

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.

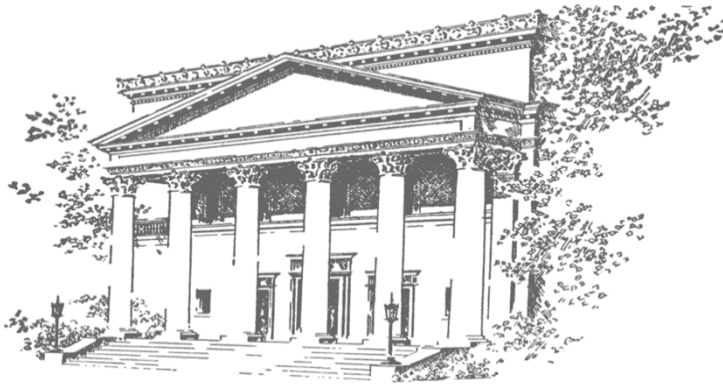
Jeremiah 29:7

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 Second Sunday after Pentecost

June 7, 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 following lectionary readings are provided for silent meditation during the prelude:

Genesis 12:1-9 • Hosea 5:15-6:6 • Psalm 33:1-12 • Psalm 50:7-15 • Romans 4:13-25 • Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

*indicates congregation standing, as able

THE CHURCH GATHERS TO... PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

OPENING VOLUNTARY Voluntary in C Major

Henry Purcell

WELCOME

Maureen Wright

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

PRAISE ALMIGHTY GOD

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Sam Keller

One: Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth.

All: Worship the Lord with gladness; come before God with joyful songs.

One: Know that the Lord is God. It is God who made us and we are God's children.

All: We are God's people, the sheep of God's pasture.

One: Enter God's gates with thanksgiving and the courts of the Lord with praise;

All: Give thanks to God and praise God's name.

One: For the Lord is good and God's love endures forever; God's faithfulness continues through all generations.

All: Let us worship God!

***PRAYER OF ADORATION**

Sam Keller

All: O God, form the minds of your faithful people into a single will. Make us love what you have commanded and desire what you promise, that, amid all the changes of this world, our hearts may be fixed where true joy is found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

CONFESS TO OUR FORGIVING CREATOR

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Maureen Wright

One: Merciful God, in your gracious presence we confess our sin and the sin of this world.

All: Although Christ is among us as our peace, we are a people divided against ourselves as we cling to the values of a broken world. The profit and pleasures we pursue lay waste the land and pollute the seas. The fears and jealousies that we harbor set neighbor against neighbor and nation against nation. We abuse your good gifts of imagination and freedom, of intellect and reason, and have turned them into bonds of oppression. Lord, have mercy upon us; heal and forgive us. Set us free to serve you in the world as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ. Amen.

(Silence is kept for personal confession.)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Do you feel it — there, deep down in your hearts?

God's love is alive, beating, breathing — in you!

All: Because God abides in us, we can live for others, allowing God's love to work in us. Through the grace of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE Breathe on Me, Breath of God**

TRENTHAM

Breathe on me, Breath of God; fill me with life a - new,
 that I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.

The image shows a musical score for a congregational response. It consists of two systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The key signature is one flat (B-flat) and the time signature is 3/4. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first system covers the first line of lyrics, and the second system covers the second line. The music is written in a simple, accessible style suitable for congregational singing.

***SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

Maureen Wright

One: The Peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSON Psalm 22:25-31

Sam Keller
page 501, Old Testament

SCRIPTURE LESSON Exodus 19:1-6

Sam Keller
page 65, Old Testament

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEMVouchsafe, O Lord! (from *Dettingen Te Deum*)G.F. Handel
Devon Stewart, baritone

Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this day without sin.
 O Lord have mercy upon us!
 O Lord, let thy mercy lighten upon us as our trust is in thee.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Acts 8:26–40

Maureen Wright
page 127, New Testament

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.**A TIME FOR CHILDREN**

Susan Smith

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.

