

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church

Sunday, November 1, 2020 – 10:30 AM
515 Court St. Portsmouth, Virginia 23704
www.fpcports.org (757) 397-3622

Order of Worship

Welcome and Announcements

In the name of the Risen Christ, welcome to this morning's service of worship. If you are a visitor, we are glad you're with us and hope you will return. May God's Holy Spirit fill our worship with joy, our hearts with forgiveness, and our lives with hope.

Call to Worship

In you, O Lord, I take refuge; let me never be put to shame.
In your righteousness deliver me and rescue me; incline your ear to me and save me.
Be to me a rock and a refuge. A strong fortress to save me,
for you are our rock and a mighty fortress, our God in whom we trust.

Prelude

Come Holy Spirit, Heavenly Dove

Arr. Peeters

Invitation to Confession

Corporate Prayer of Confession

O, God, have mercy upon us as we make our confession. We work to earn your favor and grace. You have taught us that Jesus is the source of salvation, yet we unceasingly strive to save our own souls. Time becomes an encumbrance when there is so much to do. We scarcely have strength to accomplish demands. Teach us again of your acceptance and release us from bondage to our own striving for perfection. Freely us to respond to your call to discipleship and life in all its fulness in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

Assurance of God's Grace

As Paul reminds us, "since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, all are justified by God's grace as a gift, through the redemption which is in Jesus Christ." Friend, hear and believe the good news: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God!

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.*

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, in keeping with the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus, To Timothy, my dear son: Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord. I thank God, whom I serve, as my ancestors did, with a clear conscience, as night and day I constantly remember you in my prayers. Recalling your tears, I long to see you, so that I may be filled with joy. I am reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you also. For this reason, I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands. For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline. So, do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner. Rather, join with me in suffering for the gospel, by the power of God. He has saved us and called us to a holy life—not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time, but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior, Christ Jesus, who has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. And of this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher. That is why I am suffering as I am. Yet this is no cause for shame, because I know whom I have believed, and am convinced that he is able to guard what I have entrusted to him until that day. What you heard from me, keep as the pattern of sound teaching, with faith and love in Christ Jesus. Guard the good deposit that was entrusted to you—guard it with the help of the Holy Spirit who lives in us.

Sermon

“November 4 and The Gospel”

The Sacrament of the Lord’s Table

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Holy source and origin of all, deep within us, far beyond us, we thank you and praise you for creating and bringing to birth this unfathomed universe of space and time, with stars and planets, and our own good earth.

From the dawn of time, you loved the earth and its peoples. You revealed yourself to the people of Israel, set them free from slavery, and made a covenant with them that all humankind might be blessed.

When the time was right, you came to live among us. In Jesus you fully shared our life, showing us what human life can be, confronting evil with good, bringing good news to the poor, and deliverance to people in bondage.

Jesus did not work alone but called people to be with him; he made them a loving community and sent them out to tell the good news.

We thank you and praise you, Holy God, that at this table we taste and see the evidence of your love in Jesus Christ, healing, teaching, suffering, crucified, risen and alive. Therefore, we offer ourselves, in Christ, to be a living sacrifice, of body, mind and spirit, joyfully proclaiming the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is Risen, Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us, and on these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be for us the body and blood of Christ. By your Spirit, make us one in Christ. Hear us, O Lord, as we lift before you the prayers of your people....

*["Lord, in your mercy" will follow a petition. Congregational response, "**Hear our 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.

Institution of the Bread and the Wine

Benediction

Postlude

Toccatà in D Minor

J. S. Bach

Church Staff

*Steve Frazier – Covenant Pastor
Billy Ricketts – Pastor for Admin and Mission Outreach
Edna Broadhurst – Director of Music
Gabrielle Goodrich – Secretary*

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.

Today, we would like to thank **Elder Mary Ann Taylor** for her contributions to our worship service. Mary Ann prepared the communion elements for our nourishment and spiritual growth. THANK YOU, MARY ANN!

Week of November 1- Prayers of the People

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

- *Karen Diggs*
- *Sonja Powell*
- *Paul Butler*
- *Kathy Goolsby*
- *Lane Pittman*
- *A.T. and Nancy Mayo*
- *Bob and Judy Powell*
- *Frances Hasty*
- *Bradley Breeden*

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church
Celebrating Our 198th 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 inviting grace.

Our mission is to glorify God through joyful worship, hospitality, unceasing prayer, engaging study and acts of compassion. Our PLBC Volunteer Hosts (every Sunday), and Sandwich Makers/Meal Packers (first and fifth Sundays) are needed from Nov 1 through Feb 28. 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 an insurance broker specializing in the senior adult market. 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. Nonetheless, we are confident God has new adventures and opportunities in store to serve God and love our neighbors. For regular updates please visit our website: 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