

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church

Sunday, March 13, 2022 – 10:30 AM

Order of Worship

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

“The Lord Is My Light”
Michael Broadhurst, solo

Allitsen

Call to Worship

God is our light and our salvation; whom shall we fear?

**God is our shelter and refuge on the days of trouble,
and our hope and joy on the days of celebration!**

Day after day, we seek God’s face and the assurance of God’s holy love:

O God, do not turn from us or hide your face from us!

Be our guide and our light instead!

One thing we ask of God:

**That we may live in God’s dwelling place all the days of our life,
and never cease to behold the beauty of God’s home.**

Beloved of God, enter this worship in thanksgiving, for God is among and within us!

Thanks be to God!

Hymn #664

“Morning Has Broken”

Invitation to Confession

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

Gracious God, we have not made you the center of our lives.

We look for shelter in the false security of the world, not in your promises.

Our fears are driven by our emotions and decisions, not by our trust in you.

We look to the powerful, the beautiful, the athletic to be our role models,
instead of the One who comes in your name.

Have mercy on us, our Light and our Hope, and touch us with your forgiving grace.

Fill our hearts with your presence, so we might recognize the One who has come
to gather us up and lead us into your Kingdom, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

Assurance of God’s Grace

God does not give us up to the temptations and ways of the world,
but shelters us with love, with hope, with grace.

We are forgiven people.

Our songs of joy are lifted to the One who forgives us and saves us.

Thanks be to God. 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.

Birthday Blessing

Special Music

“Agnus Dei”

arr. Borst

Alleluia. Alleluia, for the Lord God Almighty reigns. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Holy; holy are you, Lord God Almighty. Worthy is the Lamb; worthy is the Lamb.

You are holy; holy are you, Lord God Almighty. Worthy is the Lamb; worthy is the Lamb.

O Lord, my God, when I in awesome wonder consider all the worlds thy hands have made.
I see the stars; I hear the rolling thunder, thy power throughout the universe displayed.
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee: How great thou art! How great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee: How great thou art! How great thou art!
Holy; holy are you, Lord God Almighty.
Worthy is the Lamb (How great thou art); worthy is the Lamb (How great thou art),
Holy; holy are you, Lord God Almighty. Worthy is the Lamb; worthy is the Lamb.
How great thou art! How great thou art!

Prayers of the People & 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

Psalms 27

The Lord is my light and my salvation - whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life—of whom shall I be afraid? When the wicked advance against me to devour me, it is my enemies and my foes who will stumble and fall. Though an army besiege me, my heart will not fear; though war break out against me, even then I will be confident. One thing I ask from the Lord, this only do I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze on the beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple. For in the day of trouble he will keep me safe in his dwelling; he will hide me in the shelter of his sacred tent and set me high upon a rock. Then my head will be exalted above the enemies who surround me; at his sacred tent I will sacrifice with shouts of joy; I will sing and make music to the Lord. Hear my voice when I call, Lord; be merciful to me and answer me. My heart says of you, "Seek his face!" Your face, Lord, I will seek. Do not hide your face from me, do not turn your servant away in anger; you have been my helper. Do not reject me or forsake me, God my savior. Though my father and other forsake me, the Lord will receive me. Teach me your way, Lord; lead me in a straight path because of my oppressors. Do not turn me over to the desire of my foes, for false witnesses rise up against men spouting malicious accusations. I remain confident of this: I will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord.

Second Lesson

Philippians 3:3-16

For it is we who are the circumcision, who worship in the Spirit of God and boast in Christ Jesus and have no confidence in the flesh—even though I, too, have reason for confidence in the flesh.

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ[c] and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow, I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. 13 Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus. Let those of us then who are mature be of the same mind; and if you think differently about anything, this too God will reveal to you. Only let us hold fast to what we have attained.

Liturgy for Ordination

There are different gifts,

But it is the same Spirit who gives them.

There are different ways of serving God,

But it is the same Lord who is served.

God works through different people in different ways,

But it is the same God who achieves God’s purpose through them all.

Each one is given a gift by the Spirit,

To use it for the common good.

Together we are the body of Christ,

And individually members of the body of Christ.

Though we have different gifts, together we are a ministry of reconciliation led by the risen Christ. We work and pray to make his church useful in the world, and we call men and women to faith, so that, in the end, every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the Glory of God the Father.

