

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF PORTSMOUTH

Church Staff

Steve Frazier – Covenant Pastor  
Edna Broadhurst – Director of Music  
Gabrielle Goodrich – Secretary

SESSION

Steve Frazier – Moderator of Session  
Mary Lemming  
Gail Pittman  
Dan Swanson  
Oralie Wilhite  
Linda Audet  
Michelle Graupmann  
Diane Griffin  
Mary Ann Taylor  
Michael Broadhurst

TRUSTEES

Earl Griffin  
John Hackworth  
Pat Sparks

# Welcome to First Presbyterian Church

Sunday, October 29, 2023 – 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. Welcome! **Today we welcome the musical gifts of Amanda McCormick and Michael Broadhurst.***

Prelude "Allegro" Haydn

Choral Call to Worship

Call to Worship

God speaks to us:

You shall be holy, for I am holy.

You shall not hate, but love your neighbor as yourself.

\*Hymn 275

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

Invitation to Confession

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

God watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish. We have righteousness within us, but we also have wickedness. Therefore, let us confess.

**\*\*God of love, your commandments are so simple: love God, love neighbor, love self. Yet we cannot always muster that love. Love for you seems too abstract and distant. Love for our neighbors seems too impractical and draining. Love for ourselves seems too impossible and unimportant. But you are truly the God of love; if there is anyone who can help us love, it is you. Shower us with your love so we might have the greatest example and help us learn from you.**

Assurance of God's Grace

It is true: we are beloved of God. The God who loves us does not condemn us.

**\*\*We will live in the glory of God's love!**

Response

"Sing A New Song"

**\*\*Sing a new song unto the Lord. Let your song be sung from mountains high. Sing a new song unto the Lord, singing Halleluiah! (repeat)**

Stewardship 201 – Sue Fay

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Anthem

"Lord, You Have Been Our Dwelling Place"

Hal Hopson

Lord, You have been our dwelling place, our constant hope and stay throughout all the generations. Before the mountains were brought forth, from everlasting to everlasting You are God. O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home! A thousand years in Your sight are like yesterday, like yesterday past and gone, like a dream in the night. We are swept away like the grass of the field; in the morning it is green, by the evening it is gone. O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come; be Thou our guide while life shall last and our eternal home.

*\*Please rise in body or Spirit. | \*\*Words in bold print are spoken aloud or sung in unison.*

\*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

**\*\*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.**

Time with Children – Skip Baker-Smith

\*Hymn 458

“Thy Word Is a Lamp unto My Feet”

First Lesson

Matthew 22: 34-46

Hearing that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, the Pharisees got together. One of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this question: “Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?”

Jesus replied: “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”

While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them, “What do you think about the Messiah? Whose son is he?”

“The son of David,” they replied.

He said to them, “How is it then that David, speaking by the Spirit, calls him ‘Lord’? For he says,

“‘The Lord said to my Lord: “Sit at my right hand until I put your enemies under your feet.””

If then David calls him ‘Lord,’ how can he be his son?” 46 No one could say a word in reply, and from that day on no one dared to ask him any more questions.

Second Lesson

Leviticus 19:1-2,15-18

The Lord spoke to Moses, saying:

Speak to all the congregation of the people of Israel and say to them: You shall be holy, for I the Lord your God am holy.

You shall not render an unjust judgment; you shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great: with justice you shall judge your neighbor. You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not profit by the blood of your neighbor: I am the Lord.

You shall not hate in your heart anyone of your kin; you shall reprove your neighbor, or you will incur guilt yourself. You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against any of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the Lord.

Sermon

“Holiness Defined”

Dr. Steven Frazier

\*Hymn 313

“Lord, Make Us More Holy”

Benediction

\*Benediction Response

“Jesus Be with Us”

Gambrell

**Jesus, be with us. Help us each day to follow the Gospel and live as we pray. Send us your Spirit and show us your way Jesus be with us today. Where there is hunger and thirst in the land, scatter the systems of greed. Jesus be with us, make use of our hands. Lift up your people in need.**

Passing the Peace of Christ

Peace of Christ be with you.

**\*\*And also with you.**

Greet one another with the peace of Christ.

**Please join us in the Courtyard Lobby for snacks after worship!**

This Morning’s Liturgist – Cameron McCormick



**OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS**

- 1 Kyle McCormick
- 3 Michele Graupmann
- 3 Barbara Bond
- 11 Robby Pond
- 14 Merle Gootee, III
- 16 Amanda McCormick
- 21 Todd Taylor
- 21 Gail Pittman
- 24 John Fay
- 25 Frances Hasty
- 30 Tom Goolsby
- 31 Matthew Goodrich

**Prayers of the People**

- Family of Anne Luna
- Nantz Parker
- Connie, Friend of Oralie
- Bev Smith, Mallory’s Mother-In-Law
- Josh Bennett
- Skip Parker
- Nancy Ward
- David Stuart
- Paul and Alice Butler
- Lane Pittman
- Robert Norfleet
- Emily Bond
- Monica Manley

**NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

- 1 Betsey Brown
- 4 Toby Pennell
- 9 Graham Fitzwater
- 12 John Hackworth
- 15 Tanner Furman
- 19 Sue Fay
- 19 Corbin Taylor
- 20 Paul Butler
- 23 Diane Turner
- 28 Connor McCormick