

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Bringing hope to the heart of Charleston and beyond.



All Saints Sunday
November 1, 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 as we gather for worship today. Whether you are a longtime member, a first-time guest, or joining us again after some time away, we are grateful you are here.

May our worship honor God, strengthen our faith, and send us into the world with hope and joy.

All children are welcome and encouraged to participate in worship.

A reflection for worship:

"Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed."

— 1 John 3:2

"You have made us for yourself, O Lord, and our heart is restless until it rests in you."

— Augustine of Hippo, Confessions

"We are prophets of a future not our own."

— Bishop Ken Untener

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

Lectionary

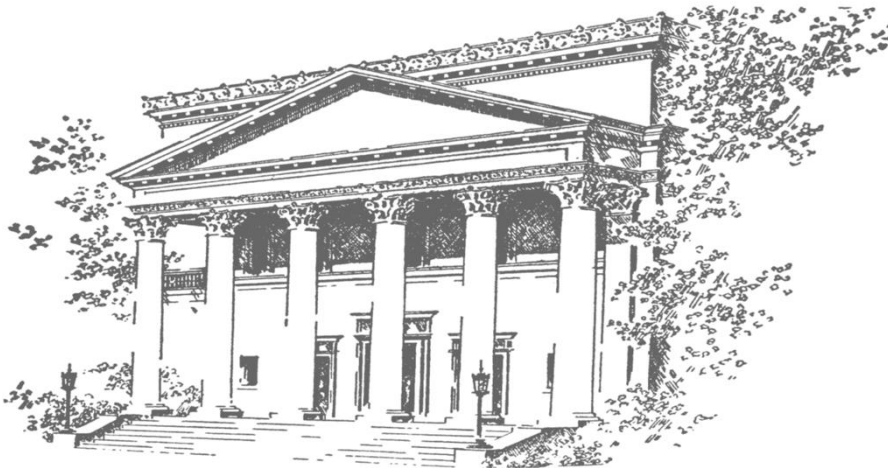
Revelation 7:9-17 • Psalm 34:1-10, 22 • 1 John 3:1-3 • Matthew 5:1-12

Cover art:

Four Saints: Peter, Martha, Mary Magdalen, and Leonard (1517)

Correggio (1489?-1534)

Metropolitan Museum of Art (New York, NY)



*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*

Our Offering of Worship

We Come Before God

God calls us together as one people. We come with our joys and burdens, our questions and hopes, trusting that God meets us with grace and welcomes us into worship.

**indicates congregation standing, as able.*

Opening Voluntary Blessed Are the Poor in Spirit Roberta Rowland-Raybold

Introit Soon and Very Soon Andraé Crouch
The Sanctuary Choir

Soon and very soon we are going to see the King...
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! We're going to see the King!

Welcome Pastor Myers

Chiming of the Trinity

We Give Thanks and Praise

*In song and prayer, we turn our hearts toward the God who creates, redeems, and sustains us.
Together we offer our praise and remember the faithfulness of God.*

***Call to Worship** Bob Welty

One: Come, people of God, and remember the faithfulness of the Lord.

All: We give thanks for the saints whose lives have shown us your love.

One: Come with your joys and your sorrows, your memories and your hopes.

All: We worship the God who wipes away every tear.

One: See what love God has given us, that we should be called children of God.

All: And that is what we are!

One: We are surrounded by the witness of those who came before us and held in the promise of what is yet to come.

All: With gratitude and hope, let us worship God!

***Prayer of Adoration** Bob Welty

All: Eternal God, you have been our dwelling place in every generation. We thank you for the saints who have gone before us, for your faithfulness through every change and challenge, and for the promise of life in Jesus Christ. Gather us into your presence, renew our hope, and lead us toward the future you are preparing. Amen.

***Hymn of Praise #326** For All the Saints SINE NOMINE

We Confess and Receive Grace

*In confession, we acknowledge the ways we have fallen short and open our hearts to God's mercy.
Through Christ, we receive forgiveness, renewal, and the promise of new life.*

Prayer of Confession

Pastor Myers

One: We are God's children now, yet we do not always live as those who belong to Christ.

