



# First Presbyterian

CHURCH OF PORTLAND

Service for  
the Lord's Day

*Please remember to silence your cell phone* 

January 1, 2023  
*First Sunday of Christmas*

*Welcome to worship at First Presbyterian! At present, our church is following Multnomah County health guidelines, which recommend but do not require masking when attending indoor gatherings.*

*\*Please stand as you are able.*

## The Gathering

**PRELUDE**

Prelude on *Venite Adoremus*  
Prelude on *Bring a Torch*

Larry Shackley  
Marianne Kim

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**INTROIT**

Now Greet the Swiftly Changing Year

Alfred Fedak

Now greet the swiftly changing year with joy and penitence sincere;  
rejoice, rejoice, with thanks embrace another year of grace.

God's love abundant far exceeds the volume of a whole year's needs;  
rejoice, rejoice, with thanks embrace another year of grace.

With Christ the Lord to lead our way in want and in prosperity,  
what need we fear in earth or space in this new year of grace?

"All glory be to God on high and peace on earth," the angels cry;  
rejoice, rejoice, with thanks embrace another year of grace.

— Jaroslav Vajda, 1996



\* CALL TO WORSHIP

We waited,  
and imagined a savior.

We imagined power.

One like the world but stronger and on our side.

We imagined a king on a white horse wielding a sword.

We got a baby born in a stable among the livestock.

We imagined the word done for us through the destruction  
of our enemies.

We receive a baby who will teach us our calling to seek reconciliation  
and to love expansively.

Praise be to God for the unexpected babe of Bethlehem.

Praise to the wisdom of love. Amen!



\* PRAYER OF THE DAY (*Unison*)

Great God of our lives, you have been faithful in years past.

We thank you for your goodness towards us  
for your grace which has sustained us.

For the gifts of life and vitality, for friends and loved ones.

Above all we thank you for Jesus Christ,  
who is the foundation of our hope and  
the one who leads us in your way.

May your purpose be seen in our lives  
and your grace and hope shine bright in this world.

We ask no other prayer,  
other than that you would be with us  
in the new year which is about to dawn.

Lead us into great service  
as we seek to take Christ to others  
and may we do so without fear as faithful followers.

Through Jesus Christ the Lord, Amen.



\* HYMN #110

Love Has Come

BRING A TORCH

\* INVITATION TO CONFESSION

\* PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*Unison*)

Gracious God,  
we would like to be among those who saw the coming of the Christ  
Child, those who dropped all that they were doing and traveled to  
worship the coming of God's love into this world. We would like to  
be those who cared for God in infant vulnerability; who tickled and  
cuddled and comforted the growing child, that he might know love  
and safety.

Loving God,  
We confess our sins against you and one another, and pray that you  
will fill us with your light, that we may live our lives as true disciples  
in your name, without counting the cost.  
In the name of Christ,  
the one who showed us the way, we pray. 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**

Hear the good news of the Psalmist's proclamation:

If I say, "Surely the darkness will overwhelm me,  
And the light around me will be night,"

Even the darkness is not dark to God, and the night is as bright as day.

The God who promised never to leave us or forsake us has come to  
us in Jesus Christ. So arise, shine; for your light has come,

Thanks be to God!

**\*RESPONSE OF PRAISE**

GLORIA

Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;  
Come, adore on bended knee Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

**\*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

### CHILDREN'S MOMENT

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

### FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 148

Pew Bible, pg. 582 (OT)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

**ANTHEM**

Prayer at Christmas

Jane Marshall

May the spirit of Christmas linger awhile longer this year.  
 May the peace of Christmas be transformed into an earthly grace in the coming year.  
 May each of our hearts be a manger where this new life and this new hope is born.  
 May our souls be filled, our compassion emptied,  
 and may this Christmas become our offering, our thanksgiving, our joy,  
 our picking up and holding close the Bethlehem Child in all his guises.

— Alan Houghton, 1995



**SECOND SCRIPTURE READING** Revelation 21:1-6a Pew Bible, pg. 259 (NT)  
 The Word of the Lord.  
 Thanks be to God.



**SERMON** “Wisdom for the New Year” Rev. David Dornack

\* **HYMN #116** The Snow Lay on the Ground VENITE ADOREMUS

\* **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*Unison*) *from the United Church of Canada*

We are not alone,  
 we live in God’s world.  
 We believe in God:  
 who has created and is creating,  
 who has come in Jesus,  
 the Word made flesh,  
 to reconcile and make new,  
 who works in us and others by the Spirit.  
 We trust in God.  
 We are called to be the Church:  
 to celebrate God’s presence,  
 to live with respect in Creation,  
 to love and serve others,  
 to seek justice and resist evil,  
 to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,  
 our judge and our hope.  
 In life, in death, in life beyond death,  
 God is with us. We are not alone.

**OFFERTORY** Behold, I Make All Things New John L. Bell

Behold, behold I make all things new, beginning with you and starting from today.  
 Behold, behold I make all things new, my promise is true for I am Christ the Way.

*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

THE FIRST NOWELL

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Christ, all people here below;  
Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore.  
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel

Text: © 1990 by Neil Weatherhogg Music: THE FIRST NOWELL, LM with refrain; English carol

\*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 #119

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

MENDELSSOHN

\*BENEDICTION

By the tender mercy of our God love has broken upon us!  
Light is given where once there was darkness  
and hope where there was only death.  
We go into this season knowing that God  
will guide our feet into the way of peace.

Amen.

POSTLUDE

Go, Tell It on the Mountain  
(*Mike Starosciak, bass*)

arr. David Winkler

*Music reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-706706.*

**WORSHIP  
LEADERS**

Rev. Dr. Audrey Schindler, Pastor  
Rev. David Dornack, Parish Associate  
Greg Homza, Director of Music Ministries  
Shelby Walker, Lay Reader

**PRAYERS OF  
THE PEOPLE**

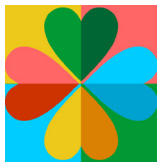
*We join in holding in prayer:*  
Kathy Callas, Ed Gehrig, Fran Hermanson, and others facing illness and loss.  
If you would like your name added to the prayer section of the weekly bulletin, or confidential prayers,  
please contact the church office at [office@firstpresportland.org](mailto:office@firstpresportland.org) or by phone at (503) 228-7331.

**SANCTUARY  
FLOWERS**

*Today's flowers are given in gratitude for Christ's presence on earth and in our lives by Will and Lauren Deming.*



"A New Heaven And a New Earth"



LOVE GOD.  
LOVE OUR NEIGHBORS.

***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. David Dornack, Parish Associate	ddornack@firstpresportland.org
Rev. Carmen Goetschius, Parish Associate	cgoetschius@firstpresportland.org

In an emergency, please contact the pastoral team by email.

### 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**