the sanctuary, color him and take him with you on your adventures, sports games, recitals, etc! Then send your pictures to [diana@firstpresby.com](mailto:diana@firstpresby.com).

## YOUTH GROUP

The Youth group will meet every second Sunday from 3:00 – 5:00. There will be fun, food, fellowship, and Faith Formation. We have a youth lounge and game room with foosball, ping pong and pool table! This group is for middle school and high school students. If you have any questions please feel free to talk with Susan. Our next meeting is Sunday, April 12<sup>th</sup>

## FAMILY RESOURCES

Show them your faith matters even when you are not in church on Sunday. We have created two pocket sized resources for your family when you are not able to be in worship; “One Minute Sabbath” and “Devos on the Go.” Nurture their faith and yours; pick up one or both. Available on the table in the back of the sanctuary.

## VBS SAVE THE DATE

This year’s Vacation Bible School will be held Monday, June 1<sup>st</sup> – Thursday, June 4<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:susan@firstpresby.com) or phone 304-343-8961.

## COFFEE FAIR TRADE

We have new olive oil! Equal Exchange has partnered with Sindyanna of Galilee, a non profit organization made up of women working together to foster education and economic opportunities to model mutual respect and collaboration between Jews and Arabs. Equal Exchange says this Sindyanna Olive Oil has received rave reviews with its rich herbal overtones and bold, fruity flavor.

The Hope and Justice Fair Trade Shop is open during office hours and on Sundays from 9:00-noon. During office hours, please see the office staff to shop. On Sundays, please put your cash or check in the provided envelopes on the table in the shop and put them in the drop slot in the door by the Panera table. We are keeping it stocked with all your favorites! Only cash and check are accepted at this time.

## ROLLER SKATING FUN

We will have an opportunity for some roller skating fun on Wednesday, April 8<sup>th</sup> from 3:30pm to 5:30pm in the Rec Room. Skates are provided for kids and adults! Feel free to come by when you’re able and stay for LIFT dinner and fellowship.

## 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 24<sup>th</sup>. For more information contact [mark@bluestonecamp.org](mailto:mark@bluestonecamp.org) or call (304) 397-5050 and leave a message.

## LIFT: WEDNESDAY NIGHT PROGRAM

Everyone is welcome to join us for a free dinner and a time of fellowship starting at 5:45pm. After dinner children K-5th can attend a class just for them. This 45 minute fast paced class uses the *Growing in God's Love* curriculum which includes a Bible story, an activity, and music. Adults can choose to attend Pastor Myer's class or stay in the dining hall and continue fellowshiping. At 7:00 we celebrate communion in the Chapel; this short 15 minute worship service is for all who wish to attend.

## 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.

## MISSION UPDATE: 40 CANS FOR 40 DAYS

As of Monday, March 30, we have collected and delivered 2,620 food items to Covenant House! Thank you, First Presby, for addressing the hunger problem in our community.

*“Truly I tell you, whatever you did for the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.” (Matt. 25:40)*

## 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 First Presbyterian Church in South Charleston and Harman Presbyterian Church.

## THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBY

### Sunday, April 5

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

### Monday, April 6

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

### Tuesday, April 7

10:00am	Staff Meeting	<i>Ruffner Room</i>
4:00pm	Property Meeting	<i>E117</i>
6:00pm	Deacon's Meeting	<i>A201</i>

### Wednesday, April 8

8:30am	Aerobics	<i>Bud Francis Rec. Room</i>
3:30pm	Roller Skating	<i>Bud Francis Rec. Room</i>
5:45pm	LIFT	<i>Dining Room/Various</i>
6:15pm	LIFT After Dark	<i>Ruffner Room</i>

### Thursday, April 9

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>
5:00pm	PS Art Walk	<i>Preschool/Act. Bldg</i>
5:30pm	CE Meeting	<i>Room 117</i>
6:30pm	Mission Meeting	<i>Susie Early Room</i>

### Friday, April 10

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

### Sunday, April 12

10:30am	Worship	<i>Sanctuary</i>
11:00am	Worship Radio Broadcast	<i>WCHS-580AM</i>

## DISCOVERY CLASS

<b>April 5</b>	Easter Sunday – No Class
<b>April 12</b>	Red Cross
<b>April 19</b>	TBD
<b>April 23</b>	Mark - The Man and The Gospel – Paul Kinneberg

## DAILY SCRIPTURE READING

<b>Sunday, April 5</b>	Luke 24:13-35
<b>Monday, April 6</b>	Mark 16:1-8
<b>Tuesday, April 7</b>	Mark 16:9-20
<b>Wednesday, April 8</b>	Matthew 28:1-16
<b>Thursday, April 9</b>	Matthew 28:16-20
<b>Friday, April 10</b>	Luke 24:1-12
<b>Saturday, April 11</b>	Mark 12:18-27



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
OF CHARLESTON

