



**First
Presbyterian**
CHURCH OF PORTLAND

Service for the Lord's Day

April 27, 2025

10:30 AM

Second Sunday of Easter
Earth Care Sunday

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

The prelude is a time of music for quiet reflection to prepare our hearts for worship.

PRELUDE

All Things Bright and Beautiful
Earth Carol *from* St. Francis Suite

arr. Mary Beth Bennett
Richard Purvis

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Those attending worship are invited to fill out a blue card in the pew to register your attendance or express interest in the church's programs. You may place the cards in the offering plates as you depart at the end of the service. Those worshipping online are invited to click the blue tab on the worship page, "Visiting FPC? Let's Connect!"

INTROIT

Introit for Easter

Charles Cooke

Alleluia! Christ is risen from the dead! Alleluia!

*CALL TO WORSHIP

The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it,
the world, and all who live in it;

**for God founded it on the seas
and established it on the waters.**

Who may ascend the mountain of the Lord?

Who may stand in his holy place?

The one who has clean hands and a pure heart.

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

**Almighty God,
we who have too quickly embraced definitions of power
that serve dreams of dominance;
we who have preferred the supposed strength of kings
to a Savior of grace and gentleness,
humbly gather with all creation,
joining the trees of the forest, flowers of the field
and the very soil from which we have been made.
We ask you to fill us anew with the energy to love as you have called us to love
so that we might be part of your healing work in this wounded world.
Amen.**

***HYMN #35**

Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty

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

**Creating God, we thirst for power
and not for righteousness.
Loving God, renew us.
We are quick to show our dominance
but hide our dependence.
We take what we want
without thought of what we should give back.
We see your creation as resources
not members of our community.
We drain the earth
to fuel our lifestyles.
Loving God, renew us.
Transform our hearts and minds
so that we might transform the world that we live in.**

Prayers of confession continue in silence.

***LORD, HAVE MERCY #551**

**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**

The God who creates in love has the power to heal,
restore, renew and resurrect.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven and renewed.

Thanks be to God!

***RESPONSE OF PRAISE #245 (verse 4)**

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**

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.

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

Diane Ponder

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

1 Samuel 8:10-17

Pew Bible, OT p. 251

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

A Repeating Alleluia

Calvin Hampton

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Genesis 1:26-31

Pew Bible, OT p. 1

SERMON

“Pondering Power”

Rev. Brenna Dykman

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

***HYMN #20**

All Things Bright and Beautiful

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*from A Brief Statement of Faith*)

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God.

Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:

preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives,

teaching by word and deed and blessing the children,

healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted,

eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners,

and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.

Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified,

suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world.

God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life,

breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

*Thank you for your faithful support. To contribute to the life and ministry
of this congregation, please refer to page 6 of the worship bulletin.*

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

For the Beauty of the Earth

John Rutter

For the beauty of the earth, for the beauty of the skies,
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies:
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our joyful hymn of praise.

For the beauty of each hour of the day and of the night,
hill and vale and tree and flower, sun and moon and stars of light...

For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth, and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild...

For each perfect gift of thine to our race so freely given,
graces human and divine, flowers of earth and buds of heaven...

— *Folliott Sandford Pierpoint, 1864, alt.*

***DOXOLOGY #609**

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**

PRAYER 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 #611**

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

For the Beauty of the Earth

arr. Craig Phillips

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CHURCH CONTRIBUTIONS

Contributions may be made by:

- *Leaving your gifts in the offering plates as you depart.*
- *Mailing a check to the church office.*
- *Scanning the QR code on the right.*
- *Visiting www.firstpresportland.org.*



PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

We join in holding in prayer: Kathy Callas, Louise Grose, Russ Mendenhall, Gordon Priedeman, Phyllis Whittington, and others facing illness and loss.

