

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church

Sunday, September 18, 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

"O Perfect Love"

arr. Flor Peeters

Call to Worship

From the bustle of the world and the silence of our wilderness, we pause together for worship.

At times, we can be a grumbling people, quick to focus on the lack and the gaps.

Yet in love, God, you listen to our cries and provide for us.

Impatiently, we are a searching people, craving peace and purpose.

And with patience, God, you offer us hope and sustain us.

Help us to be a thankful people, recognizing your love for us in all its abundance.

Through your presence, God, you turn us towards you and nourish us.

In this time of worship, let us open our hearts and be filled.

Hymn 20

"All Things Bright and Beautiful"

Invitation to Confession

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

It seems we cannot decide, God of Glory.

we say we will live to serve others, but end up meeting only our needs.

We claim to live in a way that honors Christ,

But we do not take him to work, school, home.

We believe that the gospel can transform lives.

Forgive us, Prince of Peace.

Instead of grumblers, may we be ambassadors of grace.

Instead of complaining, may we carry compassion to the hurting.

Instead of whiners, may we be workers with Jesus Christ, our Savior, to reach out and share the kingdom of God to everyone we meet.

Assurance of God's Grace

This is the good news:

there is no ranking in God's kingdom.

God graces everyone with the same gifts:

mercy, restoration, new life.

God has kept the covenant.

We have been forgiven,

we have been made new people.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Anthem "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

arr. Alice Parker

Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah, pilgrim though this barren land. I am weak, but Thou art mighty, hold me with Thy powerful hand. Bread of haven, bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain whence the healing streams do flow. Let the fiery, cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through. Strong Deliverer, strong deliverer, be my strength and shield.

Feed me with the heavenly manna in the barren wilderness. Be my sword and shield and banner, be my robe of righteousness. Fight and conquer, fight and conquer, all my foes by sovereign grace.

When I tread the verge of Jordan let my anxious fears subside. Foe to death and hell's destruction, lead me safe on Canaan's side. Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah, pilgrim though this barren land. I am weak, but Thou art mighty, hold me with Thy powerful hand. Bread of haven, bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain whence the healing streams do flow. Let the fiery, cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through. Strong Deliverer, strong deliverer, be my strength and shield. Feed me with the heavenly manna in the barren wilderness. Be my sword and shield and banner, be my robe of righteousness. Fight and conquer, fight and conquer, all my foes by sovereign grace.

When I tread the verge of Jordan let my anxious fears subside. Foe to death and hell's destruction, lead me safe on Canaan's side. Songs of praises, songs of praises I will ever sing to Thee.

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.**

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. Lead us not into temptation, for thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

First Lesson

Exodus 16: 2-12

In the desert the whole community grumbled against Moses and Aaron. The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the Lord's hand in Egypt! There we sat around pots of meat and ate all the food we wanted, but you have brought us out into this desert to starve this entire assembly to death."

Then the Lord said to Moses, "I will rain down bread from heaven for you. The people are to go out each day and gather enough for that day. In this way I will test them and see whether they will follow my instructions. On the sixth day they are to prepare what they bring in, and that is to be twice as much as they gather on the other days."

So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, "In the evening you will know that it was the Lord who brought you out of Egypt, and in the morning you will see the glory of the Lord, because he has heard your grumbling against him. Who are we, that you should grumble against us?" Moses also said, "You will know that it was the Lord when he gives you meat to eat in the evening and all the bread you want in the morning, because he has heard your grumbling against him. Who are we? You are not grumbling against us, but against the Lord."

Then Moses told Aaron, "Say to the entire Israelite community, 'Come before the Lord, for he has heard your grumbling.'"

While Aaron was speaking to the whole Israelite community, they looked toward the desert, and there was the glory of the Lord appearing in the cloud.

The Lord said to Moses, "I have heard the grumbling of the Israelites. Tell them, 'At twilight you will eat meat, and in the morning, you will be filled with bread. Then you will know that I am the Lord your God.'"

Hymn 509

"All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly"

Second Lesson

Philippians 1: 21-30

For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. If I am to go on living in the body, this will mean fruitful labor for me. Yet what shall I choose? I do not know! I am torn between the two: I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far; but it is more necessary for you that I remain in

the body. Convinced of this, I know that I will remain, and I will continue with all of you for your progress and joy in the faith, so that through my being with you again your boasting in Christ Jesus will abound on account of me. Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. Then, whether I come and see you or only hear about you in my absence, I will know that you stand firm in the one Spirit, striving together as one for the faith of the gospel without being frightened in any way by those who oppose you. This is a sign to them that they will be destroyed, but that you will be saved—and that by God. For it has been granted to you on behalf of Christ not only to believe in him, but also to suffer for him, since you are going through the same struggle you saw I had, and now hear that I still have.

Sermon

“Living a Worthy Life”

Rev. Steve Frazier

Hymn 837

“What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine”

Benediction

Postlude/Prayers for the Journey

“Allegretto”

Franz Schubert

Michael Broadhurst, Flute

During the postlude, anyone with a prayer concern is invited to come forward to pray with Pastor Steve.

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 Also, 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.

FPC will celebrate our 200th Anniversary on Sunday, Sep. 25th at 10:30 am with a special Worship Service to honor our history and look forward to our future. Our pastor, Steve Frazier, will be joined in the pulpit by David Garth, FPC’s pastor from 1980 through 1994. A reception will be held in the Fellowship Hall after the service. Please join us

Church Staff

Steve Frazier – Covenant Pastor
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 September 18- Prayers of the People

- Al Fry
- Paul Butler
- Lane Pittman
- Rose Layman
- Emily Bond
- Linda Thompson
- Monica Manley
- Those who have COVID

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

3	Lyra Furman	23	Patrice Winkler
4	Lou Wilhite	24	C. C. Smith
8	Sonia Powell	25	Oralie Wilhite
10	Bentley Breeden	28	Agnes McFadden
10	Collin Taylor	28	Dee Dee Straus
18	Rebecca Tanner	29	Roberta Stegall
20	Karen Diggs	30	Toni Rutsch
23	Alfred Fry		

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 two grandchildren.

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