

*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.*

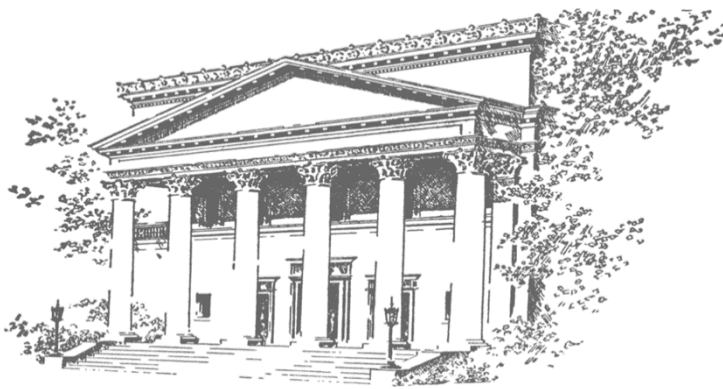
Jeremiah 29:7

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 Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

August 9, 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

"God is with us not only in the best moments, but also in the worst."
— Karl Barth

"Courage is fear that has said its prayers."
— Dorothy Bernard

*"I have held many things in my hands, and I have lost them all;
but whatever I have placed in God's hands, that I still possess."*
— Martin Luther

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

Semicontinuous

Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28 • Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b

Complementary

1 Kings 19:9-18 • Psalm 85:8-13 • Romans 10:5-15 • Matthew 14:22-33

*indicates congregation standing, as able

THE CHURCH GATHERS TO...

PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

OPENING VOLUNTARY

WELCOME

Pastor Myers

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

PRAISE ALMIGHTY GOD

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Kathy Lynch

One: Let us listen for what the Lord our God will speak, for God speaks peace to the faithful and calls us to turn our hearts toward grace.

All: Surely, salvation is at hand, and God's glory comes to dwell among us.

One: Faithfulness rises from the earth, and righteousness shines from heaven.

All: The Lord gives what is good and guides us in the way of life.

One: Let us worship the God who meets us in every storm, who leads us when the way is unclear, and who calls us forward in faith.

All: We worship the God who is with us. We worship the God who saves.

*PRAYER OF ADORATION

Kathy Lynch

All: Faithful God, you are near when the winds rise and the waters threaten; you are the Christ who comes to us with words of peace: "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid." Open our eyes to see your presence, our hearts to trust your grace, and our lives to follow your call. Amen.

*HYMN OF PRAISE #353 My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

SOLID ROCK

CONFESS TO OUR FORGIVING CREATOR

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Pastor Myers

One: The storms of life cloud our vision. Fear can make us mistake God's presence. Anxiety can make us forget God's promises. Uncertainty can keep us from trusting where Christ leads. Yet the good news of the gospel is Jesus comes to us even when our faith is fragile and our courage is weak.

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

**Merciful God, we confess that we often allow the storms around us
to become larger than your presence within us.**

We look at the waves instead of seeking you.

We listen to fear instead of your words of grace.

We cling to our own security instead of trusting your call.

Forgive us and come to us again, O Christ.

Speak your word of peace.

Strengthen our faith.

Lift us from the waters that overwhelm us.

Remind us that we belong to you — yesterday, today, and tomorrow.

(Silence is kept for personal confession.)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: God's grace is not limited by our failures, fears, or circumstances. The God who brings rain to the earth and life from the grave continues to renew and restore. Friends, believe the good news:

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and made new.

***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

Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28

Kathy Lynch

page 34, Old Testament

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalms 85:8-13

Kathy Lynch

One: This is the word of the Lord.

page 543, Old Testament

All: **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

Eternal Father, Strong to Save

MELITA

Lindsay Marchio, soprano

Eternal Father, strong to save, whose arm has bound the restless wave,
Who bade the mighty ocean deep its own appointed limits keep:
O hear us when we cry to thee for those in peril on the sea.

O Savior, whose almighty word the winds and waves submissive heard,
Who walked upon the foaming deep, and calm amid its rage did sleep:
O hear us when we cry to thee for those in peril on the sea.

O Holy Spirit, who did brood upon the chaos wild and rude,
And bade its angry tumult cease, and gave, for fierce confusion, peace:
O hear us when we cry to thee for those in peril on the sea.

O Trinity of love and power, all travelers guard in danger's hour;
From rock and tempest, fire and foe, protect them wheresoe'er they go;
Thus evermore shall rise to thee glad praise from air and land and sea.

SCRIPTURE LESSON Matthew 14:22-23

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Pastor Myers
page 16, 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 may remain in the sanctuary with their parents.

