

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church

Sunday, September 8, 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

"Blessed Are Ye Faithful Souls"

Brahms

Choral Call to Worship

**Call to Worship

Trust in the Lord,
Who made heaven and earth.
Trust in the Lord,
Who loves every part of it.
Trust in the Lord,
Who cares for those in need'.
Trust in the Lord,
Who leads us to do the same.
Let us worship God,
Who shows us the way.

*Hymn 453

"Open Your Ears, O Faithful People"

Invitation to Confession

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

God of mercy, in a hurting world, your love shows us another way to live. Help us to join in your work, mending what is broken. May our trust in you be our guide, leading us to care for our neighbors nearby and the ones we do not yet know. Amen.

**Assurance of God's Grace

God has forgiven our sins, that we may be healed and restored in grace.
Thank you, Lord. 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

"Alleluia Round"

Boyce

**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 the Children

Hymn 452

“Open the Eyes of My Heart”

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.**

First Lesson

1 Kings 17: 1-16

Now Elijah the Tishbite, from Tishbe in Gilead, said to Ahab, “As the Lord, the God of Israel, lives, whom I serve, there will be neither dew nor rain in the next few years except at my word.”

Then the word of the Lord came to Elijah: “Leave here, turn eastward and hide in the Kerith Ravine, east of the Jordan. You will drink from the brook, and I have directed the ravens to supply you with food there.”

So he did what the Lord had told him. He went to the Kerith Ravine, east of the Jordan, and stayed there. The ravens brought him bread and meat in the morning and bread and meat in the evening, and he drank from the brook.

Some time later the brook dried up because there had been no rain in the land. Then the word of the Lord came to him: “Go at once to Zarephath in the region of Sidon and stay there. I have directed a widow there to supply you with food.” So he went to Zarephath. When he came to the town gate, a widow was there gathering sticks. He called to her and asked, “Would you bring me a little water in a jar so I may have a drink?” As she was going to get it, he called, “And bring me, please, a piece of bread.”

“As surely as the Lord your God lives,” she replied, “I don’t have any bread—only a handful of flour in a jar and a little olive oil in a jug. I am gathering a few sticks to take home and make a meal for myself and my son, that we may eat it—and die.”

Elijah said to her, “Don’t be afraid. Go home and do as you have said. But first make a small loaf of bread for me from what you have and bring it to me, and then make something for yourself and your son. For this is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says: ‘The jar of flour will not be used up and the jug of oil will not run dry until the day the Lord sends rain on the land.’”

She went away and did as Elijah had told her. So there was food every day for Elijah and for the woman and her family. For the jar of flour was not used up and the jug of oil did not run dry, in keeping with the word of the Lord spoken by Elijah.

Second Lesson

James 5: 13-18

Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray. Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise. Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

Elijah was a human being, even as we are. He prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the land for three and a half years. Again he prayed, and the heavens gave rain, and the earth produced its crops.

Sermon

“The Elijah Lifestyle”

The Rev. Frank Drake

Hymn 697

“Take My Life”

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

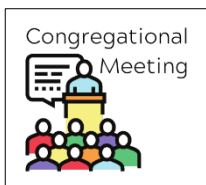
Peace of Christ be with you.

****And also with you.**

Greet one another with the peace of Christ.

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

Liturgist – Teresa Roberts



On Sunday, September 15, 2024, there will be a congregational meeting following the service of worship to elect an Elder Nominating Committee.



The First Presbyterian Book Club will hold its first meeting of the fall on Sunday, September 22, in the social hall immediately following post-worship fellowship. The book exchange has been so popular recently--we hope this will translate into more interest in joining the book club. At this meeting, we will make our reading selections for the coming year--please come join us with your recommendations.

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	