

*First Presbyterian Church
Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
July 19, 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 Reverend Leigh Gillis to our pulpit, and Janet Phelps to our organ pit. Thank you!

Prelude

"Give Me Jesus
Janet Phelps, organ

arr. D. Wagner

Choral Call to Worship

Call to Worship

Surely the Lord is in this place, and wherever we may gather.

We know God's glorious presence meets us in our lives each day, waking or sleeping.

Surely, we are the Body of Christ – we need one another to survive.

We cannot say to one another, "I have no need of you."

Surely our God is a mystery that cannot be contained.

Let us worship our gracious, unpredictable, and infinite God!

Hymn 401

"Here in This Place"

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

Lord, You have searched us and known us.

You know our inmost thoughts and call us to better things.

**You have set us in this world to love and serve You by loving and serving one another,
to worship You by tending to those most vulnerable, but we fail.**

Please forgive us and do not abandon us.

Call us back home.

Renew and rekindle our desire for good, by the power of Your holy spirit.

Lead us in the way everlasting, through Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of God's Grace

Through Jesus Christ you are forgiven and restored to new life!

Amen!

Passing of the Peace

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you!

And also with you.

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

*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.*

Hymn 475

"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings – Prayer of Dedication

Offertory"

O Love That Casts Out Fear"

J. S. Brahms

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.**

Old Testament Lesson

Psalms 139: 1-12, 23-24

Epistle Lesson

Romans 8: 12-25

Gospel Lesson

Matthew 13: 24-30

Sermon

"God's Children – That Means You!"

The Reverend Leigh Gillis

Affirmation of Faith (adapted from the *Confession of Belhar*)

**We believe in one holy, universal Christian church,
the communion of saints called from the entire human family.
We believe that Christ's work of reconciliation is made manifest in the church
as the community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another.
We believe that unity is, therefore, both a gift and an obligation for the church of Jesus Christ;
that through the working of God's Spirit it is a binding force,
yet simultaneously a reality which must be earnestly pursued and sought:
one which the people of God must continually be built up to attain;
that this unity must become visible so that the world may believe
that separation, enmity and hatred between people and groups
is sin which Christ has already conquered,
and accordingly, that anything which threatens this unity
may have no place in the church and must be resisted.
Thanks be to God.**

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 686

"God of Our Life"

Benediction

Postlude

"Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing
Janet Phelps, organ

arr. D. Bish

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	Pat Sparks
Joseph Cain, Ann's uncle	Cecilia Fry and children Alfred and Teresa
Gus and Clara Spanos	Mary Ann Taylor
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	Jennifer Patgorski
Evie Goodrich, Matt's uncle	Carol Conklin-Collins, Mary Ann's sister
Nancy Grant	Kristin Finnerman

Church Staff

Edna Broadhurst – Director of Music
Gabrielle Goodrich – Secretary

SESSION

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

TRUSTEES

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

JULY BIRTHDAYS

6	Megan Diggs
8	Arianna Templeton
10	Riley Jane Smith
18	Daniel McCormick
18	Melanie Lutz
23	Robert Carlisle
28	Regan Taylor Smith