

*First Presbyterian Church
Fourth Sunday after Epiphany
February 2, 2025*



SHARE the amazing love
of God

REFLECT the light of Jesus
Christ

LIVE and serve joyfully
in the Spirit's
power

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" Peeters

Choral Call to Worship

Call to Worship

In You, O Lord, let us take refuge,
so we might never be put to shame.
In Your righteousness, O Lord, let us find deliverance,
so we might experience Your saving power.
In Your presence, O God, let us place our trust,
so we might find confidence in You alone.
You are our rock and our refuge, our fortress and shield.
We turn to You again this day. Amen.

Hymn 509 "All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly"

Invitation to Confession

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

Holy, loving God, we look to You this day to return us to the force of love. In our worship and witness, our works and our ways, may we be marked by the contours of Your divine love. Remind us that our songs and words, prophecies and gifts, are nothing if not done in love. Pour out Your Spirit this day, empowering us with the radical force of love. Amen.

Assurance of God's Grace

Above all, love each other deeply because love covers a multitude of sins.
We love because He loved us first. Thanks be to God. Amen.

Song of Praise "Sing a New Song"

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings – Prayer of Dedication

Offertory Anthem "To This Table" Marc A. Robinson

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.

*Bibles can be found in the back of the pew in front of you. | Words in **bold print** are spoken aloud or sung in unison.*

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 693

“Though I May Speak”

First Lesson

Jeremiah 1: 4-10 (RSV), page 647

Second Lesson

1 Corinthians 13 (RSV), page 1000

Sermon

“What the World Needs Now Is Love Sweet Love”

The Rev. Dr. Steve Frazier

The Sacrament of the Lord's Table

The Lord be with you.

Lift up your hearts.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

And also with you.

We lift them to the Lord.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

...Therefore with apostles and prophets, and that great cloud of witnesses who live for you beyond all time and space, we lift our hearts in joyful praise.

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!

...Let us proclaim the mystery of our faith: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

...Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever.

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.

Distribution of the Elements and Communion of the People

Hymn 726

“Will You Come and Follow Me”

Benediction

Benediction Response

“Jesus, Be with Us”

David Gambrell

Jesus, be with us. Help us each day to follow the gospel and live as we pray.

Send us your Spirit and show us your way. Jesus, be with us today.

Where there is hunger and thirst in the land, scatter the systems of greed.

Jesus, be with us; make use of our hands. Lift up your people in need.

Passing of the Peace

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

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF PORTSMOUTH

Prayers of the People

| | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| The Family of Jean Byers | David Stuart, Mary's brother |
| Connie, friend of Oralie | Paul and Alice Butler |
| Lane Pittman | Oralie and Lou Wilhite |
| 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 and Clara 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 | Mary Leming |
| Mae Holoman | Nancy J, friend of Oralie and Raymond |
| Danna, friend of Oralie | Wayne Braswell |
| John Hackworth | Everest Goodrich |
| Pat Sparks | Teresa Roberts |

Church Staff

Steve Frazier – Covenant Pastor
Edna Broadhurst – Director of Music
Gabrielle Goodrich – Secretary

SESSION

The Rev. Dr. Steve Frazier, Moderator
Michael Broadhurst (2025)
Michele Graupman (2025)
Diane Griffin (Class of 2025)
Norma Halterman (2026)
Cameron McCormick (2026)
Todd Taylor (2026)
Linda Audet (2027)
Sue Fay (2027)
Pat Sparks (2027)

TRUSTEES

Earl Griffin (2024)
Toni Rutsch (2025)
John Hackworth (2026)

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

2 Charles Bond
3 Lauren Graupmann
10 Logan Smith
20 Diane Griffin
20 Steve Frazier
24 Judy Powell
27 Betty Bartlett