

First Presbyterian Church

Founded
July 16, 1788

Organized
September 7, 1800



Winchester, Virginia
540-662-3824
fpcwinc.org

WELCOME TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN WINCHESTER

The Baptism of the Lord • January 18, 2026 11:00 AM

When this symbol (♦) precedes an element of the service, please rise in body or spirit.
Ushers collect blue prayer card requests during the first hymn.

Visitors, check-in or sign up for our Friday newsletter using the back of the blue prayer card.

Worship Leaders

Rev. Amanda Maguire Thomas

Richard Byess, Liturgist

Ruling Elder for the Class of 2028

David Baxa, Ann Burkholder, John Crandell, Terry Frye, and Beth Kane

Deacons Class of 2028

Jenny Bousquet and Carolyn Thalman

The Holy Spirit Calls Us Together as People of God

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

“Agnus Dei”

G. Bizet

CALL TO WORSHIP

O God,
you spoke your word
and revealed your good news in Jesus, the Christ.
Fill all creation with that word again,
so that by proclaiming your joyful promises to all nations
and singing of your glorious hope to all peoples,
we may become one living body,
your incarnate presence on the earth. Amen.

♦ HYMN 761

“Called as Partners in Christ's Service”

BEECHER

♦ PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord, how we must try your patience! We often doubt, when we should place our faith in your abiding presence. We think that we have to have all the answers, and judge others who fail to live up to our expectations. We think that we are the one thing that matters most in life. So we place ourselves at the center of our own universe. Forgive us when we show how shallow our faith is. Help us to really understand the miraculous ways in which you have already worked in our lives and will continue to work as we journey in faith. Bring to us the Light of Joy that we may be transformed into people of joyful service and faith. In Jesus' Name, we pray. Amen. *Silence for personal confession*

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

GLORIA PATRI [Hymn 581]

❖ **PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you! *Friends, you are encouraged to pass the peace.*
Afterward, children may leave for Wee One's Worship in Room 108.

MUSIC FOR WORSHIP "Evening Prayer" from *Hansel and Gretel* by Humperdinck

Grace Ashby and Shannon Fowler, soprano duet

SERMON

John 1:29-42

❖ **HYMN 721**

"Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore"

PESCADOR DE HOMBRES

The Service of Installation

STATEMENT OF ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION

There are different Gifts

But it is the same Spirit who gives them.

There are different ways of serving God.

But it is the same Lord who is served.

God works through different people in different ways.

But it is the same God who achieves God's purpose through them all.

Each one is given a gift by the Spirit.

To use it for the common good.

Together we are the body of Christ,

And individually members of that body.

We are all called into the church of Jesus Christ by baptism, and marked as Christ's own by the Holy Spirit. This is our common calling, to be disciples and servants of our servant Lord. Within the community of the church, some are called to particular service as Deacons, as Elders, and as ministers of the Word and Sacrament. Ordination is Christ's gift to the church, assuring that his ministry continues among us, providing for ministries of caring and compassion in the world, ordering the governance of the church, and preaching the Word and administering the sacraments.

Clerk of Session, John Fisher:

Representing the one, holy, catholic, and apostolic church, the Session of First Presbyterian Church now ordains/installs David Baxa, Ann Burkholder, John Crandell, Terry Frye, and Beth Kane to the office of Ruling Elders for the Session of the First Presbyterian Church of Winchester, and Jenny Bousquet and Carolyn Thalman as Deacons.

REAFFIRMATION OF THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

Ordination calls the whole church to a renewed commitment, and reminds us all to bear gladly the yoke of Christ given the in the covenant of baptism. Let us therefore, reaffirm our baptismal vows, renouncing all that opposes God and God's rule and affirming the faith of the church.

RENUNCIATIONS

Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world?

I do.

Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept Him as your Lord and Savior, trusting in His grace and love?

I do.

Will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying His Word and showing His love?

I will, with God's help.

