

*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 Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

July 19, 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 gospel is never about everybody else; it is always about you, about me.
— Eugene Peterson

"Resurrection means that the worst thing is never the last thing."
— Frederick Buechner

"Without hope there is no faith."
— John Calvin

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

Semicontinuous

Genesis 28:10-19a • Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24

Complementary

Wisdom of Solomon 12:13, 16-19 • Isaiah 44:6-8 • Psalm 86:11-17, 9-13 •
Romans 8:12-25 • Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

*indicates congregation standing, as able

THE CHURCH GATHERS TO...

PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

OPENING VOLUNTARY Lento (from *L'Organiste*)

César Franck

WELCOME

John Bolt

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

PRAISE ALMIGHTY GOD

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Dina Mohler

One: In the beginning
before time, before people,
before the world began,

All: God was.

One: Here and now
among us, beside us
enlisting the people of the earth
for the purposes of heaven,

All: God is.

One: In the future,
when we have turned to dust,
and all we know has found fulfillment,

All: God will be.

One: Not denying the world, but delighting in it,
not condemning the world, but redeeming it,
Through Jesus Christ,
by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**All: God was,
God is,
God will be.**

*HYMN OF PRAISE #697 Take My Life

HENDON

CONFESS TO OUR FORGIVING CREATOR

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

John Bolt

One: Merciful God,

All: in your gracious presence we confess our sin and the sin of this world. 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.

(Silence is kept for personal confession.)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

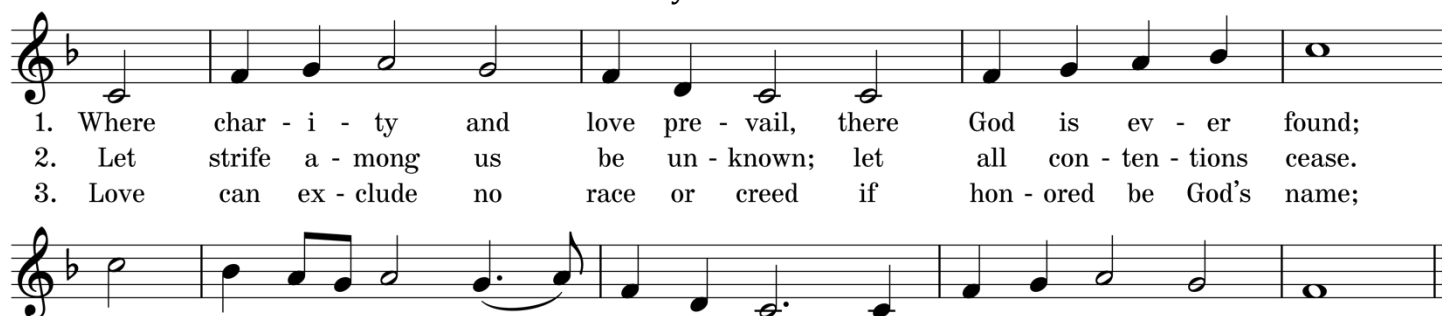
John Bolt

One: Hear the good news! Hope does not disappoint us, for God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit given to us in baptism. Believe this good news and give thanks:

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE** Where Charity and Love Prevail

TWENTY-FOURTH



1. Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail, there God is ev - er found;
2. Let strife a - mong us be un - known; let all con - ten - tions cease.
3. Love can ex - clude no race or creed if hon - ored be God's name;

brought here to - geth - er by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.
Be God's the glo - ry that we seek; be his our on - ly peace.
our com - mon life em - brac - es all whose Mak - er is the same.

***SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

John Bolt

One: The Peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSON Isaiah 44:6-8

Dina Mohler
page 673, Old Testament

SCRIPTURE LESSON Romans 8:12-25

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Dina Mohler
page 158, New Testament

ANTHEM Meditation on SLANE

Rhonda Furr
Jayson Keeton, organ

SCRIPTURE LESSON Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

John Bolt
page 577, New Testament

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

John Bolt

***HYMN #741** Guide My Feet

GUIDE MY FEET

DEDICATE OUR LIVES TO GOD

JOYS & CONCERNS

John Bolt

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

John Bolt

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 Lord, Hear My Prayer

HEAR MY PRAYER



O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer. When I call, an - swer me. O



Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and lis - ten to me.

