

Elders
Class of 2023
 Robert Broyles
 Phillip Brown
 Andrew Fuller
 Lewana Richardson
 Emery St. Cyr
 Tom Turner

Class of 2024
 Rea Brown
 Mike Bumpass
 Bob Collis
 Bill Gearhart
 Al Soltis

Class of 2025
 Don Andree
 Stuart Bain
 Doug McLaughlin
 David Smith

Sunday School 9:00 am

It is never too late for Children and Youth to join our Sunday School Classes. If you need more information, please contact Patti Trail (Children) or Pete Guillard (Youth) at 344-3204.

Class - Age	Room	Teachers
Children's Ministry		
Infants & Toddlers	115	Amanda Young
PreK-K-1	114	Mike Trail
Children's Sunday School 2-5	Library	Patti Trail
Youth		
Grades 6-12	Youth Rm	Pete Guillard

Adult Sunday School
 McClanahan /Good News - Room 207
 Koinonia/Cornerstone - Parlor

Deacons
Class of 2023
 Pat Guerrant
 Sheila Harms
 Jeanette Hinkle
 Linda Kappus
 Melanie Rice
 Marcia Ridenhour

Class of 2024
 Debbra Bennett
 Alison Boozer
 Linda Brown
 Clifford (Bud) Derey
 Carolyn Keyes
 Kim Smith
 Brenda White-Edwards

Class of 2025
 Susan Blanding
 Karen Brooks
 Donna Broyles
 Marlene Flynn
 Helen Thompson
 Lynn Wimmer

Reminders

Elders: Rea Brown & Don Andree
Sound System: Kaye Wilkerson, Scott Rice, Rea Brown
Greeters Ramp Room (8:50-9:00 & 10:00-10:30):
 Sept. 24 - Nancy Poore
 Oct. 1 - Ed & Linda Kappus
 Oct. 8 - Sandy McCullar
 Oct. 15 - Teal Bennett
 Oct. 22 - Bud & Jessie Derey
 Oct. 29 - Nancy Gillespie
Greeters Narthex (10:00-10:30):
 Sept. 24 - Ron & T.K. Sharpley
 Oct. 1 - Jesse & Bettie Barnard
 Oct. 8 - Charles Speck
 Oct. 15 - Jeff & Pat Povtak
 Oct. 22 - Andrea Guillard
 Oct. 29 - Deborah Mattern
Deacons on Duty:
 Sept. 24 - Kim Smith, Marcia Ridenhour
Acolytes:
 Sept. 24 - David Bean
 Oct. 1 - Elizabeth Rice
 Oct. 8 - Bryleigh Trevett
 Oct. 15 - Emma & Kylie Woolard
 Oct. 22 - Bryleigh Trevett
 Oct. 29 - Elizabeth Rice

CALENDAR

Today, 9/24 Sunday School, 9:00 am; Worship, 10:30 am; Prayer Mtg., 5:00 pm
Monday, 9/25 Church office closed on Mondays; Sisters in Bible (SIBS), 6:00 pm
Tuesday, 9/26 Sisters In Bible Study (SIBS), 10:00 am; Men's ZOOM Bible Study, 12:00 pm; Adult Bible Study (ABS); 5:15 pm; Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 6:30 pm
Wednesday, 9/27 FirstKids & FaithWeaver Friends, 6:00 pm; Youth Group, 6:00; Carillonneurs, 7:00 pm
Thursday, 9/28 Staff meeting, 10:00 am
Friday, 9/29 Prayers for the church, 9:30 am

*Hearing devices are located in the Narthex to assist in listening to today's service
 FEPC Wi-Fi guest password is Guest2101**

Greetings from First Evangelical Presbyterian Church

Good morning and welcome to First Evangelical Presbyterian Church. We are glad you are here, and if you are visiting, we pray that you will return often and that you will consider joining us here at First church in Ministry and Service. First EPC is a caring family of all ages. Children and families are special to us, and this is a great place to make new friends and to grow in Christian Discipleship.

You can join First EPC by Profession of Faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior; Reaffirmation of Faith if you have already made a Profession of Faith but have not been active in a church for some time; or by Transfer of Letter if you have been a member of another Church and now want to join First EPC. We do hope you will consider joining us here.

Just speak to the two Elders at the right front of our Sanctuary at the end of our Service today!

FEPC provides clipboards with crayons and children's bulletins for children to use during the Worship service. There are two options, based on the age of your child. They are located in the baskets in the Narthex and Ramp Room located in the back of the Sanctuary. We encourage parents to use these resources. As a courtesy, please return materials to the baskets for the next service.