All: **Trusting in God's unfailing mercy, let us confess our sin.**

Merciful God, we give thanks for the faithfulness of those who came before us, yet we confess that we sometimes cling to the past more tightly than we trust your future. We allow fear to diminish our hope, hold on to old wounds, and resist the new things you are calling us to do. Forgive us. Heal what is broken, renew our faith, and give us courage to follow Christ wherever he leads. Amen.

(Silence is kept for personal confession.)

Assurance of Pardon

One: Hear the good news: See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God—and that is what we are! In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, renewed, and given the promise of life everlasting.

All: **In Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!**

*Congregational Response

Come, Holy Spirit, Heavenly Dove

ST. AGNES

The musical notation is written on two staves in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Come, Ho - ly Spir - it heaven - ly Dove, with all thy quick - ening powers;
come, shed a - broad a Sav - ior's love, and that shall kin - dle ours.

*Sharing the Peace of Christ

One: The Peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

We Listen for God's Word

*God speaks to us through Scripture. The Holy Spirit opens our hearts to receive its wisdom, challenge, and hope.
We listen together for the Word that calls us to faithful living.*

Prayer for Illumination

Bob Welty

All: **Faithful God, open our hearts to your Word. Through the witness of Scripture and the power of your Spirit, strengthen our faith, renew our hope, and help us glimpse the future you are preparing in Jesus Christ. Amen.**

A Reading from the Psalter

Psalms 34:1–10, 22

Bob Welty
page 508, Psalter

A Reading from the Epistles 1 John 3:1-3

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Bob Welty
page 240, New Testament

Anthem

Rejoice in God's Saints

OLD 104TH, Fred Pratt Green
The Sanctuary Choir

Rejoice in God's saints, today and all days!
A world without saints forgets how to praise.
Their faith in acquiring the habit of prayer,
Their depth of adoring, Lord, help us to share.

Some march with events to turn them God's way;
Some need to withdraw, the better to pray;
Some carry the gospel through fire and through flood:
Our world is their parish; their purpose is God.

Rejoice in those saints, unpraised and unknown,
Who bear someone's cross, or shoulder their own;
They share our complaining, our comforts, our cares:
What patience in caring, what courage, is theirs!

Rejoice in God's saints, today and all days!
A world without saints forgets how to praise.
In loving, in living, they prove it is true:
Their way of self-giving, Lord, leads us to you.

A Reading from the Gospels Revelation 7:9-17

One: This is the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

All: **Praise be to you, O Christ.**

Pastor Myers
page 249, 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

"Our Best Days Need Not Be Behind Us"

Pastor Myers

***Hymn #687**

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

ST. ANNE

We Respond in Faith

*As we come before God, we bring the joys and burdens of our lives,
the needs of our neighbors, and the hopes of the world.*

Prayers of the People

Pastor Myers

We Commit Our Lives to God

*Every good gift comes from God. In gratitude for God's abundant grace,
let us commit our lives and our gifts for the work of Christ in the world.*

Offertory

Meditation on CONVERSE

John S. Dixon

*Please bring your offering forward during the offertory.
You may also text "firstpresby" to 73256 to give from your mobile device.*

We Gather at Christ's Table

*Christ invites all who trust in him to this feast of grace. Here we remember his saving love,
receive his sustaining presence, and join the communion of saints
as the body of Christ in every time and place.*

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Pastor Myers

Great 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: Holy and gracious God, you are the source of all life and the giver of every good gift...

...with the saints on earth and the saints in heaven, we join our voices in praise.

Sung Response

One Bread, One Body (*refrain*)

ONE BREAD, ONE BODY

One bread, one bod - y, one Lord of all, one cup of
bless - ing which we bless. And we, though man - y,
through - out the earth, we are one bod - y in this one Lord.

One: Holy are you, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord...

...we offer ourselves to you in gratitude and faith, and proclaim the mystery of faith.

Sung Response

One Bread, One Body (*refrain*)

ONE BREAD, ONE BODY

One: Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and cup...

...all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever.

Sung Response

One Bread, One Body (*refrain*)

ONE BREAD, ONE BODY

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 Cup

(This morning we share the bread and the cup together, gathered and scattered, united in Christ at the Table.)

Communion Anthem

Pie Jesu (from *Requiem*)

Gabriel Fauré

Lindsay Marchio, soprano

Pie Jesu Domine, dona eis requiem,
sempiternam requiem.