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**Prière (from *L'Organiste*)

César Franck

***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**

John Bolt

GO FORTH TO SERVE***HYMN #733**

We All Are One in Mission

ES FLOG EIN KLEINS WALDVÖGELEIN

***BENEDICTION**

John Bolt

CLOSING VOLUNTARYSortie (from *L'Organiste*)

César Franck

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

John Bolt
Dina Mohler
Susan Smith

AUDIO & VIDEO

Byron Goodew
David Cottrell

CUSTODIAL SERVICES

David Wolf

THE MUSIC TODAY

Jayson Keeton, Director of Music & Organist

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John A. Bolt is currently moderator of the Presbytery of West Virginia. He currently attends First Presbyterian in Morgantown and serves on the Westminster Foundation. The Bolt family -- Margaret, Julia, Greg and John -- were members at First Charleston from 1998 to 2010.

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

BAREFOOT SUNDAY

Barefoot Sunday is on August 9th and we are doing things a little differently this year. We are partnering with Kids of Kanawha to stock the shoe pantry at Piedmont Elementary School. Instead of picking a specific child, you will find little blue and pink feet on the bulletin board in the back of the sanctuary with just a size and gender on it. If you are unable to shop or would rather donate monetarily, any money donated towards Barefoot Sunday will be used to purchase shoes for local non profits such as Davis Stuart, Children's Home Society, Daymark and YWCA Resolve Program. You can make checks payable to First Presby with Barefoot Sunday in the memo or mark your cash envelope with the same.

POPSICLES IN THE PARK

Due to rain last Sunday, Popsicles in the Park has been postponed to this Sunday, July 19th. Join us at Cato Park from 2-4pm 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.

YOUTH GROUP

The Youth Group will meet this Sunday, July 19th in Cato Park at the playground up near Edgewood Summit to hand out popsicles from 2:00 – 4:00. Come join the fun having popsicles in the park and playing games.

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.

FAMILY AND FAITH NIGHT W/ THE DIRTY BIRDS

Join us for Faith and Family Night with the Dirty Birds on Saturday, August 8th. Tickets will be provided by the church so please meet at the entrance at 6:10pm to get your tickets, the 1st pitch is at 6:35pm. Please let the office know if you plan on attending and how many will be in your party by Thursday, August 6th. Win or lose there are fireworks after the game!

LIBRARY CLEAN OUT

Susan will be working in the Library on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of this week from 1:30 to 4:30. If anyone would like to help organize and sort, you would be appreciated!

WOMEN'S BOOK STUDY

The Women's Book Study has started a new book and continue to meet every Wednesday 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. Contact Susan Smith for more information. Susan can be reached by email at susan@firstpresby.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 First Presbyterian Church in St. Albans and Spencer Presbyterian Church.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBY

Sunday, July 19

10:30am	Worship	<i>Sanctuary & YouTube</i>
11:00am	Worship Radio Broadcast	<i>WCHS-580AM</i>
2:00pm	Popsicles in the Park	<i>Cato Park</i>

Monday, July 20

8:00am	PS Summer Camp	<i>Preschool</i>
8:30am	Aerobics	<i>Bud Francis Rec. Room</i>

Tuesday, July 21

8:00am	PS Summer Camp	<i>Preschool</i>
10:00am	Staff Meeting	<i>Ruffner Room</i>

Wednesday, July 22

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

Thursday, July 23

8:00am	PS Summer Camp	<i>Preschool</i>
8:00am	Shoney's Group	<i>Zoom</i>

Friday, July 24

8:00am	PS Summer Camp	<i>Preschool</i>
8:30am	Aerobics	<i>Bud Francis Rec. Room</i>

Saturday, July 25

Sunday, July 26

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

DAILY SCRIPTURE READING

Sunday, July 19	Mark 2:1-12
Monday, July 21	Matthew 26:36-46
Tuesday, July 22	Matthew 26:47-56
Wednesday, July 23	Matthew 26:57-68
Thursday, July 24	Matthew 26:69-75
Friday, July 25	Matthew 27:1-10
Saturday, July 26	Matthew 27:11-23



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF CHARLESTON**

