



**First
Presbyterian**
CHURCH OF PORTLAND

**Service for
the Lord's Day**

Please remember to silence your cell phone.



September 12, 2021

*Sixteenth 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 plaza following worship to greet one another.

The Gathering

PRELUDE Two settings of *Liebster Jesu, wir sind hier* (BWV 730 & 731) J.S. Bach

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT Somlandela Traditional Zulu (arr. Dean McIntyre)

We will follow, we will follow Jesus. We will follow, we will follow him.
We will follow, we will follow Jesus. We will follow Jesus where he leads us.

Through the valleys, we will follow Jesus. To the mountains, we will follow him.
In the city, we will follow Jesus. We will follow Jesus where he leads us.

In our calling, we will follow Jesus. In our calling, we will follow him.
In our calling, we will follow Jesus. We will follow Jesus where he leads us.

* CALL TO WORSHIP

The heavens are telling the glory of God,
and the firmament shows forth the work of God's hands.
One day tells its tale to another,
and night to night imparts knowledge.
Their sound has gone out into all the lands,
and their message, to the ends of the earth.
Let us rejoice in the glory of God!

**Please stand if you are able.*

*** PRAYER OF THE DAY** (*Unison*)

Almighty God,
You call your church to witness
that in Christ, we are reconciled to you.
Help us so to proclaim the good news of your love,
that all who hear it may turn to you;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who reigns with you, and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. Amen.

*** HYMN #395**

Blessed Jesus, at Your Word

LIEBSTER JESU

*** INVITATION TO CONFESSION**

*** PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (*Unison*)

Merciful God, in your gracious presence we confess our sin and the sin
of this world. Although Christ is among us as our peace, we too often
cling to the values of a broken world.
We are too often hesitant to give account for the hope we have in you,
reluctant witnesses to your grace.
Lord, have mercy upon us. Set us free to take up our cross and follow
you in faith wherever you may lead. Amen.

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.

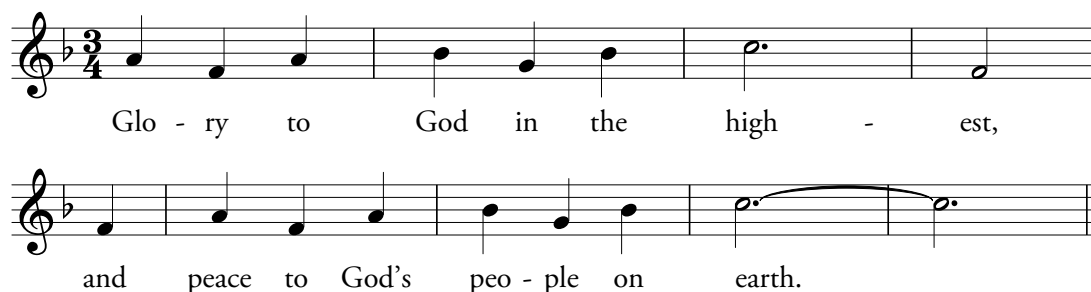
John Merbecke, 1550 (arr. Healey Willan, 1930)

*** ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Return to the Lord with all your heart, for God is gracious and
compassionate,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
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

WELCOMING OF CONFIRMANDS AND NEW MEMBERS

THE CHILDREN'S MOMENT & TEACHER COMMISSIONING

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 116:1-9 Pew Bible, pg. 564 (OT)
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM**Prayer**

Mark Schweizer

King of glory, King of peace, I will love thee;
and that love may never cease, I will move thee.
Thou hast granted my request, thou hast heard me;
thou didst note my working breast, thou hast spared me.

Wherefore with my utmost art I will sing thee,
and the cream of all my heart I will bring thee.
Small it is, in this poor sort to enroll thee,
even eternity's too short to extol thee.

— *George Herbert, 17th cent.***SECOND SCRIPTURE READING**

Mark 8:27-38

Pew Bible, pg. 43 (NT)

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

"Taking the Road Less Traveled"

Rev. Dr. Audrey Schindler

***HYMN #726**

Will You Come and Follow Me

KELVINGROVE

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*Unison*)*from the Confession of 1967*

The church gathers to praise God, to hear God's word for humanity, to pray for and present the world to God in worship, to enjoy fellowship, to receive instruction, strength, and comfort, and to speak and act in the world's affairs as may be appropriate to the needs of the time.

The church disperses to serve God wherever its members are, at work or play, in private or in the life of society. Our prayer and Bible study are part of the church's worship and theological reflection. Our witness is the church's evangelism. Our daily action in the world is the church in mission to the world.

OFFERTORY**Day by Day**

Martin How

Day by day, dear Lord, of thee three things I pray:
to see thee more clearly,
love thee more dearly,
follow thee more nearly, day by day.

— *Richard of Chichester, 13th cent.*

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 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 #826

Lift High the Cross

CRUCIFER

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Postlude in C Major

Henry Thomas Smart

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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". The list changes weekly, so please check the list for updated information! All proceeds benefit PWM operating and mission projects.

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. For a brochure or more information contact Brian Heron at brian@potc.life or at 541-465-9173.

