



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

Portions of 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!"**

During this season of transition, as we seek both an interim and eventually a called and installed pastor, we will be blessed by a variety of guest preachers. We invite you to embrace this opportunity to hear God's Word proclaimed through many different voices.

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. Mark Broadhead, Moderator, **Bob Plank**, Clerk of Session

Elected spiritual leaders of this congregation:

Ann Fyfe ('26), **Jennifer Hodges** ('27), **Steven McPherson** ('28), **Bob Plank** ('26), **Tami Valdez** ('28), **Kathy Welsh** ('27)

CHURCH STAFF AND CONTACT INFORMATION

Bradley Thoreson
Music Director, Organist
bradfpclh@gmail.com

Terri Boardway
Administrative Assistant
firstpresbylh@gmail.com

For emergency pastoral care, contact Kathy Welsh:
(850) 866 -0019

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GOD WELCOMES US IN LOVE

Prelude ‘Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service’ BEACH SPRING

Chiming the Hour

Words of Welcome Jen Hodges

***We Rejoice in God’s Welcome**

Welcome to this place of grace and promise. Whether you come with confidence or questions, **we come seeking the living God.**

God calls us not with demands for perfection, but with an invitation to walk in love.

To do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with our God.

Jesus blesses those the world often overlooks: the meek, the merciful, the peacemakers.

Here, we learn that God’s wisdom does not always look like the world’s wisdom.

Come, all who are weary or hopeful, curious or unsure.

Let us worship the God whose grace turns the world upside down.

***Hymn 12** ‘Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise’ ST. DENIO

***Prayer of Praise**

Holy God, you are wiser than human wisdom and stronger than human strength. You bless those the world overlooks, you lift voices the world silences, and you call goodness forth from places of grief and struggle. We praise you for your surprising grace, for your upside-down kingdom, for the foolishness of love that changes everything. Receive our worship, shape our hearts, and draw us deeper into your life of justice, mercy, and humility. Amen.

Song of Preparation (Hymn 288)

‘Spirit of the Living God’ LIVING GOD
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Call to Confession

Friends, scripture reveals how far God’s kingdom can feel from the way we live. When we confuse power with blessing, comfort with faithfulness, or success with righteousness, we fall short of God’s call. Trusting in God’s mercy, let us confess our sin together.

Responsive Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, you call us to walk humbly, yet we cling to our own importance. You call us to love kindness, yet we grow impatient and judgmental. You call us to do justice, yet we settle for what is easy and familiar. Jesus blesses the meek, the merciful, and the peacemakers, but we chase recognition, control, and certainty. Forgive us when your wisdom feels foolish to us, and when we resist the way of your kingdom. Renew us by your grace, teach us to trust your ways, and lead us again into the life of Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Silent Confession

Declaration of Forgiveness

Hear the Good News: God does not abandon those who stumble. In Jesus Christ, God meets us with mercy, restores what is broken, and calls us blessed even when the world does not. In Christ, we are forgiven, renewed, and set free to walk humbly, love deeply, and live boldly. Friends, believe the Good News: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!**

***Joyful Response (Hymn 582)** GLORY TO GOD

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

Piano Solo ‘My Song is Love Unknown’ arr. Kurt Weber

GOD INVITES US TO LISTEN

Old Testament Micah 6:3-8 Hardcover, p. 749; Softcover OT, p. 1144

Gospel Matthew 5:1-12 Hardcover, p. 779; Softcover NT, p. 9

Message ‘God’s Foolishness’ Rev. Mark Broadhead

GOD MOVES US TO RESPOND

***Declaration of Faith** from A Brief Statement of Faith, *adapted*

We trust in God, who created the world in love and calls us to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly in faith. We trust in Jesus Christ, who proclaimed God’s reign, blessing the poor, the meek, and the merciful, and showing us the wisdom of self-giving love. We trust in the Holy Spirit, who gives life to the church, leads us into truth, and empowers us to live God’s peace in the world. With gratitude and hope, we follow Christ, trusting God’s grace now and always. Amen.

GOD GATHERS US AT THE TABLE

***Communion Hymn 401** ‘Here in This Place’ GATHER US IN

Invitation to the Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving 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.

Words of Institution and Communion of God’s People

Prayer after Communion

GOD SENDS US TO LIVE THE LOVE OF CHRIST

***Hymn 610** ‘O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing’ AZMON

*Benediction and Three-fold Amen

Postlude ‘Postlude on Azmon’ Mark Rippe

LEADING WORSHIP TODAY:

The Chancel Choir
Bradley Thoreson, *Organist, Director of Music*
Jen Hodges, *Lay Leader*
Rev. Mark Broadhead, *Guest Preacher and Worship Leader*

ASSISTING TODAY:

Garrett Kivett and Charles Willis, *Greeters*
John Deegins, *Church Safety Volunteer*

ASSISTING NEXT WEEK:

Carol Oakley and Larry Hammond, *Greeters*
Rich Filippi, *Church Safety Volunteer*



Stay connected! Sign up for This Week @ First Church, the Friday e-Alert, worship links, prayer updates, and more by scanning the QR code.

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GOD CALLS US INTO COMMUNITY

Welcome to worship on this Fourth Sunday after Epiphany. As the light of Christ continues to be revealed among us, we hear God’s call to walk humbly, love deeply, and trust a wisdom that often turns the world upside down. Wherever you are on your journey of faith, you are welcome here.

We are grateful to welcome back the Rev. Mark Broadhead as our guest preacher and worship leader today. We give thanks for his ministry and for walking with us through our season of transition.

Today, we celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Please pick up your cups of bread and juice in the Narthex and keep them with you until we celebrate together. All are welcome at the table of grace.

Don’t rush off after worship, join us in the fellowship hall for refreshments and conversation around the table.

The Interim Pastor Search Committee will meet today following worship in the Sanctuary Classroom.

The Session will meet today at 11:30 in the Sanctuary Classroom.

Fellowship Tuesdays meets this Tuesday, February 3 at 6:00 p.m. at Olive Garden in Panama City. Everyone is invited to this relaxed evening of good food and getting to know one another better—friends are welcome! Please RSVP by texting Tami Valdez (850-625-8882) no later than TOMORROW ... Monday, February 2.

In keeping with the church’s bylaws, the Session has called for the Annual Meeting of the Congregation and Corporation of First Presbyterian Church of Lynn Haven to take place at the close of worship on Sunday, February 8, 2026. We keep these meetings short and sweet

Let’s celebrate before Lent begins! Join us for our 1st Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, February 17 at 5 pm, featuring breakfast-for-dinner, fellowship, and plenty of fun. Donations will be received for our Presbyterian Women’s ministry partnership with Sue Bowen who serves local high school students experiencing food and housing insecurity. Sue will provide an update on the need in Bay County.

DURING THIS SEASON OF TRANSITION:

If you have a prayer request, please contact Kathy Welsh, Congregational Care Chair, at 850-866-0019. Your requests will be kept confidential and shared only in the manner you prefer.

Have an announcement for the bulletin or website? Please send it to Terri Boardway (firstpresbylh@gmail.com) by noon on Wednesdays so we can keep our church family informed and connected.

If you are interested in church membership, please speak with Bob Plank, Clerk of Session, or any ruling elder. We are eager for you to find your place in the life of First Church!



4TH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

MORNING WORSHIP

February 1, 2026
10 AM