

# Welcome to First Presbyterian Church

515 Court St. Portsmouth, Virginia 23704

[www.fpcports.org](http://www.fpcports.org)

(757) 397-3622

Sunday, July 26, 2020 – 10:30 AM

## Order of Worship

Welcome and Call to Worship

We come to you in the midst of anxiety and uncertainty.

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

We come today following those who have given witness to the faith

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

We come seeking a Word which will guide and strengthen us.

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

Let us worship God.

Prelude

“Chorale Prelude”

Healey Willan

Prayer of Confession

**Ever-present God, we are grateful for the cloud of witnesses who have served as examples of faith. We want to do the same, but we know we fail. We have not followed in the ways of your Son, Jesus Christ. We want to serve others but end up serving our own interests. We desire to be led by your Holy Spirit to work for justice and peace, but so easily fall back into unconscious systems of oppression. We want to trust you but so often act as though we're totally and completely on our own. O God, forgive us. Help us to see your light and find renewed purpose in living. Amen**

*Silent prayer of Confession*

Assurance of Pardon

Jesus knows our every weakness, and loves us still. Awaken to the promise of Christ's amazing grace. Friends believe the good news of the gospel.

**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!**

Doxology (Sung in our hearts)

*'Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below. Praise Him all ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.'*

Prayers of the People

**“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.”**

Special Music

“Old Rugged Cross”  
John Hackworth, Guitar

George Bennard

The First Lesson

Romans 8: 26-34

Likewise, the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified. What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us.

The Second Lesson

Matthew 13:31-33

He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; It is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches." He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

Sermon

“Not to Worry”

Benediction

Postlude

“Musette”

Jean Pasquet

**Church Staff**

*Dr. Steve Frazier - Pastor*

*Billy Ricketts – Pastor for Admin and Mission Outreach*

*Edna Broadhurst – Director of Music*

*Gabbi Furman – Secretary*

**(\*) Please stand, if able. Congregational participation is in bold type.**

*In the name of Jesus Christ, welcome to this morning's service of worship. Thank you for helping us maintain social distancing and a clean worship environment. Until the Corona Virus is no longer a health threat, we are participating in a more limited liturgy. Tithes and offerings may be placed in the offering plate on the piano by the front Exit door. True worship is a gift of the Holy Spirit. God's healing, forgiving power flows freely to those here and those online. Our prayer is the grace we experience and learn will be shared with our wider community.*

### ***Week of July 20 - Prayers of the People***

*All members and friends who are staying at home until the corona virus is contained.*

- *Rudy and Alice Simpson*
- *Alice and Paul Butler*
- *Maryann Taylor*
- *Penny Brangan*
- *Kathy Goolsby*
- *Lane Pittman*
- *A.T. and Nancy Mayo*
- *Bob and Judy Powell*
- *Al and Annette Crandall*
- *Frances Hasty*

**Post-worship fellowship is online at [www.fpcports.org](http://www.fpcports.org) Sunday afternoon.**

**Welcome to First Presbyterian Church**  
***Celebrating Our 198<sup>th</sup> Year of Ministry***

We are delighted to welcome you to the life and ministry of First Presbyterian Church. We are new and long-time residents, single adults, couples, black, white, Asian, LGBT, one and two parent families, military personnel, teens, and college students. Our faith traditions and stories are varied. What gathers us is God's generous inviting grace.

Our mission is to glorify God through joyful worship, hospitality, unceasing prayer, engaging study and acts of compassion. Our summer Peace, Love and a Bag of Chips needs volunteers to prepare 25 lunches (in their home) on August 2 and August 30. Please let Oralie Wilhite at 757-319-5020 know of your interest.

Dr. Steve Frazier, was born in Seoul, Korea and raised in Washington State. He received his Master of Divinity degree from San Francisco Seminary and his Doctor of Ministry degree from Princeton Theological Seminary in New Jersey. He works full time for TowneBank as a broker specializing in the insurance needs of senior adults. He came to First Presbyterian in 2016 as our part-time Covenant Pastor. Steve and his wife, Nancy, have a blended family of three grown children and one grandchild.

Billy Ricketts, a lifelong Presbyterian, was baptized at Simonsdale Presbyterian, confirmed at Cradock Presbyterian Church and certified by The University of Dubuque Theological Seminary and Union Presbyterian Seminary. Billy has served First Presbyterian Norfolk, Second Presbyterian Norfolk and Providence Presbyterian Church in Virginia Beach. He retired from full-time ministry in 2020 and joined the staff of First Presbyterian Portsmouth as part-time Pastor for Administration and Outreach. Additionally, Pastor Ricketts is the Moderator of the Council of the Presbytery of Eastern Virginia. Billy and his wife, Loretta, have two adult children.

Edna Broadhurst, our Director of Music Ministries, was baptized as an infant by her grandfather, Rev. H. Turner. Edna came to First Presbyterian Church in 1981 as the organist and choir director. She also teaches music at The Williams School in Ghent, Norfolk, teaches private piano/organ lessons, and sings with the Virginia Symphony Orchestra Chorus. She generously shares her musical talents. She holds a degree in Organ Performance from Old Dominion University and advanced studies from Appalachian State University and Westminster Choir College. She is married to Michael and they have a daughter, two grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

If you are looking for a church family, we believe First Presbyterian is a community where you can grow spiritually and share the life and gifts God has given to you. Covid19 has derailed some of our plans, but for updates please visit our website: [fpcports.org](http://fpcports.org).

**The Session**

Dr. Steven E. Frazier – Moderator  
Elder Kim McCormick - Clerk

**Class of 2020**

Paul Butler  
Michael Broadhurst  
Pat Sparks

**Class of 2021**

Oralie Wilhite  
Stuart Shippey  
Mary Ann Taylor

**Class of 2022**

Sue Faye  
Kim McCormick  
Todd Taylor