Within our common ministry, some members are chosen for particular work as ministers of the word, ruling elders, or deacons. In ordination, we recognize these special ministries, remembering that our Lord Jesus said:

Whoever among you wants to be great must become the servant of all, and if he wants to be first among you, he must be the slave of all men!

Just as the Son of Man came not to be served, but to serve, and to give his life to set others free.

*Elder Kim McCormick, speaking for the people of the church, I bring **Linda Audet** to be ordained as a ruling elder.*

Linda, God has called you by the voice of the church to serve Jesus Christ in a special way. You know who we are and what we believe, and you understand the work for which you have been chosen.

- Do you trust in Jesus Christ your Savior, acknowledge him Lord of all and head of the Church, and through him believe in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?
- Do you accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be, by the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the Church universal, and God’s Word to you?
- Do you sincerely receive and adopt the essential tenets of the Reformed faith as expressed in the confessions of our church as authentic and reliable expositions of what Scripture leads us to believe and do, and will you be instructed and led by those confessions as you lead the people of God?
- Will you fulfill your ministry in obedience to Jesus Christ, under the authority of Scripture, and be continually guided by our confessions?
- Will you be governed by our church’s polity, and will you abide by its discipline?
- Will you be a friend among your colleagues in ministry, working with them, subject to the ordering of God’s Word and Spirit?
- Will you in your own life seek to follow the Lord Jesus Christ, love your neighbors, and work for the reconciliation of the world?
- Do you promise to further the peace, unity, and purity of the church?
- Will you pray for and seek to serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love?
- Will you be a faithful ruling elder, watching over the people, providing for their worship, nurture, and service? Will you share in government and discipline, serving in councils of the church, and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?

Prayer of Ordination and the Laying on of Hands (All elders are invited to come forward)

Liturgy of Installation

*Elder Kim McCormick, speaking for the people of the church, I bring **Mary Ann Taylor, Oralie Wilhite, and Linda Audet** to be installed as members of the session.*

God has called you by the voice of the church to serve Jesus Christ in a special way. You know who we are and what we believe, and you understand the work for which you have been chosen.

- Will you be a faithful ruling elder, watching over the people, providing for their worship, nurture, and service? Will you share in government and discipline, serving in councils of the church, and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?

Questions to the congregation:

- Do we, the members of the church, accept Mary Ann, Oralie and Linda as ruling elders, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ?
- Do we agree to pray for them, to encourage them, to respect their decisions, and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the Church?

Christian, what do you believe:

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilot, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy Catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. AMEN

Prayer

Mary Ann, Oralie and Linda, you are now ruling elders and current session members of this church. Whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God. Amen.

Hymn #720

“Jesus Calls Us”

Benediction

Congregational Meeting to Elect Church Trustee, Earl Griffin Esq.

Postlude/Prayers for the Journey

“Meditation”

Benoit

The session has made this a priority for this year’s Lenten mission.

The situation on the Ukraine border is heartbreaking, and conditions are worsening daily. Right now, Portsmouth-based nonprofit Mercy Chefs has crews on the ground near the Ukrainian border, delivering immediate and tangible relief in the form of food and supplies for weary refugees. Your generous support will deliver groceries, dry goods, medical supplies, and infant essentials directly to Ukrainian refugees.

<https://www.mercychefs.info/>



Next Sunday, March 20, is the Third Week of our Lenten season.

This year marks the 200th anniversary of First Presbyterian Church of Old Town Portsmouth. We had planned for a birthday celebration on May 22, 2022. The pandemic may have postponed this plan but in the meantime, we are asking anyone who wishes to participate to pray (for the next 200 days) that God

blesses the mission and ministry of the church. A future birthday celebration date will be announced ASAP. Please join us in 200 days of prayer from February 11 through August 29.

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 March 13 - Prayers of the People

- Sonia Powell
- Brian Patgorski
- Lane Pittman
- Jamie, Burma Smith's friend
- Rose Layman
- Agnes McFadden
- Emily Bond
- Linda Thompson
- Monica Manley
- Paul and Alice Butler
- AT & Nancy Mayo
- Those who have COVID
- Schools and educators

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

1 Edna Broadhurst
12 Burma Smith
13 Mary Fitzwater
15 Lanier Halterman
21 Mallory James Smith
22 Jennifer Patgorski
24 Nancy Frazier
26 Mike McCormick
28 Nancy Grant

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