



First Presbyterian Church

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

August 24th, 2025



Photo by Antonino Visalli

4602 Cary Street Road
Richmond, VA 23226
fprichmond.org | (804) 358-2383

Order of Worship

Prelude	<i>Aria</i> , op. 51 Bruce Stevens, organ	Flor Peeters
Welcome and Announcements		Rev. Stephanie Hamilton
Introit	<i>At the River</i> Summer Choir; Lauren Neal, soprano (Lyrics may be found in hymn 375)	arr. Aaron Copland
*Call to Worship (from Isaiah 60)		Cate Jobe
One:	Arise, shine, for your light has come,	
All:	and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.	
	Even when darkness covers the earth,	
	the Lord will arise among you,	
	and God's glory will appear over you.	
	Let us worship God.	
*Hymn 33	"Praise the Lord, God's Glories Show"	LLANFAIR
*Prayer of Confession	Almighty God, you love us, but we have not loved you. You call, but we have not listened. We walk away from siblings and neighbors in need, wrapped in our own concerns. We condone evil, prejudice, warfare, and greed. God of grace, help us to admit our sin, so that as you come to us in mercy, we may repent, turn to you, and receive forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our redeemer.	
*Passing the Peace		
Time for Young Disciples		Ian Dayalsingh
Hymn 282	"Come Down, O Love Divine"	DOWN AMPNEY
	<i>Children ages 3 years through 5th grade are invited to Children's Chapel. They may be picked up from the playground following worship.</i>	
Prayer for Illumination		Rev. Dr. Brian Blount
Scripture Reading	1 John 2:7-11	NT p. 225
Sermon	"Love Like Light"	

***Please rise in body or in spirit.**

*Let the love of God, pouring like a flood,
bring purity and peace.
Within its depths of quietness
are gems that heal and bless
and life that will not cease.*

*Let the love of God, like a lovely bride
arrayed to wed her groom,
so bless each heart with joy and grace
that love will find the place
and Christ find heavenly room.*

*Let the love of God be our staff and rod,
our law from heaven above.
And this is God's one great command –
to love and understand
that God himself is love.*

*~ From the Danish of Jens L. Schjorring;
paraphrase by Adrienne Tindall*

*Affirmation of Faith

Rev. Stephanie Hamilton

We are not alone; we live in God's world. We believe in God, who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, to reconcile and make new. We trust in God, who calls us to be the church; to love and serve others; to seek justice and resist evil; to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. We affirm that there is more to life than what can be seen and that by the Spirit's presence, God is giving us what we need to be faithful and brave. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God!

(Adapted from The New Creed, United Church of Canada)

*Call to Offering

*Doxology (Prayer of Thanksgiving)

OLD HUNDREDTH

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God, above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

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.

*Hymn 366

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

HYFRYDOL

*Charge and Benediction

Rev. Dr. Brian Blount

Postlude

Toccata in C Major

Johann Pachelbel

Brian K. Blount is President Emeritus of Union Presbyterian Seminary, following service as the Richard J. Dearborn Professor of New Testament Interpretation at Princeton Theological Seminary. An M.Div. graduate of Princeton Seminary, he obtained his B.A. from the College of William and Mary. After seminary, he was pastor of the Carver Memorial Presbyterian Church in Newport News, Virginia. He later received his Ph.D. in New Testament Studies from Emory University. He has served as the president of the Society of Biblical Literature and the president of the Association of Theological Schools. His primary research has been in the Gospel of Mark, the Book of Revelation and cultural studies and hermeneutics.



The New Creed of 1968 is a brief and well-loved affirmation of faith used widely in worship in the United Church of Canada. The largest Protestant denomination in Canada, it was inaugurated on June 10, 1925 when the Methodist Church, Canada, the Congregational Union of Canada, 70 percent of the Presbyterian Church of Canada and the General Council of Union Churches entered into an organic union.

This week's usher team includes: Laura Bland, Kim Basmajian, Rachael Brown, Connie Gottwald, Ann Latstetter, Blanche Toms, Peter Toms
If interested in serving as an usher, contact Ken Horton (ksmmfour@aol.com)

Elders at the doors: Elizabeth Darling, Foster Jennings, Ann Nickels

Please keep in your prayers those with special concerns:

- Susan Anthony (*Jane Neer's sister*), favorable cancer treatments ongoing
- Christi Barranger, health concerns
- Bev Berwick (*Jim Berwick's mother*), health concerns
- Sarah Campbell (*Kit and Pat Campbell's daughter*), health concerns
- Madelyn Chewing, recovering from knee surgery
- Beth Fay, recovering from surgery
- Anne Lintner (*Christa Santos' mother*), health concerns
- Mary Lynn Lunn, recovering from foot surgery
- Sherry May, recovering from surgery
- Barbara Mitchell (*Judy Noble's mother*), in hospice care
- Jane Neer, permanently in health care
- Betty Proffitt (*Jenny Morris' mother*), health concerns
- Sandra Putbresi (*Cortland Putbresi's mother*), health concerns
- Sharon Spencer, health concerns
- Amy Starr Redwine, health concerns
- Liese Rohr, recovering from surgery
- Tyler Wheeler (*Susan Quinn's daughter*), recovering from surgery

Those Grieving:

- Deborah Miller on the death of her mother, Kay Barr, on August 15.
- Ward and Katie Morgan on the death of Ward's father; Carter, Audrey, and Maeve Morgan on the death of their grandfather, John Morgan, on August 17.

We pray for members and family serving in the military:

Tripp Bowles, Jenny Sigel Burkett, Toby Collins, Joshua Garber, Zach Kirk, Mason Louthan, Nathan Thomas Meade, Peyton Spivey, Pierce Tarry, and Will Watkins

How can we pray for you?

You can submit concerns and celebrations at fpcrichmond.org/prayer or let one of our pastors know.



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