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS

Those who are to be ordained and/or installed move to the front of the chancel to answer the questions required by the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

Do you trust in Jesus Christ your Savior, acknowledge him Lord of all and Head of the Church, and through him believe in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit? **I do.**

Do you accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be, by the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the Church universal, and God's Word to you? **I do.**

Do you sincerely receive and adopt the essential tenets of the Reformed faith as expressed in the confessions of our church as authentic and reliable expositions of what Scripture leads us to believe and do, and will you be instructed and led by those confessions as you lead the people of God? **I do and I will.**

Will you fulfill your office in obedience to Jesus Christ, under the authority of Scripture, and be continually guided by our confessions? **I will.**

Will you be governed by our church's polity, and will you abide by its discipline? Will you be a friend among your colleagues in ministry, working with them, subject to the ordering of God's Word and Spirit? **I will.**

Will you in your own life seek to follow the Lord Jesus Christ, love your neighbors, and work for the reconciliation of the world? **I will.**

Do you promise to further the peace, unity, and purity of the church? **I do.**

Will you seek to serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love? **I will.**

Ruling Elders:

Will you be a faithful Elder, watching over the people, providing for their worship, nurture, and service? Will you share in government and discipline, serving in governing bodies of the church, and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ? **I will.**

Deacons:

Will you be a faithful Deacon, watching over the people, providing for their worship, nurture, and service? Will you share in government and discipline, serving in governing bodies of the church, and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ? **I will.**

Clerk of Session:

Do we the members of First Presbyterian Church accept these men and women as Ruling Elders, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ? **We do.** Do we agree to encourage them, to respect their decisions, and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ who alone is the Head of the Church? **We do.**

PRAYER OF ORDINATION

Those who are to be ordained bow their head.

Eternal God, we give you thanks for your steadfast faithfulness to us. In every age you have called forth leaders to serve you and equipped them with your gifts. Among your people of Israel, you anointed prophets, priests, and rulers. You called Pastors and Teachers, Bishops, Elders, and Deacons to build up your church. With Moses, the seventy Elders bore the burdens of your people, ministering in the power of your Spirit. Alongside the Apostles, Deacons cared for all in need and guarded the community's peace. In the church, Deacons, Elders, and Pastors serve together, so that your whole people might be equipped for ministry, and built up into the full unity of Christ. For your servants in every age, O God, and for the church of Jesus Christ, we give you all thanks and praise.

PRAYER FOR RULING ELDERS AND DEACONS

Those gathered around candidates lay hands on them.

God of grace, pour out your Holy Spirit these brothers and sisters, that they may be your faithful Elders and Deacons in the church. Give them prudence and sound judgment, wisdom and courage to order the life of the church in obedience to your Word. Nourish them in the life of the Holy Spirit, that they may exercise the ministry of discipline with humility and compassion. Guide our Elders in governance, on this Session and in every court of the church that they may be servant leaders following Christ who came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many. Give them joy in their walk of faith and a sure sense of your abiding presence for their work of ministry.

PRAYER CONTINUED

Gracious God, through the waters of baptism, you have claimed us as your own and called us to share in Christ's ministry. Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us, that we may discern the gifts you have given, calling them forth from one another, and together use these gifts for the good of all. In obedience to Christ, and in the unity of his Spirit, may we proclaim good news, make disciples, be light and leaven, share our bread, offer a cup of cold water, wash one another's feet. Make us strong in Christ to live as your people and show forth your saving love in the world, by the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

PRAAYER OF THE CONGREGATION

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon your servants whom you called through baptism as your own and marked as your own. Grant them the same mind that was in Christ Jesus. Give them a spirit of truthfulness that they may show the compassion of Christ in the actions of daily living and rightly govern your people. Give them the gifts of your Holy Spirit to build up the church, to strengthen the common life of your people, and to lead with compassion and vision. In the walk of faith and for the work of ministry, give to your servants gladness and strength, discipline and hope, humility, humor, and courage, and an abiding sense of your presence.

Clerk of Session:

Gracious God, pour out your Spirit of power and truth upon the whole church that we may be for you a holy people, baptized to serve you in the world. Sustain this congregation in ministry. Ground us in the gospel, secure our hope in Christ, strengthen our service to the outcast, and increase our love for one another. Show us the transforming power of your grace in our life together, that we may be servants of the gospel, offering a compelling witness in the world to the good news of Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

DECLARATION OF ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION

Sisters and brothers, you are now Ruling Elders and Deacons in the church of Jesus Christ and for the First Presbyterian Church of Winchester. Be faithful and true in your ministry and calling so that your whole life will bear witness to the crucified and risen Christ.

