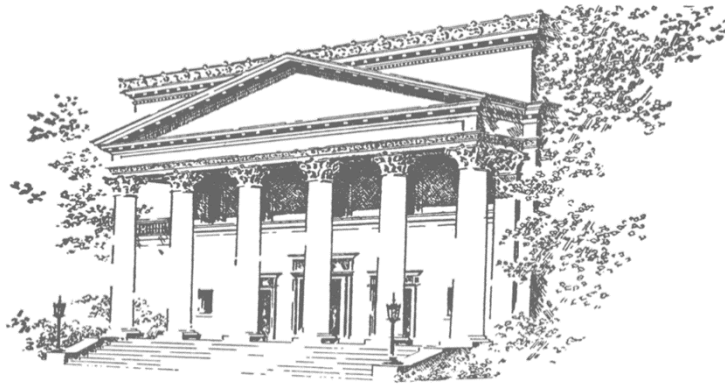


*Seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you... and pray to the Lord on its behalf
for in its welfare you will find your welfare.*

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 after Pentecost

July 5, 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!

*“The winter is past, the rain is over and gone.
The flowers appear on the earth; the time of singing has come.”*
— Song of Solomon 2:11-12 (NRSV)

“This is my song, O God of all the nations, a song of peace for lands afar and mine.”
— Lloyd Stone, This Is My Song (1934)

*“To be a Christian is to learn a new kind of citizenship,
one that is not finally defined by the boundaries of any nation.”*
— Rowan Williams

The following lectionary readings are provided for silent meditation during the prelude:

Semicontinuous

Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67 • Psalm 45:10-17 • Song of Solomon 2:8-13

Complementary

Zechariah 9:9-12 • Psalm 145:8-14 • Romans 7:15-25a • Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

***indicates congregation standing, as able**

THE CHURCH GATHERS TO...

PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

OPENING VOLUNTARY

A Song in the Morning

Gilbert Martin

WELCOME

Pastor Myers

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

PRAISE ALMIGHTY GOD

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Lindsay Marchio

One: The winter is past; the rain is over and gone.

All: The flowers appear on the earth; the time of singing has come.

One: We come giving thanks for the beauty of creation, the blessings of community, and the freedoms we enjoy.

All: We come to worship the God of all nations and all peoples.

One: Come, all who are weary and carrying heavy burdens.

All: Christ offers rest for our souls.

One: Let us worship God.

*PRAYER OF ADORATION

Lindsay Marchio

All: God of every nation and every generation, we thank you for the gifts of life, liberty, family, friendship, and faith. Through every season, you have guided your people and sustained your church. Fill us with gratitude, humility, and courage. Teach us to love our neighbors, seek the common good, and follow Christ faithfully. We ask this in his holy name. Amen.

*HYMN OF PRAISE #338 O Beautiful for Spacious Skies

MATERNA

CONFESS TO OUR FORGIVING CREATOR

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Pastor Myers

One: God has blessed us with life, liberty, and love, yet we often fail to live as people of grace.

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

**Merciful God, we give thanks for your many blessings,
yet confess that we often take them for granted.**

**You call us to love our neighbors, seek justice, and trust your future,
yet we too often cling to prejudice,
remain silent in the face of wrong,
and give ourselves over to fear.**

Forgive us when we place our confidence in human power rather than your grace.

**Renew us by your Spirit,
that we may walk humbly,
love generously,
and serve faithfully.**

(Silence is kept for personal confession.)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. In Jesus Christ, we are made new. In Jesus Christ, we find rest for our souls.

All: Thanks be to God!

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE** O God, Show Mercy to Us

THAXTED



1. O God, show mer - cy to us, and bless us with your grace;
2. For you will judge the peo - ples in truth and righ - teous - ness,



and cause to shine up - on us the bright - ness of your face,
and on the earth all na - tions will your just rule con - fess.



so that your way most ho - ly on earth may soon be known,
Let all the peo - ples praise you; let all the na - tions sing.



and un - to ev - ery peo - ple your sav - ing grace be shown.
Then earth in rich a - bun - dance to us its fruit will bring.



Let all the peo - ples praise you; let all the na - tions sing;
The Lord our God will bless us; our God will bless - ing send,



in ev - ery land let prais - es and songs of glad - ness ring.
and all the earth will wor - ship to its re - mot - est end.

***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

Song of Solomon 2:8-13

Lindsay Marchio
page 623, Old Testament

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Romans 7:15-25a

Lindsay Marchio
page 157, New Testament

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

The Call

Ralph Vaughan Williams
Joe Janisch, tenor

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

Pastor Myers
page 11, New Testament

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

A TIME FOR CHILDREN

Birth – K may meet in the Nursery (Room 114) for a lesson and a snack.
Children in grades 1–5 may remain in the sanctuary with their parents.

