

CHIMES - May 2026

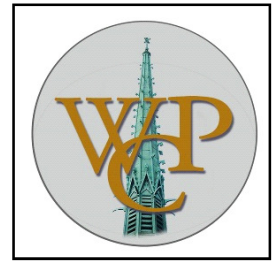


Westminster Presbyterian Church

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e-mail: wpclynchburg@gmail.com

Pastor: Rev. Shawn Hyska



Pentecost 2026

Reflections on Pentecost from Pope Leo XIV – given during his Pentecost Sermon – June 2025

The Spirit opens borders, first of all, in our hearts. He is the Gift that opens our lives to love. His presence breaks down our hardness of heart, our narrowness of mind, our selfishness, the fears that enchain us and the narcissism that makes us think only of ourselves. The Holy Spirit comes to challenge us, to make us confront the possibility that our lives are shriveling up, trapped in the vortex of individualism. Sadly, oddly enough, in a world of burgeoning “social” media, we risk being ever more alone. Constantly connected, yet incapable of “networking.” Always immersed in a crowd, yet confused and solitary travelers.



The Spirit of God allows us to find a new way of approaching and experiencing life. He puts us in touch with our inmost self, beneath all the masks we wear. He leads us to an encounter with the Lord by teaching us to experience the joy that is his gift. He convinces us, as we just heard in Jesus’ words, that only by abiding in love, will we receive the strength to remain faithful to his word and to let it transform us. The Spirit opens our interior borders, so that our lives can become places of welcome and refreshment.

The Spirit breaks down barriers and tears down the walls of indifference and hatred because he “teaches us all things” and “reminds us of Jesus’ words” (cf. Jn 14:26). He teaches us, reminds us, and writes in our hearts before all else the commandment of love that the Lord has made the center and summit of everything.

Brothers and sisters, Pentecost renews the Church and the world! May the strong wind of the Spirit come upon us and within us, open the borders of our hearts, grant us the grace of encounter with God, enlarge the horizons of our love and sustain our efforts to build a world in which peace reigns.

Picture Caption: Sadao Watanabe (Japanese, 1913–1996), Pentecost, 1975. Hand-colored kappazuri-dyed stencil print on washi paper, 25.5 × 22.75 in. Source: Printing the Word: The Art of Watanabe Sadao



Please remember our homebound members.

May Birthdays

- 7 George Goodman
- 7 Gem Slette
- 19 Nicole Reed
- 20 Charles Dean
- 21 Barabara Taylor
- 22 Pix Mahler
- 28 Shirley Caskie

* * * * *	Kathleen Smith Westminster Canterbury 501 VES Rd, H-429 Lynchburg, VA 24503	Queen Webb C/O The Summit 1300 Enterprise Dr. Lynchburg, VA 24502	* * * * *
* * * * *	Maymie Keys R&P at Liberty Ridge 30 Monica Blvd. Unit 305 Lynchburg, VA 24502	Doris Hailey 209 Woodland Avenue Lynchburg, VA 24501-2127	* * * * *
* * * * *	Eloise Peters Westminster Canterbury 501 VES Rd, H-428 Lynchburg VA 24503	Barbara Taylor R&P at Liberty Ridge 30 Monica Blvd. Unit 344 Lynchburg, Va. 24502	* * * * *
* * * * *	Sylvia Viar 15 John Rucker Drive Ruckersville, VA 22968	Becky Maxey 57 Beech Avenue Hamilton, NJ 08610	* * * * *
* * * * *	Please pray for Nancy Duncan and Joe Slette.		* * * * *

PENTECOST

Pentecost will be celebrated this month on Sunday, May 24th. Meaning “50th Day” in Greek (pentecostē) Pentecost is celebrated on the Sunday that falls on the 50th day of Easter. It commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles and other disciples following the Crucifixion, Resurrection, and Ascension of Jesus Christ. It marks the beginning of the Christian church’s mission to the world.

The Jewish feast of Pentecost (Shavuot) was primarily a thanksgiving for the first-fruits of the wheat harvest, but it was later associated with a remembrance of the Law given by God to Moses on Mount Sinai. The church’s transformation of the Jewish feast to a Christian festival was thus related to the belief that the gift of the Holy Spirit to the followers of Jesus was the first-fruits of a new dispensation that fulfilled and succeeded the old dispensation of the Law.

