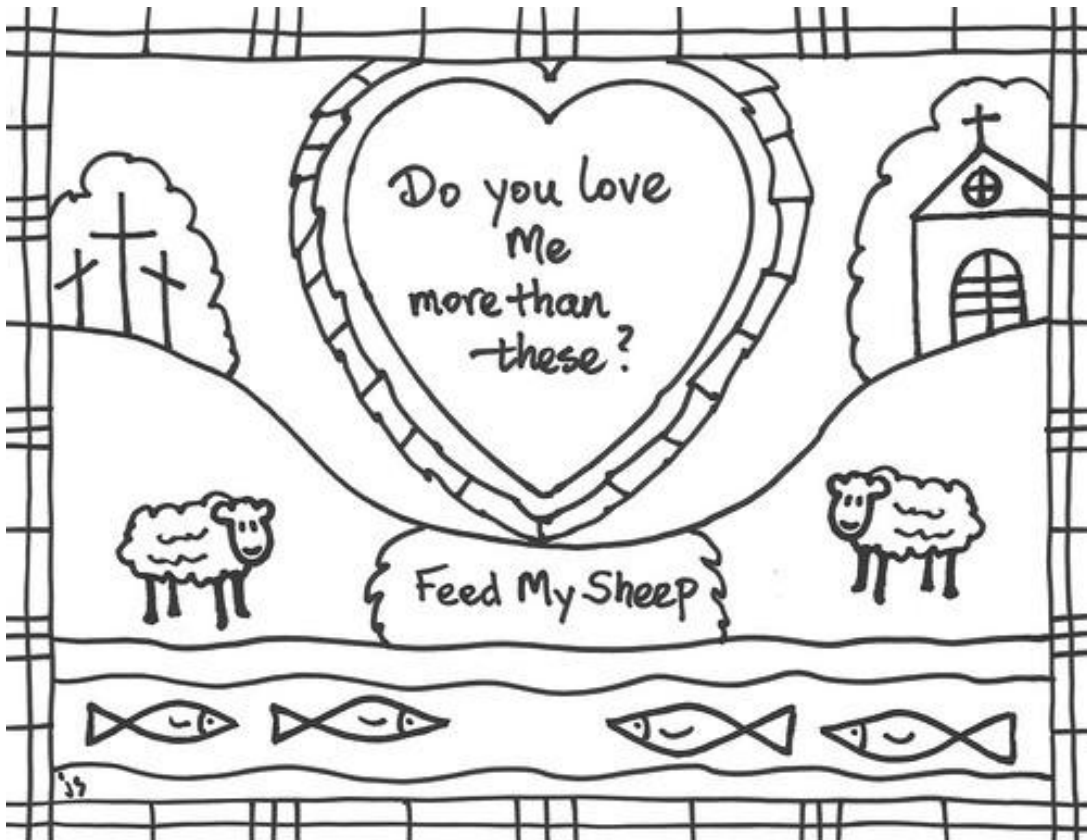


*First Presbyterian Church
Third Sunday of Easter
May 4, 2025*



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 St. Portsmouth, VA 23704 www.fpcPorts.org

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

"Elevation"

Joseph Martin

Choral Call to Worship

Call to Worship

We glorify You, O Lord, for You have lifted us up.

O Lord, our God, we cried out to You, and You healed us.

Sing praises to the Lord, O faithful ones, and praise God's holy name.

For God's anger is but for a moment, but God's favor is for a lifetime.

Weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes with the morning.

O God, You have turned our mourning into dancing! Let us worship God.

Hymn 369

"Blessing and Honor"

Invitation to Confession

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

Selfless Christ, though we rejected Your teachings, You poured out Your life for us anyway. In Your resurrection, You continue to nourish us with Your steadfast love and the power of Your Spirit. Enliven our hearts, that we might share the nourishment we have received and feed Your people. Amen.

Assurance of God's Grace

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

May the God of mercy, who forgives all our sins, strengthen us in all goodness, and keep us in eternal life. By the power of the Holy Spirit, this is the Good News of the Gospel. Amen.

Song of Praise

"Sing a New Song"

Hymn 276 – Refrain

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings – Prayer of Dedication

Offertory Anthem

"He Ain't Coming Here to Die No More"

arr. Noah Ryder

My Lord ain't comin' here to die no more. He ain't comin' here to die no more. Virgin Mary had a son, wicked people had Him hung. Hallelujah to the Lamb, Jesus died for every man, but He ain't coming here to die no more. He died for the rich, He died for the poor, but He ain't comin here to die no more. He died for the blind, he died for the lame, He bore the pain and all the blame, but he ain't comin' here to die no more.

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

Hymn 518

"Your Only Son"

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

John 21: 1-14 page 945

Second Lesson

Acts 9: 1-20 page 955

Sermon

"Saul Wakes Up"

The Rev. 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 526

"Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ"

Benediction

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

The flowers in the Sanctuary today are in loving memory of Jean Byers. Affectionately known as Ninny.

The First Presbyterian Women will be celebrating their 103rd birthday with a special event. On Tuesday, May 6, 2025, at noon, all women of the church are warmly invited to join us at Roger Brown's Restaurant and Sports Bar (316 High St., Portsmouth, VA). Please RSVP to Toni Rutsch at 757-483-8329. **Please note that this is not a cell phone.** We look forward to celebrating this momentous occasion with you!

Offering Collection: The 2025 Presbyterian Women's Birthday offering will be collected throughout the month of May. Envelopes for your contributions will be available in the Courtyard foyer near the poster. Kindly take an envelope, print your name on it, and place it in the offering plate during services.

Celebration: On Sunday, May 18th, the women of the church will be serving birthday cake after the services to commemorate our 103rd birthday. Please join us in celebrating this special occasion.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF PORTSMOUTH

Prayers of the People

David Stuart, Mary's brother	Mary Leming
Paul and Alice Butler	Sonia Powell
Lane Pittman	Lou Wilhite
Josh Bennett	Robert and Peggy Norfleet
Monica Manley	Kathy Goolsby
Teresa Roberts	Ray Rood
Maria Rhodes	Kim McCormick
Gus and Clara Spanos	The family of John Hackworth
Isaiah Burgess, friend of Matt and Gabbi	Jeff Baker, Norma's brother-in-law
Dana Arden	Madeline Calicchio
Mae Holoman	
Everest Goodrich	
Diane Griffin	

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 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

Earl Griffin (2024)
Toni Rutsch (2025)

MAY BIRTHDAYS

4 Linda Audet
4 Mae Holoman
8 David Culpepper
12 Yolanda Faas
12 Charlie McCormick
18 Elizabeth Wells (Turner)
20 Corey McCormick
21 Bob Graupmann
26 Diana Taylor
30 Scott Taylor
31 Monica Manley