



**First
Presbyterian**
CHURCH OF PORTLAND

Service for the Lord's Day

The Gathering

PRELUDE

Adagio

Frank Bridge

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

Bread of the World in Mercy Broken Louis Bourgeois

Bread of the world in mercy broken, wine of the soul in mercy shed,
by whom the words of life were spoken, and in whose death our sins are dead:
look on the heart by sorrow broken; look on the tears by sinners shed;
so may your feast become the token that by your grace our souls are fed.

— *Reginald Heber, 1827, alt.*

(Paul Butler, Chelsea Janzen, Greg McMahon, Madeline Ross)

CALL TO WORSHIP

The morning stars sing of God's glory,
the waking birds raise a refrain of joy.
The sun warms us with God's hope,
the night sky whispers peace to our souls.
Creation's voice echoes in our hearts,
reminding us of God's steadfast love.
Come, let us worship God!

PRAYER OF THE DAY (*Unison*)

We praise you, loving and eternal God,
for your love of all people expressed in Jesus Christ.
We praise you for his commitment to justice,
his zeal for true worship of you
and his willingness
to replace all other sacrifices with the sacrifice of his own life.
Help us to follow in his way,
that we may become agents of your saving love;
through Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. Amen.

March 7, 2021
Third Sunday
in Lent
& Communion
Sunday

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*Unison*)

God of mercy,
we confess before you our quiet accommodation to the wrongs around us.
We have grown accustomed to the way things are in the world—
to the injustice, biases, and division that mar our common life.
Forgive us, when we have looked the other way,
caught up in our own concerns.
Forgive us the ways that we injure those around us,
and grant us grace to walk in your ways.

Our prayers continue in silence.

LAMB OF GOD

Ho - ly Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world.

Have mer - cy on us. Ho - ly Lamb of God,

you take a - way the sin of the world.

Grant us your peace; grant us your peace; grant us your peace.

Text: Trad. liturgical text Music: © Yusuf Khill (Glory to God No. 602)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Who is in a position to condemn?
Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us,
Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us.
Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:
in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God!

RESPONSE OF PRAISE

NETTLETON

Hear the good news of salvation: Jesus died to show God's love.
Such great kindness! Such great mercy! Come to us from heav'n above.
Jesus Christ, how much I love you! Jesus Christ, you save from sin!
How I love you! Look upon me. Love me still and cleanse within.

Text: Native American (Dakota); John B. Renville, 1879; trans. Emma Tibbets, 1955
Music: Wyeth's Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second, 1813

SHARING THE PEACE

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, we are also to forgive one another.
The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.
And also with you!
Please take a moment to be thankful for God's peace.

The Word

THE CHILDREN'S MOMENT

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 19:1,7-8a,11-12,14 Pew Bible, pg. 498 (OT)
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM Teach Me, O Lord David Hurd

Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes, and I shall keep it to the end.

Give me understanding, and I shall keep your law; I shall keep it with all my heart.
Make me go in the path of your commandments, for that is my desire.

Incline my heart to your decrees and not to unjust gain.
Turn my eyes from watching what is worthless; give me life in your ways.

Fulfill your promise to your servant, which you make to those who fear you.
Behold, I long for your commandments; in your righteousness preserve my life.

— Psalm 119:33-38, 40

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING John 2:13-22 Pew Bible, pg. 93 (NT)
The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON "Clearing the Way" Rev. Audrey Schindler

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*Unison*)*from A Brief Statement of Faith*

In life and in death we belong to God.
 Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
 we trust in the one triune God,
 whom alone we worship and serve.
 We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God.
 Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:
 preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives,
 teaching by word and deed and blessing the children,
 healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted,
 eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners,
 and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.

OFFERTORY

God the Sculptor of the Mountains

David Hurd

God the sculptor of the mountains, God the miller of the sand,
 God the jeweler of the heavens, God the potter of the land:
 you are womb of all creation; we are formless; shape us now.

