

A portrait of John Calvin, a French theologian and ecclesiastical statesman, wearing a black cap and a dark robe with a white collar. He has a long, full beard and is looking slightly to the right. He is holding a book in his hands.

WELCOME TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH GINNA TAYLOR, PASTOR

REFORMATION SUNDAY! OCTOBER 27, 2024

Martin Luther drove the nails that began the Reformation on October 31, 1517, but if there is one man who is most closely associated with Reformed Theology, it would be John Calvin (1509-1564).

Born in France, John Calvin was a theologian and ecclesiastical statesman who spent much of his adult life in Geneva, Switzerland. In Geneva, he created a system of church government organized around elders (in the Greek this word is "presbyterios"), and this model is still followed today in the Presbyterian Church (USA) and around the world.

Calvin is widely considered the leading French Protestant reformer and the most important figure in the second generation of the Protestant Reformation. Calvin emphasized God's sovereignty in salvation through five tenets:

1. Total Depravity takes the view that sinfulness pervades all areas of life and human existence. This means that God must intervene to save people.
2. Unconditional Election is the Calvinist view that God chooses who will be saved and he does so according to His grace.
3. Limited Atonement refers to the forgiveness of our sins by means of Jesus' sinless life and sacrificial death.
4. Irresistible Grace is the belief that all who are called by God to believe in Jesus *will* be saved.
5. Perseverance of the Saints is the belief that if you have been justified before God you cannot lose your salvation.

First Presbyterian Church

508 2nd Avenue • South Charleston WV • 25303 • [304] 744-2333 • fpcscwv.org

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

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 126

One: When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion

All: We were like those who dream.

One: Then it was said among the nations,

All: "The Lord has done great things for them."

One: May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy, those who go out weeping,
bearing seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy.

All: Hear our shouts of joy, O God. Let us worship God!

MORNING PRAYER

God of power and mercy, you gather your people with the love of a parent for a child. You hear our cries in the night and in the day; you answer with healing and hope. Gather us into your strength and feed us with your wisdom, in the name of the Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer, one God, we ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

***HYMN**

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God."

No. 275

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: "Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners – of whom I am the worst."

All: Let each make confession in your heart and believe in Christ.

O Lord, you are our Father, and we are wayward children; you are our Creator, we are the work of your hands; you are our Shepherd, we are your flock; you are our Redeemer, we are the people you brought back; you are our God, we belong to you. Therefore, do not be angry against us, to correct us in your wrath. Recall not our iniquity, to punish it, but chastise us gently in your kindness.

Your anger is inflamed because of our demerits. But please remember that we do call upon your name and that we bear your mark and badge. Undertake rather the work you have begun in us by your grace, so that the whole world may recognize that you are our God and Savior. Amen. (John Calvin 1950-1564)

[Silence is kept for personal confession]

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

One: So, in Christ's name do I pronounce forgiveness to you of all your sins, and I declare you to be loosed of them in earth so that you may be loosed of them also in heaven and for all eternity.

All: Our salvation is through faith in Christ Jesus. Thanks be to God. Amen.

*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 every 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

"Live your Love"

-Nordmeyer

TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN

Ginna Taylor, Pastor

*HYMN

"Open My Eyes That I May See"

No. 451

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Ginna Taylor, Pastor

One: We give you thanks, O God, for the riches of this day, this season, and this century in history. Show us how to better know your gifts and shape them into benefits for the common good.

All: God of mercy, hear our prayer.

One: Equip the saints in every land and in every church for ministry. Bring blessings on people of other faiths. Gather all creation into unity in you for the sake of your mission in the world.

All: God of mercy, hear our prayer.

One: For so many blessings, and for answered prayers, we give you thanks through Jesus Christ. With all the saints in heaven and on earth, together hear us as we offer our prayers to you using the words you have taught us to pray:

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.

LISTENING TO THE WORD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 126

Pew Bible Page 537

SERMON SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 10:46-52

Pew Bible Page 879

SERMON

"Open My Eyes, So I Can See"

GINNA TAYLOR, Pastor

RESPONDING TO GOD

*PROFESSION OF FAITH

The Heidelberg Catechism

One: What is your only comfort in life and death?

All: That I am not my own, but belong – body and soul, in life and in death – to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven; in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.

GOING FORTH TO SERVE

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY

"Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"

No. 606

**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 (Unison)

Blessed be the Lord, for God is good, and God's love endures forever. Our Creator, help us to mirror your goodness through this offering in the world. Bless those who receive these gifts, and those who give them. It is in Jesus' name that we pray. Amen.

*HYMN

"Be Thou My Vision"

No. 450

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

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

Today's Scripture

Psalm 126 (NRSV)

A Harvest of Joy

- ¹ When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion,
we were like those who dream.
- ² Then our mouth was filled with laughter,
and our tongue with shouts of joy;
then it was said among the nations,
“The Lord has done great things for them.”
- ³ The Lord has done great things for us,
and we rejoiced.
- ⁴ Restore our fortunes, O Lord.
like the watercourses in the Neg'eb.
- ⁵ May those who sow in tears
reap with shouts of joy.
- ⁶ Those who go out weeping,
bearing the seed of sowing,
shall come home with shouts of joy,
carrying their sheaves.

