

*First Presbyterian Church  
Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
September 07, 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](http://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! A special thank you to Lissa Long for leading our worship service today.*

Prelude

"Gymnopédie #3"

Satie

Choral Call to Worship

Spoken Call to Worship

There is good and there is wicked in the world.

**Lord, help us to find the good.**

The wicked are perishing. Like chaff, they will not stand before the Lord.

**Lord, drive wickedness away with the wind.**

The good is like a tree, planted by streams of sweet water.

**Lord, let goodness yield its fruit in every season.**

Our delight is in the law of the Lord.

**Let us meditate upon God's promises from morning into night.**

Hymn 509

"All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly"

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

**God our Judge, we meditate upon Your promises from morning into night.**

**Our delight is in Your law. Let goodness yield its fruit in every season,**

**that, like a tree planted by streams of sweet water, we might find the good and live how**

**You intended: free, flourishing, and in peace. Amen.**

Assurance of God's Grace

Look to God; do not be afraid.

**In the Lord, we are ever thankful. We lift our voices, for the Lord is near.**

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 – Gail Pittman

Hymn 457

"How Happy Are the Saints of God"

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings – Prayer of Dedication

Offertory Anthem

"To This Table Let Us Come"

Marc Robinson

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.**

*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.*

## 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 1 page 465

Second Lesson Luke 14: 25-33 page 908

Sermon "Making Space for Jesus" Pastor Lissa Long

## 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 724 "O Jesus, I Have Promised"

Benediction

Postlude

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

### 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 & 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)

### SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

3	Lyra Furman	10	Collin Taylor	23	Patrice Winkler	28	Brian Patgorski
8	Sonia Powell	18	Rebecca Tanner	24	C. C. Smith	29	Roberta Stegall
10	Bentley Breeden	20	Karen Diggs	25	Oralie Wilhite	30	Toni Rutsch

**Sunday, August 31** Total Offering \$2,654.00 Total Worship Attendance 29

**Special Offering** Clara Spanos – in honor of Pat Sparks

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**The flowers in the sanctuary** this morning are given by the Presbyterian Women in honor of Sonia Powell on her 96th birthday tomorrow. We believe that she is our oldest church member.

**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.

**After worship today**, there will be a congregational meeting to handle two tasks:

1. choose a member at large to join Michele Graupmann and Diane Griffin (two outgoing elders) as the officer nominating committee
2. select three members for a pastor nominating committee.

If you wish to nominate a member for either committee, please secure that person's permission before the congregational meeting. Please think and pray about our making wise choices for these responsibilities.

### **Pastor Biography**

The Rev. Dr. Lissa Long moved from Charleston, SC, a year ago in August! Dr. Lissa is married to Grahame Long, Executive Director, Collections; Deputy Chief Curator with Colonial Williamsburg Foundation. They have two daughters, Macie and Sumner. Macie is a sophomore at Presbyterian College in Clinton, SC, and Sumner is a freshman at Lafayette High School.

Dr. Lissa works with the Presbytery of Eastern Virginia as the General Presbyter and provides compassionate support and visionary oversight of the members of the Presbytery. Dr. Lissa graduated from Presbyterian College with a degree in Religion/Christian Education and a minor in Special Education. Dr. Lissa earned her Master of Divinity from Erskine Theological Seminary and a Doctorate from Union Presbyterian Theological Seminary. She loves to walk, cheer on the Georgia Bulldogs (she grew up in Athens, GA), read, play mahjong, and getting to know new people.