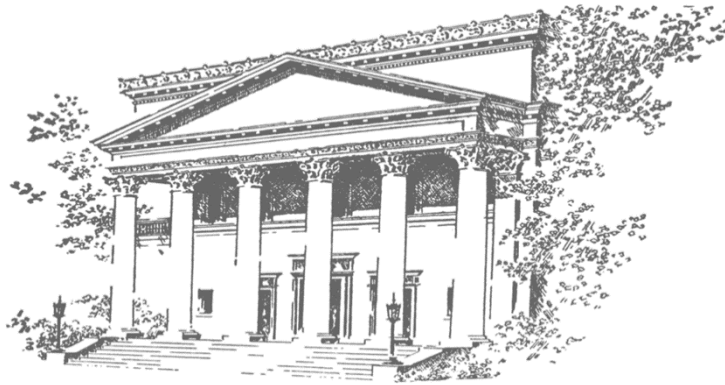


Seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you... and pray to the Lord on its behalf
for in its welfare you will find your welfare.

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 Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 10, 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

*"We are most deeply ourselves when we are with God,
and most deeply with God when we are most fully ourselves."*

— Rowan Williams

*The following lectionary readings are provided for silent meditation during the prelude:
Acts 17:22-31 • Psalm 66:8-20 • 1 Peter 3:13-22 • John 14:15-21*

*indicates congregation standing, as able

THE CHURCH GATHERS TO...

PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

OPENING VOLUNTARY Trumpet Tune (from *Voluntary VI in D Major*) 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!

Lord by the stripes which wounded thee, from death's dread sting thy servants free,
That we may live, and sing to thee: Alleluia!



WELCOME Pastor Myers

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

PRAISE ALMIGHTY GOD

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Beth Vorhees

One: We come from lives that are full—and lives that are weary.

All: We come with gratitude and grief. Some feel held. Some feel alone.

One: Into all of this, Jesus speaks: “I will not leave you orphaned.”

All: We are not alone. God is here.

One: Not with easy answers, but with abiding presence.

All: Not at a distance, but dwelling among us.

One: Let us worship the God who does not leave us.

All: Let us worship the God who stays.

*PRAYER OF ADORATION

Beth Vorhees

All: Gracious and ever-present God, you meet us in this moment as we are—with gratitude and grief, with joy and longing with faith that feels strong and faith that feels thin. On this day, when memories and emotions run deep, steady us in your presence. Remind us that we are not alone. Draw near to us by your Spirit, and open us to your life within us. In Christ, who does not abandon us, we pray. Amen.

*HYMN OF PRAISE #14 For the Beauty of the Earth

DIX

*If you brought flowers in honor or memory of your mother,
or someone “like a mother” in your life, please bring them forward at this time.*

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. Trusting in God’s mercy, let us confess our sin.

All: God of mercy, hear our prayer.

Faithful God, we confess that we live as though we are alone.

We cling to control, because we are afraid to trust.

We withdraw from others, because we are afraid of being hurt.

We fail to love well, because we forget how deeply we are loved.

We have not kept your commandments of love—not fully, not freely, not consistently.

Forgive us.

Remind us that your presence does not depend on our perfection.

Restore us to the life of love you have given us in Christ.

(Silence is kept for personal confession.)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Hear the good news: Jesus says, “I will not leave you orphaned.” In Christ, we are forgiven, restored, and held—not because we have earned it, but because God’s love does not let us go.

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

Psalms 66:8-20

Beth Vorhees
page 529, Old Testament

SCRIPTURE LESSON

1 Peter 3:13-22

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Beth Vorhees
page 232, New Testament

ANTHEM

If Ye Love Me

Thomas Tallis

If ye love me, keep my commandments, and I will pray the Father,
And he shall give you another comforter,
That he may bid with you forever, e'en the spirit of truth.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 14:15-21

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Pastor Myers
page 109, New Testament

A TIME FOR CHILDREN

Recognition of Graduates

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

"You're Not Alone"

Pastor Myers

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

O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go

ST. MARGARET

O Love that wilt not let me go, I rest my wea - ry soul in
thee; I give thee back the life I owe, that in thine o - cean depths its
flow may rich - er, full - - - er be.

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

Because He Lives

William J. Gaither & Gloria Gaither
Tom Marchio, tenor

*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 547

Go, My Children, with My Blessing

AR HYD Y NOS

*BENEDICTION

Pastor Myers

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Adagio (from *Voluntary VI in D Major*)

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
Beth Vorhees

AUDIO & VIDEO

Byron Goodew
David Cottrell

CUSTODIAL SERVICES

David Wolf

THE MUSIC TODAY

Jayson Keeton, Director of Music & Organist
Tom Marchio, tenor
The Sanctuary Choir

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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.

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.

5TH GRADE YOUTH GROUP

All 5th graders are invite to a special youth group meeting just for them next Sunday, May 17th 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

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 and childcare will be provided after lunch. 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 Community Presbyterian Church in Arthurdale and Milton Presbyterian Church.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBY

Sunday, May 10 – *Mother's Day*

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

Monday, May 11

8:30am	Aerobics	<i>Bud Francis Rec. Room</i>
9:30am	PEO Meeting	<i>Ruffner Room</i>

Tuesday, May 12 – NO SCHOOL – Election Day

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

Wednesday, May 13

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

Thursday, May 14

8:00am	Shoney's Group	<i>Zoom</i>
1:00pm	Shepherd Center Meeting	<i>E117</i>
3:30pm	Book Club	<i>Ruffner Room</i>
4:30pm	Time for Refreshment	<i>Ruffner Room</i>
5:30pm	Bell Choir	<i>Choir Room</i>
6:30pm	Worship Meeting	<i>Ruffner Room</i>

Friday, May 15

8:30am	Aerobics	<i>Bud Francis Rec. Room</i>
7:00pm	Concert Series	<i>Sanctuary</i>

Saturday, May 16

Sunday, May 17

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>
11:30am	Child Protection Policy Training	<i>E117</i>
3:00pm	5 th Grade Youth Group	<i>Youth Room</i>

DISCOVERY CLASS

May 10	Prosperity Gospels – Ginna Taylor
May 17	Last Class for the season! – Pastor Myers

DAILY SCRIPTURE READING

Sunday, May 10	Luke 12:13-21
Monday, May 11	Matthew 13:1-16
Tuesday, May 12	Matthew 13:18-23
Wednesday, May 13	Matthew 22:41-46
Thursday, May 14	Matthew 28:16-20
Friday, May 15	Matthew 7:22-27
Saturday, May 16	Matthew 7:28-8:4



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF CHARLESTON**