



**First  
Presbyterian**  
CHURCH OF PORTLAND

# Service for the Lord's Day

**May 18, 2025  
10:30 AM  
Fifth Sunday of Easter**

*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

Prelude in G  
Vignette: O Filii et Filiae

William Harris  
Rebecca Groom te Velde

### 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

O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing

French, 15<sup>th</sup> cent.

Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia!  
O sons and daughters, let us sing with heavenly hosts to Christ our King;  
today the grave has lost its sting! Alleluia, alleluia!

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 148)

Come, and praise the eternal God!

**All you in the heavens, the angels above,**  
the sun, the moon, and the stars in the sky,  
**the mountains and hills, the desert and prairie,**

Let all who has breath praise the Lord!

The mighty and the meek, the young and the old,

**let them praise the name of God!**

For God's name stands alone, above all others;

God's glory shines over earth and heaven.

**Let us worship God with joy and gladness!**

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

**God of glory, you open the gate to everlasting life.  
You lead us on paths of righteousness.  
As we worship you today,  
speak to us of your eternal promises,  
that we might be renewed in faith and filled with hope.  
In the name of Christ our Savior, we pray. Amen.**

**\*HYMN #37**

Let All Things Now Living

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

**You have promised us redemption, Almighty God.  
Your Love paves the way the way for our transformation and peace.  
Forgive us for the ways we ignore your leading.  
Forgive us for resisting your grace.  
Open our hearts to your Spirit,  
and help us embrace your healing work in our lives.**

*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**

Behold, God is alive and at work,  
always doing a new thing in the world.  
Trust and believe the Good News of the Gospel: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven!  
**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.*

**INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS**

John Block  
Gretchen Palmer  
Dave Palmer  
Karen Porter

Kate Simpson  
Sara Spiers  
Gigi Wirgau

**THE WORD**

**CHILDREN'S MOMENT**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Linda Grabe

**FIRST SCRIPTURE READING**

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 148

Pew Bible, OT p. 582

**ANTHEM**

**This Joyful Eastertide**

arr. William Harris

This joyful Eastertide, away with care and sorrow!  
My Love, the Crucified, hath sprung to life this morrow.  
Had Christ, that once was slain, ne'er burst his three-day prison,  
our faith had been in vain; but now hath Christ arisen.

My flesh in hope shall rest, and for a season slumber,  
till trumpet from east to west shall wake the dead in number.

Death's flood hath lost its chill, since Jesus crossed the river:  
Lover of souls, from ill my passing soul deliver.

— George Ratcliffe Woodward, 1894, *alt.*

**SECOND SCRIPTURE READING**

Revelation 21:1-6

Pew Bible, NT p. 259

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**

“Let’s Begin at the End”

Rev. Carmen Goetschius

**RESPONSE TO THE WORD**

\***HYMN #366**

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

\***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*from The Brief Statement of Faith*)

**We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life...**

**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. To contribute to the life and ministry  
of this congregation, please refer to page 6 of the worship bulletin.*

**INVITATION TO OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY**

O Sons and Daughters

David Hogan

O sons and daughters of the King, whom heavenly hosts in glory sing,  
today the grave has lost its sting! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The strife is o'er, the battle done; now is the victor's triumph won!  
Now be the song of praise begun. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The powers of death have done their worst, but Christ their legions has dispersed.  
Let shouts of holy joy outburst. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

On this most holy day of days, be laud and jubilee and praise:  
to God your hearts and voices raise: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

— *attr. Jean Tisserand, 15<sup>th</sup> cent.; trans. John Mason Neale, 1852*

*(Steve Anderson, trumpet)*

**\*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 #306**

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

**\*BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

This Joyful Eastertide

arr. Alan Bullard

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

## 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](http://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.*

## IN MEMORIAM

*Our prayers are with the family of Charles Faries, who passed on May 10, 2025.*

## SANCTUARY FLOWERS

*Today's sanctuary flowers are given by Steve & Lisa Snodderly in loving memory of their dear parents, Nancy & Malcolm Fifield and Alice & Max Snodderly.*

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **Charles Faries Memorial Service**

**When: Tue, May 20, 2:00 pm**

**Where: FPC Sanctuary**

The Faries family would appreciate your presence this week at a memorial service celebrating the life of Charles Faries. Reception to follow at the Town Club (2115 SW Salmon St).

## **Stephen Ministry Training Information**

**When: September (date/time TBD)**

**Where: Zoom**

Stephen Ministers are trained lay caregivers who walk alongside people who are hurting, offering confidential, non-judgmental, faith-focused support. For more info or to apply, contact Bill Resley ([kayak500@gmail.com](mailto:kayak500@gmail.com)), Janet Leatherwood ([lwoodjs@comcast.net](mailto:lwoodjs@comcast.net)), or Pastor Brenna. You can also chat with them at coffee hour!