Pastor Myers

SERMON

"The Storm is Not the Story"

Pastor Myers

***HYMN #815**

Give to the Winds Thy Fears

FESTAL SONG

DEDICATE OUR LIVES TO GOD

JOYS & CONCERNS

Pastor Myers

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

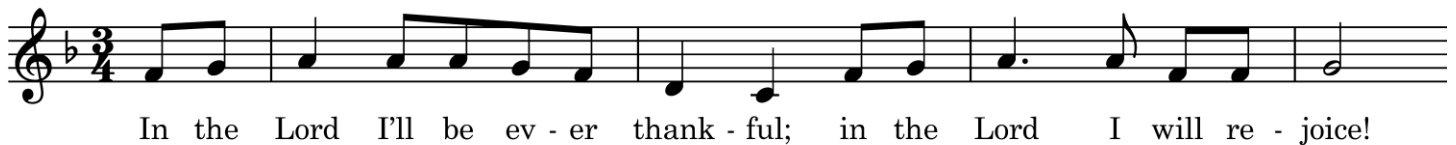
Pastor Myers

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

In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful

IN THE LORD I'LL BE EVER THANKFUL



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

***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 #821**

My Life Flows On

HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING

***BENEDICTION**

Pastor Myers

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

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
Kathy Lynch

AUDIO & VIDEO

Byron Goodew
David Cottrell

THE MUSIC TODAY

Garrett Maner, guest organist
Lindsay Marchio, soprano

CUSTODIAL SERVICES

David Wolf

Service music reprinted under CCLI License No. 3604127.

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

Update: A local business went ahead and generously bought shoes for every kid at Piedmont Elementary. Luckily, we were already partnering with Kids of Kanawha who supplies shoes for every kid that needs them in Kanawha County. So, the shoes collected will go to Kids of Kanawha and they will disperse them to the kids in need of new shoes this school year. Any monetary donations will still be used by church volunteers to purchase shoes for local organizations such as Davis Child Shelter, Children's Home Society and YWCA Family Resolve Program.

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

Summer is almost over and that means back to school time! Kids and teens are invited to bring their backpacks to church on Sunday, August 16th to be blessed before heading back to school and maybe received a little gift as well.

PDA: WV FLOODING

The Presbyterian Disaster Association (PDA) has set up an account to receive donations for the recent flooding in West Virginia. Those interested in supporting relief and recovery efforts may do so online or by mailing a check to:

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
P. O. Box 643700
Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700

If giving online, please use the code DR000191 - 2026 WV Flood in the "Disaster Supported" box. If mailing a check, please include the code DR000191 - 2026 WV Flood in the memo line.

CHURCH BOWLING LEAGUE

If you are interested in participating in a church bowling league, please let Pastor Myers know. He will be attending a meeting at Galaxy Lanes Monday, August 10th at 6:30pm to gather more information about the league. If you are interested in attending that meeting, let Pastor Myers know that as well.

ALZHEIMERS WALK

Deacons are participating in the 2026 Walk to End Alzheimer's - Charleston, WV on October 24th with the "First Presby" team and we're raising funds to make a difference for an important cause. Together, we can make a lasting impact – please consider joining our team or making a donation to support us by scanning the QR code below. You may also write a check to First Presby with Alzheimer's Walk in the memo. Last year we raised \$2000 and we hope to contribute more this year with your help.



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 Marsh Fork Presbyterian Church in Dry Creek and Valley Bend Presbyterian Church in Beverly.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBY

Sunday, August 9

10:30am	Worship – Barefoot Sunday	<i>Sanctuary & YouTube</i>
11:00am	Worship Radio Broadcast	<i>WCHS-580AM</i>
2:30pm	PWV - Leaning in to Listen Workshop	<i>First Presby of St. Albans</i>

Monday, August 10

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

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

Wednesday, August 12

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

Thursday, August 13

8:00am	Shoney's Group	<i>Zoom</i>
1:00pm	Shepherd Center Meeting	<i>E117</i>
5:30pm	Personnel Meeting	<i>Ruffner Room</i>
5:30pm	CE Meeting	<i>E117</i>

Friday, August 14

8:30am	Aerobics	<i>Bud Francis Rec. Room</i>
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Saturday, August 15

Sunday, August 16

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

DAILY SCRIPTURE READING

Sunday, Aug 9	Mark 4:35-41
Monday, Aug 10	John 3:1-21
Tuesday, Aug 11	John 3:22-36
Wednesday, Aug 12	John 4:1-26
Thursday, Aug 13	John 4:27-42
Friday, Aug 14	John 4:43-54
Saturday, Aug 15	John 5:1-18



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF CHARLESTON**