

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	Jackson Weller
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*

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