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

Today's sanctuary flowers are given in honor of Robert Hastings' birthday from the Dailey family.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Earth Sunday Letter Writing to Congress

When: Today, Apr 27, 11:30 am

Where: Calvin Library

On Earth Sunday, 27 April, the Earth Care Team will be hosting a letter writing campaign to preserve the clean energy tax credits in the Inflation Reduction Act. This is a call to action from Presbyterians for Earth Care. Please join us in the Library during coffee hour before you head up to the Heritage room for the Uganda mission trip presentation. We will have everything that you need to easily make your voice heard by your members of Congress. The IRA tax credit system allows FPC to recover 30% of what we spend on clean energy projects like heat pumps and solar electricity. The IRA is posed to help America do its part for the stability of earth's climate system, one of God's life support systems, while improving air quality, creating jobs and growing local economies to advance Shalom (well-being) for all Creation.

Uganda Mission Trip Presentation

When: Today, Apr 27, 11:45 am

Where: Heritage Room

Please join us after worship to hear about this year's mission trip to Uganda. In February our team of seven spent two weeks at Kamwenge Secondary and Vocational School. Come learn more about the wonderful work that is happening with our mission partner.

Spring Food Festival - Signups Now Open!

When: Sun, May 4, 11:45 am

Where: Geneva Hall

The FPC Deacons invite you to celebrate the start of spring with a festive time of fellowship and delectable treats! We'd love for you to share a favorite sweet or savory food item that has meaning to you. Please no soups. For main course items that must be heated, please ensure they can be reheated within our ovens. Pre-printed cards will be available at coffee hours and at Open Circle to share about your chosen treat. Questions? Contact Jenny Anton at snjanton@icloud.com. **Sign up at this link** (<https://shorturl.at/bcOaN>). Thank you in advance for your contributions to this exciting event!

Jaeckel 25th Anniversary Concert

When: Sun, May 4, 2:00 pm

Where: Sanctuary

Please plan to attend the next *Celebration Works* concert, featuring **Dr. Ilona Kubiaczyk-Adler** from Scottsdale, AZ, playing FPC's Jaeckel pipe organ. The Deacons' **Spring Food Festival** will be taking place during coffee hour that morning, so you can have a bite to eat, maybe go for a walk, and then attend the recital. It will be a long day, but a glorious one!

Women's Book Club May Meeting

When: Tue, May 6, 11:00 am

Where: Heritage Room

Join us for a brown bag lunch and social conversation followed by our book club meeting moderated by Kara Morris! We will be discussing the book *Mink River* by Bryan Doyle, a story of love and life in a small town on the Oregon coast. We hope to see you in-person or on Zoom (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81233316517>).

Menucha Spring Volunteer Work Party

When: Sat, May 10, 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

Where: Menucha

Save the date for Menucha's spring work party! We'll welcome spring with community bonding while improving the property. Lunch will be provided. **Please sign up by May 5** emailing us at hello@menucha.org or calling at 503-695-2243.

Worship at Warm Springs Presbyterian Church

When: Sun, May 11, 10:00 am

Where: Warm Springs Presbyterian Church (1141 Warm Springs St, Warm Springs OR 97761)

Pastor Jeff Sievert will be providing pulpit supply at Warm Springs PC along with Lori, a member at FPC. It's an opportunity to connect with our sisters and brothers on the reservation and demonstrate our support. Warm Springs celebrated 100 years of ministry last summer and is in the process of renewal in partnership with the presbytery. Those interested can drive or carpool to meet at the church for worship. If you are interested, please contact Jeff (jscott5717@gmail.com, text/call 503-523-8305).

Love God.
Love Our Neighbors.

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.

CHURCH STAFF

Principal Church Staff:

Rev. Heidi Bolt, Interim Pastor
Rev. Brenna Dykman, Associate Pastor
Rev. Carmen Goetschius, Associate Pastor
Rev. Aaron Morris, Parish Associate
Greg Homza, Director of Music Ministries
Marc Lavender, Church Business Administrator

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Bill Edwards, Sexton & Wedding Coordinator
John Kelly, Facility Manager

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Office Hours

Tuesday - Friday | 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

First Presbyterian Church

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