



First Presbyterian Church
Fourth Sunday in Lent
March 15, 2015

SHARE the amazing love of God	REFLECT the light of Jesus Christ	LIVE and serve joyfully in the Spirit's power
757.397.3622	515 COURT STREET, PORTSMOUTH, VA 23704	WWW.FPCPORTS.ORG

Coming Events

Sunday, March 15
End of shelter week
9:30 Breakfast
9:50 Children's music
10:00 Sunday school
11:00 Worship

Monday, March 16
7:00 Session meeting

Tuesday, March 17
6:00 Bible study

Wednesday, March 18
12:00 Mid-week Lenten Service and Luncheon at St. Christopher's Episcopal Church
6:45 Bells
7:15 Choir

Sunday, March 22
9:30 Breakfast
9:50 Children's music
10:00 Sunday school
11:00 Worship

Tuesday, March 24
6:00 Bible study

Wednesday, March 25
12:00 Mid-week Lenten Service and Luncheon at Ebenezer Baptist Church
6:45 Bells
7:15 Choir

Sunday, March 29
9:30 Breakfast
9:50 Children's music
10:00 Sunday school
11:00 Worship

Tuesday, March 31
10:30 Ladies' circle
6:00 Bible study

Wednesday, April 1
12:00 Mid-week Lenten Service and Luncheon at First Presbyterian Church
6:45 Bells
7:15 Choir

Reminder: The Court St. and King St. doors will be locked during worship. Please enter through the sanctuary during worship.

**Please rise in body and spirit.*

Made One by Christ

*** Welcome and Call to Worship**

Look to the Lord your God and live.

Give thanks to the Holy One, our Savior.

For though we once were dead in sin,
now, by the grace of God, we live.

News for the Good of the Church

Prelude "Jordon" arr. Johnson

Choral Call to Worship

Opening Prayer

***Hymn #415 (Red Hymnal)**

"Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy"

Clothed by Christ

Listening for the silence of God followed by the
"Gloria Patri"

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.

Corporate Prayer of Confession

In the name of Christ, I urge you:

Be reconciled to God.

Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

God our Redeemer, we confess that we are people of ashes and dust. We grumble and complain when You have provided all we need. We continue to walk in darkness when You have given light to the world. Forgive us, God of grace. Help us to trust in You so that we may not perish but may have eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Silence for personal confession

Listen; the time has come at last. Look; now is the day of salvation! In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God.

Sharing of Christ's Peace

***Song of Praise, Hymn #453 (Red Hymnal)**

"Open Your Ears, O Faithful People"

Sharing Christ's Promise

Prayer of Illumination

First Lesson Numbers 21: 4-9 page 134

Gospel Lesson John 3: 14-21 page 924

Sermon "Snakes in the Church"
The Rev. Dr. Kerry Know Westerwick

A Life of Blessing

***Hymn #209 (Red Hymnal) "My Song Is Love Unknown"**

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Choral Musical Offering "Oh, That Bleeding Lamb" arr. Dale Grotenhuis

*** Doxology Hymn #606 (Red Hymnal)**

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

*** Affirmation of Faith**

Why did Jesus have to suffer as he did?

Because grace is more abundant and sin more serious than we suppose. However cruelly we may treat one another, all sin is primarily against God. God condemns sin yet never judges apart from grace. In giving Jesus Christ to die for us, God took the burden of our sin into God's own self to remove it once and for all. The cross in all its severity reveals an abyss of sin swallowed up by the suffering of divine love.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

You may begin your prayers at the first chime sound. At the sound of the second chime, we will conclude our prayers together.

**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.**

A Life of Blessedness

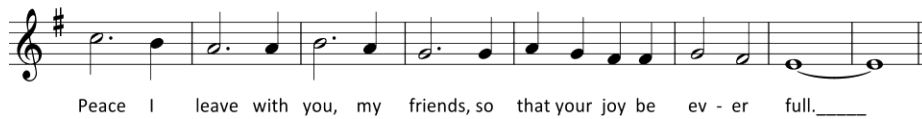
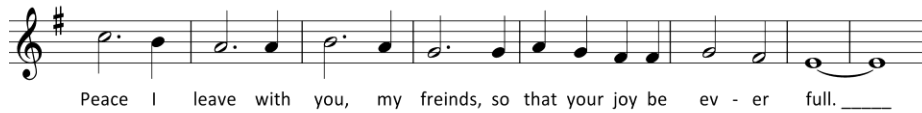
*Hymn #740 (Red Hymnal) "Lead Me, Guide Me"

*Charge and Benediction

Benediction

"Peace"

G. Norbet/M. D. Callahan



A Blessing in Music

"Voluntary"

Pachelbel

"Oh, That Bleeding Lamb"

*Oh, that bleeding lamb, the Lord done sanctified him.
Oh, that bleeding lamb, the Lord done sanctified my soul.
Oh, that bleeding lamb, the Lord done sanctified him.
Oh, that bleeding lamb done sanctified my soul.
Oh, that lamb, Oh, that bleeding lamb,
Oh, that bleeding lamb, the Lord done sanctified my soul.*

*The holy way the prophets went
that save their souls from banishment.
Oh, that bleeding lamb, the Lord done sanctified him.
Oh, that bleeding lamb done sanctified my soul.
Oh, that lamb, Oh, that bleeding lamb,
Oh, that bleeding lamb, the Lord done sanctified my soul.*

*I never felt such love before.
I'll go in peace and sin no more.
Oh, that lamb, Oh, that bleeding lamb,
Oh, that bleeding lamb, the Lord done sanctified my soul,
sanctified my soul, sanctified my soul,
sanctified my soul.*

The Vision of the Congregation: We see ourselves as the embracing arms of Jesus Christ for each other, for the community, and for the world.