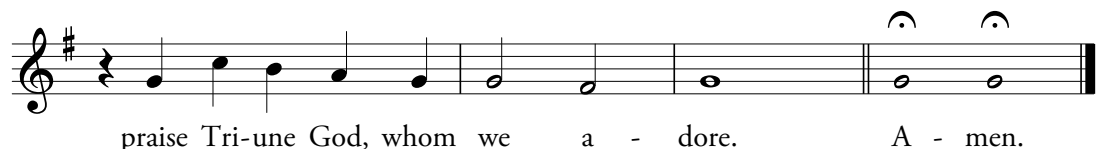
God the dresser of the vineyard, God the planter of the wheat,
 God the reaper of the harvest, God the source of all we eat:
 you are host at every table; we are hungry, feed us now.

God the unexpected infant, God the calm, determined youth,
 God the table-turning prophet, God the resurrected truth:
 you are present every moment; we are searching; meet us now.

— John Thornburg, 1993, *alt.*

Thank you for your support of the church and Christ's ongoing ministry. You may give through the church website (at this link: firstpresportland.ccbchurch.com/goto/giving) or mail your check to the church office: 1200 SW Alder St., Portland, OR 97205.

DOXOLOGY



Text: © 1990 by Neil Weatherhogg Music: © 2008 by Hal H. Hopson (Glory to God No. 608)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

The Lord's Supper

In this service of worship, in which we remember the last supper Jesus shared with his disciples, we invite you to participate in communion at home.

This morning's communion responses will be spoken.

PRAYERS OF GREAT THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

GREAT THANKSGIVING ACCLAMATIONS

(The prayer continues)...who forever sing to the glory of your name:

**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.

(The prayer continues)...that we might proclaim the One crucified and risen.

Dying you destroyed our death,

rising you restored our life.

Lord Jesus, come in glory.

(The prayer continues)...all glory and honor are yours, almighty God,
now and forever.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*Unison*)

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.

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

COMMUNION MUSIC Prelude on *Rendez à Dieu* Charles Callahan

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The Sending

HYMN #729 Lord, I Want to Be a Christian I WANT TO BE A CHRISTIAN

BENEDICTION

CLOSING RESPONSE God Be with You William G. Tomer

God be with you till we meet again; unseen wings protecting hide you,
daily manna still provide you: God be with you till we meet again.

— Jeremiah Eames Rankin, 1880

*During the penitential season of Lent,
it is our custom to conclude worship without a postlude.*

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WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Dr. Audrey Schindler, Pastor
Rev. Brenna Dykman, Interim Associate Pastor
Rev. Zane Buxton, Parish Associate
Greg Homza, Director of Music Ministries
Melissa Dailey, Lector

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

We join in holding in prayer:

Liz Dean, Ed & Janice Gehrig, Herb Grose, Carl Hammond,
Bob Hastings, Fran Hermanson, Carolyn McCall, Anna Myers, Pete Taylor
and others facing illness and loss.

If you would like your name added to the prayer section of the weekly bulletin, or confidential prayers,
please contact the church office at office@firstpresportland.org or by phone at (503) 228-7331.

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

*This morning, the sanctuary flowers are given in loving
memory of Esther Reschke, loving mother and grandmother,
by Vincent, Paula and Stefen Carpenter.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Join Us Virtually For Coffee Fellowship Today!

Join in Virtual Coffee Fellowship today from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm. We look forward to seeing you, dial in to say hello! **Join this "Zoom Meeting" by using this link:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88436962691>

2022 International Youth Mission Trip Meeting

It has been some years since the FPC youth have traveled overseas for care for the people of God. Youth and families who are interested and eligible (must be entering 9th grade in 2022) are invited to attend an introductory meeting to explore if next year might be the year to go abroad and what type of service God might be calling us too. We will meet **today at 9 am. Zoom Link:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88113910273>

