



All are welcome, because God is Welcome!

We hope you feel the warmth of God's presence and a genuine welcome here. If this is your first time with us, we are honored to have you and look forward to seeing you again soon!

Connect with First Church by scanning the QR code or visiting our website. There are wonderful things happening here, and we would love for you to find your place in our community of faith!

ABOUT THE SERVICE

Worship services are recorded and available on Facebook and our church website.

*Indicates that the congregation may stand. **Words we all say are in bold print.**

We celebrate Holy Communion on the first Sunday of each month and on special occasions. **All are welcome at the table of our Lord.**

Offering plates are available in the Narthex (sanctuary entrance) before and after worship, or you can give online by scanning the QR code. Your support enables First Church to make a meaningful impact within our community and beyond. As we often say, we are truly **"blessed to be a blessing!"**

CONNECTION, LEADERSHIP AND STAFF

WE ARE A CONGREGATION IN CONNECTION WITH

- The Presbytery of Florida
- The Synod of South Atlantic
- The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

THE SESSION

The Rev. Lisa Martin, Moderator, **Rosa Stanley**, Clerk of Session

Elected spiritual leaders of this congregation:
John Deegins ('25), **Ann Fyfe** ('26), **Jennifer Hodges** ('27),
Rich Kangas ('25), **Bob Plank** ('26), **Kathy Welsh** ('27)

CHURCH STAFF AND CONTACT INFORMATION

The Rev. Lisa Martin
Pastor, Head of Staff
revlwmartin@gmail.com

Bradley Thoreson
Music Director, Organist
bradfpclh@gmail.com

Terri Boardway
Administrative Assistant
firstpresbylh@gmail.com

Church Office:
810 Georgia Avenue
Lynn Haven, FL 32444

Hours:
Monday-Thursday, 8 AM-12 PM
Other days/times by appointment.

Office: 850.265.2051
Email: firstpresbylh@gmail.com
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GOD WELCOMES US IN LOVE

Prelude ‘Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above’arr. Anna Laura Page

Chiming the Hour

Words of Welcome

Gathering Song (Hymn 627)

‘I Love You, Lord’ I LOVE YOU, LORD

I love you, Lord, and I lift my voice
to worship you; o my soul, rejoice.
Take joy, my King, in what you hear;
may it be a sweet, sweet sound in your ear.

***We Rejoice in God’s Welcome**

It is God who brings us to this time and place.
We yearn to praise the living God!
We desire to give thanks for the bountiful gifts of life.
It is God who brings us here – for comfort in a bruising world,
to challenge our thoughts, to experience the presence of the
risen Christ in bread and cup.
Welcome, beloved of God! Let us worship and rejoice!

***Hymn 611** ‘Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee’ HYMN TO JOY

***Prayer of Praise**

Loving God, with joy we give you thanks for this day that you have made. In your goodness you have brought us to this time and place so that we may worship you in spirit and in truth. Draw us close to yourself and grant us the blessing of renewed devotion to Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Call to Confession

In sincerity and faith, let us confess our sins to the One who waits to pour out mercy upon us.

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, we confess that we fail to put our full trust in you. Instead, we calculate our gains and losses, hoarding the things that do not lead to abundant life. Forgive us, we pray, and help us to treasure you above all things, so that we may follow you faithfully and discover the blessings only you can give through the gift of your Spirit. Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness from Lamentations 3

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases! God’s mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning. Great is God’s faithfulness. Brothers and sisters, let us believe and celebrate the good news:
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

***Joyful Response** ‘We Are Forgiven’ Hal H. Hopson

Sheet music for 'We Are Forgiven' by Hal H. Hopson. The music is in G major, 3/4 time, and consists of three staves. The lyrics are: We are for - giv - en. We are for - giv - en. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God. We are for - giv - en. We are for - giv - en. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

Anthem ‘Will You Come and Follow Me’ Chancel Choir
Music: KELVINGROVE, Scottish melody; Text: John L. Bell, Graham Maule
Setting: Tom Trenney

GOD INVITES US TO LISTEN

Gospel Luke 14:25-33 NT p. 845, hardback
NT p. 106, softback

Message ‘What Does It Mean to Follow Christ in a Time of Transition?’ The Reverend Lisa Martin

GOD MOVES US TO RESPOND

***Hymn 720** ‘Jesus Calls Us’ GALILEE

***Declaration of Faith** A Declaration of Faith, PCUSA

We confess that Christians are called to discipleship. Life shared with Christ and shaped by Christ is God’s gift to each of us. It is also God’s demand upon every one of us, though never perfectly fulfilled by any of us. Forgiven by God and supported by each other, we strive to become more faithful and effective in our daily practice of the Christian life. To God be the glory!

