

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF PORTSMOUTH

Prayers of the People

Alice Lerp	Jean Byers
Nancy Ward	Wayne Braswell
Cathi Mullins, Norma's sister	Judy Hedgepeth
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	Barbara Owens
Mae and Chreston Holoman	Maria Rhodes
Chianne Hackley, friend of Tanner and Alyssa	
Angela Calicchio, Sofia's mother	

Church Staff

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

SESSION

Steve Frazier – Moderator of Session
Cameron McCormick
Norma Halterman
Todd Taylor
Oralie Wilhite
Linda Audet
Michelle Graupmann
Diane Griffin
Mary Ann Taylor
Michael Broadhurst

TRUSTEES

Earl Griffin
John Hackworth
Pat Sparks

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

6 Donald Hal
11 Norma Halterman
14 Lane Pittman
17 Estelle England
19 Jerry Freeman
21 Grady Kenrick
25 Raymond Rodrigues
28 Sharon Conklin
29 Alice Butler

The FPC Book Club will meet on Sunday, April 21, 2024, in the fellowship hall immediately following Post Worship Fellowship. Pat Sparks will lead the discussion of the book *Hamnet*, by Maggie O'Farrell.

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church

Sunday, April 14, 2024 – 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.

Prelude "Perfect Love" Peeters

Choral Call to Worship

**Call to Worship

We live in the radiance of your glory.

Our worship comes from the gladness that you have put in our hearts.

We give you thanks for the peace of your salvation.

Oh, hear the joy of our praise for your grace and mercy.

*Hymn 14 "For the Beauty of the Earth"

Invitation to Confession

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

Blessed Savior, you keep showing up for us in unexpected places. When we face uncertainty, you are there. When we worry about our tomorrows, you are there. And even in the doubt-filled lonely hours, you are there. Hear our prayer of thanks for your constant love, which convinces us to sing aloud, "Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine." Amen.

**Assurance of God's Grace

This is the good news of the gospel, and it is for you and for all.

Whatever you have done, whatever you have failed to do,

whoever you are, whoever you wish you were but are not:

You are accepted; you are welcomed.

You are washed clean; you are raised up.

You are forgiven; you are set free.

In the love of Jesus Christ, you are loved forever.

In the waters of baptism, we are set free to let go what is old and broken, to live a new life in the resurrection, and to follow together a joyful way, after Jesus Christ, our loving Savior.

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!

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings – Prayer of Dedication

Offertory Anthem "Come, Christians, Join to Sing!"

**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.**

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 – Gail Pittman

*Hymn 664

“Morning Has Broken”

First Lesson

Psalm 4

Answer me when I call to you, my righteous God. Give me relief from my distress; have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

How long will you people turn my glory into shame? How long will you love delusions and seek false gods? Know that the Lord has set apart his faithful servant for himself; the Lord hears when I call to him. Tremble and do not sin; when you are on your beds, search your hearts and be silent. Offer the sacrifices of the righteous and trust in the Lord.

Many, Lord, are asking, “Who will bring us prosperity?” Let the light of your face shine on us. Fill my heart with joy when their grain and new wine abound.

In peace I will lie down and sleep, for you alone, Lord, make me dwell in safety.

Second Lesson

Luke 24: 13-35

Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; but they were kept from recognizing him.

He asked them, “What are you discussing together as you walk along?”

They stood still, their faces downcast. One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, “Are you the only one visiting Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?”

“What things?” he asked.

“About Jesus of Nazareth,” they replied. “He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place. In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning but didn’t find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive. Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see Jesus.”

He said to them, “How foolish you are, and how slow to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Did not the Messiah have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?” And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.

As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus continued on as if he were going farther. But they urged him strongly, “Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over.” So he went in to stay with them.

When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight. They asked each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?”

They got up and returned at once to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven and those with them, assembled together and saying, “It is true! The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon.” Then the two told what had happened on the way, and how Jesus was recognized by them when he broke the bread.

Sermon

“Now I Lay Me Down to Sleep”

The Rev. Dr. Steve Frazier

A Celebration of the Sacrament of Baptism

On behalf of the session of First Presbyterian Church of Portsmouth, Virginia, we present Everett Farrell "Rhett" Griffin to receive the sacrament of baptism. Rhett is the son of Richard and Katherine Griffin. They have asked Jay Jones, Dusty Jordan, Erin Winn and Carrie Griffin to be godparents. Standing with the family are Rhett's grandparents Earl and Diane Griffin and Jim and Jamie Farrell.

Hymn 726

“Will You Come and Follow Me?”

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

“In the Spirit”

Benoit

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

April Liturgist – Elder Todd Taylor

