

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church

Sunday, September 1, 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

"In the Garden"

John Hackworth

Choral Call to Worship

**Call to Worship

God teaches us the way of righteousness,
The way of love, the way of peace.
We glorify God,
Gathering to hear God's word.
We glorify God,
Enacting God's word in the world.

*Hymn 175

"Seek Ye First"

Invitation to Confession

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

Righteous God, you lead us by example through your generous love and remind us that there is always more to learn about what it means to live a life of righteousness. Help us to keep our faith nimble, growing with each new neighbor we meet and each experience we live. May we be doers of a word that is deep and wide, letting our lives reflect the love we have received. Amen.

**Assurance of God's Grace

We are a pilgrim people, always on the way towards a promised goal;
On the way Christ feeds us with word and sacraments, and we have the gift of the Spirit in order that we may not lose the way.

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

Selections by John Hackworth

**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 the life everlasting. Amen.**

Time with Children

Hymn 626

“As the Deer”

First Lesson

Hosea 5:15-6:6

Then I will return to my lair until they have borne their guilt and seek my face – in their misery they will earnestly seek me.”

“Come, let us return to the Lord. He has torn us to pieces, but he will heal us; he has injured us but he will bind up our wounds. After two days he will revive us; on the third day he will restore us, that we may live in his presence. Let us acknowledge the Lord; let us press on to acknowledge him. As surely as the sun rises, he will appear; he will come to us like the winter rains, like the spring rains that water the earth.”

“What can I do with you, Ephraim? What can I do with you, Judah? Your love is like the morning mist, like the early dew that disappears. Therefore, I cut you in pieces with my prophets, I killed you with the words of my mouth – then my judgments go forth like the sun. For I desire mercy, not sacrifice and acknowledgement of God rather than burnt offerings.”

Second Lesson

Matthew 9: 9-13

As Jesus went on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax collector’s booth. “Follow me,” he told him, and Matthew Got up and followed him.

While Jesus was having dinner at Matthew’s house, many tax collectors and sinners came and ate with him and his disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they asked his disciples, “Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?”

On hearing this, Jesus said, “It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. But go and learn what this means: ‘I desire mercy, not sacrifice.’ For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners.”

Sermon

“Known by the Company You Keep”

The 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 840

“When Peace Like a River”
(It Is Well with My Soul)

Benediction

**Benediction Response

“I, the Lord of Sea and Sky”

Hymn 69

**Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.**

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!

The Women's Circle and Prayer Group will be meeting on Tuesday, September 3, at 10:30 am. at the church. The bible study books are now available for \$10.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF PORTSMOUTH

Prayers of the People

Alice Lerp	Jean Byers
The family of Nancy Ward	Wayne Braswell
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	The family of Frances Hasty
Maria Rhodes	Mary, friend of Bobbi Stegall
Gus Spanos	Barbara Bond
Angela Calicchio, Sofia's mother	The family of Mike Mike Taylor
Cecilia Fry and children Alfred and Teresa Fry	Betty Hunt, friend of Michele
Dana Arden	Oralie Wilhite
Peggy Norfleet	David Stuart, Mary's brother
Nancy Grant	Mae Holoman

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

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

3 Lyra Furman	24 C. C. Smith
8 Sonia Powell	25 Oralie Wilhite
10 Bentley Breeden	28 Brian Patgorski
10 Collin Taylor	28 Dee Dee Straus
18 Rebecca Tanner	29 Bobbi Stegall
20 Karen Diggs	30 Toni Rutsch
23 Patrice Winkler	