First Presbyterian Church South Charleston, West Virginia

Dear Lord,
please teach us to listen for Your voice,
Your words of instruction, even Your
softest whisper, we pray!
Amen

First Presbyterian Church

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

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY May 4, 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 30

One: Sing praises to the Lord, O you his faithful ones, and give thanks to his holy name.

All: By your favor, O Lord, you have established me as a strong mountain.

One: You hid your face God...

All: But God's anger is but for a moment; God's favor is for a lifetime.

One: You have turned my mourning into dancing; you have clothed me with joy.

All: O Lord, my God, I will give thanks to you forever. Let us worship God!

MORNING PRAYER

Living Lord, you meet us in unexpected places and surprise us with the abundance of your love. Feed us by your Word and fill us with your Spirit so that we may follow you this day, and always; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior. Amen.

* HYMN

"Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies"

No. 662

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord God, in the light of your glory we see the evil we have done, the suffering we have caused, the good we have refused, and the truth we have denied. Heal us of our sin, wash us in your mercy, and feed us with your grace, so that we may follow your way and tell the good news of the gospel. 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 "Hymn of Promise" -Sleeth

TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN Ginna Taylor, Pastor

* **HYMN** "Come, Christians, Join to Sing" No. 267

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Ginna Taylor, Pastor

One: O Lord God,

All: We cry to you for help.

One: We pray for those who are persecuted for their faith;

give them freedom, peace and safety.

All: We cry to you for help;

One: We pray for those who breathe curses and threats; give them new hearts and new lives to glorify you.

All: We cry to you for help;

One: We pray for those who work by day and night; give them satisfaction and rest from their labors.

All: We cry to you for help;

One: We pray for all who suffer in sickness and grief; give them healing, hope, and joy.

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

SERMON

"Hearing but Not Seeing"

Ginna Taylor, Pastor

RESPONDING TO GOD

* PROFESSION OF FAITH

Confession of 1967 – PC(USA)

To be reconciled to God is to be sent into the world as God's reconciling community. This community, the church universal, is entrusted with God's message of reconciliation and shares God's labor of healing the enmities which separate people from God and from each other. Christ has called the church to this mission and given it the gift of the Holy Spirit. The church maintains continuity with the apostles and with Israel by faithful obedience to Christ's call.

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

Holy God, bless our offerings and transform them into healing for the wounded, hope for the disheartened, and courage for the frightened. In the name of Jesus Christ, your faithful witness, we ask it. Amen.

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.

* HYMN

"Called as Partners in Christ's Service"

No. 761

- * BENEDICTION
- * POSTLUDE

Today's Scripture Readings

Psalm 30 (NRSV)

Thanksgiving for Recovery from Grave Illness

¹I will extol you, O Lord, for you have drawn me up, and did not let my foes rejoice over me. ²O Lord my God, I cried to you for help, and you have healed me.

³O Lord, you brought up my soul from Sheol, restored me to life from among those gone down to the Pit.

⁴Sing praises to the Lord, O you his faithful ones,

and give thanks to his holy name.

⁵For his anger is but for a moment; his favor is for a lifetime.

Weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes with the morning.

⁶As for me, I said in my prosperity, "I shall never be moved."

⁷By your favor, O Lord, you had established me as a strong mountain; you hid your face; I was dismayed.

⁸To you, O Lord, I cried, and to the Lord I made supplication:

9"What profit is there in my death, if I go down to the Pit? Will the dust praise you?

Will it tell of your faithfulness?

¹⁰Hear, O Lord, and be gracious to me! O Lord, be my helper!"

¹¹You have turned my mourning into dancing;

you have taken off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy,

¹²so that my soul may praise you and not be silent.

O Lord my God, I will give thanks to you forever.

Acts 9:1-6 (NRSV) The Conversion of Saul

¹Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest, ²and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. ³Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" ⁵He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came. "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. ⁶But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do."



You're Invited!

All women of the church are invited to gather in the Church Parlor at 2pm on Thursday, May 8.

We'll have lots of warm fellowship, tasty treats, and a great Bible Study presented by Becky Nelson.

Please bring a snack to share and join us on May 8th!

See you there!

Missions Committee Food Requests for Heart & Hand

These are items we will be collecting for Heart & Hand this month: Canned Soups, Peanut Butter, Jelly, Rice, Jiffy Mix, Macaroni & Cheese, Spaghetti Sauce, Spaghetti Pasta, and Toilet Paper. Please bring your donations each Sunday. They will be delivered to Heart & Hand.





Schedule of Youth Group Meetings



May 3, 2025: from 1:30 - 4:00 pm

Boating and tubing if weather permitting; Pizza and drinks.

Mother or Father must attend this event.

May 30th: from 6:00 - 8:30 pm

Friday night after school party!

NOTE

Please watch the church calendars and bulletins for updates and changes.

Furniture Pickup Season begins May 24th

- Call the Church Office to arrange a pick-up.
- All furniture goes to the needy
- Volunteers are needed to help with pick-ups.

Call Tom Titus (304) 993-4611 to volunteer



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

Nancy Alert Terri Guyette Sandy Bays Rick & Lora Hayes Von Carter James Logsdon Drew McIlwain Terry Coleman Marsha McIlwain Roberta Cooper Sallie Davidson **Becky Parsons** Sally & Ben Games Lee Snyder Miriam Higginbotham David Sutton

Care Facilities

Linda Amburgey Tee Goodman
Nancy Bennett Tom Haines
Bob & Barbara Cruickshank Barbara Snyder

Presbyterian Connections

Child Development Center
Bluestone Camp & Retreat Center
Lineweaver Cottage, Davis-Stuart
Fort Liberté, Haiti
South Park Presbyterian Church, Charleston
Winfield Presbyterian Church
Kagumo Parish, Kenya

Don't forget to send Becky Smith your emergency contact information: becky@fpcscwv.org

First Presbyterian Church

508 Second Avenue South Charleston, WV 25303 PHONE: 304-744-2333

FAX: 304-746-9948

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 - 12:00 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