Children's Worship

Sept. 24 - Orientation to the Worship Center; Leader: Natalie McLaughlin
 Greeters: Mike Trail

First Evangelical Presbyterian Church

2101 South Jefferson Street
 P.O. Box 8538
 Roanoke, Virginia 24014-0538
 (540-344-3204)
 www.fepcroanoke.org



SEPTEMBER 24, 2023

10:30 a.m.

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Don Hardman
 Director of Music & Children's Ministries:
 Mrs. Patricia K. Trail
 Director of Youth & Adult Christian Education:
 Mr. Pete G. Guillard
 Organist: Mr. William Turner
 Handbell Director: Dr. Erma Rose



Presbyterian Community Center Food Needs
 September - Chicken Noodle & Tomato Soup

ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

SEPTEMBER 24, 2023

25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

PREPARATION, PROMISES AND PRAISE

(We invite you to quiet yourself in preparation for the worship of God when you hear the prelude music.)

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

OUR LIFE IN CHRIST

Prelude "O Loving Savior" Gounod

Gather in Praise "Rejoice in the Lord Always" FirstKids

Call to Worship Rev. Don Hardman

Leader: Praise the LORD, O my soul;
all my inmost being, praise his holy name.

People: Praise the LORD, O my soul,
and forget not all his benefits.

Leader: Praise the LORD, you his angels,
you mighty ones who do his bidding,
who obey his word.

People: Praise the LORD, all his heavenly hosts,
you his servants who do his will.

Leader: Praise the LORD, all his works
everywhere in his dominion.

People: Praise the LORD, O my soul. —Psalm 103:1-2, 20-22

*Hymn "We Praise You, God" No. 97

*Prayer of Adoration

*Prayer of Confession (unison)

Almighty and merciful God, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; and we have done those things which we ought not to have done. O Lord, have mercy upon us. And grant, O merciful God, that we may live a holy, just, and humble life to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

*Assurance of Pardon

Hear the Good News! *The LORD is faithful in all his words, and gracious in all his deeds. The LORD upholds all who are falling, and raises up all who are bowed down.* Be assured of this truth, that in Jesus Christ we are forgiven!
—Psalm 145:13-14

*Gloria Patri No. 735

(Let the children come forward during the singing of the Gloria.)

LISTENING TO THE WORD OF GOD

Children's Time Aaron Burton

Children's Worship is provided for ages 4–3rd grade in Room 205. Parents, please escort your children to this room.

*Hymn "The Power of the Cross" Supplement No. 26

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture: Philippians 4:13 Page 1164

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Anthem: "Grace" Arr. Hayes

Scripture: 2 Chronicles 20:15-23 Page 442

Sermon "When Trouble Comes: Stand Firm in Faith"
Rev. Don Hardman

RESPONSE IN DEDICATION AND OBEDIENCE

Prayers of the People of God and Our Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be your 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 the evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

*Affirmation of Faith "The Apostles' Creed" Page 845

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen

Offering of Ourselves to God and to One Another

Our Greetings

Offertory "Hymnus" von Felitz

Our Gratitude

*Doxology No. 731

*Prayer of Dedication

Hymn "In Righteous Stand Firm" Insert

Benediction "Amen" No. 740

Postlude "Postludium" Young

*The congregation is asked to stand, as you are able.

Announcements

Prayer Focus

Pray for Pastors.

Jeremiah 3:15; Joshua 1:9; 1 Corinthians 16:13; Eph. 6:10-11

Operating Fund Revenue thru 8/31/23:

YTD Budgeted Giving \$434,675

YTD Actual Giving \$354,331

Surplus/(Deficit) (\$80,344)

Thank you for your faithful giving.

Please join us this afternoon from
5 to 5:45 pm in the Parlor for our monthly prayer gathering.

"Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer." -- Rom. 12:12



Worship Note

As a church we are so blessed with an amazing choir, special music offerings, and our whole music ministry. As we gather in worship, those who bless us in music think of it as an offering of their gifts to the Lord and not as a performance. And their contribution to our worship is immeasurable. Often, it is so moving that it brings out a spontaneous response. A soft "amen" or "thank you Lord" or even applause can be heard all around. It is the applause that can sometimes be misunderstood. Is it for those who are singing, thus treating their gift as a performance, or is it in worship and thanksgiving to the Lord?

To make sure we keep our focus on worship, we ask that you consider this distinction as you are led to respond. It may be that another choice is more appropriate.