

# Welcome to First Presbyterian Church

Sunday, September 29, 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

"Perfect Love"

arr. Peeters

Choral Call to Worship

Call to Worship

We gather in this place seeking to live in faithful community and asking God to guide us.

**Lord, revive our souls,**

That we might lift each other up.

**Lord, revive our souls,**

That we might order our communities in ways that lead us toward love.

**Lord, revive our souls!**

\*Hymn 409

"God Is Here!"

Invitation to Confession

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

**Loving God, give us each wisdom to recognize our part in bringing your kingdom to life here on earth. May those in positions of power use their influence for the benefit of all. May those with the knowledge to heal give freely of their gifts. May those with imagination work to enact justice. May we all join in telling the world of your work among us. 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 – The Rev. Steve Frazier

Hymn 722

"Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak"

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: 1-8

Not many of you should become teachers, my fellow believers, because you know that we who teach will be judged more strictly. We all stumble in many ways. Anyone who is never at fault in what they say is perfect, able to keep their whole body in check.

When we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we can turn the whole animal. Or take ships as an example. Although they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are steered by a very small rudder wherever the pilot wants to go. Likewise, the tongue is a small part of the body, but it makes great boasts. Consider what a great forest is set on fire by a small spark. The tongue is also a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole body, sets the whole course of one's life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell.

All kinds of animals, birds, reptiles, and sea creatures are being tamed and have been tamed by mankind, but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison.

Jesus and his disciples went on to the villages around Caesarea Philippi. On the way he asked them, "Who do people say I am?"

They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets."

"But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?"

Peter answered, "You are the Messiah."

Jesus warned them not to tell anyone about him.

Sermon

"Tongue Depressor"

The Rev. Steve Frazier

Hymn 804

"Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!"

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!**

Today's Liturgist – The Rev. Steve Frazier



**!!!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  
Wayne Braswell  
Connie, friend of Oralie  
Lane Pittman  
Josh Bennett  
Monica Manley  
Jackie LaPonte  
Maria Rhodes  
Gus Spanos  
The family of Mike Mike Taylor  
Cecilia Fry and children Alfred and Teresa  
Dana Arden  
Peggy Norfleet

Jean Byers  
David Stuart, Mary's brother  
Paul and Alice Butler  
Oralie Wilhite  
Robert Norfleet  
Kathy Goolsby  
Betty Hunt, friend of Michele  
Mary, friend of Bobbi Stegall  
Barbara Bond  
Sonia Powell  
Bev Smith, Mallory's mother-in-law  
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  
Michele Graupmann  
Diane Griffin  
Mary Ann Taylor  
Michael Broadhurst

**TRUSTEES**

Earl Griffin  
John Hackworth  
Pat Sparks

**SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

3 Lyra Furman  
8 Sonia Powell  
10 Bentley Breeden  
10 Collin Taylor  
18 Rebecca Tanner  
20 Karen Diggs  
23 Patrice Winkler

24 C. C. Smith  
24 Michael Smith  
25 Oralie Wilhite  
28 Brian Patgorski  
28 Dee Dee Straus  
29 Bobbi Stegall  
30 Toni Rutsch