

First Presbyterian Church
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 14, 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! A special thank you to Reverend Leigh Beasley Gillis for leading our service today.

Prelude

"Andante"

Flor Peeters

Choral Call to Worship

Spoken Call to Worship

The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance,
That Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.
Though the strong wind of judgment blows, all is not ended.
God will renew stubborn hearts and soften stiff necks,
For Jesus welcomed sinners and ate with them,
So, we boldly come to make an offering of worship to the God of mercy,
who seeks and saves the lost.
Let us rejoice in the grace of our Lord!

Hymn 412

"God, Reveal Your Presence"

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

God of grace and mercy,
we thank You for disregarding our foolishness
and teaching us Your holy wisdom.
Instill in us the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus,
who rejoices whenever what was lost is found.

Assurance of God's Grace

Where the Lord leads, we will follow.
When Christ speaks, we will listen.
Let us praise our God of Mercy.

Passing of the Peace – Let us greet one another with the "Peace of Christ."

Song of Praise

"Open Your Ears, O Faithful People"

Hymn 45

Open your ears, O faithful people; open your ears and hear God's word.
Open your hearts, O royal priesthood; God has come to you.
God has spoken to the people, hallelujah! God has spoken words of wisdom, hallelujah!
God has spoken to the people, hallelujah! God has spoken words of wisdom, hallelujah!

Time with the Children – The Rev. Dr. Skip Baker-Smith

Hymn 169

"Dear Lord and Father of Mankind"

*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.*

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings – Prayer of Dedication

Offertory Anthem

“Guide Me, O, Thou Great Jehovah”

arr. Parker

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.

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 14

Second Lesson

Jeremiah 4: 11-12, 22-28

Sermon

“A Strong Wind”

The Rev. Leigh Gillis

Hymn 738

“O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee”

Benediction

Postlude

“Hornpipe in D”

John Dixon

Please join us in the Courtyard lobby after worship for a snack and fellowship!

Pastor Biography

The Rev. Leigh Beasley Gillis is a native of Norfolk and a graduate of Virginia Tech, Norfolk State University, and Union Presbyterian Seminary in Richmond. She retired in 2024, after serving churches and presbyteries on the East Coast and in the Midwest. She especially felt called to transitional ministry, serving as Interim Pastor for nine congregations in VA, NC, and NJ. Leigh's mentor was the late Peter Steinke, whose lifelong work on Healthy Congregations has helped countless churches. Leigh and her husband John enjoy traveling and spending time with each other and the grandchildren.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF PORTSMOUTH

Prayers of the People

David Stuart, Mary's brother	Kevin and Lynda Lee Lunday
Lane Pittman	Kathy Goolsby
Robert and Peggy Norfleet	Everest Goodrich
Monica Manley	Pat Sparks
Kim McCormick	Cecilia Fry and children Alfred and Teresa
Gus and Clara Spanos	Mary Leming
Jeff Baker, Norma's brother-in-law	Sotoko's Father
Bobbie Stegall	Jim and Joan Plaatsman

Church Staff

Edna Broadhurst – Director of Music
Gabrielle Goodrich – Secretary

SESSION

Michael Broadhurst (2025)
Michele Graupmann (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

Toni Rutsch (2025)
Gail Pittman (2027)

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
25	Oralie Wilhite
28	Brian Patgorski
29	Roberta Stegall
30	Toni Rutsch

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next building clean out/space reorganization is scheduled for 9:00 to noon on Saturday, September 20. Please come to the King Street portico for entry.