



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 Hedges** ('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

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
www.firstchurchlh.org

GOD WELCOMES US IN LOVE

Prelude 'Pastorale on Nettleton'

Phil Lehenbauer

Chiming the Hour

Words of Welcome

Kathy Welsh

***We Rejoice in God's Welcome**

Come to the waters, all who are thirsty for grace. Come to the river where God speaks our names.

We come remembering the waters of baptism, where we were claimed as God's own.

Here the Spirit descends, here God declares delight in beloved children.

We come to renew our vows, to remember who we are and whose we are.

Come, you who are called to serve, you who are called to lead, you who are called to follow.

We come, welcomed, claimed, and called again, to worship the God who makes all things new.

***Hymn 475 'Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing'** NETTLETON

Prayer of Praise

Holy and gracious God, at the waters of creation you brought forth life, and at the Jordan you revealed your beloved Son. In baptism you have named us as your own. You call light from darkness and hope from despair, and your Spirit still moves among us, shaping us into the body of Christ. We praise you for your steadfast love, for the grace that claims us, and for the call that sends us to serve. Receive our praise, through Jesus Christ, in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Call to Confession

Trusting in the mercy of the One who calls us beloved, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, you have revealed your light in Jesus Christ and named us your beloved in the waters of baptism. Yet we confess that we often turn from that light. We prefer what is familiar to what is faithful, comfort to calling, and silence to the truth you reveal. We hide our gifts, neglect our vows, and fail to live as signs of your justice and peace. Forgive us, O God. By your Spirit, shine your light upon us again, renew our faith, and send us out as people who belong to Christ and reflect his love in the world. Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness

Hear the good news: At the Jordan River, God said to Jesus, "You are my beloved; with you I am well pleased." In Jesus Christ, that promise is spoken over us as well. By grace, we are forgiven. By love, we are made new. By the Spirit, we are called again.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

***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.

GOD INVITES US TO LISTEN

Old Testament Isaiah 42:1-9

p. 580, hardback

OT p. 884, softback

p. 778, hardback

NT p. 8, softback

Gospel Matthew 3:13-17

Rev. Mark Broadhead

Message 'Claimed and Called (Again)'

GOD MOVES US TO RESPOND

***Hymn 488 'I Was There to Hear Your Burning Cry'** WATERLIFE

Renewal of Baptism

Introduction

***Profession of Faith**

Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world?
I do.

Who is your Lord and Savior?

Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior.

Will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his word and showing his love?
I will, with God's help.

Will you devote yourself to the church's teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread, and the prayers?
I will, with God's help.

***Baptismal Prayer**

***Blessing**

*Hymn 726 'Will You Come and Follow Me'

KELVINGROVE

Ordination and Installation of Ruling Elders

Steven McPherson and Tami Valdez

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 700 'I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me' I'M GONNA LIVE

*Benediction and Three-fold Amen

Postlude 'Postlude on All People That on Earth Do Dwell' Paul Fey

LEADING WORSHIP TODAY:

The Chancel Choir

Bradley Thoreson, Music Director, Organist

Kathy Welsh, Lay Leader, Congregational Care Chair

Rev. Mark Broadhead, Guest Preacher and Worship Leader

ASSISTING TODAY:

Maxie Hooper and Rich Filippi, Greeters

Julian Wells, Church Safety Volunteer

ASSISTING NEXT WEEK:

Marcia Burden and Paula Pezdirtz, Greeters

Charles Willis, Church Safety Volunteer

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!

GOD CALLS US INTO COMMUNITY

Welcome to Worship! On this First Sunday after Epiphany, we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord—when God's light is revealed in Jesus Christ and a voice from heaven names Him as beloved. As we remember our own baptism and renew our shared calling, we also give thanks for the life of the church expressed through faithful leadership.

Whether you are a longtime member or a first-time guest, you are welcome here as we worship the God who claims us, calls us, and sends us to serve. We do hope you will join us after worship in the Fellowship Hall for snacks, coffee, and good conversation! It's a wonderful time to catch up with friends, meet someone new, and share a few laughs before the week begins.

We are grateful to welcome back the Rev. Mark Broadhead as our guest preacher and worship leader today. Mark is faithfully walking with us as we continue in this transition process, and is a true friend of First Church. We are so thankful for his generosity of spirit!

Today we joyfully ordain and install Steven McPherson and Tami Valdez to their ministry as ruling elders on the Session, and we offer our gratitude for the faithful service of outgoing elders John Deegins and Rich Kangas.

The Interim Pastor Search Committee meets today following worship in the Church Office Parlor.

The Session also meets today following fellowship time in the Church Office Parlor.

The Presbyterian Women will meet this Wednesday at noon in the Fellowship Hall. We will be picking up with Lesson 7 in our series "Finding Resilience, Joy, and our Identity in Jesus Christ". Lunch will be provided. All women are invited to this time of sisterhood!

Join us next Sunday for our first Fellowship Lunch of the new year! Rich Filippi will offer a brief reflection on charitable giving and share travel tips and tales from his adventures. Bring a dish to share and come ready for good food, warm conversation, and a bit of fun and frivolity as we enjoy our time together.



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



BAPTISM OF THE LORD 1ST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

MORNING WORSHIP

January 11, 2026
10 AM