



**First  
Presbyterian**  
CHURCH OF PORTLAND

**Service for  
the Lord's Day**

*Please remember to silence your cell phone.*



**August 29, 2021**

*Fourteenth Sunday  
after Pentecost*

*Welcome to worship! In response to rising virus numbers and recent guidance, our church is again requiring that all those attending worship and any other events inside the church keep masked at all times to keep vulnerable members safe. A socially-distanced space is available in the front pews on the right-hand side of the sanctuary. There will be a chance to gather outside on the lower plaza following worship to greet one another.*

## **The Gathering**

**PRELUDE**                      Two Interlinked French Folk Melodies                      Ethyl Smyth  
*(Kathryn Hill, flute; Ann van Bever, oboe)*

### **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**INTROIT**                      Lord, Who May Enter Your House?                      John L. Bell  
Lord, who may enter your house? Who may remain in your presence?  
Whoever leads a blameless life, and does what is right;  
who speaks the truth from the heart, whose tongue is never used for slander.

### **\* CALL TO WORSHIP**

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the lands!  
**Serve the Lord with gladness;**  
Come into God's presence with singing.  
**We are God's people and the sheep of God's pasture.**  
Enter God's gates with thanksgiving and God's courts with praise.  
**Give thanks to God and bless God's holy name.**  
For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures for ever;  
**and his faithfulness to all generations.**

*\* Please stand if you are able.*

\*PRAYER OF THE DAY (*Unison*)

O God, author and giver of all good things,  
plant in our hearts the love of your name;  
make of our lives a blessing  
and bring forth in us the fruit of good works;  
through Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, forever and ever. Amen.

\*HYMN #12

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

ST. DENIO

\*INVITATION TO CONFESSION

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*Unison*)

Great and gracious God,  
we praise you for your love that has surrounded us from our birth.  
In the light of your great love, we confess  
that we have not always forgiven others as you have forgiven us,  
and have found it hard to love our neighbors as ourselves.  
Forgive us our sins and grant us the gift of your Spirit  
that we may joyfully live out our faith in you.

*Our prayers continue in silence.*

\*LORD, HAVE MERCY



Lord, have mer-cy up-on us. Christ, have mer-cy up-on us. Lord, have mer-cy up-on us.

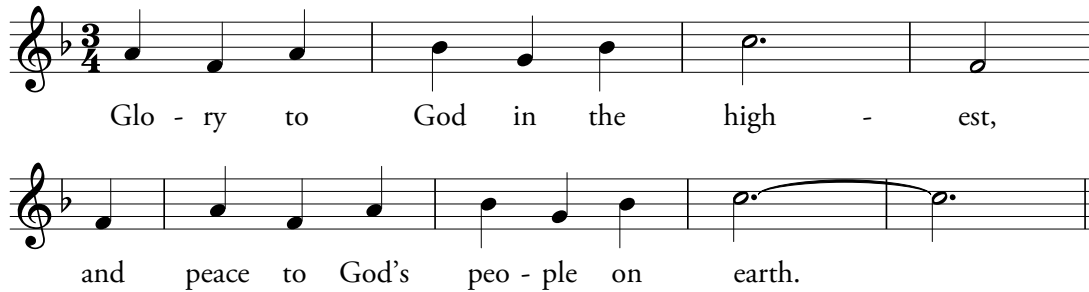
John Merbecke, 1550 (arr. Healey Willan, 1930)

\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The Scriptures assure us that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.  
Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:  
in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.  
Thanks be to God!

**\*RESPONSE OF PRAISE**

*– Please join in singing the refrain –*



Glo - ry to God in the high - est,  
and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

© 1995 by Hal H. Hopson

Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the most high, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of the Father.

**\*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 15      Pew Bible, pg. 495 (OT)  
The Word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

**ANTHEM** Blessed, How Blessed Traditional Scottish / arr. David Cherwien

Blessed, how blessed, those who thirst for goodness,  
open and hoping for God's righteous rain:  
God sends forth rivers to water the desert;  
God's love lasts ever; how blessed are they.

