

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church

Sunday, July 3, 2022 – 10:30 AM

Order of Worship

Welcome and Announcements-Thank you for joining us for this morning's worship service. We are glad to have you here! If this is your first time visiting with us, please fill out a visitor's form, found in the back of most pews. We would be pleased to add you to our email list, too. Please use your discretion with masking. Again, welcome!

Prelude

"Elevation"

Dubois

Call to Worship

In the darkest valley, **at the banquet table;**
in the hard work of life, **at the moments of ease;**
in our day-to-day reality, **at times set aside;**
like this time, now: **for worship, for listening, for paying attention;**
with every step we take: **goodness and mercy follow us;**
our cups overflow.

Hymn 331

"God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand"

Invitation to Confession

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

Lord God, we come to you from our storm-tossed lives to seek your peace; we come to you with our questions and uncertainties, our worries and anxieties; we come to you from our joy and our happiness-- each emotion a kaleidoscope of our feeling in life's changing patterns.

More than all of that we come to you because of what you have done for us in the love of Christ who bought our freedom by his sacrifice on the Cross and showed us new life in his resurrection life.

We have not relied on your word or wisdom, we have not shown concern or compassion when we should have.

We have not loved our neighbor as we love ourselves. We have remained silent when we should have spoken and spoken when we should have been silent.

Assurance of God's Grace

When we're in trouble and we wait for God to intervene, know that we do not wait alone.

God has given us one another for this journey of faith, to help one another.

Know that we do not wait alone; Christ is with us.

Be encouraged, and encourage one another.

We are forgiven; Now, Go and share this Good News.

Amen.

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Anthem

"Blessed is the Nation"

Larson

Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people of His inheritance. Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, and place their trust in Him. Oh, God, who reigns on high, keep watch over all the earth. Creator of each heart, Your gracious love impart. Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people of His inheritance. Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, and place their trust in Him. Our hope is in the Lord, He is our help and shield. In Him our hearts rejoice, in humble trust we yield. Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people of His inheritance. Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, and place their trust in Him. Who place their trust in 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.**

Today's Lessons

Acts 20: 13-24

We went on ahead to the ship and sailed for Assos, where we were going to take Paul aboard. He had made this arrangement because he was going there on foot. When he met us at Assos, we took him aboard and went on to Mitylene. The next day we set sail from there and arrived off Chios. The day after that we crossed over to Samos, and on the following day arrived at Miletus. Paul had decided to sail past Ephesus to avoid spending time in the province of Asia, for he was in a hurry to reach Jerusalem, if possible, by the day of Pentecost.

From Miletus, Paul sent to Ephesus for the elders of the church. When they arrived, he said to them: "You know how I lived the whole time I was with you, from the first day I came into the province of Asia. I served the Lord with great humility and with tears and in the midst of severe testing by the plots of my Jewish opponents. You know that I have not hesitated to preach anything that would be helpful to you but have taught you publicly and from house to house. I have declared to both Jews and Greeks that they must turn to God in repentance and have faith in our Lord Jesus.

"And now, compelled by the Spirit, I am going to Jerusalem, not knowing what will happen to me there. 23 I only know that in every city the Holy Spirit warns me that prison and hardships are facing me. 24 However, I consider my life worth nothing to me; my only aim is to finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me—the task of testifying to the good news of God's grace.

Ephesians 6: 10-20

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore, put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. Pray also for me, that whenever I speak, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.

Sermon

"Fearless"

Hymn 525

"Let Us Break Bread Together"

The Sacrament of the Lord's Table

The Lord be with you.

Lift up your hearts.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

And also, with you.

We lift them to the Lord.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

...Therefore, with apostles and prophets, and that great cloud of witnesses who live for you beyond all time and space, we lift our hearts in joyful praise.

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!

...Let us proclaim the mystery of our faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

...Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever.

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.

Distribution of the Elements and Communion of the People

Hymn 526

“Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ”

Benediction

Postlude/Prayers for the Journey

“Harmonia Anglicana”

arr. Peeters

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.



Our next Court Yard Concert will be on Wednesday, July 27th at 7:00 PM and will feature Richard Spano and Jim Bulliet. Please join us for an amazing night, and bring a pair of socks or a t-shirt to donate. We look forward to seeing you there!

First Presbyterian Church's Peace, Love and a Bag of Chips is looking for **new/gently-used** t-shirts and sock donations. There will be a collection bin placed in the Courtyard Lobby. “And he would answer and say to them, “The man who has two tunics is to share with him who has none; and he who has food is to do likewise.” -Luke 3:11

There is an urgent need for additional FPC volunteers to be on hand between 3:30-5:00 pm on Sundays. Most weeks, it simply requires someone willing to be on-site, greet the partner church volunteers who have prepared and will serve the meal, then locking up afterward (including the Courtyard). At least 1 (and often 3) FPC veterans are there each week, too. We're all in this together! Anyone interested in learning the (very minimal) ropes, please see Oralie Wilhite, Mary Ann Taylor or Sue Fay.

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.

Week of July 3- Prayers of the People

- Paul Butler
- Brian Patgorski
- David Turner
- Lane Pittman
- Rose Layman
- Emily Bond
- Linda Thompson
- Monica Manley
- AT Mayo
- Those who have COVID

JULY BIRTHDAYS

6 Megan Diggs
8 Arianna Templeton
10 Riley Jane Smith
18 Daniel McCormick
23 Robert Carlisle
28 Regan Taylor Smith

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