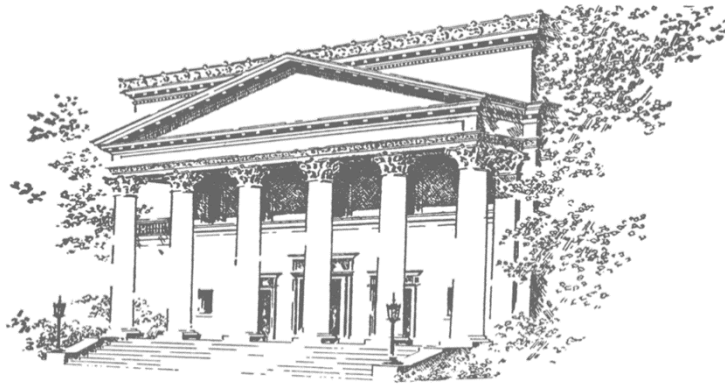


Seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you... and pray to the Lord on its behalf
for in its welfare you will find your welfare.

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 Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 3, 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

"The church does not exist for itself, but for the world God loves."

— Leslie Newbiggin

"We are formed by what we worship."

— James K. A. Smith

"Christianity has not been tried and found wanting; it has been found difficult and left untried."

— G. K. Chesterton

*The following lectionary readings are provided for silent meditation during the prelude:
Acts 7:55-60 • Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16 • 1 Peter 2:2-10 • John 14:1-14*

***indicates congregation standing, as able**

*This morning, we welcome the University of Pikeville Concert Choir
under the direction of Dr. Eric Rutherford to help lead our worship.*

THE CHURCH GATHERS TO...

PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

OPENING VOLUNTARY	Trumpet Tune (from <i>Voluntary V in D Major</i>)	John Stanley
INTROIT	The Wayfaring Stranger	arr. Paul Smith
WELCOME		Pastor Myers
CHIMING OF THE TRINITY		

PRAISE ALMIGHTY GOD

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Melissa Case

One: Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in Christ.

All: We come, not because we have it all together, but because we are held.

One: God is our refuge and our fortress.

All: Into your hands, O God, we commit our lives.

One: Come, let us worship the One who is the way, the truth, and the life.

All: We come to seek the life that is truly life.

*PRAYER OF ADORATION

Melissa Case

All: Gracious God, we believe—and yet we know our lives don't always show it. Too often we are driven by fear, quick to defend ourselves, slow to trust you. We settle for ways of living that fall short of the life you give. Meet us here. Change what needs to be changed — and lead us in the way of Christ, who is our life and our peace. Amen.

*HYMN OF PRAISE #4

Holy God, We Praise Your Name

GROSSER GOTT, WIR LOBEN DICH

CONFESS TO OUR FORGIVING CREATOR

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Pastor Myers

One: We come before God, trusting that the One who knows us fully also offers us mercy and new life.

All: Let us confess our sins.

Merciful God,

we confess our faith doesn't always lead to life

We cling to being right instead of trusting your grace.

We shut others out instead of loving our neighbors.

We act in fear instead of resting in your care.

We have called faith what does not make us like Christ.

Forgive us.

Turn us back to you.

Teach us to trust you,

to belong to you,

and to live as your people.

(Silence is kept for personal confession.)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Hear the good news: 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. In Jesus Christ, you are forgiven, claimed, and made new.

All: Thanks be to God.

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE** Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

GLORY TO GOD



1. Glo - ry to God, _____ whose good - ness shines on me,
2. World with - out end, _____ 7 with - out end. A - men.



and to the Son, _____ whose grace has par - doned me,
World with - out end, _____ 7 with - out end. A - men.



and to the Spir - it, _____ whose love has set me free.
World with - out end, _____ 7 with - out end. A - men.



As it was in the be - gin - ning, is now and ev - er shall be. A - men.

***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 7:55-60

Melissa Case
page 126, New Testament

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalms 31:1-5, 15-16

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Melissa Case
page 505, Old Testament

ANTHEM

Elijah Rock

arr. Moses Hogan

SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 14:1-14

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Pastor Myers
page 108, New Testament

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

"When Faith Doesn't Lead to Life"

Pastor Myers

***HYMN 301**

Let Us Build a House

TWO OAKS

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

I Believe

Mark Miller

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: It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, eternal God, creator and ruler of the universe...

...Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with the choirs of angels and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing the glory of your name:

SUNG RESPONSE

One Bread, One Body (refrain)

ONE BREAD, ONE BODY

One bread, one bod - y, one Lord of all, one cup of
bless - ing which we bless. And we, though man - y,
through - out the earth, we are one bod - y in this one Lord.

One: You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord...

...Great is the mystery of faith:

SUNG RESPONSE

One Bread, One Body (refrain)

ONE BREAD, ONE BODY

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

...Through Christ, all glory and honor are yours, almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit in the holy church, now and forever.