First celebrated in the Christian church around the 3rd century, now priests and pastors often wear red vestments during Pentecost to symbolize the “tongues of fire” that descended on the disciples from the Holy Spirit. **WPC congregation members are also encouraged to wear red on this festive Church Birthday Celebration!**

Maundy Thursday



The Maundy Thursday “Last Supper” of soup and grilled cheeses was well attended! We were blessed with many friendly faces, including George Goodman and his daughter! Shawn served communion in the Fellowship Hall, in the more intimate setting, breaking the bread and pouring out the cup for our congregation and all who came to sup at the Lord’s Table.



Left: The cross, draped in black, after the Good Friday Service.

Palm Sunday



Above and Right: The children led the congregation from the Sanctuary into the Fellowship Hall on Palm Sunday, waving palms to herald in our Lord, Jesus Christ.



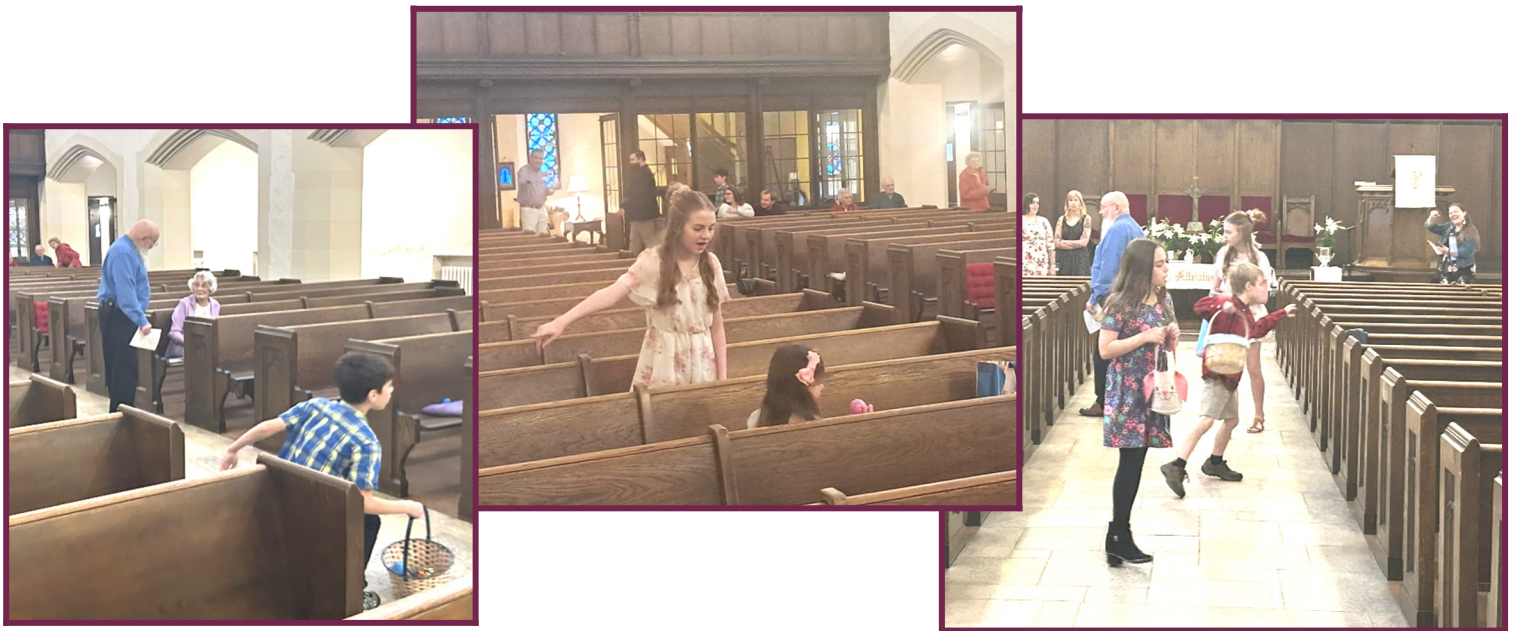
Above: Shawn and Pix (as Clerk of Session) welcome Stephanie and Russ Lescault as members of Westminster Presbyterian Church on Palm Sunday. They transferred their membership from Swift Creek Presbyterian Church in Chesterfield, Va.



Easter



The lovely lilies decorate the communion table for the Easter Service.



Our children enjoyed an indoor Easter Egg Hunt this year. The big prize: an empty golden egg, for HE IS RISEN!!



