

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF PORTSMOUTH

Prayers of the People

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|--|---|
| Alice Lerp | Family of Agnes Mobley Fuller Wynne |
| Nancy Ward | John Hackworth |
| Cathi Mullins, Norma’s sister | 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 | Kathy Goolsby |
| Jackie LaPonte | Tammy Gillman |
| Mae and Chreston Holoman | Judy Hedgepeth |
| Chianne Hackley, friend of Tanner and Alyssa | Beth Crosland, friend of Gabbi and Matt |
| Wayne Braswell | Jean Byers |

Church Staff

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

SESSION

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

TRUSTEES

Earl Griffin
John Hackworth
Pat Sparks

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

2 Charles Bond
3 Lauren Graupmann
10 Logan Smith
20 Diane Griffin
20 Steve Frazier
24 Judy Powell
27 Betty Bartlett
27 Bunky Joyner
28 Grace Bryant

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

1 Edna Broadhurst
12 Burma Smith
13 Penny Brangan
13 Mary Fitzwater
21 Mallory James Smith
22 Jennifer Patgorski
24 Nancy Frazier
26 Mike McCormick
28 Nancy Grant

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church

Sunday, February 25, 2024 – 10:30 AM

Second Sunday of Lent

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.

May these moments together be filled with the Living God speaking to your heart. May your words, thoughts, dreams and yearnings be lifted as prayer which will free you, lift you, and convict you with the Love of his Son, Jesus. Welcome to Worship!!

Prelude “Deep River” Adolphus Hailstork

Choral Call to Worship

**Call to Worship

In life and in death, we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one true God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.

*Hymn 32 “I Sing the Mighty Power of God”

Invitation to Confession

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

God of abounding Grace, have mercy upon us. Our valleys are deep when we are overcome with despair. Our mountains are high when our burdens are heavy. We grope in a maze of misunderstanding and reap the pain of bad choices and ignorant gambles. You promised that all flesh shall see your Salvation. Show us the way. Show us the path. Help us not to fear your invitation to the Cross. For we pray in Christ's Holy name. Amen.

**Assurance of God’s Grace

Friends, Believe the Good News:

Jesus... for the sake of the joy that lay ahead of him, endured the cross, making light of its disgrace, has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God. Therein lies our hope and assurance. Amen.

Response “Sing A New Song” Hymn 276

****Sing a new song unto the Lord. Let your song be sung from mountains high. Sing a new song unto the Lord, singing hallelujah!**

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

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings - Prayer of Dedication

Offertory Anthem "I Want Jesus to Walk with Me" arr. Raymond Haan

I want Jesus to walk with me. I want Jesus to walk with me. All along my pilgrim journey, I want Jesus to walk with me. In my trials, Lord, walk with me. In my trials, my trials, Lord, walk with me. When my head is bowed in sorrow, I want Jesus to walk with me. When I am dying, Lord, walk with me. When I am dying, Lord, walk with me. When I am on my bed of sorrow, oh Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

*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.**

Apostles' Creed

****I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from thence he will come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. 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 451 "Open My Eyes, That I May See"

First Lesson Romans 4: 18-25

Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations, just as it had been said to him, "So shall your offspring be." Without weakening in his faith, he faced the fact that his body was as good as dead – since he was about a hundred years old – and that Sarah's womb was also dead. Yet he did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised. This is why "it was credited to him as righteousness." The words "it was credited to him" were written not for him alone, but also for us, to whom God will credit righteousness – for us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead. He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification.

Second Lesson Mark 8: 31-38

He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and after three days rise again. He spoke plainly about this, and peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.

But when Jesus turned and looked at his disciples, he rebuked Peter. "Get behind me, Satan!" he said. "You do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns."

Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it. What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of them when he comes in his Father's glory with the holy angels."

Sermon "Beginning with Basics" The Rev. Skip Baker-Smith

Hymn 724 "O Jesus, I Have Promised"

Benediction

*Benediction Response "As the Deer" Hymn 626

As the deer pants for the water, so my soul longs after you.
You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship you.
You alone are my strength, my shield; to you alone may my spirit yield.
You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship you.

Passing the Peace of Christ

Peace of Christ be with you.
****And also with you.**
Greet one another with the peace of Christ.

Postlude "Agincourt Hymn" John Dunstable

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

February Liturgist – Sue Fay

