

# Welcome to First Presbyterian Church

Sunday, May 16, 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

We have heard that we are not good enough: not good enough, not strong enough, not whole enough.

**If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater.**

We have heard that we do not make enough, we do not own enough, do not have enough.

**Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts.**

We gather to worship. For God's Word is enough: hope enough, love enough, life enough.

**God gave us eternal life, and this life is in God's Son.**

Let us worship God.

### Prelude

"Prayer"

Guilmant

### Invitation to Confession

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

**O Christ who prayed for us, who died for us, and lives for us, you taught us that we belong to you, and your word is our truth. Forgive us, O Lord, when we live as if we belonged only to ourselves. Forgive us, O lord, when we foolishly think that power is the ultimate truth. Speak your words of peace to us this day, and make our lives a testimony to your grace. For you are the source of life itself, and only in you can we truly live.**

### 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 How Happy are They"

arr. Parker

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 1:15-17/21-26 NIV**

In those days Peter stood up among the believers (a group numbering about a hundred and twenty) and said, “Brothers and sisters, the Scripture had to be fulfilled in which the Holy Spirit spoke long ago through David concerning Judas, who served as a guide for those who arrested Jesus. He was one of our number and shared in our ministry.”

Peter said, “Therefore it is necessary to choose one of the men who have been living with us the whole time the Lord Jesus was living among us, beginning from John’s baptism to the time when Jesus was taken from us. For one of these must become a witness with us of his resurrection.” So they nominated two men: Joseph called Barsabbas (also known as Justus) and Matthias, Then they prayed, “Lord, you know everyone’s heart. Show us which of these two you have chosen to take over this apostolic ministry, which Judas left to go where he belongs.” Then they cast lots, and the lot fell to Matthias; so he was added to the eleven apostles.

**Second Lesson**

**1 John 5: 9-13 NIV**

We accept human testimony, but God’s testimony is greater because it is the testimony of God, which he has given about his Son. Whoever believes in the Son of God accepts this testimony. Whoever does not believe God has made him out to be a liar, because they have not believed the testimony God has given about his Son. And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life. I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life.

**Sermon**

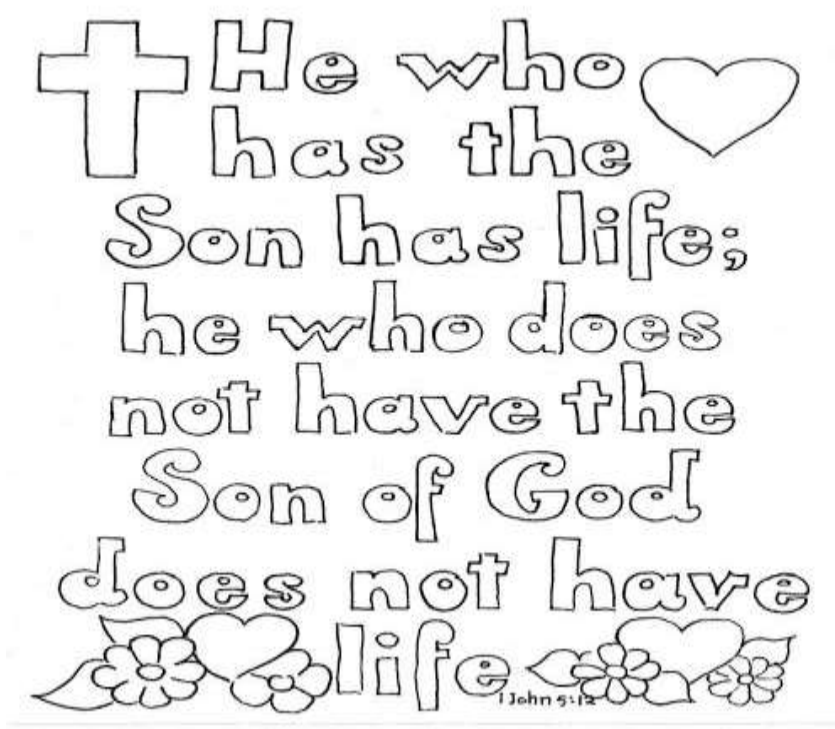
“Faith in Dice”

**Benediction**

**Postlude**

“Rejoicing”

Handel



## 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 by 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 May 16-Prayers of the People

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

- ❖ A.T. and Nancy Mayo
- ❖ Bobbi Stegall and family
- ❖ Lane Pittman
- ❖ Robert & Carol Pomeroy (Diane Griffin's parents)
- ❖ Marion Thorn
- ❖ Rose Layman (Mother of Deb Hardie, Mom to Sylvia Cox)
- ❖ The Family of Charles Bartlett
- ❖ The Family of Dottie Dray
- ❖ The Family of Sylvia Stephenson

## May Birthdays

1	Jean Byers	20	Corey McCormick
8	David Culpepper	21	Bob Graupmann
12	Yolanda Faas	26	Diana Taylor
12	Charlie McCormick	30	Scott Taylor
15	Joyce Wright	31	Monica Manley
18	Elizabeth Turner		

**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 2021**

Nancy Grant  
Stuart Shippey  
Mary Ann Taylor

**Class of 2022**

Sue Fay  
Kim McCormick  
Todd Taylor

**Class of 2023**

Gail Pittman  
Mary Leming  
Dan Swanson