Blessed, how blessed, those who sigh in sorrow,  
furrowed and harrowed by sadness and pain:  
God walks beside them and enters their absence;  
God's voice gives solace; how blessed are they.

Blessed, how blessed, those who live in mercy,  
giving, receiving from God's warming grace:  
God's sunlight blesses all those who love kindness;  
love never ceases; how blessed are they.

Blessed, how blessed, those who work for concord,  
nation and neighbor abandon the blade:  
sword turns to plowshare, and fortress to forest;  
all in God's Oneness; how blessed are they.

Here God is reigning, here God's love sustaining,  
where all the blessed see God's dawning day:  
wounded and grounded, by mercy surrounded;  
foretaste and harvest; how blessed are they.

— Susan Palo Cherwien, 2019

**SECOND SCRIPTURE READING** James 1:17-27 Pew Bible, pg. 229 (NT)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

**SERMON** "Putting Faith To Work" Rev. Dr. Audrey Schindler

\***HYMN #308** O God in Whom All Life Begins **NOEL**

\***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*Unison*) *from A Song of Faith, United Church of Canada*

Jesus announced the coming of God's reign—  
a commonwealth not of domination  
but of peace, justice, and reconciliation.  
He healed the sick and fed the hungry,  
crossing barriers of race, class, culture, and gender.  
Jesus preached and practiced unconditional love—  
love of God, love of neighbor,  
love of friend, love of enemy—  
and commanded us to love one another  
as he has loved us.  
In Jesus' life, teaching, and self-offering,  
God empowers us to live in love.

**OFFERTORY** Andante cantabile *from* Trio, Op. 74 Karl Eduard Goepfert

*Thank you for your faithful support of the church and Christ's ongoing ministry. You may give through the church website at this link: [firstpresportland.ccbchurch.com/goto/giving](http://firstpresportland.ccbchurch.com/goto/giving) or mail your check to the church office: 1200 SW Alder St., Portland, OR 97205. Those attending worship are invited to leave gifts in the offering plates as they leave the sanctuary.*

**\*DOXOLOGY**

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise Christ, all people here below;  
praise Holy Spirit evermore;  
praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

Text: © 1990 by Neil Weatherhogg  
Tune: OLD HUNDREDTH, LM; Genevan Psalter, 1551

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION**

**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.

**The Sending**

**\*HYMN #295**

Go to the World!

SINE NOMINE

**\*BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

Prelude on *Sine Nomine*

Wilbur Held

**IN MEMORIAM**

We remember The Rev. Dr. William Creevey, Pastor Emeritus of First Presbyterian Church, who died on August 24, 2021.

We remember church member Carolyn McCall, who served at Menucha for many years, who died on August 25, 2021.

*And I heard a voice from heaven saying, Blessed are they who die in the Lord from henceforth, that they may rest from their labors; and their works do follow them.  
(Revelation 14:13)*

**WORSHIP  
LEADERS**

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

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**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, Myra Rounsavell  
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](mailto:office@firstpresportland.org) or by phone at (503) 228-7331.

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**SANCTUARY  
FLOWERS**

*This morning, the flowers in the sanctuary are given  
in loving memory of Jack and Polly Chapman's September 3, 1942  
wedding at First Presbyterian Church by their son, Rob.*

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**IN MEMORIAM**

*Our prayers and sympathy are with Gladys Creevey and the Creevey  
family on the passing of her husband, the Rev. Dr. William Creevey,  
and with Merritt McCall, and the McCall family, on the passing of  
his wife, Carolyn McCall.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **A Farewell Gift for Pastor Zane**

**Rev. Zane Buxton, [HR], our Parish Associate**, has let us know that he and his wife Karol will be moving to Eugene to be closer to their daughter. His **last Sunday with us will be September 5th** over Labor Day weekend. Following the service that day, please join us on the plaza for a farewell sendoff! You are also invited to join in a parting gift (traditionally called a "purse") to thank him for his time caring for the congregation. Checks may be made out to the church with "Zane's gift" in the subject line. We wish them well on this new chapter!