Taylor Concert: Noémi Lee

Noémi Szigeti Lee is a distinguished pianist and music educator originally from Romania. Raised in an ethnic Hungarian family, she began her musical journey at age six. She earned her Bachelor of Music degree from the Gh. Dima Music Academy in Cluj, Romania, and later pursued a Master of Music degree in piano performance at the University of Alabama, where she studied under Dr. Bruce Murray, former Director of the School of Music. While at the University of Alabama, she also served as a graduate teaching assistant for both piano and music theory.

Throughout her career, Mrs. Lee has garnered numerous accolades, including third prize in the Romanian National Competition “Meserii” and the Chautauqua Concerto Competition. She won the University of Alabama Concerto Competition and was a finalist in the Brevard Concerto Competition. Her performing career has taken her across the United States and Europe, where she has appeared as a soloist with orchestras in Cluj, Romania, and at the University of Alabama. Notable performances include Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart’s Piano Concerto in G Major in Romania, Maurice Ravel’s Piano Concerto in G Major at the University of Alabama, Saint-Saëns’ Carnival of Animals with the Ashland (Ohio) Symphony Orchestra, and Robert Schumann’s Piano Concerto with the Lynchburg (Virginia) Symphony Orchestra. She has also performed George Gershwin’s Rhapsody in Blue and Edvard Grieg’s Piano Concerto with the University of Lynchburg Symphony Orchestra, as well as Johann Sebastian Bach’s Piano Concerto in D Minor with the James Chamber Players.

Mrs. Lee’s extensive musical training includes studies with esteemed pianists such as Rebecca Penneys, Imreh Rohmann, Dan Grigore, Boldizar Csiki, and Ilona Janky. She has also participated in master classes with legendary pianists like Earl Wild, Lee Luvisi, Malcolm Bilson, and Richard Glazier.

After relocating to the United States, Mrs. Lee has balanced her career as both a performer and educator. She has taught music theory and sight-singing at the Franciscan University of Steubenville in Ohio, piano at the Center for Music and Arts in Wintersville, Ohio, and served as the music director at the First Christian Church in Steubenville. She has also taught piano as an adjunct instructor at Randolph College and Sweet Briar College, and served as a staff accompanist at both institutions. Additionally, Mrs. Lee has taught at The Virginia School of the Arts and been the music director at Saint Thomas More Catholic Church. She served as an adjunct piano instructor at the University of Lynchburg, and she is currently the Director of Sanctuary Music at Peakland United Methodist Church, and runs a small private studio.

An active performer in Lynchburg, Mrs. Lee has collaborated with musicians from New York and performed in a piano duet with pianist Gustavo Romero. She is also a resident artist with the Seven Hills Chamber Music Festival, where she performs and serves on the Board of Directors. Mrs. Lee is a Nationally Certified Music Teacher, an adjudicator for numerous competitions, and a teacher of master classes. Her dedication to professional growth is demonstrated by her memberships in several musical organizations, including the Music Teachers National Association, the Lynchburg Music Teachers Association, and National Pastoral Musicians.

Critics have praised Mrs. Lee’s performances, highlighting her technical brilliance and expressive artistry. The Ashland Times Gazette described her as performing “brilliantly” with “solid technique,” while the University of Lynchburg’s Annual Report noted that “Lee’s mastery of the instrument brought it to life beautifully.” The Living Arts in Ohio lauded her interpretation of Chopin’s Barcarolle in F-sharp Major as “beautiful, flowing, and reflective,” and called her presentation of Liszt’s Hungarian Rhapsody in D Minor an “absolute triumph.” Mrs. Lee is also featured on the debut album of Seven Hills Chamber Music, recorded live at the 2022 Seven Hills Chamber Music Festival, which has been broadcast on Virginia Public Radio each year since its release.

Her passion for music continues to drive her, and she remains a central figure in the Lynchburg music community, sharing her love of music and inspiring the next generation of musicians.

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1022 Floyd Street, Lynchburg, Virginia
Sunday, May 3 at 3:00 PM

DEDICATION OF THE CHURCH'S STEINWAY M

NOÉMI SZIGETI LEE

Performs works by
Beethoven, Liszt, and Franck



A JAMES D AND ELEANOR J TAYLOR CONCERT

All concerts at Westminster Presbyterian are free and open to the public
A Reception follows the concert