Sunday Lenten Series – The Passion Narratives of the Four Gospels

The Bible gives us four uniquely constructed accounts of the suffering and death (the Passion) of Jesus Christ. Each writer has a narrative in mind and emphasizes the materials that support that narrative. When we mash them all together as if they were one story, we lose the clarity and the integrity of each story. This course will look carefully at three of these narratives: Mark and Matthew (considered together); Luke; and John. Naturally, the details differ, but the truth each writer wants to convey becomes remarkably clear and in many ways, this "old story: becomes several new and surprising stories. **Join Dales Hess at noon on Zoom today, and March 14. Follow this link:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81858531347>

Each Wednesday through Holy Week, we will be offering a Bach organ chorale to sustain us all in our Lenten journey. **Follow this link** <https://www.firstpresportland.org/2021/holy-week-easter/>

Bach and Sons Premieres March 19th

This month's *Celebration Works* presentation is more than a concert – it's an experience! Organist Jeannine Jordan will perform well-loved music by Johann Sebastian Bach and two of his sons, woven together with narration from women in Bach's life. But wait, there's more! The music and narration will be accompanied by a continuously changing backdrop of creative visuals by media artist David Jordan, transporting you to Bach's Germany. **View the concert on Friday, March 19th, at 7 pm and Sunday, March 21st (Bach's 336th birthday) at 2 pm. The program will be available until March 28th at** <https://www.firstpresportland.org/music-arts/celebration-works/>

Observe Lent with One Great Hour of Sharing

Each year through the One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) offering, we are given the opportunity to live out the call to become the beloved community of Jesus Christ. Traditionally, the weeks of Lent between Ash Wednesday and Easter are a period of prayer and sacrifice for Christians. You can make gifts to the OGHS part of your Lenten observance. The global pandemic has made this past year particularly challenging. OGHS reaches out with projects that share God's love. Our donations will be dedicated in worship on **Palm Sunday, March 28th.**

Drive-In Worship at Menucha on Palm Sunday, March 28 at 10:30 am (Followed by Outdoor Fellowship)

Arrive at Menucha a little early (10-10:15 am) and follow the directions from "parking ushers" to your place in the gravel parking lot. Menucha will provide palm branches. You'll be able to see the pastors on the hillside and hear them via your car's FM radio. Afterwards, everyone is welcome to stay until 2 pm for socially distanced fellowship, picnics, walks, and conversations. How wonderful it will be to reconnect face-to-face with others in our congregation! While we're not offering Palm Sunday brunch this year, you do have the opportunity to purchase hot cross buns baked in Menucha's kitchen for \$10/dozen. Pre-orders only at menucha.org/hotcrossbuns

Medical Surplus Recovery in Portland

In many countries there are hospitals and clinics with insufficient medical equipment and supplies to treat their patients. There are several US-based charities which collect this medical equipment and ship it to hospitals and clinics which are in need. Currently a group is being formed of those interested in establishing a charity in Portland to collect surplus medical supplies and ship those materials to healthcare providers outside the US. If you are interested, please reach out to Bill Resley at kayak500@gmail.com to learn more.



Purification of the Temple
El Greco, 1610



Mission Statement:
**Glorifying God,
Proclaiming Christ,
Serving Others**

Vision Statement:

At First Presbyterian Church, we commit to building faithfully on our legacy as a Christ-centered community, serving the spiritual needs of a multi-generational congregation, welcoming and accepting all, honoring all voices. Through engaging worship, thoughtful education, warm fellowship and caring outreach, we will develop and sustain disciples for Christ, serving our neighbors near and far.

PRINCIPAL CHURCH STAFF

Pastoral

Rev. Dr. Audrey Schindler, Pastor

Rev. Dr. Spencer Parks, Menucha Director, Associate Pastor

Rev. Brenna Dykman, Interim Associate Pastor

Rev. Carmen Goetschius, Parish Associate

Rev. Zane Buxton, Parish Associate

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Sunday Services online at <https://www.firstpresportland.org/church-life/worship-services/>

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Menucha (503) 695-2243