

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church

Sunday, January 30, 2022 – 10:30 AM

Order of Worship

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

“Blessed Jesus, We Are Here”

Walther

Call to Worship

Gather us in, the brokenhearted and the joyful.

Gather us in, the weak and the strong.

Gather us in, the fearful and the brave.

Gather us in, the young and the old.

Gather us in, to sing of God's works.

Gather us in, to praise Jesus Christ.

Gather us in, to worship and wonder.

Gather us in, to know of God's love!

Invitation to Confession

Prayer of Confession-followed by a time for silent confession and prayer

Everlasting God, we know how easy it is to forget your presence and power in our lives.

Focused on our daily planners, we do not pay attention to the night sky and the stars that glitter.

Surrounded by the sounds of anger, violence, and hate, we have trouble listening to your whispers of hope and grace.

Thinking that scripture is filled with only stories, we cannot understand your truth which can change lives.

Assurance of God's Grace

Haven't you been listening? The Good News is this:

God never tires out. God is always with us.

God heals us with mercy. God strengthens us for service.

The One who numbers the stars knows each of us by name.

Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! **Amen!**

Doxology

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

“On Eagles' Wings”

Joncas

Gabrielle Goodrich, solo

You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord, who abide in His Shadow for life. Say to the Lord, “My refuge, my rock in whom I trust.” And he will raise you up on eagles' wings, bear you on the breath of dawn, make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand.

The snare of the fowler will never capture you and famine will bring you no fear. Under his wings your refuge, His faithfulness your shield. And he will raise you up on eagles' wings, bear you on the breath of dawn, make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand.

You need not fear the terror of the night, or the arrow that flies by day. Through thousands fall about you, near you it shall not come. And he will raise you up on eagles' wings, bear you on the breath of dawn, make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand.

For to His angels, He's given a command, to guard you in all of your ways. Upon their hands they will bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone. And he will raise you up on eagles'

wings, bear you on the breath of dawn, make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand. And hold you in the palm of his hand.

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

2 Kings 17: 5-7, 11-15, 18

The king of Assyria invaded the entire land, marched against Samaria and laid siege to it for three years. In the ninth year of Hoshea, the king of Assyria captured Samaria and deported the Israelites to Assyria. He settled them in Halah, in Gozan on the Harbor River and in the towns of the Medes. All this took place because the Israelites had sinned against the Lord their God, who had brought them out of Egypt from under the power of the Pharaoh king of Egypt. They worshipped other Gods.

At every high place they burned incense, as the nations whom the Lord had driven out before them had done. They did wicked things that aroused the Lord’s anger. They worshipped idols, though the Lord had said “You shall not do this.” The Lord warned Israel and Judah through all his prophets and seers: “Turn from your evil ways. Observe my commands and decrees, in accordance with the entire Law that I commanded your ancestors to obey and that I delivered to you through my servants and prophets.” But they would not listen and were stiff-necked as their ancestors, who did not trust in the Lord their God. They rejected his decrees and the covenant he had made with their ancestors and the statutes he had warned them to keep. They followed worthless idols and themselves became worthless. They imitated the nations around them although the Lord had ordered the, “Do not do as they do.”

So, the Lord was very angry with Israel and removed them from his presence. Only the tribe of Judah was left.

Second Lesson

Isaiah 40: 27-31

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 grow faint.

Sermon

I
“Flying Lessons”

Benediction

Postlude

“Fidelis Servus” (Faithful Servant)

Benoit



On next Sunday, February 6, Pastor Steve will be focused on Chapter 17 of *The Story*.

Offering Envelopes - The 2022 offering envelopes have been delayed and will arrive in a few weeks. Until then, please use any other envelope, or if you have remaining 2021 envelopes, please use them. Thanks for your help.

Nancy Grant and 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.

Week of January 30 - Prayers of the People

- Sonia Powell
- Brian Patgorski
- Family of Estelle Umphlette
- Lane Pittman
- Mae Harmon
- Rose Layman
- Agnes McFadden
- Emily Bond
- Linda Thompson
- Monica Manley
- Paul and Alice Butler
- AT Mayo
- Family of Dick Lovingood
- Sean, whose mother, Brenda, passed away last week (friend of Oralie and Raymond)
- Iris Vann, Matt Goodrich's Grandmother
- Cathy Revell
- Those who have COVID
- Schools and educators

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

7	David Turner
17	Carl Rhodes, Jr.
18	Brantley Aliff
26	Sylvie Joyner
27	Kay Kidd
27	Kerry Westerwick
31	Kelsey Smith
31	Abbey Taylor

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