

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church

Sunday, May 5, 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

"Elevation"

Choral Call to Worship

**Call to Worship

The psalmist encourages us to praise God for all the marvelous things God has done.

We join with all creation and praise, for God's love and faithfulness to us is endless.

We sing because God chooses us out of God's great love.

We choose God's love, which bears us in fullness beyond compare.

*Hymn 393

"O Day of Rest and Gladness"

Invitation to Confession

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

Forgive us, gracious Lord. Free us from our self-centeredness so we may love You and love others, and thus bring honor to Your Name. We pray through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Assurance of God's Grace

You promise to complete us with your joy, O Christ. This blessed assurance is ours as we do what you commanded and live in the fullness of love.

As you love us, give us the strength of heart to love one another.

Fuel us with love and joy, that our petitions might fly to your ear.

May our faith bear fruit that is pleasing to you.

We ask this in Jesus' name. 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!

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings – Prayer of Dedication

Offertory Anthem

"O God Our Help in Ages Past"

Woodard

O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home.

Under the shadow of Thy throne Thy saints have dwelt secure; sufficient is Thine arm alone, and our defense is sure.

Before the hills in order stood, or earth received her frame, from everlasting Thou art God, To endless years the same.

A thousand ages in Thy sight are like an evening gone; short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun.

O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, be Thou our guard 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.**

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.**

Time with Children – Nancy Grant

Hymn 516

“For the Bread Which You Have Broken”

First Lesson

Psalm 98

O sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things. His right hand and his holy arm have given him victory. The LORD has made known his victory; he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations. He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises. Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody. With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD.

Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who live in it. Let the floods clap their hands; let the hills sing together for joy at the presence of the LORD, for he is coming to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.

Second Lesson

1 John 5: 1-6

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

Sermon

“Love Songs”

Rev Steve Frazier

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

Hymn 305

“Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!”

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

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

May Liturgist – Corey McCormick

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	Gus Spanos
Angela Calicchio, Sofia's mother	Mike Mike Taylor
Terry Baker, Norma's sister	

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

MAY BIRTHDAY

1	Jean Byers
4	Mae Holoman
8	David Culpepper
12	Yolanda Faas
12	Charlie McCormick
18	Elizabeth Turner
20	Corey McCormick
21	Bob Graupmann
26	Diana Taylor
30	Scott Taylor
31	Monica Manley

The Women of the Church will have their May outing on Tuesday, May 7, at 12:00 p.m., at Roger Brown's Restaurant (316 High St., Portsmouth, VA 23704). Please let Mary Leming know if you can join us by calling (804) 350-0815 by Monday, May 6, 2024.

The Stated Session meeting will be held on Sunday, May 12, at noon in the Mary Rice Library.