SUNG RESPONSE

One Bread, One Body (refrain)

ONE BREAD, ONE BODY

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: Gracious and loving God, we thank you for this holy meal—a taste of your grace and life. In bread and cup, you quiet our fears and draw us to trust you. Keep us from our own striving, and lead us in the way of Christ. As we leave this table, open our ears to your voice, our eyes to our neighbors, and our lives to your peace. Send us out as your people, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

GO FORTH TO SERVE

***HYMN 326**

For All the Saints

SINE NOMINE

***BENEDICTION**

Pastor Myers

CHORAL RESPONSE

The Lord Bless You and Keep You

Peter Lutkin

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Toccata in F Major

Dietrich Buxtehude

***You are invited to remain in the sanctuary for 10–15 minutes after the postlude
as the University of Pikeville Concert Choir performs additional selections.***

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
Melissa Case

NURSERY

Margaret Jones

AUDIO & VIDEO

Byron Goodew
David Cottrell

THE MUSIC TODAY

Jayson Keeton, Director of Music & Organist
The University of Pikeville Concert Choir
Dr. Eric Rutherford, director
Michelle Rutherford, piano

CUSTODIAL SERVICES

David Wolf

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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

MEAL TRAIN FOR SUSAN

As you may know, Susan is enduring chemo for her recent cancer diagnosis. When asked how to help, she requested meals. Tammy Hovis, her Deacon, has offered to start a meal train where members can sign up to provide Susan and her husband Greg a meal. If you are interested in participating, please contact Tammy Hovis at thovis75@hotmail.com.

GRADUATION

First Presby will be celebrating graduates on Sunday, May 10th during worship. If someone you know is graduating this season, please send us a photo and a few sentences about them and their future plans to diana@firstpresby.com. Deadline to be included is Wednesday, May 6th.

5TH GRADE YOUTH GROUP

All 5th graders are invite to a special youth group meeting just for them! This meeting is being postponed to Sunday, May 17th from 3-5pm. 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

Youth Group will not meet in May due to Mother's Day; we will continue to meet during the summer. Our next meeting is Sunday, June 14th 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.

WOMEN'S WEDNESDAY WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY

We will start a study about some of the women in the New Testament on Wednesday, May 13th at 1:00 in the Ruffner room. You can get a copy of the book *From Daughters to Disciples* by Lynn Japinga from the PC(USA) bookstore and other booksellers. We will be going over the first section which talks about the women in the story of Jesus' birth; Mary the mother of Jesus plus Elizabeth and Anna.

CHILD PROTECTION POLICY TRAINING

There will be a Child Protection Policy training held for those who are involved in any of our children programs. This includes, Children's Church, LIFT, VBS, Youth and the Nursery. The training will be held right after church on Sunday, May 17th. Lunch will be provided. Please call the office to reserve your spot. The training should last only 90 minutes. Contact Susan Smith, Christian Education Coordinator for more information or questions. You can reach Susan by email susan@firstpresby.com or phone 304-343-8961 ext. 127

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 Clear Creek Presbyterian Church and First Presbyterian Church in Logan.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBY

Sunday, May 3

10:30am	Worship	<i>Sanctuary & YouTube</i>
11:00am	Worship Radio Broadcast	<i>WCHS-580AM</i>
3:00pm	5 th Grade Youth Group	<i>Youth Room</i>

Monday, May 4

8:30am	Aerobics	<i>Bud Francis Rec. Room</i>
4:00pm	Property Meeting	<i>E117</i>

Tuesday, May 5

10:00am	Staff Meeting	<i>Ruffner Room</i>
6:00pm	Deacons Meeting	<i>A201</i>

Wednesday, May 6

8:30am	Aerobics	<i>Bud Francis Rec. Room</i>
10:00am	Knitting Club	<i>Room 406</i>

Thursday, May 7

8:00am	Shoney's Group	<i>Zoom</i>
9:00am	PS Muffins with Mom	<i>Dining Room</i>
4:30pm	Time for Refreshment	<i>Ruffner Room</i>
5:30pm	Bell Choir	<i>Choir Room</i>
6:30pm	Mission Meeting	<i>E117</i>

Friday, May 8

8:30am	Aerobics	<i>Bud Francis Rec. Room</i>
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Saturday, May 9

Sunday, May 10

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

May 3	Mountaineer Food Bank – Becky Conrad
May 10	Prosperity Gospels – Gina Taylor
May 17	Last Class for the season! – Pastor Myers

DAILY SCRIPTURE READING

Sunday, May 3	Luke 4:16-30
Monday, May 4	Matthew 6:1-6;16-18
Tuesday, May 5	Matthew 6:7-15
Wednesday, May 6	Matthew 6:19-24
Thursday, May 7	Matthew 6:25-34
Friday, May 8	Matthew 7:1-12
Saturday, May 9	Matthew 7:13-21



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF CHARLESTON**