First Presbyterian

CHURCH OF PORTLAND

Sunday Worship Service

10:30 am
April 30th, 2023

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Love God.
Love Our Neighbors.

Please remember to silence your cell phone.

** = Please stand as you are able.*

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

The Gathering

Prelude My Shepherd Will Supply My Need — arr. Thomas Keesecker
O God beyond All Praising — arr. Michael Larkin

Welcome and Announcements

Introit Alleluia — Norah Duncan IV

***Call to Worship**

The promise and power of Easter still echoes in our hearts:
With God, anything is possible.
Help us believe what we have not seen,
and turn to you in hope.
Your mercy and grace is generous; your love never ends.
Our cups runneth over.
Let us sing and offer God our thanks and praise!
Let us worship Christ, our Risen Savior.

***Prayer of the Day**

Awaken us, O God, to your healing love
that has transforming power in our lives.
Renew our hearts and minds
as we worship together today,
so that we might be changed
by Christ our shepherd, guide, and friend.
Amen.

***Hymn** O God beyond All Praising — THAXTED

O God beyond all praising, we worship you today
and sing the love amazing that songs cannot repay;
for we can only wonder at every gift you send,
at blessings without number and mercies without end:
we lift our hearts before you and wait upon your word,
we honor and adore you, our great and mighty Lord.

The flower of earthly splendor in time must surely die,
its fragile bloom surrender to you, the Lord most high;
but hidden from all nature the eternal seed is sown—
though small in mortal stature, to heaven's garden grown:
for Christ the one from heaven from death has set us free,
and we through him are given the final victory.

(continues on next page)

Then hear, O gracious Savior, accept the love we bring,
that we who know your favor may serve you as our King;
and whether our tomorrows be filled with good or ill,
we'II triumph through our sorrows and rise to bless you still:
to marvel at your beauty and glory in your ways,
and make a joyful duty our sacrifice of praise.

Text: Michael Perry © 1982 by Hope Publishing Co.
Tune: THAXTED, 13.13.13.13.13.13; Gustav Holst, 1918

***Invitation to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession** *(Unison)*

Merciful God, we confess that while we sing your praises,
our resolve to devote ourselves to your teachings is weak.
We find ourselves overwhelmed by the vast needs of the world,
and instead of serving our neighbors with joy,
we turn our attention inward, and we grumble more than we like to admit.
Forgive us O God, when our faith lacks courage.
Help us to trust your leading,
and live in the manner of Jesus, our Good Shepherd,
who seeks and saves the lost.

Our prayers continue in silence.

***Lord, Have Mercy** LAND OF REST

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.

Text: Trad. liturgical text Tune: LAND OF REST, 8.7.8.7; American folk melody; arr. Richard Proulx, 1984

***Assurance of Pardon**

Christ our Savior has promised us:
as far as the east is from the west,
so far has God removed our transgressions from us.
Friends, believe and live the Good News of the Gospel:
in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God!

***Response of Praise** LLANFAIR

Hail the Lord of earth and heaven! Alleluia!
Praise to you by both be given, Alleluia!
Every knee to you shall bow, Alleluia!
Risen Christ, triumphant now. Alleluia!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1739, alt. Tune: LLANFAIR, 7.7.7.7 with alleluias; Robert Williams, 1817

***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 Psalm 23 Pew Bible, pg. 501 (OT)
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Anthem Brother James's Air James Bain (arr. Alan Bullard)

The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want; he makes me down to lie
in pastures green; he leadeth me the quiet waters by.

My soul he doth restore again, and me to walk doth make
within the paths of righteousness, e'en for his own name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through death's dark vale, yet will I fear no ill;
for thou art with me; and thy rod and staff me comfort still.

My table thou hast furnished in presence of my foes;
my head thou dost with oil anoint, and my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my life shall surely follow me;
and in God's house forevermore my dwelling place shall be.

—Scottish Psalter, 1650

Second Scripture Reading Acts 2:42-47 Pew Bible, pg. 120 (NT)
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon "With Glad and Generous Hearts" Rev. Carmen Goetschius

***Hymn #372** O for a World

***Affirmation of Faith** *(Unison)* From the Brief Statement of Faith (PCUSA)

In life and in death we belong to God.
Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit,
we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel,
whom alone we worship and serve...
In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,
we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks
and to live holy and joyful lives,
even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth,
praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"
With believers in every time and place,
we rejoice that nothing in life or in death
can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

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.

Offertory Ubi caritas Maurice Duruflé

Where charity and love are, there God is.
The love of Christ has gathered us together.
Let us exult, and in him be joyful.
Let us both fear and love the living God.
And with sincere hearts let us love each other. Amen.