WELCOME

Ordained officers greet the newly ordained and installed.

CHARGE

1 Peter 4:7-11

The end of all things is near; therefore, be serious and discipline yourselves for the sake of your prayers. Above all, maintain constant love for one another, for love covers a multitude of sins. Be hospitable to one another without complaining. Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. Whoever speaks must do so as one speaking the very words of God; whoever serves must do so with the strength that God supplies, so that God may be glorified in all things through Jesus Christ. To him belong the glory and the power forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

[...the petitions conclude...] And now as Christ taught us, we are bold to 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.

THE OFFERING OF GIFTS AND TITHES (*leader*)

Friends, our giving is an act of gratitude for what God has given us. It is also an act of worship. Just as we present our words in liturgy, song, and prayer to God, we present a portion of the fruit of our work to God.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

"Keep Your Lamps!"

The Chancel Choir, Brian Hobbs, directing

Andre Thomas

The People Depart to Serve

HYMN 726

"Will You Come and Follow Me"

KELVINGROVE

BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

"Threefold Amen"

Greek

POSTLUDE

"How Brightly Shines the Morning Star"

Max Drischer

USHERS

Mark Schroeder, Pat Grosso, Fred Gall, Blake Watts

Office Announcements

To ensure the deductibility of your church contributions, do not file your 2025 tax return until you have received a written acknowledgment of your contributions. Some of your contributions may not be tax-deductible if you file your tax return before receiving a written acknowledgment.

Single Worship Service and Celebration | Jan 25th

We invite you to join us for Amanda's farewell celebration on Sunday, Jan. 25th, in the Fellowship Hall following a single 11:00am service in the Sanctuary. Please join us for lunch and a program as we give thanks for her ministry and celebrate her time among us. We hope you will join us in celebrating Amanda and wishing her well as she begins her next chapter.

FPC Family Game Night | Jan 30th

Fun for all ages on Friday, 1/30 from 5:30-8:30pm in Fellowship Hall. Bring your favorite snack to share and game to play (no dinner served). Plus, there will be a game swap table: bring a game in great condition that no longer serves you and pick up a new-to-you one!

WATTS Host Week | Feb 7th – 14th

We are hosting February 7–14, and we will need volunteers, meals, food, and donors. Mark your calendars and keep an eye out for the Sign-Ups in the hallway and online at fpcwinc.org.

Babysitting Night | February 14th

Open for any children aged 3 (potty trained) through 7th grade! Non potty trained, please reach out to Colleen- we may be able to make some exceptions depending on chaperone numbers. Please pack a dinner for your child! We will play games, eat dinner together, and watch a short Veggie Tales movie. Suggested Donation is \$15 for one child, \$25 for two, and extra donations are always appreciated! Everything earned from this fundraiser will go towards our Summer 2026 Youth Mission Trip! Please reach out to colleen@fpcwinc.org with any questions!

New this year - Sponsor a bus ticket for WATTS!

A \$15 donation buys a 10-ride pass. We would like to give a pass to each guest when they leave Saturday morning. Checks should be made to FPC with "WATTS" in the memo line.

A Friendly Reminder About Our Plumbing

To help care for our campus, please remember that only toilet paper should be flushed down our toilets. Items such as wipes (even those labeled "flushable"), paper towels, and other materials can cause plumbing issues. In recent months, we've had to address repeated drain blockages, and your cooperation will help prevent future disruptions and costly repairs. Thank you for helping us be good stewards of our shared space!

Where Has Jesus Been with You? #WHJBWY #JesuswithFPC

Pick up a "Jesus" coloring sheet at the CM Table, decorate it (optional: write your name on the back and drop it in the church office mailbox to be laminated; you can pick it up from the basket on the CM Table outside Loudoun Hall), then take Jesus with you! Share photos in the FPC Facebook group using #jesuswithfpc and/or email photos to children@fpcwinc.org for the bulletin board!

Share Your Prayer Needs

Have a prayer request, hospitalization, or other concern? Please contact the Deacons, the church office, or email info@fpcwinc.org to keep us updated so we can support you and our church family.