

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church

Sunday, April 10, 2022 – 10:30 AM

Order of Worship

Welcome and Announcements

Please welcome Carol Downing to our service today.

Prelude

“Praise Him, Praise Him”
Bell Choir

arr. Larson

Call to Worship

We come to prepare for the holiest of weeks.

We will journey through praise, with joy on our lips;

We will travel through betrayal and death, cradling hope deep in our hearts.

Jesus leads us through this week, and we will follow, for he is the life we long for; he is the Word who sustains us.

There are palm branches in anticipation. We lay our love before him, to cushion his walk.

Setting aside all power, glory, and might, he comes: modeling humility and obedience for all of us.

Hymn #196

“All Glory Laud and Honor”

Invitation to Confession

Prayer of Confession

followed by a time for silent confession and prayer

On this Sunday, O God, we remember how quickly we change. How fickle we are; how we pledge our devotion one moment and turn our backs the next.

We quickly go from shouting “Hosanna! Save us!” to “Crucify Him.”

We declare that we love our neighbors and then we turn our backs on the homeless and hungry in our communities.

We speak up for change and justice in one breath, and then continue unjust practices in our daily lives by what we consume and the needs we ignore.

Forgive us, restore us, and renew us for the journey of faith, so that we might become whole people who live wholly into your vision of new life.

Assurance of God’s Grace

The eyes of the blind shall be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped. Even we shall believe, even we shall be led back to faith. By the grace and mercy of the one who never stops seeking after this beloved Creation.

We are loved. We are forgiven.

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

“Hosanna Jubilee”
Carol Downing, Fiddle; John Hackworth, Banjo

Poole

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

Psalm 118

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever. Let Israel say: "His love endures forever."

Second Lesson

Luke 19: 28-40

After Jesus had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. As he approached Bethphage and Bethany at the hill called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' say, 'The Lord needs it.'" Those who were sent ahead went and found it just as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" They replied, "The Lord needs it." They brought it to Jesus, threw their cloaks on the colt and put Jesus on it. As he went along, people spread their cloaks on the road. When he came near the place where the road goes down the Mount of Olives, the whole crowd of disciples began joyfully to praise God in loud voices for all the miracles they had seen: "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!" Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, rebuke your disciples!" "I tell you," he replied, "if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out."

Sermon

"Shouting Stones"

Hymn #228

"Were You There?"

Benediction

Postlude/Prayers for the Journey

"Oh, Sacred Head"
Bell Choir

arr. Larson

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.



Please join us for our Maundy Thursday service at 7:00 p.m. on April, 14, 2022.

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 April 10 - Prayers of the People

- Sonia Powell
- Brian Patgorski
- Lane Pittman
- Rose Layman
- Agnes McFadden
- Emily Bond
- Linda Thompson
- Monica Manley
- Paul and Alice Butler
- AT Mayo
- Lettema
- Norma Haltermans
- Nancy Grant's daughter
- Those who have COVID
- Schools and educators

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

11 Norma Halterman
14 Lane Pittman
17 Estelle Englund
18 A.T. Mayo
19 Jerry Freeman
21 Benjamin Dawson Kenrick (Ben)
24 Bill Westbrook
25 Raymond Rodrigues
29 Alice Butler

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