



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 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"!



a member congregation of:

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

The Session (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**

- CHURCH STAFF & CONTACT INFORMATION -

The Rev. Lisa W. Martin

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Brad Thoreson

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GOD WELCOMES US

PRELUDE

"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" arr. Brad Thoreson

CHIMING THE HOUR

WORDS OF WELCOME

Rev. Roy Martin

GATHERING SONG (Hymn 413)

"Come into God's Presence" COME INTO HIS PRESENCE

Come into God's presence singing

"Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!"

Come into God's presence singing

"Jesus is Lord, Jesus is Lord, Jesus is Lord!"

Praise the Lord together singing

"Worthy the Lamb, worthy the Lamb, worthy the Lamb!"

Praise the Lord together singing

"Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God!"

*WE REJOICE IN GOD'S WELCOME from Revelation 7

Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne,
and to the Lamb!

Amen!

Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever!

Amen!

The peace of the risen Christ be with you!

And also with you!

*HYMN 1

"Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!" NICAEA

*PRAYER OF PRAISE

You are holy, O God of the ages, and we worship you this day.

May our praises be heard through all the land, and may our witness be effective for your kingdom. The Lamb has become the Good Shepherd; our hearts are full of gratitude. Bless us all, that we may be a blessing to others! Through Christ we pray. Amen.

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

If we are honest with ourselves, our hearts condemn us. But God, who knows everything, is greater than our hearts; and God's deep desire for us is mercy, love, and peace. Therefore let us confess our sin.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord, have mercy upon us. We talk about love, but our actions betray us. We talk about love, but neglect the poor. We talk about love, but we fail to love one another. Lord, have mercy on us, Forgive us, and abide in us, by the power of your Spirit so that our lives may show our love for Jesus Christ, in whose body we live and in whose name we pray. Amen.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

We seek God's grace with boldness because we trust in Jesus Christ, the One who loves us and laid down his life for us. 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.**

ANTHEM

Chancel Choir

"My Shepherd Will Supply My Need"

arr. Dennis Allen

GOD INVITES US TO HEAR

THE PSALTER

Psalm 137:1-6

OT, p. 767, softback

OT, p. 503, hardback

NEW TESTAMENT

Revelation 7:9-17

NT, p. 340, softback

NT, p. 1005, hardback

MEDITATION

"The Challenging Journey"

Rev. Roy Martin

GOD CALLS US TO ACT

*HYMN 720

"Jesus Calls Us"

GALILEE

*DECLARATION OF FAITH

(1 Corinthians & Colossians)

This is the Good News which we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved: that Christ died for our sins, according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day, and that he appeared to Peter, then to the twelve, and to many faithful witnesses. We believe that he is the Christ, the Son of the living God. He is the first and the last, the beginning and the end. He is our Lord and God! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Amen!

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 729
"Lord, I Want to Be a Christian" I WANT TO BE A CHRISTIAN
- *BENEDICTION & THREEFOLD AMEN DANISH
- POSTLUDE
"Postlude on 'Austrian Hymn'" arr. Mark Rippe

LEADING WORSHIP TODAY
The Chancel Choir
Bradley Thoreson, Organist, Director of Music
The Reverend Dr. Roy Martin

ASSISTING TODAY
Greeters: Ann and Jim Fyfe
Church Safety Volunteer: Bill Mease

ASSISTING NEXT SUNDAY
Greeters: Janet and Rich Walker
Church Safety Volunteer: Jerry Miller

ANNOUNCEMENTS
April 21, 2024

Welcome to Eastertide Worship! Please stay for our fellowship meal following worship! We are grateful to the Rev. Dr. Roy Martin for leading worship today. Pastor Lisa is in New York and will return tomorrow.

Tomorrow is Earth Day! Earth Day is a reminder of the importance of environmental conservation and sustainability, encouraging us to come together and take action for a healthier planet and brighter future. What can you do to help care for our earth?

Our Church Yard Sale is THIS WEEKEND: April 26 and 27! All donations of house and outdoor wares are appreciated. No clothing, please. If you need assistance bringing your donations to the church, let Kathy Welsh know. We have some storage now for donations, but if you can hold off and bring them on the 22nd - 25th, that would be great. All proceeds support our local missions.

Next Sunday we receive the 2-Cents-a-Meal Offering, which supports food insecurity ministries of First Church and Florida Presbytery. Thank you for giving generously so that hungry neighbors have good food to eat!



This Friday & Saturday
April 26 & 27
8 am both days



VISIT OUR CHURCH WEBSITE ... from your bulletin! Simply scan the QR code with your phone's camera and it will allow you to subscribe, view the bulletin, or visit the church website.

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MORNING WORSHIP



FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 21, 2024
10:00 AM

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