## **Mission Study Team Survey**

**When: Now - Sat, May 24**

**Where: Online (paper versions available on request)**

The Mission Study Team is discerning God's will for our church's future as we prepare to search for our next Head of Staff Pastor. Your input is vital! Each household member should complete it individually. Paper copies are available at church or by request. In-person feedback opportunities will also be available after worship on May 18 and June 1. Thank you for your participation! You can complete the survey at the following link: [shorturl.at/nW2MO](https://shorturl.at/nW2MO)

## **Narthex Display Case - Jaeckel Organ**

**When: Now!**

**Where: Chapel Narthex**

Check out the display case in the Chapel Narthex as we continue to celebrate the 25th anniversary of our Jaeckel Organ! The display currently contains pictures of the construction of the organ, highlighting the complexity of this beautiful instrument.

## **Donations for Rose Haven**

**When: Now!**

**Where: Geneva Hall**

Open Circle is collecting new women's underwear for Rose Haven, a day shelter and community center serving women, children and gender non-conforming folks experiencing the trauma of abuse, loss of home, and other disruptive life challenges. You can drop off your donation in the collection box located in Geneva Hall now! Every contribution makes a difference. Thank you for supporting this meaningful effort!

## **Walk the Wildwood Registration Open Now!**

**When: Now!**

**Where: Online**

Join a beautiful, guided walk through Forest Park Saturday, August 9! First Presbyterian Church and Partners in Mission co-host this 4<sup>th</sup> annual walk to raise funds for Kamwenge Secondary and Vocational School (KSVS) in Uganda. 2025 goals are to raise \$15,000 towards construction of vocational student dorms, collect 200 pairs of sneakers (bins in Geneva Hall), and to see 10 new KSVS students sponsored. Watch for a planned registration event on Sunday June 1 at church! Visit the link below for registration and further info about this exciting annual event! [shorturl.at/98vvi](https://shorturl.at/98vvi)

## **Youth Fundraiser: Pancake Lunch**

**When: Sun, Jun 1, 11:45 am**

**Where: Geneva Hall**

All are welcome to a pancake lunch hosted by this year's Youth Mission team! They are raising funds to travel to the Philippines in July to work with the Ingan Leyte project. A free will donation box will be available for those who would like to support the trip. We hope to see you there!

## **Women's Book Club June Meeting**

**When: Tue, Jun 3, 11:30 am**

**Where: Heritage Room & Zoom**

Join us for June's meeting of the Women's Book Club! Amy Wood will lead with the book *Inheritance* by Dani Shapiro, a memoir of her discovery that her father was not her biological father and her quest to find her birth parent. Join us in person or at the following link: [us02web.zoom.us/j/81233316517](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81233316517). Please note this change: We will begin with the book discussion beginning at 11:30 followed by devotions, announcements and a potluck lunch.

## **Children and Youth Ministry Events**

Fun and exciting things are coming up for our kids and youth at FPC! We hope you'll join us!

- Today, May 18, 10:45 am - Sunday School for PreK - 7th grade students
- Today, May 18, after worship - Youth Group for 8th-12th grade students
- Sun, May 25, 9:15 am - monthly Parent & Baby playgroup in the church nursery
- Sun, May 25, 10:45 am - final "Arts & Music" Sunday with David and Maria
- Sun, Jun 8 - final Sunday School of the school year

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

[hbolt@firstpresportland.org](mailto:hbolt@firstpresportland.org)

[bdykman@firstpresportland.org](mailto:bdykman@firstpresportland.org)

[cgoetschius@firstpresportland.org](mailto:cgoetschius@firstpresportland.org)

[amorris@firstpresportland.org](mailto:amorris@firstpresportland.org)

[ghomza@firstpresportland.org](mailto:ghomza@firstpresportland.org)

[cba@firstpresportland.org](mailto:cba@firstpresportland.org)

### Support Staff:

Alexis Crawford, Communications Coordinator

Deb Davis, Bookkeeper

Bill Edwards, Sexton & Wedding Coordinator

John Kelly, Facility Manager

[communications@firstpresportland.org](mailto:communications@firstpresportland.org)

[ap@firstpresportland.org](mailto:ap@firstpresportland.org)

[events@firstpresportland.org](mailto:events@firstpresportland.org)

[facility@firstpresportland.org](mailto:facility@firstpresportland.org)



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### Office Hours

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

## First Presbyterian Church

1200 SW Alder Street, Portland, OR 97205

[www.firstpresportland.org](http://www.firstpresportland.org)

(503) 228-7331