SERMON

“Unusual Witness”

Maureen Wright

***HYMN 836**

Abide with Me

EVENTIDE

DEDICATE OUR LIVES TO GOD***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**(Adapted from the *Confession of 1967*)

Maureen Wright

All: To be reconciled to God**is to be sent into the world****as God’s reconciling community,****to share God’s labor****of healing the hostilities****which separate people from God****and from each other.****Christ has called the church to this mission****and given it the gift of the Holy Spirit.****The church follows Christ’s pattern****in the form of its life****and in the method of its action.****So to live and serve****is to confess Christ as Lord.****JOYS & CONCERNS**

Maureen Wright

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**

Prelude in C Major

Jacques-Nicolas Lemmens

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...

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

SUNG RESPONSE #518 Your Only Son

LAMB OF GOD

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 God, we thank you that in this meal you have nourished us with the body and blood of Christ. Strengthen us by your Spirit, that we may faithfully serve you in the world, share the good news of your love, seek justice and peace, and live as your grateful people; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

GO FORTH TO SERVE

***HYMN #65** Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

CWM RHONDDA

***BENEDICTION**

Maureen Wright

CLOSING VOLUNTARY Voluntary in F Major

T. Mee Pattison

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

Maureen Wright
Sam Keller

AUDIO & VIDEO

Byron Goodew
David Cottrell

CUSTODIAL SERVICES

David Wolf

THE MUSIC TODAY

Jayson Keeton, Director of Music & Organist
Devon Stewart, baritone

Service music reprinted under CCLI License No. 3604127.

The liturgy this morning is from the Book of Common Worship (Westminster John Knox Press, 2018),
the Presbyterian Outlook, Lectionary Liturgies by Thom Shuman,
and Fourth Presbyterian Church, Chicago (June 28, 2009)

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
Patrick Barron, Custodian

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

This week at Vacation Bible School the children learned how they can make a difference by sharing God's light and love with their neighbors. We collected pet food, made dog toys, and treat bags for the Kanawha Valley Animal Shelter and learned how to be good pet owners. We collected canned food and made sandwiches to feed the hungry through Manna Meal. Created hygiene kits for youth in crisis being served by Daymark. We showed our love for our at home members by making cards and potting plants to take to them.

I would like to thank the many people involved with VBS who shared their time, talents, and love to make our VBS a success. From those who provided dinner each night, those who led groups of children, the station leaders, and all those who worked behind the scenes. I would also like to thank the parents who took the time to bring their children to Vacation Bible School. We made a difference to our neighbors near and far this week and hopefully will continue to do so.

VBS CRAFT PROJECT

During VBS this week, the children worked on projects ranging from painting to metal embossing. One of the projects involved painting cardboard shapes and then, as a team, assembling the shapes into the sculpture you see on the chancel. The sculpture is a physical lesson in working together and contributing something you have done to create a larger work of beauty.

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*.

DISCOVERY CLASS NEWS

The Discovery Class Sunday meetings have ended until mid-September, as we do every year. However, the class is planning activities for this summer.

The Panera Bread will continue throughout the summer. Volunteers are needed to continue the success of this program. The contacts for this program are Candy Strader and Dave Nolan.

Watch the weekly Green Sheet for more Discovery Class summer activities

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.

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 Old Stone Presbyterian Church in Lewisburg and St. Andrew Presbyterian Church in Pinch.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBY

Sunday, June 7

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

Monday, June 8

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

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

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

Thursday, June 11

8:00am	Shoney's Group	<i>Zoom</i>
1:00pm	Shepherd Center Meeting	<i>E117</i>
6:30pm	Worship Meeting	<i>Ruffner Room</i>

Friday, June 12

8:30am	Aerobics	<i>Bud Francis Rec. Room</i>
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Saturday, June 13

Sunday, June 14

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

DAILY SCRIPTURE READING

Sunday, June 7	John 1:29-34
Monday, June 8	Matthew 15:21-28
Tuesday, June 9	Matthew 15:29-39
Wednesday, June 10	Matthew 16:1-12
Thursday, June 11	Matthew 16:13-20
Friday, June 12	Matthew 16:21-28
Saturday, June 13	Matthew 17:1-13



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF CHARLESTON**

