

**Welcome to First Presbyterian Church**  
**Sunday, February 7, 2021 – 10:30 AM**  
**515 Court St. Portsmouth, Virginia 23704**  
[www.fpcports.org](http://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

What shall we return to the Lord for all of the good things God has done for us?

**We will lift the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.**

This is the day that the Lord has made;

**Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

Prelude

*Elevation*

Dubois

Invitation to Confession

Corporate Prayer of Confession

**Eternal god, in whom we live and move and have our being, whose face is hidden from us by our sins: Please cleanse us from all of our offenses and deliver us from proud thoughts and vain desires, so that with reverent and humble hearts we may draw near to you, confessing our faults, confiding in your grace, and finding in you our refuge and strength.**

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 above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

Special Music

*Ave Verum*

Jenkins

Gabrielle Goodrich and Sofia Calicchio

First Lesson

Isaiah 40:21-31

Do you not know? Have you not heard? Has it not been told to you from the beginning? Have you not understood since the earth was founded? He sits enthroned above the circle of the earth, and its people are like grasshoppers. He stretches out the heavens like a canopy, and spreads them out like a tent to live in. He brings princes to naught, and reduces the rulers of this world to nothing. No sooner are they planted, no sooner are they sown, no sooner do they take root in the ground than he blows on them and they wither, and a whirlwind sweeps them away like chaff. "To whom will you compare me? Or who is my equal?" says the Holy One. Lift up your eyes and look to the heavens: Who created all these? He who brings out the starry host one by one and calls forth each of them by name. Because of his great power and mighty strength, not one of them is missing. Why do you complain, Jacob? Why do you say, Israel, "My way is hidden from the Lord; my cause is disregarded by my God"?

Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. He gives strength to the

weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

## Second Lesson

Mark 1:29-39

As soon as they left the synagogue, they went with James and John to the home of Simon and Andrew. Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they immediately told Jesus about her. So he went to her, took her hand and helped her up. The fever left her and she began to wait on them. That evening after sunset the people brought to Jesus all the sick and demon-possessed. The whole town gathered at the door, and Jesus healed many who had various diseases. He drove out many demons, but he would not let the demons speak because they knew who he was. Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed. Simon and his companions went to look for him, and when they found him, they exclaimed: "Everyone is looking for you!" Jesus replied, "Let us go somewhere else-to the nearby villages-so I can preach there also. That is why I have come." So he traveled throughout Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and driving out demons.

## Sermon

"Lives of Quiet Desperation"

### 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....

## 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.**

## Institution of the Bread and the Wine

### Benediction

### Postlude

*It Is Well*

John Hackworth

### **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.*

### **Week of February 7 - Prayers of the People**

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

- Sonja Powell
- Paul Butler
- Kathy Goolsby
- Lane Pittman
- A.T. and Nancy Mayo
- Judy, Patrice, Pat and the Powell Family
- Frances Hasty
- Monica Manley
- Karen Diggs

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

### **FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS**

- 2 Charles Bond
- 3 Lauren Graupmann
- 10 Logan Smith
- 17 Rebecca Yaeckel
- 20 Diane Griffin
- 20 Steve Frazier
- 24 Judy Powell
- 27 Betty Bartlett
- 27 Dotty Dray
- 27 Bunky Joyner
- 28 Grace Bryant

**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 inviting grace.

Our mission is to glorify God through joyful worship, hospitality, unceasing prayer, engaging study and acts of compassion. Our Peace, Love and a Bag of Chips outreach needs volunteers to prepare 25 lunches (in their home) on 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 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. 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](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 Fay  
Kim McCormick  
Todd Taylor