*Blessed Jesus, Lord, grant them rest,
grant them everlasting rest.*

Prayer after Communion

All: Faithful God, we thank you for this holy meal, where you have nourished us with your grace and united us with the saints of every generation. Comfort us in our grief, strengthen us in our hope, and renew us for the work you have entrusted to our care. May we honor those who came before us by living faithfully today, trusting that what we will be has not yet been revealed. Through Jesus Christ our risen Lord. Amen.

We Go Forth in Hope

Having gathered in God's presence, heard God's Word, received God's grace, and been nourished at Christ's Table, we are sent into the world as Christ's people—called to love, serve, and share God's hope.

*Hymn #263

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!

CORONATION

*Benediction

Pastor Myers

Closing Voluntary

Great Is Your Reward

Roberta Rowland-Raybold

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
Bob Welty

AUDIO & VIDEO

Byron Goodew
David Cottrell

THE MUSIC TODAY

Jayson Keeton, Director of Music & Organist
Lindsay Marchio, soprano
The Sanctuary Choir

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.

We remember...

*"Blessed are the dead, who die in the Lord, yea saith the Spirit,
For they rest from their labors and their works do follow them."*

Robin Harlow	December 20, 2025
Helen Liu	December 24, 2025
Mary McLaughlin	January 2, 2026
Ann Maddox	January 17, 2026
Rod Clay	January 29, 2026
Chuck Moyers	February 4, 2026
Tom Graff	March 22, 2026
Bob McEldowney	April 1, 2026

Robert Sigler	April 10, 2026
Janet Kessock	May 9, 2026
John Copenhaver	May 12, 2026
Velma Sears	May 13, 2026
Charlie Moredock	August 21, 2026
Moseley Winkler	September 9, 2026
Dorothy Burford	September 20, 2026

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 Assistan

Anne Moses, Director of the Preschool
Erin Stone, Preschool Office Administrator
Bernard Wooten, Preschool Custodian
Curtis Allen, Preschool Custodian
Patrick Barron, Custodian

SOUP AND SUNDAE SUNDAY

It is the time of year when we turn our hearts and minds to the season of Generosity. What can we and our families do with our time, talents, and financial support to help First Presby make God's love visible to a world who needs that love and hope?

This Sunday, November 1st we will celebrate Soup and Sundae Sunday! Bring your favorite homemade soups and stay after church for a time of fellowship and reflection on all of God's blessings to First Presby. While you are enjoying the delicious soups and ice cream treats, we will have a presentation on the many opportunities and challenges facing our church over the next year. In this season of Generosity, please prayerfully consider how you will support First Presby's ongoing work in Charleston and beyond as we move towards Celebration and Commitment Sunday on November 8th.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The Session has called a congregational meeting for Sunday, November 15, immediately following worship for the stated purpose of electing Church officers and members of the Nominating Committee.

WOMEN'S WEEKLY BOOK STUDY

The Women's Book Study Group is only one week into their new book, so you can still join them every Wednesday at 1:00pm in the Ruffner Room. The book *Bible Stories for Grown-Ups: Reading Scripture with New Eyes*, Pastor Josh Scott looks at familiar Bible stories and reveals new details and interpretations for an adult audience. This six-week Bible study will consider stories, many read as children including, Noah's Ark, the binding of Isaac, Jonah and the big fish, Jesus and Zacchaeus, Jesus healing a blind man, and the parable of the talents. Scott reimagines these stories and opens new visions for readers to understand well known pieces of Scripture in our current cultural environment. Books are available in the church office.

HOPE VILLAGE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Calling on Manly Men! Debbe and Dina need help moving the tables, trees and merchandise into the Bud Francis room for Hope Village this Monday, November 2 beginning at 10:00 a.m. This is a big job, but with enough help, it can be done in a couple hours. If you are able to assist, please let Debbe (304) 444-9272 or Dina (304) 444-2211 know. Thanks so much. There MAY be a donut in it for you.

Do you love decorating trees? Are you good at arranging clothing? Do you love steaming tablecloths? Well, have we got a job that's right up your alley! We will be setting up the displays for Hope Village beginning on November 2 and can use all the help we can get! We will be working November 3, 4, and 5 to unpack and arrange merchandise, beginning at 10 am each day. If you are able to come help at any point during those days, please let Debbe (304) 444-9272 or Dina (304) 444-2211 know. Thank you for your support of Hope Village and its important mission.

