

*First Presbyterian Church
Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
August 17, 2025*

back 2 school
prayer

"Dear Lord, use my eyes to *see* new friends.

Open my ears to *hear* my teacher.

Open my mind to *learn* new things.

Let my heart *remember* YOU are near
when I'm afraid.

Help me to *love* others like you do.

I want to *shine* your light so bright in my school."
Amen.

© Courtney DeFeo

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.

Prelude

"Gymnopedie No. 1"
arr. M Broadhurst

Satie

Choral Call to Worship

Spoken Call to Worship

In a world where lies surround us,
Your word is like fire, God nearby!
In a world full of false prophets and empty promises,
Your word is like fire, God nearby!
In a world where words don't have meaning,
Your word is like fire, God nearby!
We are here, ready for our faith to be kindled by Your word.
We are here to worship the God who is nearby!

Hymn 409

"God Is Here!"

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

God of the ages,
when we face raging fires
and imprisoning chains,
give us the faith of our ancestors.
When we encounter the edge of violence,
give us the faith of our ancestors.
When we are persecuted and tormented
by the evils of this world,
give us the faith of our ancestors.
When we have to go about in disguise
because we can't be ourselves,
give us the faith of our ancestors.
When we wander in deserts and mountains
and hide in caves and holes in the ground,
give us the faith of our ancestors.
Even when we know we may not see the fruit of our labor,
even if we can't reach the promised land,
give us the faith of our ancestors.
We give thanks that perseverance will one day bear fruit,
that we don't run this race alone,
and that our ancestors go with us now and always.
Amen

Assurance of God's Grace

God is our help and our hope. Do not be afraid! In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

*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.*

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

Song of Praise

“Open Your Ears, O Faithful People”

Hymn 453

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

Hymn 175

“Seek Ye First”

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings – Prayer of Dedication

Offertory Anthem

“O God Our Help in Ages Past”

arr. Hopson

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.

Scripture

Joshua 24 13:-15

Scripture

Luke 12:13-21

Sermon

“Summer: Season of Dangers, Choices, and Surprises” The Rev. Dr. Robert Gustafson

Hymn 804

“Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!”

Benediction

Postlude

“Rigaudon”

Campra

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

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	Gail Pittman
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
Bobbi Stegall	

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

Earl Griffin (2024)
Toni Rutsch (2025)

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

7	Makayla Winkler
12	Nancy Mayo
16	Wayne Rutsch
17	Carrie Griffin
19	Grady Fitzwater
19	Linda Rodrigues
20	Art Kennis
22	Emily Fay
23	Benjamin Kenrick
23	Richard Griffin
26	Kim McCormick
28	Linda Hackworth
29	Alice Simpson
29	Logan Aliff
31	Benjamin McCormick