

# Welcome to First Presbyterian Church

Sunday, November 24, 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 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. **Today we welcome The Rev. Dr. Wilbur C. Douglass, III, to our pulpit. Thank you for leading us in worship today.***

Prelude

"Adagio from Fantasia in C"

César Franck

Choral Call to Worship

Call to Worship

Through the power of God, Christ our Lord sits on the throne of truth.

**As we worship, may this truth guide our thoughts.**

Christ our Lord sits on the throne of love.

**May this love guide our hearts.**

Let us worship our Lord who leads the way.

\*Hymn 273

"He Is King of Kings"

Invitation to Confession

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

**All-powerful God, as we recognize Christ's reign, we also recognize the earthly powers that compete for our loyalty. Guide us, Lord, as we engage in the ordering of these days. Train our hearts on your truth, that your voice might lead us in all that we do. Amen.**

Assurance of God's Grace

As we try to follow God's footsteps, we will falter.

As we try to lead others, we will falter.

However, God gave us the ultimate leader with Jesus Christ.

**Thanks be to God for the gift of his son.**

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!**

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

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings – Prayer of Dedication

Offertory Anthem

“Thank the Lord and Sing His Praise”

Renee Clausen

Thank the Lord and sing his praise. Tell everyone what He has done.  
Let every man who loves the Lord rejoice and gladly bear His name.  
He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy with shouts of Thanksgiving.  
Alleluia, Alleluia.

\*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. Dr. Wilbur Douglass, III

Hymn 37

“Let All Things Now Living”

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

Psalm 132: 1-18

LORD, remember David and all his self-denial.

He swore an oath to the LORD and made a vow to the Mighty One of Jacob: “I will not enter my house or go to my bed, I will allow no sleep to my eyes or slumber to my eyelids, till I find a place for the LORD, a dwelling for the Mighty One of Jacob.”

We heard it in Ephrathah, we came upon it in the fields of Jaar: “Let us go to his dwelling place. Let us worship at his footstool, saying, Arise, LORD, and come to your resting place, you and the ark of your might. May your priests be clothed with your righteousness; may your faithful people sing for joy.”

For the sake of your servant David, do not reject your anointed one.

The LORD swore an oath to David, a sure oath he will not revoke: “One of your own descendants I will place on your throne. If your sons keep my covenant and the statutes I teach them, then their sons will sit on your throne for ever and ever.” For the LORD has chosen Zion; he has desired it for his dwelling, saying, “This is my resting place for ever and ever; here I will sit enthroned, for I have desired it. I will bless her with abundant provisions; her poor I will satisfy with food. I will clothe her priests with salvation, and her faithful people will ever sing for joy.

“Here I will make a horn grow for David and set up a lamp for my anointed one. I will clothe his enemies with shame, but his head will be adorned with a radiant crown.”

Second Lesson

Revelation 1: 4b-8

Grace and peace to you from him who is, and who was, and who is to come, and from the seven spirits before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father—to him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen.

Look, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and all peoples on earth will mourn because of him. So shall it be! Amen.

“I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty.”

Third Lesson

John 18: 33-37

Pilate then went back inside the palace, summoned Jesus and asked him, “Are you the king of the Jews?”

“Is that your own idea,” Jesus asked, “or did others talk to you about me?”

“Am I a Jew?” Pilate replied. “Your own people and chief priests handed you over to me. What is it you have done?”

Jesus said, “My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jewish leaders. But now my kingdom is from another place.”

“You are a king, then!” said Pilate.

Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. In fact, the reason I was born and came into the world is to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me.”

Sermon

“Trapped by the Truth”

The Rev. Dr. Wilbur Douglass, III

Hymn 265

“Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun”

Benediction

Postlude

“Le Christ Roi”

Benoit

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

**The First Presbyterian Book Club** will meet in the social hall immediately following post worship fellowship on Sunday, Dec. 1. Bobbie Stegall will lead the discussion of the book *Demon Copperhead* by Barbara Kinsolver.

**Presbyterian Women will hold their annual Christmas gathering** on Saturday, December 7 beginning at noon at the home of Pat Sparks, 400 Westmoreland Ave. in Portsmouth. Lunch will be served, followed by a short program and Chinese Pollyanna. All women in the congregation are invited, even if you do not participate in Circle. Please call Pat at 393-0895 to make a reservation so that we will know how many places to set at the tables. Bring an inexpensive wrapped gift to participate in the Pollyanna game.

## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF PORTSMOUTH

### **Prayers of the People**

Alice Lerp	Jean Byers
Wayne Braswell	David Stuart, Mary's brother
Paul and Alice Butler	Lou Wilhite
Lane Pittman	Mae Holoman
Josh Bennett	Robert and Peggy Norfleet
Monica Manley	Kathy Goolsby
Jackie LaPonte	Betty Hunt, friend of Michele
Maria Rhodes	Mary, friend of Bobbi Stegall
Gus Spanos	Barbara Bond
Isaiah Burgess, friend of Matt and Gabbi	Sonia Powell
Cecilia Fry and children Alfred and Teresa	Bev Smith, Mallory's mother-in-law
Dana Arden	Nancy Grant
Carol Conklin-Collins, Mary Ann's sister	Family and friends of Erik Savereide
Michael Fitzwater	

### **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

### **NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

1 Betsy Brown  
4 Toby Pennell  
9 Graham Fitzwater  
12 John Hackworth  
15 Tanner Furman  
19 Sue Fay  
19 Corbin Taylor  
20 Paul Butler  
21 Ember Goodrich  
21 Everest Goodrich  
23 Diane Turner  
28 Connor McCormick