

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
540-662-3824
fpcwinc.org

WELCOME TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN WINCHESTER

Rally Day • 16th Sunday after Pentecost • September 8, 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. Amanda Maguire Thomas

The Holy Spirit Calls Us Together as People of God

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE “Jesus, Joy of Man’s Desiring” J.S. Bach

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP “Canon of Praise” The Chancel Choir Sleeth

CALL TO WORSHIP

inspired by James 2:1-17, Psalm 125, The Message

We can trust God.

God is like the mountain: rock solid.

God loves all the people:

the poor, the disabled, the outcast, the stranger.

We can depend on God.

**God feeds the hungry, heals the sick,
and restores relationships.**

Praise our Loving God.

Hallelujah. Hallelujah. Hallelujah.

✠ **HYMN 35** “Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty” LOBE DEN HERREN

✠ PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, in Jesus, our risen Lord, we have seen your glory. Yet our sinfulness often blocks out the light of Christ. We are quick to accuse and slow to confess. We find faults easily in others while ignoring our own shortcomings. We have squandered your gifts. We have turned from your ways. We have ignored your Word. Have mercy on us, compassionate God. Pour out your Holy Spirit on our lives. Wash us with your love and cleanse us with your grace, that day by day we may be transformed into the people you call us to be. 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.

SCRIPTURE James 2:1-10

SERMON "A Place at the Table?" by the Rev. Amanda Maguire Thomas

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 769

“For Everyone Born”

FOR EVERYONE BORN

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

“Majesty”

Hayford, arr. Schrader

✠ THE DOXOLOGY, HYMN 606, AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

The People Depart to Serve

✠ HYMN 410

“God Is Calling through the Whisper”

BENEDICTION

RESPONSE

“The Lord Bless You and Keep You”

Lutkin

POSTLUDE

“Tuba Tune in D Major”

C.S. Lang

USHERS

Susan Kagey, John Fisher, Richard Creasey, Dana Carlton

Flowers on our worship center have been designed and arranged by O. Vernon Joyner, retired educator, organist, floral artist and friend of First Pres.

Beverly Clark passed away on Thursday, September 5. Beverly's funeral will be held on Wednesday, September 11, at 3 PM in the Sanctuary, with a reception to follow in Fellowship Hall.

If you'd like to donate light refreshments for the reception, please contact Jenny at 540-327-6427 or Debbie at 540-336-2292. Thank you for your kindness and support.

It is in grief that we mourn, and in hope that we rejoice in the resurrection to new life in Jesus Christ.

Helper Fund Benefit Concert!

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.

Youth Group Kick-Off | Sept. 8

Join us tonight for the first youth group of the season 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!

Women's Dinner | Thur. Sept. 12

This group meets on 2nd Thursday's at 6pm and 4th Thursday's at 6:30 pm in the Graham Room. We share a meal on the 2nd Thursday every month. Please RSVP to Pastor Amanda with your preference of Ham, or Chicken salad sandwiches! amanda@fpcwinc.org

Disaster Preparedness Month

This is a great time to create a family plan. Key elements of your plan should include: Receiving emergency alerts, developing a shelter plan, considering evacuation options, knowing how family members will stay in touch if an event occurs while anyone is away from home. A printed sample Family Plan is available at the Mission kiosk. For questions or more information, contact Dave Thalman, FPC's Disaster Preparedness & Response Coordinator (dthalman@comcast.net).

Pub Theology | Mon. Sept. 9 7 p.m.

You may not learn whether or not God can create a boulder so big it can't be moved, but you'll have a chance to enjoy good conversation, food and libations along the way! We meet at Water Street Kitchen on the Old Town Mall.

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 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, 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

Rehearsals begin 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! Sat. Nov. 2

Mark your calendars for November 2! Registration is open, and tickets go are on sale 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. 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! Tickets are available at the church office or from any Board member every Tues. morning at Highland Food Pantry.