Welcome to our visitors!

We hope that you find our congregation a welcoming one.
Your presence enriches our worship of God.

The flowers in the sanctuary today, given by Norma Halterman, honor Lanier Halterman's birthday today.

Calling all Shepherds! As part of our congregational care ministry, we need volunteers willing to be Shepherds. Shepherds participate in the phone tree for the church to spread news and prayer requests. Other activities include watching out for their lambs, perhaps with a birthday card/occasional phone call/flower delivery at Easter and Christmas. If you would like to be a Shepherd, please contact Oralie Wilhite.

The Scriptures are read from the pulpit Bible. The pew Bibles are a slightly different translation. To follow the exact text, use your smart phone/tablet, go to biblegateway.com and select the NRSV version.

Prayer List

Jeff Baker (Norma Halterman's brother-in-law), Betty Bartlett, Mike Broadhurst, Kyle Craig (Kerry's cousin), Jackie and Tyler Forsythe, Benjamin Gerlach (Pat Sparks' grandson), Tom Goolsby, Stephanie Green, Linda Hackworth, Mildred Humphrey (Lane Pittman's mother), Joyce Jenke (Breena Branham's mother), Joe Jennings, Mark Leonard (Claudia Laughlin's brother), Bob Pomeroy, Jr. (Diane Griffin's brother), Marina Reimann, Carl Rhodes, Georgie Stewart (David's mother), David Stuart, the Winkler and Powell families, Dorothy Wooldridge (friend of Carl Rhodes)

Everyone suffering with cancer and facing surgery

Our friends at home, especially

Margaret Glynn, Lanier Halterman, Frances Hardy, AT and Nancy Mayo, Ann Michaluk, Sue Parker, Lane Pittman, Burma and Leon Smith, Frances and Harvey Spiers, Robert Westbrook, Patrice and Phil Winkler, Joyce Wright, Grace and Harold Yingling

Leading in worship today

The Rev. Dr. Kerry Knox Westerwick
Mrs. Edna Broadhurst, Director Music Ministries
Reader: John Hackworth
Ushers: David Culpepper, Rudy Simpson
Counters: David Culpepper, Oralie Wilhite

March offerings

3/1 \$ 4,622.00 3/22 \$
3/8 \$ 2,358.52 3/29 \$
3/15 \$ MTD \$ 6,980.52
Backpack offering this month: \$188.00

March attendance

3/1 Worship 37 3/22 Worship
Sunday school 16 Sunday school
3/8 Worship 33 3/29 Worship
Sunday school 17 Sunday school
3/15Worship
Sunday school

The church office will be open on Wednesdays only, from 10:00 – 1:30.
Please call the pastor at other times.

In order to prepare the bulletin in a timely manner, all notices should be sent to the pastor (pastor@fpcports.org) and the bulletin editor (rjrodriguesiii@yahoo.com) no later than noon Wednesday.

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Session

The Rev. Dr. Kerry Knox Westerwick, Moderator of Session
Karen Diggs, Class of 2015, Clerk of Session
Worship, led by Agnes McFadden and David Culpepper
Congregational Fellowship, led by Oralie Wilhite
Administration, Property and Finance, led by Paul Butler
Mission and Outreach, led by Jennifer Patgorski
Christian Formation, led by Gail Pittman

Members and friends of the congregation are encouraged to contact the appropriate elder with their comments and suggestions.

Church Staff

The Rev. Dr. Kerry Knox Westerwick, Pastor 397-3622 ext. 202
Mrs. Edna Broadhurst, Director of Music Ministries 397-3622 ext. 203

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Birthdays</u></p> <p>3/1 Edna Broadhurst 3/6 Bob Powell 3/12 Burma Smith 3/13 Penny Brangan, Mary Fitzwater 3/15 Lanier Halterman 3/21 Mallory James 3/22 Jennifer Patgorski</p> <p><i>Missing a birthday? Please contact: Church pastor@fpcports.org 397-3622 Bulletin Editor rjrodriguesiii@yahoo.com Newsletter Editor slp149@aol.com</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Ministries for March</u></p> <p>Sunday school all month Diane Griffin, Gail Pittman</p> <p>March 1 Breakfast Sylvia Stephenson, Barbara Strickland</p> <p>March 8 Breakfast Claudia Laughlin Hospitality Kay Kidd</p> <p>March 15 Breakfast Pat Sparks</p> <p>March 22 Breakfast Todd Taylor</p> <p>March 29 Breakfast Diane Griffin</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Contact Us: 757-397-3622 www.fpcports.org infor@fpcports.org</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> Find us on: facebook®</p>
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