Pastor Myers

SERMON

“This Is Our Song”

Pastor Myers

*HYMN #340

This is My Song

FINLANDIA

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

He Shall Feed His Flock *(from Messiah)*

G.F. Handel

Come unto Him all ye that labor,
Come unto Him, ye that are heavy laden,
And He will give you rest.

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

In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful

IN THE LORD I'LL BE EVER THANKFUL



In the Lord I'll be ev - er thank - ful; in the Lord I will re - joice!



Look to God; do not be a - fraid. Lift up your voic - es; the Lord is near.



Lift up your voic - es; the Lord is near.

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

In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful

IN THE LORD I'LL BE EVER THANKFUL

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

In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful

IN THE LORD I'LL BE EVER THANKFUL

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 still our fears and teach us to trust you. Deliver us from our
striving, and shape 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, to sing your song in the world, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

GO FORTH TO SERVE

***HYMN #307**

God of Grace and God of Glory

CWM RHONDDA

***BENEDICTION**

Pastor Myers

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

arr. Robert Hobby

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
Lindsay Marchio

NURSERY

Kandy Smith
Melanie Stevens

AUDIO & VIDEO

Byron Goodew
David Cottrell

THE MUSIC TODAY

Julie Janisch, guest organist
Joe Janisch, tenor

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
Patrick Barron, Custodian

HEADPHONES

We now provide two pairs of noise cancelling headphones for children through teens who are sensitive to loud noises during worship. You can find them on the tables in the back of the sanctuary.

CHILDRENS GUIDE TO WORSHIP

An updated version of the Children's Guide to Worship has been created to help kids follow along with the service and learn the why behind some of the worship practices. You can find them in the children's worship bags or on the tables in the back of the sanctuary.

FAITH THREADS FOR FAMILIES

In June, the church mailed out to families a new monthly resource called "Faith Threads". If you did not receive this mailing and would like to be included in future mailings, please contact the church office. This monthly resource is from GenOn Ministries and written for parents and other children's caregivers to help them weave faith into their everyday life.

POPSICLES IN THE PARK

Join us at the Cato Park playground Sunday, July 12th from 2:00 - 4:00pm for popsicles and play time. You can bring your dog if you'd like because the dog park is next to the playground. Plenty of popsicles will be available. Rain date will be the following Sunday, July 19th.

SAVE THE DATE

Save the date for Faith Night at the Dirty Birds game on Saturday, August 8th. More information will be coming soon!

NEW RESOURCE FOR THE SUMMER

Taking Faith Home is a resource promoting Faith Formation in the life of our congregation at home. There is a weekly theme, a prayer for the week, a mealtime prayer, a blessing to give, daily Bible readings, a conversation starter, devotions, weekly milestones that allows for a moment to share or think about a recent mountain highs and/or valley lows in your life and more. This resource will be in the bulletin each week plus in the weekly worship materials email. When you are traveling and can't be in church take church with you by using *Taking Faith Home*.

WOMEN'S BOOK STUDY

The Women's Book Study will start a new book on Wednesday, July 15th at 1:00 in the Ruffner room. We will be reading *From Widows to Warriors Women's Stories from the Old Testament* by Lynn Japinga. The book is available through the PC(USA) Store and other booksellers and is also available as a Kindle book. Ten copies have been ordered from the PC(USA) store and will be available in the office once they arrive. Contact Susan Smith for more information. Susan can be reached by email at susan@firstpresby.com.

OFFICE CLOSURE

The church office will be closed on Monday, July 6th in observance of the 4th of July holiday.

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 started a meal train where members can sign up to provide Susan and her husband Greg a meal. Thank you to all who have stepped up this summer, if you are willing to help in August, please contact Tammy Hovis at thovis75@hotmail.com.

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 Canyon Community Church in Morgantown, First Presbyterian Church in Colcord and First Presbyterian Church in Fairmont.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBY

Sunday, July 5

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

Monday, July 6

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

Tuesday, July 7

10:00am	Staff Meeting	<i>Ruffner Room</i>
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Wednesday, July 8

8:30am	Aerobics	<i>Bud Francis Rec. Room</i>
1:00pm	Women's Weekly Book Study	<i>Ruffner Room</i>

Thursday, July 9

8:00am	Shoney's Group	<i>Zoom</i>
1:00pm	Shepherd Center Meeting	<i>E117</i>

Friday, July 10

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

4:00pm	Ellie Hoblitzell Senior Violin Recital	<i>Chapel</i>
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Sunday, July 12

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

DAILY SCRIPTURE READING

Sunday, July 5	Mark 1:14-20
Monday, July 6	Matthew 23:1-12
Tuesday, July 7	Matthew 23:13-26
Wednesday, July 8	Matthew 23:27-39
Thursday, July 9	Matthew 24:1-14
Friday, July 10	Matthew 24:15-31
Saturday, July 11	Matthew 24:32-51



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF CHARLESTON**