THE SACRAMENT of HOLY COMMUNION

***Hymn 507** ‘Come to the Table of Grace’ TABLE OF GRACE

Invitation to the Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving & the 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.

Words of Institution

Communion of God’s People

Prayer after Communion

GOD SENDS US TO LIVE THE LOVE OF CHRIST

***Hymn** ‘I Have Decided to Follow Jesus’ ASSAM, Trad. Hindi melody

I have decided to follow Jesus,
I have decided to follow Jesus,
I have decided to follow Jesus,
No turning back, no turning back.

I’ll do my part to follow Jesus,
I’ll do my part to follow Jesus,
I’ll do my part to follow Jesus,
No turning back, no turning back.

We’ll help each other to follow Jesus,
We’ll help each other to follow Jesus,
We’ll help each other to follow Jesus,
No turning back, no turning back.

***Benediction and Three-fold Amen**

***Postlude** ‘Lift High the Cross’ CRUCIFER



100th Birthday Party

Kay McBride

Saturday, September 20
1:30–3:00

Party Room Mathison Retirement Community
3637 West Highway 390, Panama City, FL

When you arrive, please park in the back and enter
through the doors – the party/dining room is on the right

RSVP by 9/15 to David McBride
336.408.5349 dmcbridel@triad.rr.com

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GOD CALLS US INTO COMMUNITY

Welcome to worship on this Lord’s Day! We are in the season of Pentecost, a time to celebrate God’s faithful love, Christ’s saving presence, and the Holy Spirit who empowers us to live with hope, joy, and purpose. **Everyone is invited to stay for refreshments and conversation** immediately following worship!

Today we celebrate the sacrament of holy communion. Please gather your cups of bread and juice and keep them at your seat until that part of the worship service. Everyone is invited to the table of grace!

The First Church nominating committee will meet this morning at 11:20 in the Coffee & the Word classroom.

Personnel & Finance committee will meet at 1:30 pm on Tuesday in the church office parlor.

The Presbyterian Men will kick off the fall season with a covered-dish gathering this Tuesday at 5:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. All men are invited to attend and participate as plans are made for future events!

The Presbyterian Women gather this Wednesday, Sept. 10, at 12 pm in the Fellowship Hall. All women are encouraged to come and experience the deep friendships that the PW gives. A light lunch will be served.

The session has called for a congregational meeting to be held next Sunday for the purpose of requesting Florida Presbytery to dissolve the pastoral relationship with Pastor Lisa. This short meeting will be held at the close of worship.

Pastor Lisa has some books and other fun things to give away! Check out the table in the Fellowship Hall. ☺

Congregational Care needs you! We’re looking for a few people who can transport people to church on Sundays. Talk to Kathy Welsh, CC chair, if interested!



Let’s stay connected! Sign up for *This Week @ First Church*, worship links, prayer concerns, and important updates by scanning the QR code with your phone.

LEADING WORSHIP TODAY
The Chancel Choir
Bradley Thoreson, Music Director, Organist
The Reverend Lisa W. Martin, Pastor

ASSISTING TODAY 9/7
Janet and Rich Walker, Greeters
Bruce Mackay, Church Safety Volunteer

ASSISTING NEXT WEEK 9/14
Linda Wentworth and Charles Willis, Greeters
Bill Mease, Church Safety Volunteer



“THE WAY OF THE CROSS: STATION III”, TED DEGRAZIA, 1964

13TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

MORNING WORSHIP
September 7, 2025
10 AM

ADVENT | CHRISTMAS | EPIPHANY
LENT | EASTER | **PENTECOST**