



First Presbyterian

CHURCH OF PORTLAND

Sunday Worship Service

10:30 am
March 19th, 2023

Fourth Sunday in Lent



Love God.
Love Our Neighbors.

Please remember to silence your cell phone.

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

** = Please stand as you are able.*

Regular text is read by minister
Bold text is read by congregation

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE

O Humankind, Bewail your Great Sin, BWV 622

J.S. Bach

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

Create in Me a Clean Heart

J.A. Freylinghausen

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from thy presence, and take not thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of thy salvation, and uphold me with thy free Spirit.

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Early each morning, God waits to greet us with joy and wonder.

We awake to find ourselves enveloped in grace.

Christ comes to invite us to serve.

We rise to bring healing and hope to others.

In the shadowed evenings of our fears and worries,

the Spirit is with us, the light of life shines upon us.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Listener to our hearts:

**you are the One who sends us on journeys
and waits for us at our final homecoming.**

Healer of our lives:

**when we find ourselves in valleys veiled in shadows,
you walk alongside us, though we may never notice.**

Comforter of our souls:

**when we are weakened by the burdens of our lives,
you come to us, to rest your strengthening peace upon us.**

We praise you that your care is over all whom you have made. Amen.

***HYMN#395**

Blessed Jesus, at Your Word

***INVITATION TO CONFESSION**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)**

Healing God, we have languished in our blindness, choosing at times not to see those in pressing need around us. In your light, there is healing and hope, restoration and transformation, yet we sometimes are afraid of what your light will illumine in our lives. Forgive our lack of faith and our fearfulness, we pray.

Prayer continued on next page...

Give us the courage to reach out to your light so that our lives may be transformed by your mercy.

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**

The good news of God's amazing love is this,
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**

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**

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.
And also with you!

Please take a moment to greet those around you with God's peace.

THE WORD

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Job 2:11-13

Pew Bible, pg. 454 (OT)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

For the Troubles and the Sufferings

Rodolfo Gaede Neto

For the troubles and the sufferings of the world,
God, we call upon your mercy: the whole creation's laboring in pain!
Lend an ear to the rising cry for help from oppressed and hopeless people:
Come! Hasten your salvation, healing love!
We pray for peace, the blessed peace that comes from making justice,
to cover and embrace us. Have mercy, Lord!
We pray for power, the power that will sustain your people's witness:
until your Kingdom come, kyrie eleison!

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

9: 1-15, 32-40

Pew Bible, pg. 102 (NT)

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you O Christ.

SERMON

“Struggling with Suffering”

Rev. Dr. Audrey Schindler

***HYMN #450**

Be Thou My Vision

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*Unison*)

from a Brief Statement of Faith, 1991

**We trust in Jesus Christ,
who healed the sick and bound up the brokenhearted.
Unjustly condemned, Jesus was crucified,
suffering the depths of human pain
and giving his life for the sins of the world.
God raised Jesus from the dead,
vindicating his sinless life
and delivering us from death to life eternal.**

OFFERTORY

Wondrous Love

James E. Clemens

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul?
What wondrous love is this, O my soul?
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul;
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul?

When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,
when I was sinking down, sinking down,
when I was sinking down, beneath God's righteous frown,
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul, for my soul;
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul.

To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing;
to God and to the Lamb, I will sing;
to God and to the Lamb who is the great I AM,
while millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing;
while millions join the theme, I will sing.

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on;
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on;
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be,
and through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on!
And through eternity I'll sing on.

Thank you for your faithful support of the church and Christ's ongoing ministry. You may give through the church website at: 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 you depart the sanctuary.

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise Christ, all
peo-ple here be - low; praise Ho-ly Spir-it ev - er - more;
praise Tri-une God, whom we a - dore. A - men.

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

*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

From Ashes to the Living Font
**From ashes to the living font your Church must journey, Lord,
baptized in grace, in grace renewed by your most holy word.**

ST. FLAVIAN

**Through fasting, prayer, and charity your voice speaks deep within,
returning us to ways of truth and turning us from sin.**

**We sit beside the road and plead, "Come, save us, David's son!"
Now with your vision heal our eyes, the world's true Light alone.**

**From ashes to the living font, your Church must journey still,
through cross and tomb to Easter joy, In Spirit-fire fulfilled.**

Text: Alan J. Hommerding © 2011 by World Library Publications
Tune: ST. FLAVIAN, CM; John's Day Psalter, 1562

*BENEDICTION

CLOSING RESPONSE

Amen

Roe VanBoskirk

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Thank you for joining us for worship this morning at FPC!

We invite you to join us for a coffee and get to know those who were here in worship with you today. Our Coffee Hour is held in Geneva Hall. You can access Geneva Hall by going out the large doors to the right of the front of the sanctuary going down the stairs directly to your right to the bottom level and taking a right down the hallway.

You may also use the elevator in our Chapel. You access the Chapel by going out the same doors, and it is the door on your left directly after the hallway.

Please ask an usher for directions and they will be happy to assist.

If you would like to get involved with the life of our church, you can either fill out the forms in the back of the pews or talk with any of the ushers or worship leaders.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Dr. Audrey Schindler, Pastor
Rev. Carmen Goetschius, Parish Associate
Rev. David Dornack, Parish Associate
Greg Homza, Director of Music Ministries
John Evans, Lay Reader

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

We join in holding in prayer:

Kathy Callas, Fran Hermanson, Ross Fogelquist, 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 are given in loving memory
of Henry and Muriel Hortenstine and Frank and Evelyn Beyer
by Sara and Katie Hortenstine.*

IN MEMORIAM

*Our prayers and sympathy are with the family and friends
of Dick Stetson, who died on March 9th.*

Blest are they that die in the Lord ... their works do follow them.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Celebration Works: MT Meadowlark

Today, **Sunday, March 19, at 2 pm**, Celebration Works presents a delightful collaboration of winds and strings featuring the **Meadowlark Trio and the MT Duo**. A reception will follow with refreshments. Free admission and free parking in FPC's garage. See you this afternoon!

