

# Welcome to First Presbyterian Church

Sunday, September 15, 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

"Moderato"

Gabriel Voightländer

Choral Call to Worship

\*\*Call to Worship

We have been gathered in this place for this time,  
**That we might hear the good news we can't help but to share.**  
On this day and each one to come,  
**May the words of our mouths, the meditations of our hearts, and the actions of our lives proclaim our faith.**

\*Hymn 386

"Come, Worship God"

Invitation to Confession

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

**Holy God, your wisdom cries out in the streets and your grace whispers in the wind. You speak to us in many ways. Help us to hear you in the carbonated laughter of a child and in weary sighs too deep for words. As you speak to us, let us speak of you, sharing what we believe with our words and our whole lives. Amen.**

\*\*Assurance of God's Grace

**We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.**

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

"God Be in My Head"

Rutter

God be in my head and in my understanding.  
God be in mine eyes and in my looking.  
God be in my mouth and in my speaking.  
God be in mine heart and in my thinking.  
God be at my end and in my departing.

*\*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 – Skip Baker-Smith

September Birthday Blessing – all with September birthdays are invited forward to receive a birthday blessing.

Hymn 458

“Thy Word Is a Lamp unto My Feet”

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

Romans 15: 1-6

We who are strong ought to bear with the failings of the weak and not to please ourselves. Each of us should please our neighbors for their good, to build them up. For even Christ did not please himself but, as it is written: “The insults of those who insult you have fallen on me.” For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope.

May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had, so that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Second Lesson

Matthew 6: 5-8

And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

Sermon

“Praying in Unison”

The Rev. Steve Frazier

Hymn 726

“Will You Come and Follow Me”

Benediction

\*\*Benediction Response

“I, the Lord of Sea and Sky”  
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.

Hymn 69

Passing the Peace of Christ

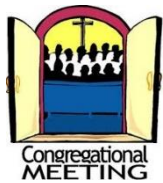
Peace of Christ be with you.

**\*\*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**



Today, September 15, 2024, there will be a congregational meeting immediately 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 club 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 join us with your recommendations.

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF PORTSMOUTH**

**Prayers of the People**

Alice Lerp	Jean Byers
Wayne Braswell	David Stuart, Mary's brother
Connie, friend of Oralie	Paul and Alice Butler
Lane Pittman	Oralie Wilhite
Josh Bennett	Robert Norfleet
Monica Manley	Kathy Goolsby
Jackie LaPonte	Betty Hunt, friend of Michele
Maria Rhodes	Mary, friend of Bobbi Stegall
Gus Spanos	Barbara Bond
The family of Mike Mike Taylor	Cecilia Fry and children Alfred and Teresa Fry
Dana Arden	Peggy Norfleet
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	23 Patrice Winkler
8 Sonia Powell	24 C. C. Smith
10 Bentley Breeden	25 Oralie Wilhite
10 Collin Taylor	28 Brian Patgorski
18 Rebecca Tanner	28 Dee Dee Straus
20 Karen Diggs	29 Bobbi Stegall
20 Toni Rutsch	