

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church

Sunday, March 27, 2022 – 10:30 AM

Order of Worship

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

“Morning”

Young

Call to Worship

Come, let's celebrate the forgiving, reconciling love of God.

**For once we were lost and felt so far away;
now we have been found and welcomed home.**

Know that God's love is lavished upon us forever.

We rejoice at the news of forgiveness and hope!

Come, let's celebrate the God of Love!

Hymn 395

“Blessed Jesus, At Your Word”

Invitation to Confession

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

Holy God, whenever we ignore the needs of others, **forgive us.**

Whenever we forget who is our neighbor, **forgive us.**

Whenever we pass by on the other side, **forgive us.**

Whenever we forget to say ‘Well done!’ **forgive us.**

Whenever we forget to simply give thanks, **forgive us.**

Whenever we forget the path that we tread, **forgive us.**

For all those times we bring a tear to your eye, bring us back into your forgiving arms and teach us once again, your way.

Assurance of God's Grace

In Christ Jesus, we are a radically renewed community.

Thanks be to God!

Old things are done away with; all things become new.

Thanks be to God!

We are agents of grace and reconciliation.

Thanks be to God!

With every step or stumble, Christ will be with us and forgives us.

Thanks be to God!

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

“Seeking the Lost”

Ogden

Seeking the lost, yes, kindly entreating wanderers on the mountain astray; “Come unto Me,” His message repeating, words of the Master speaking today.

Refrain: Going afar upon the mountain, bringing the wanderer back again into the fold of my Redeemer. Jesus the Lamb for sinners slain.

Seeking the lost, and pointing to Jesus souls that are weak, and hearts that are sore; leading them forth in ways of salvation, showing the path to life evermore.

Refrain.

Thus, would I go on missions of mercy, following Christ from day unto day; cheering the faint and raising the fallen, pointing the lost to Jesus, the Way.
Refrain.

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.

Lesson 1

Joshua 5:9-12

Then the Lord said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away the reproach of Egypt from you." So the place has been called Gilgal to this day. On the evening of the fourteenth day of the month, while camped at Gilgal on the plains of Jericho, the Israelites celebrated the Passover. The day after the Passover, that very day, they ate some of the produce of the land: unleavened bread and roasted grain. The manna stopped the day after they ate this food from the land; there was no longer any manna for the Israelites, but that year they ate the produce of Canaan.

Lesson 2

Luke 15:1-3,11-32

Now the tax collector and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus. But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them." Then Jesus told them this parable: "There was a man who had two sons. The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So he divided his property between them. "Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything. "When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.' So he got up and went to his father. "But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him. "The son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' "But the father said to his servants, 'Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate. For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' So they began to celebrate. "Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. 'Your brother has come,' he replied, 'and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.' "The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. But he answered his father, 'Look! All these years I've been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!' "'My son,' the father said, 'you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.'"

Sermon

"Presentment of Resentment"

Hymn 418

"Softly and Tenderly, Jesus Is Calling"

Benediction

Postlude/Prayers for the Journey

“Melodia Da Chiesa”

Haydn

All who welcome prayer for themselves or others are invited to come forward, during the postlude, to pray with one of our pastors or an elder.



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

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 27 - Prayers of the People

- Sonia Powell
- Brian Patgorski
- Lane Pittman
- Jamie, Burma Smith’s friend
- Rose Layman
- Agnes McFadden
- Emily Bond
- Linda Thompson
- Paul and Alice Butler
- AT Mayo
- Lettema
- Nancy Grant’s daughter
- 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 2022

Sue Fay
Kim McCormick
Todd Taylor

Class of 2023

Mary Leming
Gail Pittman
Dan Swanson

Class of 2024

Linda Audet
Mary Ann Taylor
Oralie Wilhite