



FIRST  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
of Lynn Haven



## MORNING WORSHIP

**May 2, 2021**  
**10:00 AM**

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



**Welcome to all who gather to worship on this 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter!** We hope you feel the warmth of God's presence and welcome. If this is your first time joining us, we are honored by your presence and hope to see you again soon! To stay informed, visit [www.firstchurchlh.org](http://www.firstchurchlh.org) and subscribe to our weekly email.

### **ABOUT THE SERVICE**

Wearing a face mask is required. Please observe physical distancing and the safety protocols adopted by the Session (see "Announcements")

The single chime and start of the Prelude is a call to silent, prayerful preparation for worship.

The People's words are in **bold text**.

\*Indicates that the congregation may rise.



**FIRST**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
of Lynn Haven

*a member congregation of:*

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

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## **- CHURCH STAFF & CONTACT INFORMATION -**

### **Rev. Lisa Martin**

Pastor

[revlwmartin@gmail.com](mailto:revlwmartin@gmail.com)

### **Brad Thoreson**

Music Director, Organist

[bradfpclh@gmail.com](mailto:bradfpclh@gmail.com)

### **Aline Trusell**

Administrative Assistant

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### **Church Office:**

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# WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

## PRELUDE

“Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing” NETTLETON, arr. Brad Thoreson

## CHIMING THE HOUR

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rosa Stanley - Presbyterian Women Birthday Offering

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP

*We gather to worship the true vine  
into whom we are grafted in our baptism.*

*The Lord Jesus is the true vine*

**Our life comes from him.**

*Easter people, Christ is risen!*

**Christ is risen indeed!**

## \*OPENING PRAYER (pray together)

**Wondrous Vinegrower, you make all things new in water and Word, giving your people love, joy, and peace. Lead us today and every day to the font of new beginnings. Remind us that we are grafted into Christ, whose death and resurrection give us bold witness in your world. In his name we pray, Amen!**

## SOLO HYMN

“Here in This Place”

GATHER US IN, Marty Haugen

## CALL TO CONFESSION

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of mercy, we confess that we resist being grafted to anything not of our own making. Our primary allegiance is to our own selfish wills. Therefore, we have not loved you or others as you have loved us. Forgive us, restore us, that we may abide in your love and live out your mercy, for the sake of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

## DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

# WE EXPERIENCE GOD'S WORD

THE NEW TESTAMENT Acts 8:26-40

(see back side fold)

## PIANO SOLO

“Shall We Gather at the River”

R. Lowery, arr. James Koerts

MESSAGE

“Relationships Are Everything”

Rev. Lisa Martin

## WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

\*DECLARATION OF OUR FAITH (Bruce Prewer, adapted by Lisa Martin)

I believe in Jesus, the true vine.

His life gives me life;

his word propels me to growth and grace;

his strength affords me courage that I need to thrive.

I believe that I am connected to Jesus,

that the love he gives me is to be shared with others,

that he loves that I am grafted into him;

that his garden is plentiful and beautiful.

I believe in Jesus, the true vine. Amen.

### MUSIC MEDITATION

“I Love to Tell the Story”

W. G. Fischer, arr. Regi Stone

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & 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.

## WE DEPART TO SERVE THE RISEN LORD

\*BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE

“On Our Way Rejoicing”

HERMAS, arr. Rodney Abriol

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## THE NEW TESTAMENT Acts 8:26-40

<sup>26</sup> Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Go south to the road—the desert road—that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” <sup>27</sup> So he started out, and on his way he met an Ethiopian eunuch, an important official in charge of all the treasury of the Kandake (which means “queen of the Ethiopians”). This man had gone to Jerusalem to worship, <sup>28</sup> and on his way home was sitting in his chariot reading the Book of Isaiah the prophet. <sup>29</sup> The Spirit told Philip, “Go to that chariot and stay near it.”

<sup>30</sup> Then Philip ran up to the chariot and heard the man reading Isaiah the prophet. “Do you understand what you are reading?” Philip asked.

<sup>31</sup> “How can I,” he said, “unless someone explains it to me?” So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him.

<sup>32</sup> This is the passage of Scripture the eunuch was reading:

“He was led like a sheep to the slaughter,  
and as a lamb before its shearer is silent,  
so he did not open his mouth.

<sup>33</sup> In his humiliation he was deprived of justice.  
Who can speak of his descendants?  
For his life was taken from the earth.”

<sup>34</sup> The eunuch asked Philip, “Tell me, please, who is the prophet talking about, himself or someone else?” <sup>35</sup> Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus.

<sup>36</sup> As they traveled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water. What can stand in the way of my being baptized?” <sup>38</sup> And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him. <sup>39</sup> When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord suddenly took Philip away, and the eunuch did not see him again, but went on his way rejoicing.

<sup>40</sup> Philip, however, appeared at Azotus and traveled about, preaching the gospel in all the towns until he reached Caesarea.

## THE GOSPEL John 15:1-8

“I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. <sup>2</sup> He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. <sup>3</sup> You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup> Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

<sup>5</sup> “I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup> If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. <sup>7</sup> If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup> This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

## LEADING WORSHIP TODAY:

*Rev. Lisa Martin, Pastor*

*Brad Thoreson, Organist, Director of Music*

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

- May 2, 2021 -

**Happy birthday to The Rev. Dr. Roy Martin, General Presbyter** of Florida Presbytery. We are honored to have him worship with us on his birthday!

**The Worship Committee meets** tomorrow, May 3, at 9:30 am in the Fellowship Hall.

**Next Sunday we receive our annual Presbyterian Women Birthday offering** which provides life giving grants to mission projects throughout the world since 1922. Recipients this year will be Garden Gate Ranch, Inc. Education Center Renovation, Des Moines, Iowa; Memorial Drive Ministries, Inc., Gymnasium Capital Improvements, Stone Mountain, GA; and Nkhoma Hospital, Women's Health Center/OBGYN Theatre, Nkhoma, Malawi.

**The PW Circle of Mary will resume a women's Bible Study** on "Love Carved in Stone" on Wednesday, May 12 at noon in the Fellowship Hall. All those looking for a time for fellowship and an uplifting spiritual lesson are welcomed to attend. We will meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month. If you are interested please let Peggy Kangas (850-265-3060) know so that we can order a study book for you. A lite lunch will be provided.

**The session has adopted new (revised) in-person protocols for FPC.** They include the following:

- Masks will continue to be required to be worn during worship.
- Sitting socially distanced from non-household members is requested.
- There will continue to be no congregational singing; however, some choral ensemble or solo singing may be allowed.
- Holy Communion will not be celebrated until mask-wearing becomes optional.
- Tithes and offerings may be placed in the offering plate in the Narthex either upon entry or when you leave. Same for Two-Cents-a-Meal Offering.