

WELCOME TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

508 2nd Avenue
South Charleston West Virginia 25303
[304] 744-2333 • fpcsc.wv.org

God
Loves
Everyone
Equally

February 2, 2025

First Presbyterian Church

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THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

February 2, 2025

GATHERING

(* Please stand in body or spirit. Text in **bold face type** is to be read by all.)

THE CHIMES CALL US TO WORSHIP

WELCOME – THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

OPENING OURSELVES TO GOD

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 71

One: In you, O Lord, I take refuge;

All: Let me never be put to shame.

One: For you are my rock and my fortress.

All: Rescue me, O my God, from the hand of the wicked.

One: Upon you, mighty God, I have leaned from my birth;

All: My praise is continually of you; Let us worship God!

MORNING PRAYER

God of life, death and resurrection, we are grateful for life and all its gifts. Increase in us the stuff that life is made of – faith, hope and love; but especially love – that we may abide with you eternally through Jesus Christ; out most loving Lord. Hear our prayer, through your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

* **HYMN**

"Let Us Build a House"

No. 301

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of life, we admit to you and to each other that we have not always lived lives of love. We have lost patience and been rude. We have been irritable and insisted on our own way. We have even let love end. Forgive us and heal us, dear God. It is through Jesus Christ our Lord that we ask. Amen.

[Silence is kept for personal confession]

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

* **GLORIA PATRI**

No. 581

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost!

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

PASSING THE PEACE

The Peace of Christ be with you

And also with you

Please greet one another with the peace of Christ.

ANTHEM

"Grace Alone"

-arr. Fettke

TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN

Ginna Taylor, Pastor

* **HYMN**

"Your Only Son"

No. 518

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Ginna Taylor, Pastor

One: God of all goodness, we live in times of stress and controversy, injustice and cruelty. At times we cry to you for rescue and remember that we have leaned on you since our birth.

All: O God of all creation, be our hope and trust.

One: We pray for your church in all its forms, that we may be the love you want.

All: O God of all creation, uplift us to live in love.

One: We pray for victims of domestic violence and victims of war; grant your healing and give your peace.

All: O God of all creation, help us to be peacemakers.

One: We pray for those who are ill or suffering, that they may feel the comfort of your love.

All: O God of all creation, bring us courage to be healers and helpers.

One: We pray for your creation, that the health of the earth may be restored.

All: O God of all creation, give us the eyes to see, hands to heal, and the voice that advocates for the health of all the earth.

One: You have opened to us a place at your table of grace. In gratitude for the bread and cup you share, we will honor you by sharing our bread with others, by offering without reserve the cup you bless. Great is your faithfulness.

All: O God, we hope in you.

One: Now to you be all the glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and forever.

All: Amen.

LISTENING TO THE WORD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 71:1-6

SERMON SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 4:21-30

DEDICATION OF OUR LIVES

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is good to give God thanks and praise...

Praise to you, O God, for all your works. You created the world and called it good, and made us in your image to live together in love. You made a covenant with us, and even when we turned from you, you remained ever faithful.

Thank you, God, for sending us your Son. He lived among us and told your story. He healed the sick and welcomed sinners. He shared our pain and died our death, then rose to new life that we might live, and all creation be restored. Together we say...

Lord, feed us with the gift of bread,

So that we can move among your people and share this plenty.

Feed us with your light of love.

So that we may surround all your children with acceptance and grace.

Feed us with new life and abundance.

So, forever your children, we can praise your name to all the earth.

This day, Lord, pour out your Spirit on us, and on these gifts of bread and juice that they may become for us your body, healing, forgiving and making us whole, and that we may become for you your body living and caring in the world until your kingdom comes.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, with the Holy Spirit in the holy church, now and forever, hear us as together we pray:

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 OF THE BREAD AND THE CUP

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (in unison)

Holy God, we thank you for this feast of grace and life. As we have been served, help us to serve our neighbors. As we have been fed, help us to feed all who are hungry. As we have been loved, help us to love the world – because in Christ Jesus you have loved us. Amen.

RESPONDING TO GOD

* PROFESSION OF FAITH

Confession of Belhar

We believe that God’s life-giving Word and Spirit has conquered the powers of sin and death, and therefore also of irreconciliation and hatred, bitterness and enmity. We believe that’s God’s life-giving Word and Spirit will enable the church to live in a new obedience which can open new possibilities of life for society and the world. God has entrusted the church with the message of reconciliation in and through Jesus Christ.

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY

“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”

No. 609

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION

God of glorious power and wisdom, how can we number your countless gifts? Look upon our lives with favor; and, by the gift of your grace, prosper the work of our hands; keep our hearts aware of the need we see around us, and use our hands and feet to do your work. We ask all of this in Jesus’ name. Amen.

GOING FORTH TO SERVE

* HYMN

“To God Be the Glory”

No. 634

* BENEDICTION

* POSTLUDE

Music Notes: CCLI License # 21008312, Streaming License #20118305 and our OneLicense.net # 738390.

Mission Committee Food Requests for Heart & Hand

These are items we will be collecting for Heart & Hand this month. Please bring your donations each Sunday!

