



**First
Presbyterian**
CHURCH OF PORTLAND

Service for the Lord's Day

July 27, 2025

10:30 AM

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

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

Sonata in C Major, Op. 65, No. 2

Felix Mendelssohn

I. Grave
II. Adagio

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!"

*OPENING LITANY

We begin our worship in the name of the One who creates,
the One who liberates, and the One who inspires us to be who we were made to be.

**[sung] Our faith has challenged us to make good trouble,
to make good trouble, to make good trouble.**

**Our faith has challenged us to make good trouble,
to make this world a better place.**

In every generation around the world,
there arise powers that seek to destroy, to dominate and oppress for their own gain.
In every generation the faithful are called to rise up and name this oppression.
Whether these destructive powers come from unjust laws and policies,
or from beliefs and cultural practices that harm the soul,
whether they come from government, society, or from the church itself,
we are called to make good trouble.

(continued on next page)

**[sung] Our faith has challenged us to make good trouble,
to make good trouble, to make good trouble.
Our faith has challenged us to make good trouble,
to make this world a better place.**

To be a Holy Disruptor is to take up your cross and follow Jesus.
To be a disciple is to see Christ in the face of the oppressed and suffering.
We are called to be sacred interrupters,
refusing to participate in the Domination Way,
but instead learning to walk the Good Way.
One of courage, collaboration, compassion, and integrity.
Faithfully, we divest our hearts, minds, and actions from the way that harms
and invest our hearts, minds, and actions
in the Way that brings life, healing, and wholeness to all living things.

**[sung] Our faith has challenged us to make good trouble,
to make good trouble, to make good trouble.
Our faith has challenged us to make good trouble,
to make this world a better place.**

Today we walk alongside Corrie ten Boom,
who courageously hid her Jewish neighbors
and resisted the dehumanizing fascism of her day.
May we learn from her.
May her discipleship in the name of Jesus inform our own.
Amen.

***HYMN #619**

Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven

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

**Lord God,
we confess that in times of trials and tribulations
we failed to do the brave work you call us to.
Yet you have sent us prophets and teachers in many forms
to show us how to live into your calling
to stand against injustice and evil.
Help us not let fear and anger rule our hearts.**

Prayers of confession continue in silence.

***LORD, HAVE MERCY**

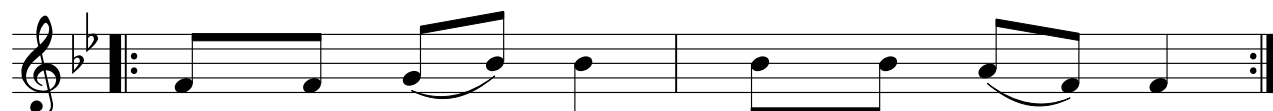
Cantor first, then ALL



Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.



Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.



Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

© 1996 by Christopher Walker

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Now return to the Lord with joy and gladness.

Sing a song of redemption!

Let sorrow and sighing be no more.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God.

Amen.

***RESPONSE OF PRAISE**



O God be-yond all prais-ing, we wor-ship you to - day
and sing the love a - maz - ing that songs can-not re - pay;
for we can on-ly won-der at ev - 'ry gift you send,
at bless-ings with-out num-ber and mer-cies with-out end:
we lift our hearts be - fore you and wait up-on your Word,
we hon - or and a - dore you, our great and might-y Lord.

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

***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

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Estelle Brunner

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16

Pew Bible, OT p. 548

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Hide Me Under the Shadow of Thy Wings

John E. West

Hide me under the shadow of thy wings, O Lord,
and give thine angels charge concerning me:
that I may lie down in peace and take my rest,
for it is thou, Lord, only, that makest me to dwell in safety.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Romans 8:38-39

Pew Bible, NT p. 158

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“Abide With Me”

Rev. Brenna Dykman

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

***HYMN #470**

There Is a Longing in Our Hearts

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*excerpt from the Barman Confession*)

**That God has entrusted the church
with the message of reconciliation in and through Jesus Christ;
that the church is called to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world,
that the church is called blessed because it is a peacemaker,
that the church is witness both by word and by deed
to the new heaven and the new earth in which righteousness dwells;
that God’s life-giving Word and Spirit
has conquered the powers of sin and death,
and therefore also of irreconciliation and hatred, bitterness and enmity,
that God’s life-giving Word and Spirit will enable the church
to live in a new obedience
which can open new possibilities of life for society and the world.**

INVITATION TO OFFERING

*Thank you for your faithful support. To contribute to the life and ministry
of this congregation, please refer to page 7 of today’s worship bulletin.*

*Please join in singing the **refrain**.*

God of love, your gift of peace is planted deep within our hearts:

Make me an instrument of your peace.

Make me an instrument of your peace.

