

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Bringing hope to the heart of Charleston and beyond.



Pentecost
May 24, 2026 | 10:30am

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church

16 Leon Sullivan Way • Charleston, WV 25301 • 304-343-8961 • 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:

"There are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit."

— First Epistle to the Corinthians 12:4

"We must learn to live together as brothers or perish together as fools."

— Martin Luther King Jr.

"The church is the only society that exists for the benefit of those who are not its members."

— William Temple

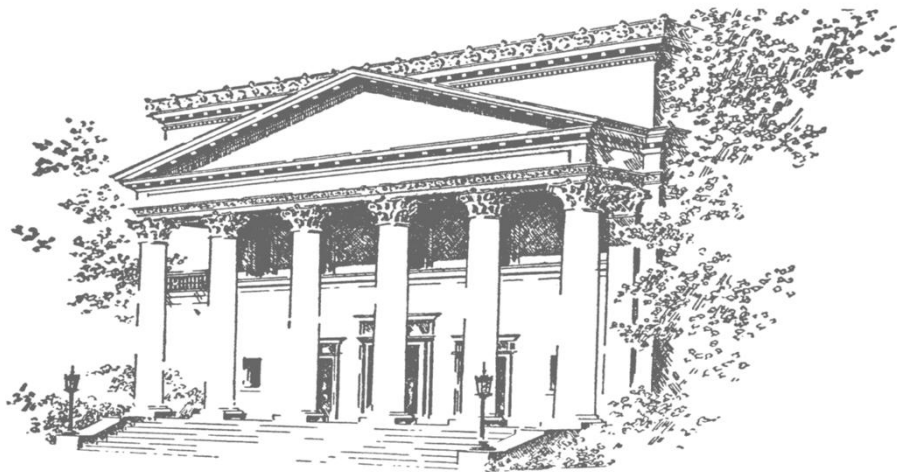
The following scriptures are provided for silent meditation during the prelude:

Numbers 11:24-30 • Psalm 104:24-34, 35b • 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13 • Acts 2:1-21 • John 20:19-23

Cover art:

Pentecost (1386)

Anonymous



*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 Dance: Spirit Divine, Attend Our Prayers arr. Alfred V. Fedak

INTROIT Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song Peter Cutts, Carl P. Daw, Jr.

WELCOME Pastor Myers

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

PRAISE ALMIGHTY GOD

***CALL TO WORSHIP** Barb Hopta

One: In the beginning, the Spirit of God moved over the waters.

All: The breath of God brought life into the world.

One: On Pentecost, the Spirit descended like wind and flame.

All: Fear gave way to courage, and strangers became neighbors.

One: Come, Holy Spirit, come among us again.

All: Open our hearts, renew your church, and breathe new life into the world.

***PRAYER OF ADORATION** Barb Hopta

All: Holy God, You poured out your Spirit upon women and men, young and old, people from every nation and language. Pour out that same Spirit upon us today. Where we are divided, bring reconciliation. Where we are fearful, bring courage. Where we are weary, bring renewal. Teach us again to listen with humility, love with grace, and become the church through which your Spirit still moves. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

***HYMN OF PRAISE #277** Hail Thee, Festival Day! SALVE FESTA DIES
We will sing the Pentecost text of verses 1 & 2.



CONFESS TO OUR FORGIVING CREATOR

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Pastor Myers

One: Pentecost reminds us God's Spirit gathers what the world divides. Yet fear, anger, and suspicion so often shape us more than grace.

All: **Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin before God and one another.**

Merciful God,

**You created us for communion,
yet we turn toward division.**

We cling to suspicion instead of understanding.

We choose outrage over compassion.

We speak quickly and listen poorly.

**Too often, we mirror the world's fear and hostility
instead of Christ's reconciling love.**

**Forgive us. Renew us. Pour out your Spirit upon your church again,
that we may become a people shaped not by fear or anger,
but by grace, humility, truth, and love.**

(Silence is kept for personal confession.)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor Myers

One: Hear the good news: The Holy Spirit is not poured out upon perfect people, but upon ordinary people longing for new life. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven, renewed, and set free.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE Come, Holy Spirit, Heavenly Dove

ST. AGNES

1. Come, Ho - ly Spir - it, heaven - ly Dove, with all thy quick - ening powers;
2. Come, Ho - ly Spir - it, heaven - ly Dove, with all thy quick - ening powers;

kin - dle a flame of sa - cred love in these cold hearts of ours.
come, shed a - broad a Sav - ior's love, and that shall kin - dle ours.

*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

Numbers 11:24-30

Barb Hopta
page 129, Old Testament

SCRIPTURE LESSON

1 Corinthians 12:3b-13

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Barb Hopta
page 174, New Testament

ANTHEM

Gracious Spirit, Holy Ghost

Malcolm Archer

Gracious Spirit, Holy Ghost, taught by thee, we covet most
Of thy gifts at Pentecost, holy, holy heavenly love.
Love is kind and suffers long, love is meek and thinks no wrong,
Love thank death itself more strong; therefore, therefore give us love.

Faith and hope and love we see joining hand in hand agree;
But the greatest of the three, and the best, the best is love.

From the overshadowing of thy gold and silver wing
Shed on us, who to thee sing, holy, holy heavenly love,
Holy love, holy love, heavenly love.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Acts 2:1-21

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Pastor Myers
page 119, 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

"God's Hope for the Church in an Age of Outrage"

Pastor Myers

*HYMN #8

Eternal Father, Strong to Save

MELITA

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

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

TRENTHAM

Breathe on me, Breath of God; fill me with life a - new,
 Breathe on me, Breath of God, till I am whol - ly thine,
 that I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.
 un - til this earth - ly part of me glows with thy fire di - vine.