***Doxology** LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures high and low.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise God, in Jesus fully known:
Creator, Word, and Spirit one.
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Text: Brian Wren, 1989 Tune: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, LM with alleluias; Geistliche Kirchengesänge, 1623

***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 #238** Thine Is the Glory

***Benediction**

Postlude O Lamm Gottes, unschuldig*, BWV 656 Johann Sebastian Bach

**O Lamb of God, innocent*

Music reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-706706.

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 email the church at office@firstpresportland.org or talk with any of the ushers or worship leaders.

Eric Gill, USA (1923 woodcut)

WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Carmen Goetschius, Supply Associate Pastor
Rev. David Dornack, Parish Associate
Rev. Brenna Dykman, Supply Associate Pastor
Greg Homza, Director of Music Ministries
Andrew Wright, Lay Reader

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

We join in holding in prayer:
Kathy Callas,Ross Fogelquist, Fran Hermanson, Marlin Icenogle, 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 sanctuary flowers are given in honor of Robert Hastings' birthday by his wife, Janet, and children, Paul, Susan, and Melissa, and families.

Announcements

Save the Date for the "MOM PROM!"
On **May 14th from 11:45 to 2pm** our youth will be hosting a post church prom to raise funds for their upcoming mission trip to the Philippines. There will be food, fun, and of course dancing. This event is for everyone! Bring your mom, your family, your neighbor, your friends. Tickets will go on sale starting **April 16th** after church in Geneva Hall.

Wine Wall Donations
We are looking for donations of wine bottles valued at $20 and higher for a Wine Wall at the FPC Youth Prom as part of the fundraising fun! Please drop donations at the church office with your name (so we can say thank you) and the value of the wine.

Women's Book Club
The Women's Book Club will meet on **Tuesday, May 2** at noon in the Heritage Room (#207) and on Zoom. Midge Birnie will lead the discussion on the book "**The Tattooist of Auschwitz**" by Heather Morris. This book is based on interviews with a Holocaust survivor and tattooist in Auschwitz who fell in love with a fellow prisoner. It is a story of selfless acts of love alongside shocking brutality.

Soft Goods & Books!
Ending today, 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.

Deacons DEAR Fund
The Deacon's DEAR Fund (Deacons Emergency Assistance Resource) is a program that will provide needed financial assistance to those struggling to pay their bills on a short term basis. Should you, or someone you know, need aid to get through a difficult financial situation, please contact one of the pastors and they will work with that person to determine any amount to be funded.

Portland Society for Calligraphy for their "Beautiful Words: Reconnection"
We are happy to be hosting the Portland Society for Calligraphy for their "Beautiful Words: Reconnection" Gallery Exhibition from **April 2-May 28**. This exhibit features calligraphy that explores the beauty of writing and design and empowers calligraphers to write words that are personally meaningful. The artists all members of the Portland Society for Calligraphy are celebrating their reconnection with each other through this exhibition.

Plan to Participate in the Post-Pentecost Paella Party!
Plan to join us on **June 4th** for this festive celebration, enjoying this traditional Spanish dish of rice, vegetables, seafood, spices, and more (a vegetarian option will be available as well). Look for sign up opportunities in upcoming church communications. The cost to attend will be: $25 for adults and teens, $15 for ages 7-12, and ages 0-6 are free.

A Workshop on Planning for Your Memorial
On **Sunday May 7 at 11:45 after worship**, Rev. Audrey Schindler will lead a workshop in the **Heritage Room** on planning for one's memorial, and the hope that is ours in Christ. This will include some theological background on Christian memorial services, elements of music and Scripture, eulogies/remembrances, and receptions at the church. You'll have a chance to take home a planning form, as leaving a record of your wishes can be a great help to family members in a time of loss. Come with your thoughts and questions!

Flowers to Home Bound Members and Retirement Communities – Flower Team
Sometimes, the sanctuary flowers are not taken home after Sunday service. Would you like to join the team that takes them to people and places after the service when they are available? The concept is pretty straightforward. On 'your' Sunday, take them to someone you think would like the flowers. Or take them to one of the retirement communities for their reception area. Easy to join the 'Flower Team' – contact Bill Resley at (713) 256-6658 or kayak500@gmail.com. Many hands make light work.

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 (email below)

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 @firstpresportland

Office Hours
Tues/Wed/Thurs: 10 am - 4 pm

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hello@firstpresportland.org

Church Office (503) 228-7331 **Menucha (503) 695-2243**