

# Welcome to First Presbyterian Church

Sunday, September 22, 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

"As the Showers upon the Grass"

Smith

Choral Call to Worship

\*Call to Worship

In this time set apart for worship, the Holy Spirit invites us:

**Draw near to God,**

Who is steady and sure.

**Draw near to God,**

Who welcomes those often overlooked.

**Draw near to God,**

Who draws us together, threads woven in a shared fabric of faith.

**Let us worship the Lord!**

\*Hymn 664

"Morning Has Broken"

Invitation to Confession

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

**Faithful God, you do not promise that following you will be easy, but you teach us that your way is one of peace, gentleness, and mercy, of welcome for all. Guide us by your wisdom and inspire us to embrace this way of living, so that we might draw near to you. Amen.**

Assurance of God's Grace

**We have been fearfully and wonderfully made by our God, who loves us just the way we are. 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

*\*Please rise in body or Spirit. | Words in **bold print** are spoken aloud or sung in unison.*

Be still and know that He is God. Be still and know that He is holy. Be still O restless soul of mine, bow before the Prince of Peace, let the noise and clamor cease. Be still and know that He is God. Be still and know that He is

faithful. Consider all that He has done, stand in awe and be amazed, and know that He will never change. Be still. Be still and know that He is God. Be still, be speechless. Be still and know that He is God. Be still and know He is our Father. Come, rest your head upon His breast, listen to the rhythm of His unfailing heart of love, beating for His little ones, calling each of us to come. Be still.

## \*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 670

"From the Rising of the Sun"

## 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

James 3: 13-18

Who is wise and understanding among you? Let them show it by their good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom. But if you harbor bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth. Such "wisdom" does not come down from heaven, but is earthly, unspiritual, and demonic. For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice.

But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere. Peacemakers who sow in peace raise a harvest of righteousness.

## Second Lesson

Mark 9: 33-37

Then they came to Capernaum. When he was in the house, he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the road?" But they kept quiet because on the way they had argued about who was the greatest.

Sitting down, Jesus called the Twelve and said, "Anyone who wants to be first must be the very last, and the servant of all."

He took a little child whom he placed among them. Taking the child in his arms, he said to them, "Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me does not welcome me but the one who sent me."

Sermon

"Childhood Wisdom"

The Rev. Skip Baker-Smith

Hymn 824

"There Is a Place of Quiet Rest"

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.**

Postlude

"Praeludium in A Minor"

J. S. Bach

\*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 beautiful flowers in the sanctuary today have been provided by Burma Smith, in loving memory of her wonderful husband, Leon C. Smith, Sr.

Thank you for these wonderful flowers, Burma!

If you would like to place flowers in our sanctuary in honor/memory of someone, please fill out an altar flower request form and place it in the offering plate, or on the desk in the office.



The First Presbyterian Book Club will hold its first meeting of the fall today in the social hall immediately following post-worship fellowship. The book club has been very 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.



!!!TWINS!!! - Ember and Everest

On October 20, 2024, Women of the Church will host a baby shower for Gabrielle and Matthew Goodrich. The congregation is invited to the event, which will be held in the fellowship hall following Sunday worship. Gabrielle and Matthew are registered at Amazon. Their baby colors are lavender and grey.

**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	Peggy Norfleet
Cecilia Fry and children Alfred and Teresa Fry	Mae Holoman
Dana Arden	

**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	