



All are welcome, because God is Welcome!

We're so glad you're here! Whether you're visiting for the first time or worshipping with us regularly, you are part of what makes this community a place of faith, hope, and love. You are welcome here.

- Scan the QR code to stay connected with everything happening at First Church—from weekly events and opportunities to serve, to today's scripture lessons.
- Sign up for *Faith Forward* and weekly *e-Alert* and prayer request emails, explore online worship, and visit our website.
- Access our secure online giving platform.

ABOUT THE SERVICE

Services are recorded and available on Facebook and our website.

*Indicates that the congregation may rise in body or spirit. Words we all say are in **bold print**.

Generally, we celebrate Holy Communion on the first Sunday of each month and on special occasions.

Offering plates are available in the Narthex (sanctuary entrance) before and after worship, or you may give online by scanning the QR code. Thank you for helping to make Christ's love shown within our community and beyond. We are *"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 (USA)

THE SESSION

The Rev. Julie Thompson,
Moderator
Bob Plank, Clerk of Session

Elected spiritual leaders of this congregation:

Claire Calohan ('28)

Ann Fyfe ('26)

Jennifer Hodges ('27)

Steven McPherson ('28)

Julian Wells ('26)

Kathy Welsh ('27)

CHURCH STAFF

The Rev. Julie Thompson
Transitional Pastor
(610) 570-3820
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Bradley Thoreson
Music Director, Organist
(850) 832-4745
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Terri Boardway
Administrative Assistant
(850) 265-2051
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CHURCH OFFICE

810 Georgia Avenue
Lynn Haven, FL 32444
(850) 265-2051
www.firstchurchlh.org

OFFICE HOURS

M-Th, 8 AM-12 PM,
or by appointment.

God Welcomes Us in Love

Chiming the Trinity

Prelude *Fantasie on "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"* Paul Fey

Words of Welcome Elder Kathy Welsh

This is the Day the Lord has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Gathering Song (Hymn 276, verse 2)

Sing A New Song unto the Lord SING A NEW SONG

REFRAIN: **Sing a new song unto the Lord;
let your song be sung from mountain's high.
Sing a new song unto the Lord, singing hallelujah!**

*Call Worship

Why do we gather in the presence of God?

To be rooted in God's Word and strengthened in faith.

How shall we bear witness to God's love?

By sharing not only the gospel, but our very lives with one another.

Let us worship the God who nourishes us and calls us to bear fruit in love.

Let us worship God, Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen.

***Hymn 267** *Come, Christians, Join to Sing* MADRID

Call to Confession Rev. Mario Bolivar

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, you call us to be rooted in your Word and to bear fruit through lives of love and faithfulness. Yet we confess that too often we follow our own desires rather than your wisdom. We speak of your love but fail to share it through our actions. We seek to be served rather than to serve, and forget that the gospel calls us to give not only our words, but our very selves. Forgive us, renew our hearts, and guide our steps, so that our lives may reflect your grace and bear the fruit of your love. Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness

Friends, hear the good news! God's grace is like streams of living water, renewing and sustaining us. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, restored, and rooted in love. Let us go forth bearing the fruit of God's mercy and sharing the gospel through our very lives. So, let us believe and practice the good news of the Gospel, that in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God! Amen.

*Joyful Response (Hymn 582)

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me GLORY TO GOD (Vasile)

**Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned men,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

Anthem *Soli Deo* David Waggoner

God Invites Us to Listen

First Reading Psalm 1: 1-6 hardcover, p. 482
softcover OT, p. 736

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8 hardcover, p. 798
softcover NT, p. 36

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message "Faith Has Roots. Love Has Legs." Rev. Mario Bolivar

God Moves Us to Respond

***Hymn 822** *When We Are Living (Pues si vivimos)* SOMOS DEL SEÑOR

Invitation to Discipleship and Community News Elder Kathy Welsh

Moment of Generosity Two Cents-a-Meal Offering

***Doxology (Hymn 606)** OLD HUNDREDTH

**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.**

***Prayer of Thanksgiving** Rev. Mario Bolivar

***Affirmation of Faith** *from The Heidelberg Catechism, Q & A 86*

Q. Since we have been delivered from our misery by grace through Christ without any merit of our own, why then should we do good works?

