## About the Choir's Hymns Today:

The choral introit, "Our Hope, Our Life" is a recent paraphrase of Psalm 49 written by Martin Leckebusch in 2006. It is sung to John Weaver's 1988 harmonization of the popular English folk tune, O WALY WALY. This hymn can be found at #847 in the *Glory to God* hymnal.

The offertory today, "When We Are Living" (*Pues si vivimos*) can be found in English and Spanish at #822 in the hymnal. It was translated into English between 1983-1987. The arrangement in our hymnal was written by Barbara Mink in 1988 and appeared in United Methodist publications in 1989.

Our anthem references, Psalm 107:1-9, 43, today's first lectionary reading from the Psalms. I chose to have the choir sing only verses 1, 2, and 6 to reflect the scripture verses from our lectionary passage. The full Psalm setting can be found at #653 in our hymnal. Dr. Ruth Carolyn Duck, originally from Washington, D.C., grew up in Washington and Annapolis, MD. When she was sixteen, her family moved to Memphis, TN where she learned about the ministry of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and became committed to working to end the injustice of racism. Ruth earned her BA in 1969 from Southwestern at Memphis University (now Rhodes College), a Master of Divinity from Chicago Theological Seminary (1973), an MA from Notre Dame (1987), and a Doctor of Theology from Boston University in 1989. (If my granny had met Dr. Duck she would have remarked, "She has more degrees than a thermometer!") Her academic work focused on liturgy, worship, and Trinitarian baptism. Dr. Duck pastored several United Church of Christ congregations and served as a professor of worship for twenty-seven years at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary in Evanston, IL. Despite her academic prowess and dedication to ministry, Ruth was best known as a hymnwriter of over 200 published hymns and Psalm paraphrases. Singing the Psalms is the most longstanding musical practice of the Reformed tradition. Dr. Duck's paraphrase of Psalm 107 is a beautiful illustration of our tradition; our hymnal calls her interpretation "a hallmark of the form."

"Give Thanks to God Who Hears Our Cries" (Psalm 107)

Lyricist: Ruth C. Duck (1947-2024) |

Harmony by Richard Proulx (1937-2010)

Tune from Wyeth's Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second, 1813

Give thanks to God who hears our cries and saves in troubled days with wondrous works to humankind that call for highest praise. Let all who know God's saving love sing grateful songs always.

If you have ever wandered where no human help was near, and in your trouble cried to God, who rescued you from fear, then thank the God of steadfast love who dries your every tear.

So praise the One whose love is great, whose kindness is well-known. Consider well the healing hand and help you have been shown, and tell the world what God has done. Praise God and God alone!

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Today Please greet your neighbors and pass the Fellowship Pad

Worship Committee immediately following the service

Monday August 4th Nominating Committee 5:45pm

Tuesday August 5th Ladies Dinner 5:30pm
Tuesday August 5th Property Committee 6:00pm
Wednesday August 6th Finance Committee 5:45pm

Thursday August 7th Choir 4:30pm

Saturday August 9th Sat. Lunch Ministry 11:30am

Youth will start meeting Wednesday at 6:00pm on August 13th. Thursday Bible Study starts back up on August 14th at 10:30am.

## **SERVING TODAY**

Minister of Discipleship
Music Director
Ashley Stanley-Robey
Sound
Sam Meadema
Video
Alex Walthall
Liturgist
Ray Beale
Greeter
Kim Wimer
Side door/Offering
Ava Barrett

## List of Session members

Class of 2025: David Clark, Sam Meadema, Eddie Blount, Jackie Rochford Class of 2026: Barry Cutright, Gail Jones, Kim Wimer, Ava Barrett Class of 2027: Barbara Wilkins, Joan Reynolds, Pat Pinckney, Kent Shelton Trustees: Bob Newnam(27), Ray Beale(26), Gary Wimer(25)

## **BUDGET UPDATE**

	June 1-30	FY 2025
Contributions	\$46,226.42	\$221,148.01
Expenditures	\$37,170.48	\$207,956.36
Difference	\$ 9,055.94	\$13,191.65

If you enter the hospital, your church will have no way of knowing unless you notify us. Please let us know of your hospital stay so that we may respond with pastoral care.

