

# First Presbyterian Church

Founded  
July 16, 1788

Organized  
September 7, 1800



*"Serving Christ and Neighbor in the Heart of Winchester and Beyond."*

Winchester, Virginia  
540-662-3824  
fpcwinc.org

The Second Sunday of Easter • April 12, 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.**

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

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS****PRELUDE**

"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing"

Healey Willan

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Preserve us, O God, for in you we take refuge.

**You are our Lord; apart from you we have no good.**

You show us the path of life

**and in your presence there is fullness of joy.**

Even when the way is uncertain,

**we trust that you hold our future in your hands.**

Come, let us fix our hearts on the living God

**and worship with hope that cannot be taken away.**

Let us worship God!

✠ **HYMN 246**

"Christ Is Alive!"

TRURO

✠ **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Gracious God, you are our refuge and our portion, yet we confess how quickly we turn elsewhere. We look for security in what we can control, and we trust what is visible more than what is promised. We allow uncertainty to shape our hearts more than hope. You call us to rest in your presence, but we fill our lives with noise and distraction. You offer us a path of life, but we wander in ways that lead us away from you. Forgive us, O God, restore our trust in you, and reorder our hearts toward what is lasting and true. Renew in us a living hope through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Silence for personal confession***WORDS OF FORGIVENESS**Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who in great mercy has given us a new birth into a living hope.**Through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, we are made new.**

This hope does not fade, does not fail, and does not abandon us.

**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and set free.**

Live as people of hope.

**Thanks be to God. Amen.**✠ **GLORIA PATRI** [Hymn 581]

## INTERGENERATIONAL MOMENT

*Afterward, Kindergarten and younger children may leave for Wee One's Worship in Room 108.*

## ✠ PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you!

*Friends, you are encouraged to pass the peace.*

## NEW TESTAMENT LESSON John 20:19-29

## SERMON "Fear Does Not Have the Final Word"

## APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, Our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into Hell. The third day He arose again from the dead; He ascended into Heaven, sitteth at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.**

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*The People of God Respond in Faith*

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## ✠ HYMN 817

"We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight"

DUNLAP'S CREEK

## 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

Friends, our giving is an act of gratitude for what God has given us. 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

"Joy in the Morning" The Chancel Choir

Natalie Sleeth

## ✠ THE DOXOLOGY, HYMN 606, AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

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*The People Depart to Serve*

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## ✠ HYMN 240

"Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks"

ALLELUIA NO. 1

## BENEDICTION

## CHORAL RESPONSE

"Because He Lives"

Gaither, arr. Schrader

*The congregation is invited to join the choir in the response!*

## POSTLUDE

"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing"

Setting by Michael Burkhardt

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## Game Night for all ages! | Tonight!

Fun for all in Fellowship Hall! Join us from 3:30 – 5:30 pm (right before youth group). Bring a game or play one we have already. Plus, there's going to be a game swap table! Bring a gently loved game with all pieces to find a new home and claim one that'll be new-to-you!

## Faith Stretchers | Apr 27<sup>th</sup>

Join us at 7:30 pm at Marge Toxopeus' apartment at Westminster Canterbury. This month's book is "Sacred Clowns" by Tony Hillerman.

*2 first-come, first-served copies are in the library.*

## Gore Home

We are seeking scholarship support for students at the Gore Home in Ethiopia, a ministry of our partner synod that provides housing, meals, care, and educational support for primarily orphaned children. Please prayerfully consider giving. Contact Bill Burslem or the church office at [info@fpcwinc.org](mailto:info@fpcwinc.org) for more information or to help.

## Highland Food Pantry

Every 2nd Tuesday, FPC provides volunteers! Join us from 5:45 - 7:45 pm. (Ages: 14+ )

Questions? Please contact Jenny Callis

## Pub Theology

Looking for a sign to join Pub Theology? This is it! Join us at 7 pm on second Mondays at Water Street Kitchen for fellowship and good company!

## Troop 2 Apple Blossom Parade Seats!

Proceeds directly support Troop 2 and our Youth Ministry here at FPC. ([troop2cando.com](http://troop2cando.com))

## How Can We Help You?

Having trouble accessing the church online through our website, emails, or worship videos? We're here to help. Please also share any prayer requests or updates about those who are hospitalized, in rehabilitation, welcoming a birth, or experiencing a loss. Please contact the office:

[info@fpcwinc.org](mailto:info@fpcwinc.org)

## VBS Decoration Day | April 19<sup>th</sup> 9:45 am

Please check out the current needs from the display board for VBS in the gathering hall. Some items that we're specifically looking for:

- Large refrigerator/appliance boxes
- Large foam pieces - Brown packing paper
- Costco, Michaels, or Amazon gift cards
- Fake foliage (labeled if you'd like it returned)
- Large green fabric pieces
- Rainforest-themed stuffed animals

## Deriters Event | April 21

The Emil & Grace Shihadeh Innovation Center in Winchester, VA is a modern Career & Technical Education facility, opened in 2021 in the renovated former John Kerr Elementary building, where John Handley High School students gain career-ready skills for high-demand jobs. The \$17 million project was supported in part by a \$1 million gift from Karen and Fred Schaufeld in honor of her parents. DERITERS will tour the facility on Tuesday, April 21, 2026 at 9:00 am—please bring a photo ID; parking is available in the lower lot or on Jefferson Street at 536 Jefferson St. behind John Handley High School.

## WISE Event | April 23

On Thursday, April 23, the Winchester-Area Interfaith Stewards of the Earth (WISE)—a local interfaith group focused on environmental care—invites you to hear Dr. P. Ruess present findings from the Virginia Climate Assessment and its impact on the Northern Shenandoah Valley. Join us in the Fellowship Hall or live on our YouTube page, 6:30–8:00 PM. All are welcome. *Please be mindful of leaving parking lot spaces available for choir participants, and instead look for free public parking nearby if possible – thank you!*

## Summer Worship Schedule

June 7<sup>th</sup> – August 23<sup>rd</sup>

- 8:30 Fellowship Hall
- 10:00 am Sanctuary

5<sup>th</sup> Sundays: One Service at 10:00 am

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