Mark 10:46-52 (NRSV)

The Healing of Blind Bartimaeus

- ⁴⁶ They came to Jericho. As he and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. ⁴⁷ When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, “Jesus, son of David, have mercy on me!”
- ⁴⁸ Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, “Son of David, have mercy on me!” ⁴⁹ Jesus stood still and said, “**Call him here.**” And they called the blind man, saying to him, “Take heart; get up, he is calling you.” ⁵⁰ So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. ⁵¹ Then Jesus said to him, “**What do you want me to do for you?**” The blind man said to him, “My teacher, let me see again.” ⁵² Jesus said to him, “**Go; your faith has made you well.**” Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.

Faith Ideas from The Nurture Committee of the Presbytery of WV

Please use this suggested scripture, questions, and activities to help you explore your faith.

October 27--Read Mark 10:46-52

Jesus heals Bartimaeus' eyesight because of the faith with which he shouted out to Jesus, and he becomes a follower of Jesus. Bartimaeus did not fear the rebukes of the disciples but continued to call out in faith. How can you and your family work to strengthen your faith considering your trials and suffering so you call upon Jesus for help?

REFORMATION SUNDAY: OCTOBER 27



To the University of Ingolstadt

Writings of Argula von Grumbach

Argula von Grumbach (1492-c.1554) wrote forcefully in defense of the Reformation, becoming the first published author among Protestant women. Born into the noble von Stauff family in Bavaria, Argula was encouraged to read the Bible at a young age. Having lost her parents to the plague and then her uncle to a political execution, she married Friedrich von Grumbach in 1516.

Martin Luther posted his 95 Theses in 1517, and both he and fellow Reformer Philip Melancthon published works in the early 1520s laying out their Reformed teachings. Argula von Grumbach read all these works, and she began corresponding with Luther in 1522. A scant year later, von Grumbach gained notoriety when she wrote a letter challenging the arrest of a former student at the University of Ingolstadt for teaching Lutheran views. Her published letter cited over 80 scripture passages, and she directly challenged the University theologians to a public debate on the legitimacy of their conduct.

To have a woman call out eminent theologians and challenge them to a debate was unheard of. Critics slandered von Grumbach, calling her a “shameless whore” and a neglectful wife and mother. The Ingolstadt theologians wanted the “silly bag” punished, and von Grumbach’s husband, who remained a Catholic, lost his administrative post for not properly controlling his wife. In the end, University authorities ignored her challenge, and no public debate occurred.

Von Grumbach’s voice lives on through her writings. As she concluded toward the end of the letter, “What I have written to you is no woman’s chit-chat, but the word of God.”

For more Reformation Sunday resources visit www.history.pcusa.org/rs



Title page image from *To the University of Ingolstadt* by Argula von Grumbach, 1523.

At top of page: Portrait medal of Argula von Grumbach, about 1520.

 **PRESBYTERIAN**
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
The National Archives of the PC(USA) 

Missions Committee Update

We continue our support of the Food Pantry at Heart & Hand. Please remember to pick up just a little something every time you go to the store. Here are the items specifically requested by Heart & Hand this Sunday:

Oct 27 Peanut Butter

Youth Schedule of Meetings

Sunday, November 3, 2024 **1:30 pm – 4:30 pm**

Regular Meeting of Youth Group – Lesson, food, games, and fun!

Sunday, November 17, 2024 **1:30 pm – 4:30 pm**

Sky Zone – We'll meet in the lobby of Sky Zone, Corridor G. Pizza and drinks!

Sunday December 8, 2024 **1:30 pm – 4:30 pm**

Regular Meeting of Youth Group – Lesson, food, games, and fun!



The Faithful of Every Generation

An excerpt from the *Companion to the Book of Common Worship*
(Geneva Press, 2003, 150-151)

All Saints' Day is a time to rejoice in all who through the ages have faithfully served the Lord. The day reminds us that we are part of one continuing, living communion of saints.

It is a time to claim our kinship with the “glorious company of apostles ... the noble fellowship of prophets ... the white-robed army of martyrs” (Te Deum). It is a time to express our gratitude for all who in ages of darkness kept the faith, for those who have taken the gospel to the ends of the earth, for prophetic voices who have called the church to be faithful in life and service, for all who have witnessed to God’s justice and peace in every nation.

To rejoice with all the faithful of every generation expands our awareness of a great company of witnesses above and around us like a cloud (Hebrews 12:1). It lifts us out of a preoccupation with our own immediate situation and the discouragements of the present. In the knowledge that others have persevered, we are encouraged to endure against all odds (Hebrews 12:1-2). Reminded that God was with the faithful of the past, we are reassured that God is with us today, moving us and all creation toward God’s end in time. In this context, it is appropriate for a congregation on All Saints’ Day to commemorate the lives of those who died the previous year.

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>James Logsdon</i>
<i>Sandy Bays</i>	<i>Drew McIlwain</i>
<i>Terry Coleman</i>	<i>Marsha McIlwain</i>
<i>Sallie Davidson</i>	<i>David Smith</i>
<i>Amanda Fuller</i>	<i>Lee Snyder</i>
<i>Sally Games</i>	<i>David Sutton</i>
<i>Lora & Rick Hayes</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
First Presbyterian Church, Buckhannon
Rock Lake Presbyterian Church, South Charleston
Sugar Grove Presbyterian Church, Morgantown
*Mathakwaini Church Dispensary, Thegene Parish,
Kenya*

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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, Custodian

Pastor's Office Hours:

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM (T, W, Th)

Church Office Hours:

7:00 AM – 3:00 PM (T, W, Th)

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WIFI Password:

PresbyGuest

Elders on Session:

Class of 2024

Sarah Clemente Bill Kimmons Joe Fuller

Class of 2025

Cheryl Eary Bob Lilly Mark Lovin

Class of 2026

Hersha Brown Rick Smith Owen Walker