

# Welcome to First Presbyterian Church

Sunday, April 11, 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

It's the Sunday after Easter; the lilies are gone.

**And we are alone with our faith**

Thomas said: "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

**Easter is past, and we are alone with our faith. On this Sunday after Easter, help us grow into the faith that we confessed and celebrated last week. Reveal evidence of your resurrection for the days when we feel that we are alone with our faith.**

### Prelude

"Andante" from 2<sup>nd</sup> Organ Sonata

Mendelssohn

### Invitation to Confession

**Corporate Prayer of Confession** – followed by silence for personal confession

**Merciful God, we confess that we have often failed to be an obedient church. We have not done Your will, we have broken Your law, we have rebelled against Your love. We have not loved our neighbors, and have refused to hear the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray, and free us for joyful obedience; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### Assurance of God's Grace

Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us. Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. Friends, believe 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 above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

### Special Music

"O Divine Redeemer"  
Kara McCormick, solo

Charles Gounod

**Prayers of the People** – Followed by the Lord's 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.**

## First Lesson

Acts 4:32-35 NIV

For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had. With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the LORD Jesus. And God's grace was so powerfully at work in them all that there were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned land or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone who had need.

## Second Lesson

1 John 1:1-2:2 NIV

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched—this we proclaim concerning the Word of life. The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us. We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ. We write this to make our<sup>[a]</sup> joy complete. This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin. If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word is not in us...My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have an advocate with the Father—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.

## Sermon

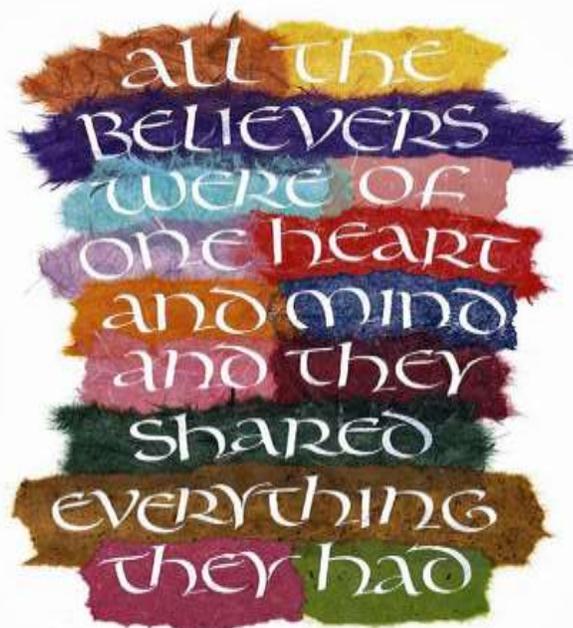
“An Impact Ignored”

## Benediction

## Postlude

“When the Roll is Called”

arr. Held



all the  
BELIEVERS  
WERE OF  
one heart  
and mind  
and they  
SHARED  
everything  
they had

## **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.*

### ***Sunday April 11- 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
- ❖ Rose Layman (Mother of Deb Hardie, Mom to Sylvia Cox)
- ❖ Frances Hasty
- ❖ Kerry Westerwick
- ❖ Bobbi Stegall and family
- ❖ Robert & Carol Pomeroy (Diane Griffin's parents)

### **APRIL BIRTHDAYS**

- |    |                 |    |                               |
|----|-----------------|----|-------------------------------|
| 11 | Norma Halterman | 19 | Sofia Calicchio               |
| 14 | Lane Pittman    | 21 | Benjamin Dawson Kenrick (Ben) |
| 17 | Estelle Englund | 24 | Bill Westbrook                |
| 18 | A.T. Mayo       | 25 | Raymond Rodrigues             |
| 19 | Jerry Freeman   | 29 | Alice Butler                  |

**Welcome to First Presbyterian Church**  
*Celebrating Our 199<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 15 lunches (in their home). 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