A. Because Christ, having redeemed us by his blood, is also renewing us by his Spirit into his image, so that with our whole lives we may show that we are thankful to God for his benefits, and that he may be praised through us, and further, so that we may be assured of our faith by its fruits, and by our godly living our neighbors may be won over to Christ.

Prayers of the People and 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.

God Sends Us to Live
the Love of Christ

*Hymn 826 Lift High the Cross CRUCIFER
*Benediction and Three-fold Amen
Postlude Fanfare on “Now Thank We All Our God” Paul Fey

God Calls Us into Community

Welcome to First Church on Reformation Sunday! Today we celebrate the enduring faith that grounds us in God's Word and the love that calls us into action. Through Scripture, song, and prayer, we are reminded that faith is not simply something we believe, but something we live. We are grateful to welcome the Rev. Mario Bolivar, who serves as Equipping Presbyter and Stated Clerk for the Presbytery of Florida, as our guest preacher today. Whoever you are and wherever you are on the journey, there is a place for you here. May our worship deepen our roots in faith and inspire us to put God's love into motion.

Please join us in Mowat Hall following worship for a light reception as we celebrate Rev. Mario Bolivar’s new ministry with the Presbytery of Florida and welcome him to First Church.

Today we receive our Two Cents-a-Meal Offering, supporting ministries that address hunger and food insecurity in our community and beyond. Half of the offering remains at First Church to support our local hunger ministries, while the other half supports hunger relief efforts throughout the Presbytery of Florida and the surrounding region. Thank you for your generosity and for helping us live out our calling to be a blessing to others. Every gift, large or small, makes a difference!

Join us next Sunday for worship on All Saints’ Sunday as we remember and give thanks for the lives of those who have gone before us in faith, especially those we have lost during the past year. During this special service, we will honor their memory, celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion, and find comfort in God’s promise of eternal life. Together, we will give thanks for the communion of saints and the love of God that binds us together, in life and in death.

This Week at First Church

October 25 – November 1, 2026

Sunday, October 25

Reformation Sunday
Two Cents-a-Meal Offering

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

8:45 AM	Coffee and the Word	Richard Holley Classroom
9:30 AM	Called Session Meeting	Richard Holley Classroom
9:30 AM	Choir Warmup	Mowat Hall
10:00 AM	Morning Worship	Sanctuary
11:00 AM	Fellowship Time	Mowat Hall

LEADING WORSHIP:

The Chancel Choir
Bradley Thoreson, Organist, Music Director
Elder Kathy Welsh, Lay Leader
Rev. Mario Bolivar, Guest Preacher

SUNDAY VOLUNTEERS:

Greeters
Carol Oakley and Larry Hammond
Church Safety Volunteer
Bill Mease
Sound Volunteer
Donna Yielding

Monday, October 26 6:15 PM Panama City Pipes & Drums Church Grounds	Tuesday, October 27 6:00 PM Gulftones Barbershop Chorus Mowat Hall	Wednesday, October 28 6:00 PM Chancel Choir Sanctuary 7:00 PM AA (Closed Meeting) Mowat Hall
Thursday, October 29	Friday, October 30 6:00 PM AA (Women’s Open Meeting) Mowat Hall	Saturday, October 31 7:00 PM AA (Open Meeting) Mowat Hall

Looking Ahead

Sunday, November 1
All Saints’ Sunday
Holy Communion

LOOKING AHEAD SCHEDULE

8:45 AM	Coffee and the Word	Richard Holley Classroom
9:30 AM	Choir Warmup	Mowat Hall
10:00 AM	Morning Worship	Sanctuary
11:00 AM	Fellowship Time	Mowat Hall

LOOKING AHEAD VOLUNTEERS:

Greeters
Peggy and Rich Kangas
Church Safety Volunteer
Chris Stanley
Sound Volunteer
Donna Yielding

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FIRST

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
of Lynn Haven



REFORMATION SUNDAY

- Faith has roots. Love has legs. -

MORNING WORSHIP

OCTOBER 25 | 10:00 AM

ADVENT | CHRISTMAS | EPIPHANY | LENT | EASTER | PENTECOST