

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF PORTSMOUTH

Prayers of the People

Alice Lerp	Nancy Ward
The Family of Sylvia Simpson	David Stuart
Connie, Friend of Oralie	Paul and Alice Butler
Bev Smith, Mallory's Mother-In-Law	Lane Pittman
Josh Bennett	Robert Norfleet
Monica Manley	

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

JANUARY BIRTHDAY

7	David Turner
17	Carl Rhodes Jr
18	Brantley Aliff
26	Sylvie Joyner
27	Kay Kidd
31	Kelsey Smith
31	Abbey Taylor

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church

Sunday, January 7, 2024 – 10:30 AM

Baptism of Our Lord Sunday

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!

Prelude

"Communion"

Benoit

**Call to Worship

God said, "Let there be light,"

And there was light.

God's speech

Is Gods action.

When God creates,

The creation is good.

God our maker has done it again!

God has brought us to a new dawn. Let us worship God!

*Hymn 664

"Morning Has Broken"

Invitation to Confession

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

Gracious God, we give thanks that in baptism you give us new birth, for baptismal water marks the beginning of life for those who follow Jesus Christ. Inspire us to hear the good news declared at Jesus' baptism, to heed your voice from heaven proclaiming that Jesus is your beloved, and to believe that with Christ you are pleased. Teach us to remember our baptism and receive the Holy Spirit again and again. Though we cannot earn your pleasure, we desire your grace. Speak to us words of mercy and guide us with your love, that our lives might declare your glory in action, word, and deed. In the name of Jesus, we pray. **Amen.**

**Assurance of God's Grace

"Happiness can be found, even in the darkest of times, if one only remembers to turn on the light."

****Thanks be to God for our light. Amen.**

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!

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Anthem

"Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized"

F. Bland Tucker

Christ, when for us you were baptized, God's spirit on you came, as peaceful as a dove and yet as urgent as a flame. God called you "My Beloved Son," the suffering servant true, sent you the kingdom to proclaim, God's holy will to do. Straightway and steadfast until death you then obeyed God's call freely as the son of man to serve and give your life for all. Baptize us with your spirit, Lord, your cross on us be signed, that, likewise in God's service, we may perfect freedom find.

**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.**

Time with Children- Nancy Grant

Presentation of Bibles

*Hymn 482

“Baptized in Water”

First Lesson

Genesis 1: 1-5

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.

And God said, “**Let there be light,**” and there was light. God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness. God called the light “day,” and the darkness he called “night.” And there was evening, and there was morning – the first day.

Second Lesson

Acts 19: 1-7

While Apollos was at Corinth, Paul took the road through the interior and arrived at Ephesus. There he found some disciples and asked them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?”

They answered, “No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.”

So Paul asked, “Then what baptism did you receive?”

“John’s baptism,” they replied.

Paul said, “John’s baptism was a baptism of repentance. He told the people to believe in the one coming after him, that is, in Jesus.” On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. When Paul placed his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them and they spoke in tongues and prophesied. There were about twelve men in all.

Sermon

“Creator”

Rev. Dr. Steve Frazier

Hymn 69

“I, the Lord of Sea and Sky”

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

Congregational Meeting – Elder Nominating Committee Report

Benediction

*Benediction Response

“Jesus Be with Us”

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.

Postlude

“The Kings”

Held

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



January Liturgist – Michael Broadhurst

The FPC book club will meet on Sunday, Jan 21 in the social hall immediately following post worship fellowship. Bobbie Stegall will lead the discussion of the book Ava's Man by Rick Bragg.

The women's circle will meet on Tuesday, Jan. 9 at 11 am in the church social hall, preceded by prayer group at 10:30. Please bring a sandwich or whatever you like for your lunch; a beverage and dessert will be provided. Following the meeting, members are asked to assist in undecorating the Chrismon tree.