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**Meditation on *Come Down, O Love Divine*

Alfred V. Fedak

***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 #321**

The Church's One Foundation

AURELIA

***BENEDICTION**

Pastor Myers

POSTLUDE

Tongues of Fire (Pentecost Dance)

Alfred V. Fedak

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
Barb Hopta

AUDIO & VIDEO

Byron Goodew
David Cottrell

THE MUSIC TODAY

Jayson Keeton, Director of Music & Organist
The Sanctuary Choir

CUSTODIAL SERVICES

David Wolf

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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
Patrick Barron, Custodian

MEMORIAL DAY

Please note that the church offices and buildings will be closed on Monday, May 25th for Memorial Day.

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. There are a few spots left in June and July! If you are interested in participating, please contact Tammy Hovis at thovis75@hotmail.com.

DELICIOUS OPPORTUNITIES

As we transition to warmer days, let's remember to visit our church's **Fair-Trade shop**, which is open on Sunday mornings before and after worship service and also through the week when the office is open. Purchases of olive oil, coffee, chocolate, tea, and nuts help many of our mission partners around the world earn a fair wage for their work. Also, remember to stop by the **Panera Bread table** on Sundays, where many breads and pastries are available. Your donations for these delicious treats help to buy food for many in our community who are hungry.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Theme: Kids Who Make a Difference to Neighbors Near and Far

Date: Monday, June 1st – Thursday, June 4th

Time: 5:00 – 7:15 PM

Join us as we learn how we can make a difference to our neighbors. Activities include: Art, Music, and nightly mission projects that impact our neighbors. Each evening starts with a delicious dinner and a Bible story before dividing into groups for the activities. Volunteers are still needed. Registration forms are available on the table in the back of the church.

VBS MISSION PROJECT NEEDS DONATIONS:

One of the mission projects will be to assemble hygiene kits. We are collecting the following items for the kits: washcloths; toothbrushes (in original packaging); fingernail or toenail clippers; bath-size bar soap (in original packaging); travel-size lotion (fragrance-free, new); travel-size shampoo (new); travel-size toothpaste; sturdy wide-tooth comb (6" minimum, no handles).

VBS VOLUNTEER MEETING

There will be a VBS meeting for all volunteers on Wednesday, May 27th at 5:30pm in room E117. This meeting will go over all aspects of this year's VBS Kids who Make a Difference to Neighbors Near and Far. Please plan on attending this important meeting. For more information contact Susan Smith.

CHANDLER FOOD BAGS

As the school year comes to a close, so does the Chandler Weekend Food Bag mission project. Thank you First Presby for the donations and the amazing handful of volunteers that work weekly to make sure these kids are taken care of. Before school starts in the fall, they will need to stock up on individual snack items, pop top cans, cereals, etc. Thank you again for all of the support for this ongoing and very important mission to help feed our community!

TIME FOR REFRESHMENT

Join Pastor Myers this Thursday afternoon at 4:30pm in the Ruffner Room for the last Time for Refreshment for the season.. We'll talk about life, faith, church, politics, maybe even church politics! Bring your opinions. Bring your questions. All are welcome. Whatever is on your mind, we'll talk about it! You can come occasionally. You can come every week. Our only purpose is to enjoy the fellowship and get to know each other a little better. Please enter through the side ramp door. Can't make Thursdays at 4:30pm? You can always call Pastor Myers for an appointment. There may not be shortbread, but he's always happy to put on a pot of tea!

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.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

The Christian Education Committee has decided to encourage children to stay in worship this summer. Children's Church will be on hiatus starting May 31st to give our volunteers some time off. Children's Church will resume August 16th as school prepares to start.

44 STUDENTS GRADUATE FROM FIRST PRESBY PRESCHOOL



GWHS BACCALAUREATE

First Presby members and friends are invited to attend the George Washington High School Baccalaureate service right here at First Presby this Sunday, May 24th at 6:30pm. This is an interfaith service lead by graduating seniors. A reception will follow the service in the dining room.

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 Clothier Presbyterian Church and Enslow Park Presbyterian Church in Huntington.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBY

Sunday, May 24

10:30am	Worship	<i>Sanctuary & YouTube</i>
11:00am	Worship Radio Broadcast	<i>WCHS-580AM</i>
6:30pm	GW Baccalaureate	<i>Sanctuary</i>
7:30pm	Baccalaureate Reception	<i>Dining Room</i>

Monday, May 25

CHURCH OFFICES CLOSED – Memorial Day

Tuesday, May 26

10:00am	Staff Meeting	<i>Ruffner Room</i>
5:30pm	PS Graduation	<i>Sanctuary</i>

Wednesday, May 27

8:30am	Aerobics	<i>Bud Francis Rec. Room</i>
1:00pm	PW Bible Study	<i>Edgewood Summit</i>

Thursday, May 28

8:00am	Shoney's Group	<i>Zoom</i>
4:30pm	Time for Refreshment – Last one!	<i>Ruffner Room</i>
5:30pm	Bell Choir	<i>Choir Room</i>

Friday, May 29

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

Sunday, May 31

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

DAILY SCRIPTURE READING

Sunday, May 24	John 4:19-26
Monday, May 25	Matthew 12:22-32
Tuesday, May 26	Matthew 12:33-42
Wednesday, May 27	Matthew 12:43-50
Thursday, May 28	Matthew 13:24-30
Friday, May 29	Matthew 13:31-35
Saturday, May 30	Matthew 13:36-43



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF CHARLESTON**

