

*First Presbyterian Church
Fourth Sunday of Easter
April 26, 2026*



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. Welcome! Today we welcome the Commissioned Pastor (CP) Randy DuVall to our pulpit. Thank you for leading our worship service today.

Prelude

"For Me to Live Is Jesus"
Clair Morgan, trumpet

Bach

Choral Call to Worship

Spoken Call to Worship

We have been through much,
but the Lord has been with us,
and so we find peace and give thanks.

**The Lord is our shepherd;
we have everything we need.**

Through shadow and light,
through death and birth,
through grief and joy,
we have never been alone.
We rest in that truth.

**Surely goodness and mercy will follow us all the days of our lives,
and we shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.**

Hymn 664

"Morning Has Broken"

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

**God our shepherd, You are our safe place,
our shelter, our ground, our breath.**

**We turn to You in hope and trust,
knowing we have come this far by faith,
and You will guide us all the way.**

**Mold our daily patterns for Your purposes
so that we may live as one heart and mind with You and our neighbors,
rejoicing together and praising Your holy name,
through Jesus the Christ. Amen.**

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!

*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.*

Time with the Children

Hymn 187

Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us"

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Anthem

"My Shepherd Is Jehovah"

Gilbert Martin

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.**

Affirmation of Faith

Philippians 2:5-11

"Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,
**Who, though He was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited,
but emptied Himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form,
He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death--death on a cross.
Therefore, God also highly exalted Him and gave Him the name that is above every name,
so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."**

First Lesson

1 Peter 2: 19-25

Second Lesson

Matthew 23:37-39

Sermon

"Why Should the Chickens Cross the Road?"

CP. Randy DuVall

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

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.

Hymn 838

"Standing on the Promises"

Benediction

Postlude

"Voluntary"

Purcell

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

Congratulations to the Rev. Dr. Skip Baker-Smith, who is celebrating his 45th ordination anniversary!

Skip will be recognized for this incredible milestone at the April Presbytery meeting on Tuesday, April 28, 2026. We are truly blessed to have his leadership, wisdom, and heart among us here at First Pres.

"His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'" — Matthew 25:23

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	Pat Sparks
Joseph Cain, Ann's uncle	Cecilia Fry and children Alfred and Teresa
Gus and Clara Spanos	Mary Leming
Jeff Baker, Norma's brother-in-law	Trish Ballentine-Terry, friend of Todd and Jerry
Bobbie Stegall	Joan Plaatsman
Rose Layman	Kathy Goodrich
Karen Hoy, Ann's mother	
Evie Goodrich, Matt's uncle	

Church Staff

Edna Broadhurst – Director of Music
Gabrielle Goodrich – Secretary

SESSION

Norma Halterman (2026)
Cameron McCormick (2026)
Todd Taylor (2026)
Linda Audet (2027)
Sue Fay (2027)
Pat Sparks (2027)
Michael Broadhurst (2028)
Diane Griffin (2028)
Dan Swanson (2028)

TRUSTEES

Kim McCormick (2026)
Gail Pittman (2027)
Earl Griffin (2028)

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

11	Diana Harvey	19	Jerry Freeman
11	Norma Halterman	21	Grady Kenrick
14	Lane Pittman	25	Raymond Rodrigues
17	Estelle Englund	28	Sharon Conklin
19	Sofia Calicchio	29	Alice Butler