

First Presbyterian Church

Founded
July 16, 1788

Organized
September 7, 1800



The Reverend Michael Hafele
Interim Pastor

The Reverend Amanda Maguire Thomas
Associate Pastor

Winchester, Virginia
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fpcwinc.org

WELCOME TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN WINCHESTER

15th Sunday after Pentecost • September 1, 2024 11:00 AM

When this symbol (✠) precedes an element of the service, please rise in body or spirit.

Ushers collect blue prayer requests during the first hymn.

Worship Leaders Rev. Michael Hafele Rev. Amanda Maguire Thomas

The Holy Spirit Calls Us Together as People of God

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE As a Chalice Cast of Gold (Hymn 429) Troeger/Doran
Prayerfully read this text based on today's Gospel reading.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Lord, may we know the presence of the Holy Spirit here with us today. May we be open to your leading, sensitive to your speaking, and alert to your calling. Holy God, we invite the same power that was at work when Jesus was raised from the grave to be present with us here now. Amen.

CHORALE CALL TO WORSHIP “Glorify Thy Name” Our S.U. Singers Adkins
The congregation is invited to join in singing the refrain:
Glorify thy name, glorify thy name, glorify thy name in all the earth.

✠ **HYMN 39** “Great Is Thy Faithfulness” FAITHFULNESS

✠ PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of mercy, you know us so well. We like to think that we can hide from You, but we are just kidding ourselves. You have offered to us new life, characterized by honesty, compassion, joy, and peace. You have invited us into ministries of peace and justice; but we have far too often turned our back on opportunities for service and witness to your transformational love. Forgive us for our stubbornness. Help us to turn around and listen to your words of hope. Remind us again that you require compassion and mercy in all who serve you; that you will guide our steps and our lives. Give us courage to truly be your witnesses in this world. Amen.

Silence for personal confession

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

GLORIA PATRI [Hymn 581]

God Speaks to Us in Scripture, Preaching, and Song

✠ PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you!

Friends, you are encouraged to pass the peace.

MUSIC FOR WORSHIP “Use Me, Lord”

Sheldon Curry

SCRIPTURE *Deuteronomy 4:1-2. 6-9 Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23*

SERMON "An Authentic Faith" by the Rev. Michael Hafele

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.

The People of God Respond in Faith

✠ **HYMN 630** "Fairest Lord Jesus" CRUSADERS' HYMN

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 "He Hideth My Soul" Kirkpatrick, arr.Nix

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

The People Depart to Serve

✠ **HYMN 442** "Just as I Am, without One Plea" WOODWORTH

BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE "A Gaelic Blessing" John Rutter

POSTLUDE "Monkland" Albert Travis

USHERS Pat Grosso, David Baxa, Mark Schroeder and Laurel Tschirgi

For years our church has had talented young singers from Shenandoah University serve as section leaders in our Chancel Choir. This year they are: MiKayla Hatfield, soprano; Casey Joiner, alto; Reese Holahan, tenor; Brian Hobbs, bass.

Red & Murphy Henry Tickets!

Tickets are now on sale for the Red and Murphy Henry concert featuring Casey and Christopher Henry, happening on September 21 at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$20 per person or \$40 per family, with children attending for free. All proceeds will benefit the FPC Helper Fund, which provides emergency assistance to those in need within the Winchester/Frederick area. Be sure to save the dates for our upcoming benefit events:

The Folk Tales Silent Auction and Potluck on October 27 and Jackson Caesar's Annual Jazz Christmas Concert on December 8.

Youth Group Kick-Off | Sept. 8

Join us for the first youth group of the season, 9/8, at 6 p.m. Safe Sanctuary-trained adults, come join the fun! You'll have the chance to dunk Ms. Colleen in a dunk tank, and if you sign up for any upcoming volunteer roles in Youth Ministry, you'll earn a second chance! We'll also have inflatable games, crafts, and snacks!

Dig in and Donuts! | Sept. 8

Rally Day is coming! Youth and Children are invited to join us in Fellowship Hall on September 8th at 9:45 a.m. for a morning of fun. We'll be planting seeds (literally!) and enjoying some delicious donuts.

Children's Ministry Forum | Sept. 8

All who are invested and interested in the pathway forward for Children's Ministry at FPC are invited to come to a forum on Rally Day, 9/8, from 9:45-10:45 a.m. in Loudoun Hall. This is a great opportunity to share ideas and discuss plans for the future.

Winchester Pride Event | Oct. 5

The Winchester Pride event is on October 5th at the Museum of the Shenandoah Valley! If you'd like to help represent FPC, please contact Ell Miller at ell.kattt13@gmail.com.

Church Fair | Sept. 29

Join us on Sunday September 29th at noon for a potluck and exciting opportunity to explore the various groups, teams, and councils here at FPC. Bring a friend, coworker, or family member. It's a potluck, cookout style! Please bring your favorite cookout dish to share.

Women's Faith Study | Sept. 11

The Women's Faith Study will gather for fellowship on 9/4 and resume its lively discussions on 9/11 with "Fear of the Other" by William Willimon. The group meets Wed's 9:30-11a.m. in the Graham Room. For more info, see the Friday Newsletter or email cheryl.gracey@gmail.com or patgrosso@comcast.net.

Special Invitation | Sept 5

Choir rehearsals will resume after Labor Day on Thursday, September 5 at 7:30 p.m. If you enjoy praising the Lord through song, the Chancel Choir wants you! We sing a variety of styles of music and have a great time doing so. Please join us any week for rehearsal on Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. For more information, contact roger@fpcwinc.org

Children's Choir | Sept. 11

Children's Choir will begin rehearsing on September 11. We rehearse on Wednesdays from 4:30-5:30 p.m. and sing in worship about once a month. All children ages 4 years old through 5th grade are invited to attend! Contact amy@fpcwinc.org with questions.

Men on a Mission! Nov. 2

Mark your calendars for November 2! Registration is open, and tickets go on sale next week for \$30. Join us as a chef, sponsor, or attendee to support our Thanks 4 Giving theme, where every ticket purchased provides a ham or turkey for pantry clients in November. Visit highlandpantrywinc.com for more details! Bryan Corsnitz is the primary contact for Chef signup and Stacey Iden will be overseeing the Chef process this year. Thank you, FPC church family!