

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

WELCOME TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN WINCHESTER

14th Sunday after Pentecost • September 14, 2025 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 prayer card!

Worship Leaders

Rev. Amanda Maguire Thomas

Richard Byess, Liturgist

The Holy Spirit Calls Us Together as People of God

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

“Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling”

John Ferguson

CALL TO WORSHIP

Friends, we know what God desires of us:

That we do justice, and love kindness, and walk humbly with God.

We gather this morning to remind each other about that,

To remember that now is always the right time to do these things.

So with thanks in our hearts, let us worship God.

✠ HYMN 664

“Morning Has Broken”

BUNESSAN

✠ PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving God, help us. When we have run away, when we have turned our backs on love, when we have sought immediate satisfaction and not long-term healing, help us. Merciful God, forgive us. When we have been selfish, when we have been mean, when we have closed our ears to the cries of others, forgive us. Powerful God, heal us. When we are so broken we cannot move, when we don't know how to stem the bleeding of our wounds, when we are too ashamed to seek community, heal us. Give us the courage, the strength, and the hope to accept your grace and hear your call in Christ. *Silence for personal confession*

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

GLORIA PATRI [Hymn 581]

God Speaks to Us in Scripture, Preaching, and Song

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.

SCRIPTURE *Luke 15:1-10*

SERMON “We All Need A Little Jesus” 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 173** “A Woman and a Coin” LIFE RESTORED

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 “How Beautiful” The Chancel Choir Paris, arr. Greer

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

The People Depart to Serve

✠ **HYMN 611** “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee” HYMN TO JOY

BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE “Go Now in Peace” Besig & Price

POSTLUDE “Nettleton” Boellmann

USHERS & GREETERS Mary Hester, Charles Uphaus, Mark Schroeder, Barb Strite

Helper Fund Old Fashion Hymn Sing and Fellowship Lunch – Sept 28th at Noon

Join us in the Fellowship Hall for an Old-Fashioned Hymn Sing and lunch to benefit the Helper Fund! Following Shenandoah Valley traditions, we'll sing favorites like *Blessed Assurance*, *Leaning on the Everlasting Arms*, and *Count Your Blessings*, accompanied by a 125-year-old pump organ, and enjoy a Fellowship Lunch featuring traditional Valley church foods such as country ham, chicken, macaroni and cheese, and baked beans. Please suggest your favorite hymns by September 21, "vote" for the congregation's favorite through a donation jar (\$1 per vote), and join us in supporting the Helper Fund with a free-will offering.

Breaking Bread together is back this Fall!

You're invited to Breaking Bread Together—a simple way for FPC members and friends to connect over lunch or dinner in a member's home. Groups of eight (couples or singles) share a meal, with guests bringing one item (salad, veggie, dessert, etc.). If you host once, you'll be invited to three additional meals. Rotations run Oct/Nov, Jan/Feb, Mar/Apr, and May/June, with hosts choosing a date within each two-month window. Sign-ups begin this September. Can't commit to all four? Join the substitute list! To be part of this time of good food and fellowship, contact Diane Jones or submit an interest card in the gathering hall.

FPC Family Fun Day | Saturday, October 4

Marker-Miller Orchards: from 10am-12pm. All are welcome! Family Photos will be taken by Kelly Thompson! Contact children@fpcwinc.org with any questions. Please wear your nametag.

Faith Stretchers is back from Summer Break!

We'll be reading *American Gospel* by Jon Meacham, and we look forward to gathering for a thoughtful discussion. We meet on the last Monday of the month at 7:30 pm

Guatemala Market and Presentation

September 21st – The Mission Trip team will be selling handmade items brought back from their April travels before and after worship. All proceeds will go directly to support the women who created these items. To hear more about their trip, join the team during the Sunday School hour in the Fellowship Hall!

Get to Know FPC Sunday School

If you're new to First Pres, join us in the Loudoun Hall Sunday, September 28th for a special time to learn more about our church, meet others, and ask questions. See you there!

Children's Choir is back!

Choir kicked off this past Wednesday! We rehearse every Wednesday from 4:30–5:30. We are a wonderful community of children who have a great time singing and playing together! Children ages 4 through 5th grade are welcome to join us! For more information, amy@fpcwinc.org.

It's Disaster Preparedness Month!

That means this is a good time to consider having a family plan to help you respond to a local disaster event. Critical pieces of this family plan are: receiving emergency alerts and warnings, developing a shelter plan for your home, considering possible evacuation options, and knowing how all family members will stay in touch should a local event happen while any family member is away from your house. There is a printed sample Family Plan on the Mission kiosk in the Gathering Space. More resources and ideas at Ready.gov. ?'s: Contact Dave Thalman, FPC's Disaster Preparedness & Response Coordinator.

We Are an Earth Care Congregation

"All life belongs to God alone, in wilderness and fields. From fallow land, or plowed and sown, God gives the good it yields." --The Earth Belongs to God Alone, Hymn 715, v. 3