God of peace, wherever there is hatred, may we bring your love:

May we bring your hope and gladness where despair and sadness are:

May we seek to understand another with a patient heart:

Faithful God, wherever there is darkness, may we bring your light:

God of mercy, help us to forgive when there is injury done:

Gracious God, whenever people hunger, may we fill their need:

Set us free from all our fear and anger; set us free to love:

— based on the prayer traditionally ascribed to Francis of Assisi (1182-1226)

***DOXOLOGY**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise Christ, all people here below;
praise Holy Spirit evermore;
praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

Text: © 1990 by Neil Weatherhogg

Tune: OLD HUNDREDTH, LM; Genevan Psalter, 1551

***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 #836**

Abide with Me

***CLOSING PRAYER**

In you, Father all-mighty, we have our peace.
You are ever present in the darkest of trials, experiencing them alongside us.
Empower us to pray to you in our need
and grant us your comfort and courage to live our faith in difficult times.
In Jesus' name, **Amen.**

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Sonata in C Major, Op. 65, No. 2
IV. Fugue: Allegro moderato

Felix Mendelssohn

*This service is based on
Holy Disruptors – How Christian Saints, Prophets, and Mystics Led in Times of Difficulty by Pastor Siri Strommen
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.*



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 Norma Welty and in memory of James Welty by Robert Bulkley and Joyce MacWilliamson.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Last Week for Ivkin Art Gallery

When: Today, Sun, Jul 27

Where: Chapel Art Gallery

Artist Olga Ivkin's exhibit "A Bloom of Inspiration" closes at noon today. We hope you'll take this last opportunity to enjoy this exhibit before we introduce our new artist next week!

Final Walk the Wildwood In-Person Registration

When: Today, Sun, Jul 27, 11:30 am

Where: Geneva Hall

Today immediately after service in Geneva Hall is the last in-person registration event for Walk the Wildwood 2025! Volunteers are on deck to help register for this guided walk through Forest Park followed by lunch Saturday, August 9. Sneakers are also being collected to add to the funds raised to build dorms Kamwenge Secondary and Vocational School in Uganda. Learn more too about how you can be a champion for a student. **Last day to sign up online is this Friday, August 1.** Learn more at firstpresportland.org/news-events/walk-the-wildwood/.

August Birthday Celebration Next Week!

When: Sun, Aug 3, 11:30 am

Where: Geneva Hall

Next week, we'll wish a happy birthday to all those born in August! We want to celebrate you after the worship service with cupcakes and a song. Please come to Geneva for a brief celebration at coffee hour!

Open Circle Fall Book Orders

Book Payment Deadline: Fri, Aug 1

Open Circle Fall Start Date: Thu, Sep 4, 10:00 am

Open Circle invites all women in the FPC community to join us in weekly study and prayer. From September through November, we'll be using *Messy People: Life Lessons from Imperfect Biblical Heros* by Jennifer Cowart to guide our discussion. Contact Deb Resley at resleydd@gmail.com if you would like to order a book through the church; **a payment of \$16 for the book will be due this Friday, August 1.** We hope to see you there this fall!

Save the Date: Menucha Volunteer Work Party

When: Sat, Aug 16, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Where: Menucha

In a few short weeks, you're invited to celebrate summer with community bonding while improving the Menucha property. There will be something for everyone! Lunch is included. Email Menucha at hello@menucha.org to let them know you'd like to sign up for this season's work party!

Reminder: Menucha Labor Day Retreat!

When: Fri, Aug 29 - Sun, Aug 31, all day

Where: Menucha

Menucha Retreat & Conference Center is hosting its very first Labor Retreat at the end of the summer! This retreat has long been cherished by our members at FPC and we're thrilled to have the opportunity to share it with the greater community. Join us for a weekend of fun and relaxation! This new program is your chance to bring your loved ones to the place you've cherished while attending other retreats or events. Enjoy a relaxed, family-focused weekend of fun, rest, and connection in the Gorge. Swim, play, explore, picnic, and make one last summer memory together before the busy fall arrives. **Registration is open now** - visit menucha.org/hurrah for more info and registration.

Alder House Food Donations

The Alder House emergency food closet currently needs canned **heartly soups, canned chili, canned fruit, and peanut butter**. Drop your donations in the red bin in Geneva Hall or the office. Thank you for helping us to live out our mission to love our neighbors!

Supporting Our Shared Mission: FPC Per Capita

Did you know that FPC pays \$50 per member of the church in per capita? Per capita is an annual per member apportionment that enables Presbyterians to mutually and equitably to share the costs of sustaining our witness to Christ through the Presbyterian Church (USA). It is one expression of commitment to God and to the larger faith community. If you haven't already, **would you consider giving \$50 dollars per church member in your household to support the wider church's connectional work?**

DISRUPTORS HOLY

*How Christian Saints, Prophets, and Mystics
Led in Times of Difficulty*

Summer 2025 Sermon Series

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 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. Aaron Morris, Parish Associate

Greg Homza, Director of Music Ministries

Marc Lavender, Church Business Administrator

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Deb Davis, Bookkeeper

Bill Edwards, Sexton, Events & Wedding Coordinator

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Office Hours

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

First Presbyterian Church

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