February 2: Macaroni & Cheese

February 23: Canned Soups

February 9: Beans & Rice

February 16: Canned Pasta (Beefaroni, Ravioli, SpaghettiOs, Spaghetti & Meatballs)

Thank you

To members of the congregation and staff of First Presbyterian Church of South Charleston:

Words cannot express my gratitude for the beautiful Memorial Service you held for my precious daughter, Amanda, on January 18, 2025. You planned the service, shoveled the snow, decorated the sanctuary for the service, held the service, provided food after the service was over, and gave comfort to Amanda's family and friends. Over and over, I have heard what a beautiful and appropriate service it was for my daughter.

Many of you know this is the second time you have provided a service for my family. The first time was in January 2005 when First Presbyterian Church members and staff came together to hold an uplifting and beautiful memorial for Pamela Jean Fuller, my wife, and Amanda's mother.

I cannot imagine anyone having a better church family than the one I have. I cherish and love all of you.

With my heartfelt thanks, Joe Fuller

Presbyterian Women News

Our February Bible Study will be Thursday, February 13, at 2:00 p.m. in the Parlor. Let's hope the weather will be good for all of us. The beginning of the week doesn't look very promising. Nancy Knurek will be our Bible teacher. See you on the 13th



Coming Soon!

Annual Congregational Meeting

February 23, 2025 -- 12:35 pm

2024 Year in Review
Celebration of 2024 Joys
Remembrance for those who passed away in 2024
Approval of Pastor's 2025 Compensation

No Charge for Lunch, just join us in the Fellowship Hall after worship!

Today's Scripture Readings

Psalm 71:1-6 (NRSV)

Prayer for Guidance and Support for the King

- ¹ Give the king your justice,
O God,
and your righteousness to a
king's son.
- ² May he judge your people with
righteousness,
and your poor with justice.
- ³ May the mountains yield
prosperity for the people,
and the hills, in righteousness.
- ⁴ May he defend the cause of the
poor of the people,
give deliverance to the needy,
and crush the oppressor.
- ⁵ May he live while the sun
endures,
and as long as the moon,
throughout all generations.
- ⁶ May he be like rain that falls on
the mown grass,
like showers that water the
earth.

Luke 4:21-30 (NRSV)

The Rejection of Jesus at Nazareth

²¹ Then he began to say to them, **Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.**

²² All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, "Is not this Joseph's son?" ²³ He said to them; **"Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, 'Doctor, cure yourself!' And you will say, 'Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.' "**

²⁴ And he said, **"Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet's hometown. ²⁵ But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over all the land; ²⁶ yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. ²⁷ There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian."** ²⁸ When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. ²⁹ They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. ³⁰ But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

Nurturing Faith Ideas from the Presbytery of West Virginia

Please use these suggested scriptures, questions, and activities to help you explore your faith.

February 2, Fourth Sunday after Epiphany: Read Jeremiah 1:4-10

God chose Jeremiah to be God's messenger, to speak God's word. Though Jeremiah insisted that he was too young and didn't know how, God promised to go with him and give him the words to speak. What has God called you to say about God to others? What excuses keep you from speaking with others about God?

South Charleston First Presbyterian Church Website:
www.fpcscwv.org makes available our Sunday morning live-stream worship services & bulletins, newsletters, Session information, and youth group videos. Also posted are Announcements for the Month, information about upcoming mission projects, and our many fellowship opportunities.

**REMEMBER IN YOUR
PRAYERS & DEEDS OF LOVE**

Church Family

| | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <i>Nancy Alert</i> | <i>Rick & Lora Hayes</i> |
| <i>Sandy Bays</i> | <i>James Logsdon</i> |
| <i>Brian Cole</i> | <i>Drew McIlwain</i> |
| <i>Terry Coleman</i> | <i>Marsha McIlwain</i> |
| <i>Sallie Davidson</i> | <i>Becky Parsons</i> |
| <i>Mary Frye</i> | <i>David Smith</i> |
| <i>Joe Fuller & Family</i> | <i>Lee Snyder</i> |
| <i>Sally & Ben Games</i> | <i>David Sutton</i> |
| <i>Terri Guyette</i> | |

Care Facilities

Linda Amburgey
Von Carter
Bob & Barbara Cruickshank
Tee Goodman
Tom Haines
Barbara Snyder

Presbyterian Connections

Child Development Center
Bluestone Camp & Retreat Center
Lineweaver Cottage, Davis-Stuart
Fort Liberté, Haiti
*Alexander Memorial Presbyterian Church,
Stony Bottom*
Bethlehem Presbyterian Church, Shinnston
Kiawathanji Church, Gaaki Parish, Kenya

First Presbyterian Church

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Ministers:

EVERY MEMBER OF THE CONGREGATION

GINNA TAYLOR, Pastor
Mary Ellen Logsdon, Director of Music Ministry
Collin Nelson, Worship Assistant
Becky Smith, Office Manager
David Smith, Opener/Closer

Pastor's Office Hours:

9:00 AM – 1:00 PM (T, W, Th)

Church Office Hours:

7:00 AM - 3:00 PM (M, T, W, Th)

E-Mail Addresses:

pastor.ginna.fpcscwv@gmail.com
becky@fpcscwv.org

Web Address: *fpcscwv.org*

WIFI Network: 1stPresby SC – Guest

WIFI Password: PresbyGuest

Elders on Session:

Class of 2025

Cheryl Eary
Bob Lilly
Mark Lovin

Class of 2026

Hersha Brown
Rick Smith
Owen Walker

Class of 2027

Sarah Clemente
Chuck Knurek