



## We welcome ALL because GOD is WELCOME!

It is our hope that you feel the warmth of God's presence and welcome here. If this is your first time joining us, we are honored by your presence and hope to see you again soon!

To stay informed, scan the QR code or visit [www.firstchurchlh.org](http://www.firstchurchlh.org) and subscribe to our weekly email. There's a lot going on here, and we want you to be a part of it!

### - About the Service -

Portions of each Worship service are filmed for later access on Facebook and our church website.

The People's words are in **bold text**. \*Indicates that the congregation may stand.

Offering plates are in the Narthex (sanctuary entrance) before and after worship. Because of your generosity, First Church makes a difference in our neighborhood and world. As we like to say, we are **"blessed to be a blessing!"**



### THE SESSION

(elected spiritual leaders of this congregation)

Moderator: **The Rev. Lisa W. Martin**

Clerk of Session: **Rosa Stanley**

Class Of 2024: **Don Mowat, Kathy Welsh**

Class Of 2025: **John Deegins, Rich Kangas**

Class Of 2026: **Ann Fyfe, Pam Leonard**

### A CONGREGATION IN CONNECTION WITH

The Presbytery of Florida,  
The Synod of South Atlantic, and  
The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

### - Church Staff and Contact Information -

#### THE REV. LISA W. MARTIN

Pastor, Head of Staff  
[revlwmartin@gmail.com](mailto:revlwmartin@gmail.com)

#### BRAD THORESON

Music Director, Organist  
[bradfpclh@gmail.com](mailto:bradfpclh@gmail.com)

#### TERRI BOARDWAY

Administrative Assistant,  
Bookkeeper  
[firstpresbylh@gmail.com](mailto:firstpresbylh@gmail.com)

#### CHURCH OFFICE:

810 Georgia Avenue  
Lynn Haven, FL 32444

**HOURS:** M (9-2) and Friday (9-noon)

*Other days by appointment.*

**PHONE:** 850.265.2051

**EMAIL:** [firstpresbylh@gmail.com](mailto:firstpresbylh@gmail.com)

**FACEBOOK:** @FirstPresbyLHFL

**WEBSITE:**

[www.firstchurchlh.org](http://www.firstchurchlh.org)

## GOD WELCOMES US

### PRELUDE

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

Bradley Thoreson

LOBE DEN HERREN

arr. Jason Payne

### CHIMING THE HOUR

### WORDS OF WELCOME

Rev. Lisa Martin

### GATHERING SONG 399

"God Welcomes All"

THEMBA AMEN

**God welcomes all, strangers and friends;  
God's love is strong and it never ends.**

### \*WE REJOICE IN GOD'S WELCOME

Psalms 125

*Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion, which cannot be moved but abides forever.*

**As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the Lord surrounds his people from this time on and forevermore.**

*Let us lift our voices in praise to God!*

**God welcomes our praise and delights in our trust.**

### \*HYMN 610

"O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

AZMON

### \*PRAYER OF PRAISE

**Generous God, you have counted us as your people, and we join our voices with thousands of all ages who declare your praise!**

**With the warmth of your love and the richness of your hospitality, you welcome all who gather to worship you. Receive our praise this day and grant us the blessing of living for you. By the power of your Holy Spirit, and in the name of Christ we pray. Amen.**

### CALL TO CONFESSION

*If we say we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves and the truth of God is not within us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is gracious and just, will forgive us our sins and will cleanse us from all unrighteousness. With humility and trust, let us confess our sins:*

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Gracious God, we have not been true to you. You have given us ears to hear, but too often we choose to be deaf. You have treated us with unfailing kindness, but too often we are unkind. Forgive us and cleanse us by the power of Christ's sacrifice, that we may be healed once more to hear mercy and grace flowing from the cross of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

## DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

*The mercy of God triumphs through Jesus Christ, who has pleaded our cause, forgiven our sin, and set us free to live abundantly. Brothers and sisters, let us believe the good news of the Gospel:*

**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Thanks be to God!**

### \*GLORIA PATRI (Hymn 581)

GREATOREX

**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, amen.**

### SOLO

"I Will Listen"

Katy MacKay

Twila Paris

## GOD INVITES US TO LISTEN

### GOSPEL LESSON

Mark 7:24-37

NT, p. 59, softback

NT, p. 814, hardback

### MESSAGE

"Hearing and Healing"

Rev. Lisa Martin

## GOD CALLS US TO ACT

### \*HYMN 451

"Open My Eyes, That I May See"

OPEN MY EYES

### RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBER

Fran McNear

### \*DECLARATION OF FAITH

*A Declaration of Faith, PCUSA*

**We confess that Christians today are called to discipleship. Life shared with Christ and shaped by Christ is God's undeserved 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 brothers and sisters, we strive to become more faithful and effective in our daily practice of the Christian life.**

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & 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 SHARE THE LOVE OF CHRIST

\*HYMN 317

“In Christ There Is No East or West”

MC KEE

\*BENEDICTION & THREEFOLD AMEN

DANISH

POSTLUDE

“Recessional on ‘Slane’”

Douglas E. Wagner

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## JOIN US THIS OCTOBER!



## Fellowship TUESDAYS

Join us on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 6 pm  
for a time of friendship, faith, and fun!

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

September 8, 2024

**Welcome to Worship!** We are now in the season after Pentecost, that time when we remember and celebrate the work of Christ in establishing the mission and ministry of the church. May God bless us as we live out our calling as a community of faith!

**Today we welcome Fran McNear** into the membership of First Church! Fran joins by Reaffirmation of Faith.

**KIDS CONNECTION** meets today following worship in the sanctuary classroom. All elementary age children are welcome to attend this gathering that focuses on Christ, crafts, and friendship!

**Session Meeting Today!** The session will meet at 11:30 this morning in the church office parlor for our regular stated meeting. Did you know? Church members are invited to join us as guests and get a closer look at the ministry of elder leadership!

**The Presbyterian Men will gather this Tuesday at 5:30 pm** for its fall kick-off! Bring a dish to share and be prepared to talk about possible projects to undertake!

**The Presbyterian Women will gather on Wednesday at noon** for our monthly lunch and study. All women are invited to join in the laughter and love of Christian sistership!

**Join us next Sunday for a delightful fellowship lunch!** Let's come together for great food and even better company. Please bring a dish to share, whether it's a meat, veggie, salad, or dessert. We can't wait to enjoy a variety of good food and, most important, spend time together.

**Great news!** The Fellowship Hall air conditioner has been replaced with more energy efficient units. If you would like to contribute to the replacement costs, know that we'd be grateful! (Total replacement cost was \$10,500.)

**Curious about membership at First Church?** Scan the QR code in the bulletin or on the card in the pew rack with your phone's camera. For additional information, feel free to chat with Pastor Lisa.

### LEADING WORSHIP TODAY

*The Chancel Choir*  
*Katy MacKay, Soloist*  
*Bradley Thoreson, Music Director, Organist*  
*The Reverend Lisa W. Martin, Pastor*

### ASSISTING TODAY

**Greeters:** *Larry Hammond and Carol Oakley*  
**Church Safety Volunteer:** *David Cooley*

### ASSISTING NEXT WEEK

**Greeters:** *Jim and Ann Fyfe*  
**Church Safety Volunteer:** *John Deegins*



## MORNING WORSHIP



'Crumbs of Love' by Michael Cook

# 16<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY after PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 8, 2024  
10:00 AM

ADVENT | CHRISTMAS | EPIPHANY  
LENT | EASTER | PENTECOST