May 2026



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>3 Communion 5th Sunday of Easter Scripture: Acts 7:55-60 and Ps31:1-5, 15-16 or Prov. 4:10-18, and Ps. 119:9-32; 1 Pet. 2:2-10; John 14:1-14 Pastor: Rev. Shawn Hyska Acolyte: Raymond Ferguson Ushers: Angela Hart, Aidan Thulin Counters: Hoc Hughes, Pix Mahler Liturgist: Ashley Thulin Communion Prep.: Pix Mahler Communion Servers: Ashley Thulin, Greg Hoag, & Sharee Evans</p>	<p>4 Lunch Bunch 12:00</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9 Blessing Place 9-11:30AM No Walls Ministry Event at Gospel Community Church, 1101 Floyd Street 12:00-1:30</p>
<p>10 6th Sunday of Easter Scripture: Acts 17:22-31 and Ps. 66:8-20 or :1-7a and Ps. 115; 1 Pet. 3:13-22; John 14:15-21 Pastor: Rev. Shawn Hyska Acolyte: Raymond Ferguson Ushers: Joe & Lucy Slette Liturgist: Aidan Thulin Happy Mother's Day</p>	<p>11 PW at Westminster Canterbury 11:00 A.M.</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p>
<p>17 7th Sunday of Easter Scripture: Acts 1:6-14 and Ps 68:1-10, 32-35 or Isa. 45:1-7 and Ps. 21:1-7; 1Pet. 4:12-14; 5:6-11; John 17:1-11 Pastor: Rev. Shawn Hyska Acolyte: Angela Hart Ushers: Wilbur Duncan, Jeff Evans Liturgist: Ashley Thulin</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>
<p>24 Pentecost Scripture: Acts 2:1-21 or num.11:24-30 and Ps. 104:24-34, 35b; 1Cor 12:3b-13 or Acts 2:1-21; John 20:19-23 or John 7:37-39 Pastor: Rev. Shawn Hyska Acolyte: Raymond Ferguson Ushers: Ashley & Byron Thulin Liturgist: Chris Harris</p>	<p>25 Happy Memorial Day!</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30 Blessing Place Event 10:00 a.m.— 1:00 p.m.</p>
<p>31 Trinity Sunday Scripture: Gen. 1:1-2:4a and Ps. 8:13; 11-13; Matt. 28 16-20 Pastor: Rev. Shawn Hyska Acolyte: Rachel Harris Ushers: Chris & Val Harris Counters: Hoc Hughes, Pix Mahler Liturgist: Pix Mahler</p>						

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1022 FLOYD STREET

LYNCHBURG, VIRGINIA 24501



May 3rd Communion

Scripture: Acts 7:55-60 and Ps31:1-5, 15-16 or Prov. 4:10-18, and Ps. 119:9-32; 1 Pet. 2:2-10; John 14:1-14

Pastor: Rev. Shawn Hyska

Acolyte: Raymond Ferguson

Ushers: Angela Hart, Aidan Thulin

Counters: Hoc Hughes, Pix Mahler

Liturgist: Ashley Thulin

Communion Prep.: Pix Mahler

Communion Servers: Ashley Thulin, Greg Hoag, Sharee Evans

May 10th 6th Sunday of Easter

Scripture: Acts 17:22-31 and Ps. 66:8-20 or :1-7a and Ps. 115; 1 Pet. 3:13-22; John14:15-21

Pastor: Rev. Shawn Hyska

Acolyte: Raymond Ferguson

Ushers: Joe & Lucy Slette

Liturgist: Aidan Thulin

Counters: Hoc Hughes, Pix Mahler

Happy Mother's Day!

17 7th Sunday of Easter

Scripture: Acts 1:6-14 and Ps 68:1-10, 32-35 or Isa. 45:1-7 and Ps. 21:1-7; 1Pet. 4:12-14; 5:6-11; John 17:1-11

Pastor: Rev. Shawn Hyska

Acolyte: Angela Hart

Ushers: Wilbur Duncan, Jeff Evans

Liturgist: Ashley Thulin

Counters: Hoc Hughes, Pix Mahler

24 Pentecost

Scripture: Acts 2:1-21 or num.11:24-30 and Ps.104:24-34, 35b;1Cor 12:3b-13 or Acts 2:1-21;John 20:19-23 or John 7:37-39

Pastor: Rev. Shawn Hyska

Acolyte: Raymond Ferguson

Ushers: Ashley & Byron Thulin

Liturgist: Chris Harris

Counters: Hoc Hughes, Pix Mahler

May 31st Trinity Sunday

Scripture: Gen. 1:1-2:4a and Ps. 8; . 13:11-13; Matt. 28 16-20

Pastor: Rev. Shawn Hyska

Acolyte: Rachel Harris

Ushers: Chris & Val Harris

Counters: Hoc Hughes, Pix Mahler

Liturgist: Pix Mahler