**The Presbyterian Women Ministry (PWM) Virtual Sale is happening from now until Thanksgiving!** An updated list is available in the Glass Office in the PWM box, as well as on the FPC website under "News and Events". All proceeds benefit PWM operating and mission projects.

### **QR Code for the Sunday Bulletin**

**For those joining us in service if you would like to go paperless, we now have a QR code available at the check-in desk to help you view the bulletin on your wireless device.** To use, open your camera and hold over the QR code. A message box will pop up on your device. Click the box and it will directly take you to the weeks bulletin. No special program is required. We will continue to have paper copies available for those who prefer them.

### **Pilgrimage to the Holy Land and Passion Play**

"Where God's Story Meets Our Story" is the theme of an international study pilgrimage of the Holy Land and the Passion Play in Oberammergau, Germany, led by Brian Heron, Cascades Presbyter for Vision and Mission, and pastors Steve Knox and Tim Cayton, next May 14-25, 2022 that explores how Jesus' story informs our story. The group has 32 reserved tickets but 21 of them have already been taken by Disciples of Christ and Presbyterians from around Oregon. However, interested persons can put a 'hold' on any of the remaining tickets to guarantee a place with payment due only when international travel is reopened, and the trip confirmed. For a brochure or more information contact Brian Heron at [brian@potc.life](mailto:brian@potc.life) or at 541-465-9173.

### **All Church Labor Day Retreat Postponed**

Out of an abundance of caution, the Labor Day Retreat Planning Committee and church leaders determined that postponing our All Church Labor Day Retreat is the wisest course of action. Refund checks will be issued for all registrants. If you have questions, you may contact retreat chair Lauren Deming at [laurendeming511@gmail.com](mailto:laurendeming511@gmail.com).

### **Open Circle Resumes**

Our next season will begin September 9 and we will be meeting at the church. Our first meeting will be a social gathering on the church plaza at 10 am. Please bring a snack and something to drink. We will be studying the book of James in the New Testament, using the study guide *James: A 12-Week Study* by Greg Gilbert from the Knowing the Bible series published by Crossway. This book is available for order from amazon.com (in paperback and Kindle format) and powells.com (paperback only).

### **Welcome New Staff Member**

We welcome Jennifer Matthewson to our church staff; Jennifer will be our Communications Coordinator, shaping the church's worship bulletins, newsletters, website and social media outreach, as well as helping with arrangements for memorial services. Jennifer had served previously on our staff, and we are glad to have her back with us! Her email is [communications@firstpresportland.org](mailto:communications@firstpresportland.org).

### **Staff Transition**

Recently, we farewelled Publications staff member Kim Hill, who has taken a new role serving in community development with a non-profit agency. We're grateful for her service with us over the past five years and wish her well in this new chapter. If you would like to send a card or email to wish her well, the church office can forward that for you. ([office@firstpresportland.org](mailto:office@firstpresportland.org)).

### **Scripture Readings:**

Next week's scripture readings will come from the Lectionary readings: *Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23; James 2:1-10 & 14-17*. You can find more information on the lectionary here: <https://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu> The church library has copies of a good study Bible if you're looking for more background: *The New Oxford Annotated Bible with Apocrypha: New Revised Standard Version*.





Vincent Van Gogh, "Peasant Woman Binding Sheaves," after Millet, 1889



*Mission Statement:*

**G**lorifying God,  
**P**roclaiming Christ,  
**S**erving 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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### Music

Greg Homza, Director of Music Ministries

[ghomza@firstpresportland.org](mailto:ghomza@firstpresportland.org)

### Administration

Marc Lavender, Church Business Administrator

[cba@firstpresportland.org](mailto:cba@firstpresportland.org)

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

Church Office (503) 228-7331

Menucha (503) 695-2243