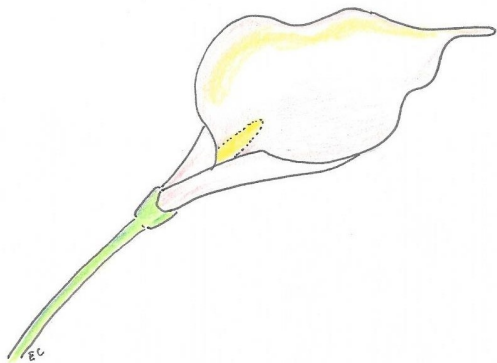


During the worship service this morning we honor the life of Grace Norris Litzenberg, and her devotion to First Presbyterian Church where she became a member on March 28, 1937. In the 1940s and 1950s Grace worked in Christian Education and outreach at the church. She and Bill were married on Sunday, October 13, 1957, just after he concluded the morning worship service as organist. Throughout her life Grace took a particular interest in supporting the music program of the church. The hymns used today were meaningful to her; they speak to faith tested by time and adversity, yet they sparkle with joy and inspiration. The choral benedictions sung here and at her graveside service in Columbia, South Carolina are blessings from Ireland – for God’s favor and grace and for the deep peace of Christ.



The flowers on the communion table are given to the Glory to God and in memory of Grace and Bill Litzenberg by her family, and also by the Dorothea Henry Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today Please greet your neighbors and pass the Fellowship Pad
Tuesday June 3rd Ladies Dinner 6:00pm
Property Committee 6:00pm
Wednesday June 4th Youth 6:00pm
Thursday June 5th Choir 4:30pm
Saturday June 7th Sat. Lunch Ministry 11:30am

SERVING TODAY

Minister of Discipleship Jackson Weller
Music Director Ashley Stanley-Robey
Sound David Parris
Video Alex Walthall
Liturgist Bernadine Hayes
Greeter Sam Meadema
Side door/Offering Gail Jones

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

| | April 1-30 | FY 2025 |
|---------------|----------------|--------------|
| Contributions | \$17,800.70 | \$157,861.33 |
| Expenditures | \$28,343.01 | \$134,818.53 |
| Difference | (-\$10,542.31) | \$ 23,042.80 |

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.

Creation Song

Lyricist – Betty Wilson (1924-2015) | Composer – Joanne Brown (b. 1956)
Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.
Let everything that has breath shout and sing,
For God created the heavens and earth by speaking only a word.
Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.
The sun and moon and the stars join in song.
The birds and beasts of the field sing along,
For God created the heavens and earth by speaking only a word.
Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.
Dividing light from darkness, God made both day and night,
Created earth and saw it was good.
The waters brought forth creatures and birds flew up above,
then God created people with great love.

THE COLUMNS
OF THE

First Presbyterian Church

Danville, Virginia

June 1, 2025

7th Sunday of Easter



Welcome

This church opens wide it’s 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

PRELUDE **“Be Thou My Vision”** Irish folk tune,
arr. C. E. Walz | Gregory Robey, bass

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Psalm 97)

Leader: The Lord is king! Let the earth rejoice

People: We tremble at God’s awesome works!

Leader: The heavens proclaim God’s righteousness!

People: The Lord is our guard and protector!

Leader: Light dawns and joy fills our hearts!

People: Rejoice in the Lord and give thanks!

INVOCATION

Generous God, you invite us into relationship with every breath. Settle us, center us, and calm us to the ever-moving flowing of your Spirit calling us to become one with you. We pray in humility and hope of grace. Amen.

***HYMN#620** **“Praise, My Soul the King of Heaven”** (Psalm 103)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, you desire that the world might see your light shine through us. Yet we confess we are often too blinded by the glittering temptations of this world. We turn from your way, hurting the very ones we were called to serve, in our action and our inaction. We grow frustrated with each other, seeking to silence anything besides our own desires. We fail to see your righteousness and champion greed and discord in the name of power and popularity. Forgive us. Melt us and mold us into more faithful disciples, seeking your light, reflecting your mercy, and sharing your grace. Amen.

SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ, and Christ alone, prays for us. Christ reaches out with endless love and mercy. Friends, believe the good news: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and made ready to love and serve. Alleluia. Amen.

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.

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

We are called to be light to the world. Let us share our talents and treasures in grateful praise.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Generous God, all that we are and all that we have comes from you. Take these gifts and these people and make them blessings for your people in this community and beyond. Amen.

OFFERTORY **“Ville du Havre”** P.P. Bliss/setting by C. Callahan

***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 **“Creation Song”** Betty Wilson/Joanne Brown

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy God, we are thirsty for your good Word. As we hear your Word read and proclaimed, open our hearts to hear what you have to say to us. Fill us with the light of your love that, having heard, we will be ready to go live more faithfully and love more deeply. Amen.

SCRIPTURE: (426/447) **Psalm 97**
 (784/825) **Acts 16:16-34**
 (766/805) **John 17:20-26**

SERMON **“Unshakable Grace”** **Jackson Weller**

HYMN#833 **“O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go”**

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

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.

CHORAL BENEDICTION **“A Gaelic Blessing”** by John Rutter

BENEDICTION
***Please stand if able.**