Kids Sunday School & Nursery Begins Today!
Immediately following the Children's Lesson most weeks, children are welcome to either stay in worship or attend one of four Sunday School classes here at the church. Sunday School classes are led by trained, loving volunteers alongside some wonderful high school interns. Feel free to walk your children to class, or if they feel comfortable, interns and teachers can guide them.

Nursery (birth – age 3) — located across from the restrooms and next to the church office
Godly Play (pre-K – 2nd grade) – floor 2
Bible Crew (3rd – 4th grade) – floor 2
Jr. High (5th – 7th grade) – floor 3
The theme for the year is "We are all a part of God's Story." Want to know more? Please contact Pastor Carmen at cgoetschius@firstpresportland.org. We can't wait to welcome your children and nurture them in faith.

October SPIRE Reminder

Just a reminder that items for the October SPIRE are due to Jennifer on Monday, September 13. Please submit them via email to: communications@firstpresportland.org

Cooking with FPC

Ready to get cookin'? The Fellowship committee is starting a new zoom series - Cook it up with First Pres! September 19th at 5pm! Follow this link to RSVP, get the zoom link and see the ingredient list. <http://evite.me/9phtMPKZ4>
Amy Hall will be our first hostess - she is making one of her "go to" one pot recipes - Chipotle Chicken and Rice. We hope you'll join us (and maybe you can host with one of your favorite recipes in the future). Questions? Email Amy Hall at iamamyhall@hotmail.com.

New Course in Adult Education: Parables of God's Love from Children's Literature

Children's literature can be an outstanding source of contemporary metaphors about God's relationship to us and our relationships with each other. Just as the Children's sermon captures and illuminates the "Big Idea" of the Sunday scripture --- So too, children's stories, can provide profound insights into the nature of God and God's intentions for us.
This seven-week course will be offered Sundays from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm on Zoom. The link for the course is: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82086707479> This same link will be used for all 7 classes.

New Artwork in the Chapel

In the Chapel Gallery this week is a new Exhibition entitled "Hope in Every Step: the Immigrant Experience." Fifteen artists born outside the United States have their work on display, as well as the compelling personal stories of their journeys to a new home. We are all invited to join in welcoming them at an Artist's Reception scheduled for Sunday, October 3, following worship.

Scripture Readings:

Next week's scripture readings will come from the Lectionary readings: Psalm 1; Mark 9:30-37. 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*.

**WORSHIP
LEADERS**

Rev. Dr. Audrey Schindler, Pastor
Rev. Brenna Dykman, Interim Associate Pastor
Rev. Carmen Goetschius, Parish Associate
Greg Homza, Director of Music Ministries
Jon Bates, Lector

**PRAYERS OF
THE PEOPLE**

We join in holding in prayer:

Liz Dean, Ed & Janice Gehrig, Herb Grose, Carl Hammond, Bob Hastings, Fran Hermanson, Anna Myers, Myra Rounsavell, Tom Showalter, 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**

The flowers in the sanctuary this morning are in loving memory of Barbara Purdy in honor of our anniversary, by husband Bruce, and family.

IN MEMORIAM

Our prayers and sympathy are with friends and family of Mary Ellen Showalter, who died on Monday, September 6.



Welcome New Members

Today, we welcome the following members to our First Presbyterian Church congregation:

- Don R. Choi
- Aaron, Kara, Walker, Sophie June, and Ford Morris
- Lynn Schindler
- Sylvia Stater
- Olivia Coles
- Emily Rose Hall
- Margaux Johnson
- Margaret Shively



"Who do you say that I am?"

"Portrait of Christ," Heinrich Hoffman, 1884



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

aschindler@firstpresportland.org

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

spencer@menucha.org

Rev. Brenna Dykman, Interim Associate Pastor

bdykman@firstpresportland.org

Rev. Carmen Goetschius, Parish Associate

cgoetschius@firstpresportland.org

Music

Greg Homza, Director of Music Ministries

ghomza@firstpresportland.org

Administration

Marc Lavender, Church Business Administrator

cba@firstpresportland.org

First Presbyterian Church
1200 SW Alder Street Portland, OR 97205

www.firstpresportland.org

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

Church Office (503) 228-7331

Menucha (503) 695-2243



Thanks to those who have committed to nurturing the faith of our youngest disciples
at FPC for the coming program year:

Children's Ministry Interns:

Emily Rose Hall
Robert Miller
Sophie June Morris
Walker Morris
Margaret Shively

Nursery Volunteers (birth-3 years):

Bette Hess
Ann Walsh
Sandy Castles
Sally Bates
Sarah Schwab
Eloise Dick
Lisa Snodderly
Phyllis Whittington
Fonda Lucas
Dana Powers Green

Godly Play Teachers (pre-k - 2nd grade):

Anna Wells
Lori Webb

Bible Crew Teachers (3rd & 4th grade):

Estelle Brunner
James Brunner

Jr. High Teachers (5th-7th grade):

Daniel Dick
Amy Meabe

Materials & Display Coordinator:

Cindy Finch