## A Warm Welcome

We would love to have you join our church family. If you are moved to do so by the Lord, please talk to one of the elders or our pastor.

## THE COLUMNS OF THE

# First Presbyterian Church

Danville, Virginia

# August 3, 2025 8th Sunday after Pentecost



## Welcome

This church opens wide its doors and offers welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

## Celebrating 198 Years of Knowing Christ and Making Him Known

## First Presbyterian Church

937 Main Street, Danville, VA 24541-1809—434-792-7822 E-Mail: admin@fpcdanville.com Website: http://www.fpcdanville.com

## A Service for the Worship of God GATHER TO GLORIFY GOD

Please greet your neighbors and pass the Fellowship Pad to them.

## CHIMING OF THE HOUR

## WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

## CHORAL INTROIT "Our Hope, Our Life" (Psalm 49)

Martin E. Leckebusch/English folk tune, harmony by John Weaver

## **RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP (based Psalm 107)**

Leader: O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good,

People: for God's steadfast love endures forever.

Leader: Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, those God redeemed from trouble:

People: They cried to the Lord in their trouble, and God delivered them from their distress.

Leader: Let us thank the Lord for God's steadfast love, For God satisfies the thirsty and fills the hungry with good things.

## **INVOCATION**

God, our guide and our protector, as we gather today in your holy house, open our minds and souls and hearts, that we may be inclined to hear the gentle direction of your Spirit in our lives. Help us follow you as you lead us to the land you have created for us, where we may dwell with you and in you. Amen.

\*HYMN#65 "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of the risen Christ, you broke the power of sin and evil. Yet we still live in the tombs of forgetfulness, anxiety and fear. We have failed to love you as we should. We have neglected to love our neighbor. In fact, we have even failed to love ourselves. Release us from the tombs that terrify us so we can see your image in one another and in your good creation. Truly, free us from the graves of self-hatred so we can see ourselves as your children. Amen.

## SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

## **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

The mercy of the Lord is sure. In Christ, we are forgiven and set free from the chains that bind us so that we can be Your people. Thanks be to God!

## THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you**.

**Leader:** Let us, the children of God, stand and greet those around us with a handshake, hug, or reconciling words, sharing God's blessings and then remain standing for the "Gloria Patri."

\*RESPONSE "Gloria Patri"

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. World without end. Amen. Amen.

## RECOGNITION OF GRADUATES AND PRAYER FOR STUDENTS

## CALL FOR THE OFFERING

The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof. God has given us life and resources for it, so let us give in return.

#### PRAYER OF DEDICATION

O God, may these gifts serve as a witness to your love, peace and justice at work in the world, renewing the face of the earth.

## OFFERTORY "When We Are Living" (Pues si Vivimos)

Anonymous(v.1),Roberto Escamilla(vs.2-4); English translation by Elise S. Eslinger (v.1) and George Lockwood (vs. 2-4)/Spanish melody, arr. Barbara C. Mink

## \*DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

## ANTHEM "Give Thanks to God Who Hears Our Cries"

(Psalm 107) Ruth Duck/Wyeth's Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second, harmony by Richard Proulx

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

O God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us so that the scripture we are about to hear will become God's Word for us today. Listen to what the Spirit is saying to the church.

**SCRIPTURE:** (637/671)

(834/876)

Colossians 3:1-11 Luke 12:13-21

**Hosea 1:11** 

(737/775)

SERMON "God's Relentless Love, Our Redirected Lives."

Jackson Weller

\*HYMN# 829 "My Faith Looks Up to Thee"

## INVITATION TO THE TABLE

## **GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Leader: The Lord be with you. **People: And also with you.**Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.** 

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

## COMMUNION OF GOD'S CHILDREN

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH The Apostles' Creed I believe in God the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary, Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

POSTLUDE "Fantasy on "Rock of Ages"

Thomas Hastings/Jason W. Krug

## \*BENEDICTION

\*Please stand if able.

Music during Communion- "Let Us Break Bread Together"

Traditional/Setting by Daniel Burton