Easter Lilies Orders are here

Easter lilies adorn our sanctuary and are hand delivered to homebound or ill church members to brighten their Easter holidays. You can help offset the cost by donating **\$18** in memory of or in honor of a loved one. Order online by clicking the **"Order Lilies" button on the front page of our website** or by clicking the link in this week's e-blast. If you need assistance ordering online, please call Sheila or e-mail the office. Please order your lilies by **April 2**.

Lenten Daily Devotionals

For Lent, our church is reading through **A Way Other Than Our Own** by Walter Brueggemann. This is a way to find grace, comfort, and abundance by the remarkable assurance that the God who summons us is the God who goes along with us. We are also hosting a **Wednesday Evening Soup and Study night from 5:30-6:30pm every Wednesday in March**. Our Adult Education Committee will lead a discussion on the prior weeks readings during these nights.

Easter Vigil; a recital of the Gospel of John

We invite you to participate in a contemplative recitation of the Gospel of John on Saturday, April 8 from 8pm - 9pm in the Chapel. Participants will take turns reading aloud. If you're interested in attending, please contact Pete Vanden Bosch. (petevandenbosch@gmail.com, 503-440-7886)

Palm Sunday Brunch @ Menucha

Join us at Menucha's Palm Sunday Brunch. This special event will take place starting at **12:45 pm on Palm Sunday, April 2**. Sign up in **Geneva Hall after worship**, or go to the church website, **click CCB, events, and then on April 2**. \$25 for adults and teens, \$15 for ages 6-12, age 6 and under are free.

Observe Lent with One Great Hour of Sharing

OGHS provides relief from natural disasters, food for the hungry, and support for the poor and oppressed here at home and around the globe. Our donations will be dedicated in worship on **Palm Sunday, Apr. 2**. Visit pcusa.org/give-oghs for more info

Women's Book Club

We invite you to join us on Tuesday, April 4th, at noon in The Heritage Room (#207) or via Zoom to discuss the book "A Road Called Down on Both Sides: Growing up in Ethiopia and America" a memoir by Caroline Kurtz. Caroline, an Oregonian and child of Presbyterian Missionaries from the 50s, joins us to discuss her book. Join us at 11:30 am and bring a brown bag lunch. Beverages will be provided before the meeting.

Sign up for the Women's Retreat: April 14-16

FPC's Women's Retreat will take place at Menucha from Friday, April 14, through Sunday, April 16, 2023. The **Rev. Dr. Barbara Campbell** will speak at this year's retreat. Registration will take place on **Sundays during coffee hour in Geneva Hall and on the church website through CCB**. Overnight accommodations are \$185, and commuters will be \$90. Alternative Diets have a \$15 surcharge. Scholarships are available by e-mailing Pastor Brenna. **The deadline to sign up is March 19th!**

Easter Items Needed

We are looking forward to welcoming children for the FPC annual egg hunt. We are in need of small, individually wrapped candies, or small toys or stickers to put inside each Easter egg. If you are able to donate, there will be a donation bin located downstairs in Geneva hall marked "Easter egg hunt" for the next several weeks! Please avoid sending items that pose a choking risk (balls, hard candy, etc.).

Soft Goods & Books!

Running from **now until April 30th**, the youth will not only be collecting soft goods, but books as well. This drive goes to support their mission trip to the Philippines. Both the soft goods and books go to a local thrift store, and the youth raise money per pound of items! So bring us those big books and old clunky shoes and more. **All items can be dropped off in Geneva Hall.**

CAN you Help?

With the rising cost of food and cuts made to SNAP benefits, our emergency food closet is being hit hard. For the next month we are collecting food staples: **peanut butter, tuna, canned fruit, canned soups**. As our space is limited, we are **ONLY collecting the above items**.

Please drop donations in the large Red bin in Geneva Hall or by the church office.

Vision Statement:

We commit to be a church that is:

Engaged: A forward-thinking and involved congregation committed to each other and to the wider community.

Inclusive: A faith community that affirms and welcomes all people.

Compassionate: A congregation that follows in Christ's way, advancing the well-being and dignity of all people, working for a just and equitable society, and caring for all creation.

Faithful: Living our faith authentically with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love while expanding the circle where God's love is known

Ways to get involved at FPC

Adult Bible Lectionary Study

Every Sunday @ 9:00 am via Zoom and in Room 308

Practical Theology Study and Discussion

Every Wednesday @ noon at the church

Open Circle

Every Thursday @ 10:15 am in the Heritage Room (207) and via Zoom

Chancel Choir

Practice every Thursday @ 7pm in the Choir Room

Sunday School: Pre-k to 8th Grade

Every Sunday @ 10:45 am during worship at the church, except for Communion Sundays
(First Sunday of the Month)

Volunteer @ Alder House Food Closet, Community Dinners, and NEFP

Contact Rev. Brenna Dykman for info

PRINCIPAL CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Dr. Audrey Schindler, Pastor

aschindler@firstpresportland.org

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

spencer@menucha.org

Rev. Brenna Dykman, Supply 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.

Greg Homza, Director of Music Ministries

ghomza@firstpresportland.org

Marc Lavender, Church Business Administrator

cba@firstpresportland.org



@FirstPresPortland



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Office Hours

Tues/Wed/Thurs: 10 am - 4 pm

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