WELCOME
Welcome to worship at First Presbyterian Church of Virginia Beach. All are welcome, and we are so pleased to have you with us this morning as we gather to praise God.

GUESTS
We extend a special welcome to you! Whether this is your first visit with us or your 100th visit, it is a gift to have you among us. Please take a moment to sign in using the Welcome Pads in the pews and leave contact information for Pastor Dee Dee to reach out to you. Stop by our Welcome Center or see an usher to receive a visitor’s bag. We are excited you are here and look forward to welcoming you into the life of the church through our ministries. You can find more information on our church website: www.firstpresvb.org.

If you ever struggle to hear while in our Sanctuary, we have a few options that might help you. First, you can see one of our ushers for a hearing device that fits over your ear and might assist you. Second, our Sanctuary has a hearing loop installed on the main floor. If you use hearing aids that are equipped with a T-coil, you are able to connect your hearing aids directly into our sound system. Please see an usher for instructions on how to connect your hearing aids into our system.

WORSHIP GUIDE
Items in bold indicate congregational participation. * invites you to stand in body or in spirit. Please silence all mobile devices prior to the start of the service.

August 11, 2024
THE GATHERING

GREETING

Sharing the Peace of Christ
  Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.
  People: And also with you.
  Leader: Let us welcome one another with the peace of Christ.

VOLUNTARY
  I've Been in the Storm Too Long
  Spiritual, arr. David Kidwell

INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP
  Leader: In the highs and lows of life,
  People: You, O God, are with us.
  Leader: Whether our faith is strong or we are struggling to trust in you,
  People: You, O God, are with us.
  Leader: As we worship you this day,
  People: You, O God, are with us.
  Leader: May we feel God’s presence in our lives and in our worship.

OPENING PRAYER

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN 451
  Open My Eyes, That I May See
  OPEN MY EYES

* CALL TO CONFESSION

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION
  Generous God, we come to you with our praise and with our laments. We lament the mistakes we have made. We confess that no matter how hard we try, we fail to live up to your commands and follow your will. We are saddened by the ways our sin pushes us further away from you and from each other. Forgive us, O God, and draw us back to you and to our siblings in Christ. Help us to love one another as you have loved us. Amen. (silent prayers and confession)

* KYRIE
  Lord, have mercy upon us; Christ, have mercy upon us; Lord, have mercy upon us.
DECLARATION OF PARDON

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE HYMN 581  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.

THE WORD

WORD FOR CHILDREN: SPIRIT BOX
Following this time, children ages 5 years – 5th grade may return to their seats or join our Wonders of Worship team in Room 215. Children will rejoin their families in the Sanctuary near the end of the service in time for the offering. Parents, if this is your child’s first time in WOW, please go with them to help them settle in before returning to your pew.

Children 2-4 years old will join caregivers in Room 212 and may be picked up after the service.

*Our Nursery, located on the first floor, is available for our youngest children and infants during the entire worship service.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

LESSON OF SCRIPTURE  Lamentations 3:19-41
The thought of my affliction and my homelessness is wormwood and gall! My soul continually thinks of it and is bowed down within me. But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. ‘The Lord is my portion,’ says my soul, ‘therefore I will hope in him.’ The Lord is good to those who wait for him, to the soul that seeks him. It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord. It is good for one to bear the yoke in youth, to sit alone in silence when the Lord has imposed it, to put one’s mouth to the dust (there may yet be hope), to give one’s cheek to the smiter, and be filled with insults. For the Lord will not reject for ever. Although he causes grief, he will have compassion according to the abundance of his steadfast love; for he does not willingly afflict or grieve anyone. When all the prisoners of the land are crushed under foot, when human rights are perverted in the presence of the Most High, when one’s case is subverted —does the Lord not see it? Who can command and have it done, if the Lord has not ordained it? Is it not from the mouth of the Most High that good and bad come? Why should any who draw breath complain about the punishment of their sins? Let us test and examine our ways, and return to the Lord. Let us lift up our hearts as well as our hands to God in heaven.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.
ANTHEM

Lord of all Hopefulness

Healey Willan

Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,
whose trust, ever childlike, no cares could destroy.
Be there at our waking, and give us, we pray.
your bliss in our hearts at the break of the day.

Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,
whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe.
Be there at our labors, and give us we pray,
your strength in our hearts at the noon of the day.

Lord of all kindliness, Lord of all grace,
your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace.
Be there at our homing, and give us, we pray,
your love in our hearts at the eve of the day.

Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,
whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm.
Be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray,
your peace in our hearts at the end of the day.

SERMON

L is for Lament

Rev. Dee Dee Carson

* HYMN 418

Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling

SOFTLY AND TENDERLY

THE RESPONSE

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Confession of 1967

God’s sovereign love is a mystery beyond the reach of the human mind. Human thought ascribes to God superlatives of power, wisdom, and goodness. But God reveals divine love in Jesus Christ by showing power in the form of a servant, wisdom in the folly of the cross, and goodness in receiving sinful men and women. The power of God’s love in Christ to transform the world discloses that the Redeemer is the Lord and Creator who made all things to serve the purpose of God’s love.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD’S PRAYER

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.

SERVICE OF GIVING

Offering
The earth is the Lord’s and the fullness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein. For he hath founded it upon the seas, and established it upon the floods.

Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord? Or who shall stand in His holy place? He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart, who hath not lifted up his soul in vanity, or sworn deceitfully. He shall receive the blessing from the Lord, and righteousness from the Lord of his salvation.

Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lifted up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in. Who is this King of glory? The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle.

Lift up your head, O ye gates; and be ye lifted up ye everlasting doors; and the King of Glory shall come in. Who is this King of glory? The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory.

* Doxology  
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him, all creatures here below. Praise Him above, ye heav’nly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

* Prayer of Dedication  

THE SENDING  

* RECESSIONAL HYMN 39  
*  

FAITHFULNESS  

* BENEDICTION & CHORAL RESPONSE  

* VOLUNTARY  
Trumpet Fanfare  

Chase Olson  

The red roses on the altar today are in celebration of the following:  
Baker Frances Lee, born August 1, daughter of Whitney and John Lee.  
Clayton Grant Dastur, born on August 5, son of Morgan and Grant Dastur.  

Our church family extends our sympathy and prayers to the following:  
Suzanne McGuire on the loss of her father, Jim McGuire.  
Gloria Smith on the loss of her mother Betty Shumbert.  
Thomas Spencer on the loss of his brother-in-law.  

THE FLOWERS in the Chancel are provided to the glory of God by the Lowery family in memory of Joann Lowery.
OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Inspired by the grace and truth of Christ, we nurture one another's faith to do God's work in the world.

PASTORS AND STAFF

The Reverend Dee Dee Carson, Pastor
Nelson Steinert, Associate Pastor for Christian Formation and Fellowship (pending)
Randy DuVall, Commissioned Pastor and Director of Missions
Jacqui Horton, Director of Senior Adult Ministries
Elise Ramos-Krepcho, Music Director
Brian Edwards, Director of Youth and Young Professionals Ministries
Bonnie Lambert-Baxter, Director of Children's Music and Handbells
Dr. Antoinette Anglin, Organist
Tammie Kotarides, Office Manager
Ivy Robinson, Assistant Treasurer
Peter Scheible, Media and Communications Manager
Kerry Geho, Facilities Manager
Wyatt Meachum, Custodian

SESSION

Judy Brandt, Steve Burke, Becky Davison (Clerk), Justin Fulton, Liz Harris, Lila Ware (Youth Elder), Rachel Radspinner, Marvin Rhoades, Martha Simkins, Mark Stoops, Jim Sykes, Jon Thornton, Kristen Whalen, Ashley Wykle

TRUSTEES

Tom Cantwell, Laurie Dawson, Dudley Fulton, Beth Holt, Pam Pyle, Eddie Russell

THE COMMITTEES OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

We are always looking for members to join in the work of our committees here at FPC. If you would like to volunteer on a committee, please reach out to the committee Moderator or Staff Person listed below using the church directory for their contact information.

Administration and Finance - Stuart Bryant
Christian Education - Tami Kamarek
Congregational Care - Cindy Russell
Fellowship - Sandy Cowden and Trina Marson
Library - Mary Stewart Darden
Media and Communications - Dee Dee Carson
Membership - Paul Hirschbiel
Mission - Dan Unger
Personnel - Mary Sims
Property and Maintenance - Billy Almond
Stewardship - Laura Fulton
TLC - Diane Feineis
Worship and Music - Jennie Ware

First Presbyterian offers you the opportunity to give electronically. Scan the QR Code to the left and make a donation.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
www.firstpresvb.org
phone: 757.428.6332 | e-mail: office@firstpresvb.org