

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church

Sunday, September 12, 2021 – 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.

Prelude

"Be Thou My Vision"

John Hackworth

Call to Worship

"Who do you say that I am?" Jesus asked,
and Peter answered, "**The Messiah.**"
Let us worship the One who is our savior
and follow in Christ's path of love.

Hymn

"Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty"

Invitation to Confession

Prayer of Confession—followed by a time of silent confession

O Lord, you have called us to take up our cross and follow you: to carry the truth of your justice like a banner and bear the yoke of life as your servant. We are hesitant, O God, to serve anyone but ourselves. We draw away from the imagery of the cross, forgetting that, in you, it has become a source of glory. Forgive us, O God, and call us once more to set aside our selfishness and follow in our way.

Assurance of God's Grace

Christ, in his extravagant compassion, has already secured our forgiveness and calls us to live as those who are renewed and thankful. Our sins are forgiven! Receive this grace, and share it with others.

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

"My God, How Wonderful Thou Art"

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.

Birthday Blessing

The Lesson

Genesis 1:1-2:3NIV (1:1-5 printed)

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. And God said "Let there be light," and there was light. God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness. God called the light "day," and the darkness he called "night." And there was evening, and there was morning—the first day.

Sermon

"Resting Well"

Hymn

"For the Beauty of the Earth"

Benediction

Postlude

"The Heavens Are Telling"

Marcello

Prayers for the Journey—All who welcome prayer for themselves, or others, are invited to come forward following the service to pray one-on-one with our pastors or an elder.



My God, How Wonderful Thou Art

My God, how wonderful Thou Art, Thy countenance how bright; How beautiful thy mercy seat, in depths of burning light! How wonderful, how glorious the sight of Thee must be, Thine endless wisdom, boundless power and awesome majesty! Yet I may love Thee, too, O Lord, almighty as Thou art. For Thou has stooped to ask of me the love, the love of my poor heart. No earthly father loves like Thee; no mother e'er so mild, bears and forebears as Thou hast done with me, Thy sinful child. How wonderful, how glorious the sight of Thee must be, Thine endless wisdom, boundless power and awesome majesty.

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 September 12 - Prayers of the People

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

- Kerry Westerwick
- Brian Patgorski
- Tom Goolsby
- Lane Pittman
- Mae Harmon
- Rose Layman
- Karen Diggs
- Monica Manley
- Paul and Alice Butler
- AT Mayo

September Birthdays

3	Lyra Furman	23	Patrice Winkler
8	Sonia Powell	24	C. C. Smith
10	Bentley Breeden	25	Oralie Wilhite
10	Collin Taylor	28	Agnes McFadden
18	Rebecca Tanner	28	Dee Dee Straus
20	Karen Diggs	29	Bobbi Stegall
23	Alfred Fry	30	Toni Rutsch

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church
Celebrating Our 200th 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 often needs volunteers to prepare 25 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 Towne Bank 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.

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

Mary Leming
Gail Pittman
Dan Swanson