

9:00 Worship

Gathering

- § Welcome and Announcements
- * Call to Worship
- * Praise SongsCome, Now is the TimeGather Us in
- * Confession and Pardon
- * Passing the Peace of Christ

Proclaiming the Word

- Prayer for Illumination
- First ReadingEzekiel 17:22-24
- Conversation with Children
- Second ReadingHebrews 11:29-12:2
- SermonSaints and Scoundrels

Responding to the Word

- * OfferingJesus, Messiah
- Celebration of the Lord's SupperGluten-free bread and non-fermented wine

Going Out to Serve

- * Closing SongRejoice
- * Charge and BenedictionPlease join us in Fellowship Hall. Today's refreshments are hosted by the Congregational Life Team.

Bold lettering signifies congregational participation.
* Those who are able are invited to stand.
§ Please sign the Friendship Pad and pass it along.

11:00 Worship

Gathering

- Tower Bells
- § Welcome and Announcements
- PreludeFugue de Gringy
- * IntroitThe Lord is in His Holy TempleBeck
- * Call to Worship

Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely.

Let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us.

Mindful of the gifts we receive and confident of the sustenance the LORD provides, let us worship the LORD our God.

- * Hymn 260Alleluia! Sing to Jesus
- * Prayer of Confession

**God of mercy and light,
we confess that we often live as though
we are alone, forgetting the great cloud
of witnesses surrounding us.**

**We doubt when we could trust,
retreat when we could love,
and give up when we are called to endure.**

**Forgive our fear, our pride, our silence.
Strengthen us to walk in faith,
encouraged by those who came before
as we offer our silent prayers to you...**

- * Assurance of Pardon
- * Passing the Peace of Christ

Proclaiming the Word

- Prayer for Illumination
- First ReadingEzekiel 17:22-24
- Conversation with Children
- Psalm 82
- Third ReadingHebrews 11:29-12:2
- SermonSaints and Scoundrels

Responding to the Word

- * Hymn 325By All Your Saints Still Striving
- * Affirmation of Faith
- OfferingWrite Your Blessed NameLee
Write your blessed name, O Lord, upon my heart, there to remain so indelibly engraved, that no prosperity, no adversity shall ever move me from your love. Be to me a strong tower of defense, a comforter in tribulation, a deliverer in distress, and a faithful guide to the courts of heaven through the many temptations and dangers of this life. O Jesu, my only Savior! (Thomas à Kempis)
- Prayers for the World and the Lord's Prayer

Going Out to Serve

- * Hymn 269Lead On, O King Eternal!
- * Charge and Benediction
- * ResponseGo RejoicingBeck
- PostludeDialogue sur les grand jeux de Gringy
Please join us in Fellowship Hall. Today's refreshments are hosted by the Congregational Life Team.

Pastors – David Forney, Rachel Thompson Orfield, Jay Sanderford

Director of Music – Jeremy Thompson

Officer of the Day – Shelley Matthews

Ushers 9:00 – Shana Pack, Ashley Schauer
 11:00 – Bill vonReichbauer, Jason Bell, Tory Blackford,
 Joan Fadden, Trip Walker

We warmly welcome and encourage children to participate in worship as they are vital members of the family of God. To help, we have worship bags at the Sanctuary entrances. We also have safe and welcoming childcare for children under age 3, located in Room 127 on the Ground Level.

The Flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Paul and Ruby Garber and Homer and Judith Pettit by Carolyn and David Pettit.

Prayer and Care Needs

Those Living with Cancer

John Wehmann; Bill McChesney; Katie Morgan, daughter of John and Sue Ellyn Haas; Kati Miller, daughter in law of Jim and Jill Campbell

Those Coping with Life & Health Challenges

Downing Miller; Jeannie Pauley; Ginny Lindsey; Pat Wood; Asa Peeples, nephew of Ginny Howard-Smith Peeples; Libby Brown, mother of Amy Richardson; Mary Hamrick’s daughter-in-law, Lynne Hamrick; Pat and Ed Davis; Bob Simmons

Those Serving in the Military

Nate Titus and Patrick A. Keller, grandson and son of Barbara and Andy Keller; Brian S. Hartless, nephew of Marie Hartless; Mark Roberts, son-in-law of Anne Sloop; Daniel Strunk, son of Ray Strunk; Corinne Nolan (West Point Cadet), granddaughter of Larry & Alice Brown

Bulletin Cover Art: Today’s bulletin cover features “Pilgrimage to the Cedars of Lebanon” (1907) by Tivadar Csontváry Kosztka. Rooted in biblical imagery, the towering cedar symbolizes God’s promise to plant a tender sprig that will grow into a mighty tree (Ezekiel 17:22-24). The diverse pilgrims gathered beneath its branches echo the great cloud of witnesses in Hebrews 11 and 12, those who journey in faith toward God’s enduring kingdom. With rich color and dreamlike movement, Csontváry invites us to imagine our lives as part of this sacred pilgrimage, rooted in hope, drawn together by grace, and lifted by the One who makes all things new.

Today at First Pres

9:00 Worship
10:00 Fellowship and Classes
 Newborns–2yo, *Nursery Room 127*
 Children (3yo–5th Grade): Sanctuary Sundays –
 meet and pick-up in the *Library*
 Middle School, *Upper Room of Carriage House*
 High School, *Room 140*
 Faith & Family: Growing Together, *Room 215*
 Dementia and the Church: Memory, Care, and
 Belonging, Agape Class
 Confessions of the Church: Exploring the Creeds of
 Faith, Chapel

11:00 Worship
12:00 Fellowship
 2:30 Youth Lake Day, meet at church
 4:30 Faith & Family Pool Party

Upcoming at First Pres

Aug 24 Music on Park - Plena Voce Chamber Choir, 3:00pm
Sept 11 WNC Mission Kirk Night, 5:30pm, *Agape Classroom*

Contact

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Charlottesville, Virginia

Sunday, August 17, 2025



"Pilgrimage to the Cedars of Lebanon"
Tivadar Csontváry Kosztka