

First Presbyterian Church
Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 18, 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

"A Plaintive Song"

Herbert Colvin

Choral Call to Worship

Call to Worship

Hallelujah! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise God on high!
Praise God, sun and moon. Praise God, all you shining stars!
Praise God from the earth, you sea monsters and ocean depths!
Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars, praise the Lord!
Kings and all peoples of the earth, princes and all rulers of the earth, praise the Lord!
Old and young together, all people, praise the Lord!
Let us worship God!

Hymn 14

"For the Beauty of the Earth"

Invitation to Confession

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

Ever-present God, we give thanks that You have made Your dwelling place among Your people. We trust Your promises of a just future, and we wish to play our part. Christ has taught us to love one another. Help us to keep this commandment in our minds and hearts, that we might come to realize the new heaven and new earth awaiting us. Amen.

Assurance of God's Grace

Though we walk through the shadow of death, we shall fear no evil,
For You are with us, Lord; Thy rod and Thy staff comfort us.
Let us sing to His glory together.

Song of Praise

"Sing a New Song"

Hymn 276 – Refrain

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings – Prayer of Dedication

Offertory Anthem

"Celtic Prayer"

Cabaniss arr. Purifoy

Hear my voice, most gracious Lord. O hear the prayer within my soul. May the words rise to You with songs of praise. Give me peace touch my heart to feel Your everlasting love. Hear my prayer, Holy Lord, in the morning when I rise. Lead my life most faithful Lord, to seek Your thoughts and know Your will. For my soul longs to dwell within Your care. Give me strength; guide my steps, to live according to Your Word. Lead my life, Holy Lord, in the beauty of Your grace. Search me, O Lord, and know my heart. Try me, O God and know my thoughts. Find any wrong that dwells within my heart. Lead me forever in Your everlasting love. I will sing with all my heart; I sing of God's unchanging love. For His mercy endures forevermore. May my trust rest in God to know the fullness of His grace. Hear my prayer, Holy Lord, in the stillness of this hour.

*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.*

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 – Skip Baker-Smith

Hymn 203

“Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love”

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 13: 31-35, page 938

Second Lesson

Revelation 21: 1-6, page 1085

Sermon

“A World in Chaos – A Promise in Hope”

The Rev. Steve Frazier

Hymn 634

“To God Be the Glory”

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 after worship for a snack and fellowship!



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 service.

Today, May 18, the women of the church will be serving birthday cake after the service to commemorate our 103rd birthday. Please join us in celebrating this special occasion.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF PORTSMOUTH

Prayers of the People

Mary Leming
The family of Mae Holoman
The family of Paul Butler
Lane Pittman
Josh Bennett
Monica Manley
Teresa Roberts
Maria Rhodes
Gus and Clara Spanos
Jeff Baker, Norma's brother-in-law
Dana Arden

David Stuart, Mary's brother
Madeline Calicchio
Sonia Powell
Lou Wilhite
Robert and Peggy Norfleet
Kathy Goolsby
Ray Rood
Kim McCormick
Diane Griffin
Everest Goodrich

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
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