YOUTH GROUP

There will be no Youth Group meet ups in the month of November. We will see you in December!

KNITTING GROUP

Did you know First Presby has a Knitting Group? They meet the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of every month at 10:00am up in Room 406. All supplies are included but of course you're welcome to bring your own project. If you are a beginner or expert level, you are welcome to join! This group teaches kids at the King Center how to knit as well!

CHANDLER FOOD BAGS

First Presby is sending weekend food bags to 20 Chandler Academy students this year who need a little extra. This is our third year with this mission and the number of students needing help has increased significantly. If you would like to help with this mission, you can donate individual nonperishable food items or financial gifts for us to shop with, earmarked for Chandler. If you'd like to help fill or deliver bags, feel free to show up at the church on a Friday morning at 10am and we will train you. If you would just like to pray for this mission and these students, that would also be wonderful.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNERS

Join your church family for a free meal on Wednesday nights at 5:30 as a part of LIFT (Living in Faith Together). After dinner you can stay in the dining hall to continue fellowshiping or join the adult class or the children's class and nurture your faith. We finish the evening with a brief communion worship service from 7:00 – 7:15.

LIFT AFTER DARK: QUESTIONS WE'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO ASK AT CHURCH

Some questions are too important for easy answers. This fall, LIFT After Dark will make room for honest conversation about faith, doubt, Scripture, and the questions many of us carry but rarely have the opportunity to explore together.

Each week stands on its own—no homework, no preparation, and no need to attend every session. Come for the questions that interest you. Bring your doubts, your experiences, and your curiosity.

November 4 — Is Jesus the Only Way? What do we believe happens to those who worship God but may not accept Jesus Christ as their resurrected Savior?

What about faithful Jews, Muslims, people of other religions, or people who have never really encountered Christianity? We'll wrestle with Jesus' claim, "*I am the way*," alongside the wideness of God's grace—and ask what Presbyterians actually believe about salvation.

November 11 — Is Hell Real?

Fire and brimstone? Eternal punishment? Separation from God? Something else entirely? We'll look at what Scripture actually says about hell, how Christian thinking about it developed, and whether a loving God condemns people forever.

November 18 — What If I'm Wrong About God?

Most of us inherited some picture of God—from parents, Sunday school, church, culture, or experience. But what happens when that picture no longer works? Can changing our minds about God actually be an act of faith?

November 25 — No LIFT After Dark — Thanksgiving Week

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 Dunbar and First Presbyterian Church in Williamson.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBY

Sunday, November 1

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

Monday, November 2

8:30am	Aerobics	<i>Bud Francis Rec. Room</i>
4:00pm	Property Meeting	<i>E117</i>
6:30pm	FPC Bowling	<i>Galaxy Lanes</i>

Tuesday, November 3

10:00am	Staff Meeting	<i>Ruffner Room</i>
6:00pm	Deacon's Meeting	<i>A201</i>
7:00pm	Boy Scouts	<i>Activities Building</i>
7:00pm	Civic Chorus Rehearsal	<i>Choir Room</i>

Wednesday, November 4

8:30am	Aerobics	<i>Bud Francis Rec. Room</i>
10:30am	Knitting Club	<i>Room 406</i>
1:00pm	Women's Book Study	<i>Ruffner Room</i>
5:30pm	LIFT	<i>Dining Room</i>

Thursday, November 5

4:30pm	Time for Refreshment	<i>Ruffner Room</i>
6:30pm	Mission Meeting	<i>E117</i>

Friday, November 6

8:30am	Aerobics	<i>Bud Francis Rec. Room</i>
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Saturday, November 7

DAILY SCRIPTURE READING

Sunday, October 25	Matthew 18:21-35
Monday, October 26	Luke 12:49-59
Tuesday, October 27	Luke 13:1-9
Wednesday, October 28	Luke 13:10-17
Thursday, October 29	Luke 13:18-30
Friday, October 30	Luke 13:31-35
Saturday, October 31	Luke 14:1-11

DISCOVERY CLASS

November 1	"That Was Easy" – Rob Kuenzel
November 8	"Hope Village" – Dina Mohler and Debbe Moredock



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF CHARLESTON**

