



**First
Presbyterian**
CHURCH OF PORTLAND

Service for the Lord's Day
October 12, 2025
10:30 AM
Eighteenth 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

Prelude on *Charlestown*
Prelude on *Dix*

James Gilbert
Charles Callahan

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

Come and Worship the Lord

Hal H. Hopson

Come and worship the Lord our God. Alleluia, alleluia.
Praise God on the holy mountain. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth;
sing the glory of God's name; give glorious praise.
Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds!
All the earth worships you;
they sing praises to you,
sing praises to your name."

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Almighty God, across the ages
you have guided your people through the wilderness,
assuring us of a home in your eternal city.
Strengthen us along the way,
that we might not neglect our call
to serve the cities and towns where we live.
Help us to trust in your unfailing presence amid all of our fears.
Grant us wisdom to discern your way in this world
even as we hope for the next. Amen.

***HYMN #54**

Make a Joyful Noise to God!

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

God beyond borders, we know that on our way to worship,
we may not have noticed the exiles in our neighborhoods.
We admit how easy it is for us to wander down the streets of temptation,
pausing at the corner of easy choices.
We fall silent in the presence of those who speak words of anger and hate.
We tolerate a culture that suspects all who are different from us.
Have mercy on us, O God, for surely you take the side of justice.
Open our hearts to all the wonders you are performing in our lives.
You gift us with those of other cultures, that our lives might be blessed.
You send us friends out of places we least expect,
that our community might be enriched.
You call us to be generous with our blessings,
so others might be graced with the gift of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

Prayers of confession continue in silence.

***LORD, HAVE MERCY**

The image shows two staves of musical notation in 2/2 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the hymn: "Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy." The second staff contains the melody for the second line: "Lord, have mer - cy." The notes are simple, with some slurs and ties to indicate phrasing.

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***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

God challenges us, God encourages us.
God confronts us, and God accepts us.
God works wonders in our midst
and gives us the eyes, the hearts,
the souls to see such miracles.

**God forgives us,
God guides us through the wilderness of the world,
God leads us home.
Thanks be to God.**

***RESPONSE OF PRAISE**

- Please join in singing the refrain -

The image shows two staves of musical notation in 3/4 time, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple and consists of quarter and half notes. The lyrics are written below the notes: "Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth." The first staff ends with a half note on the word "est," and the second staff continues with "and peace to God's peo - ple on earth." The second staff ends with a double bar line.

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Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the most high, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of the Father.

***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 / BLESSING OF THE SHAWLS

MOMENT FOR MISSION

Jon Bates

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Steve Chown

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Psalms 66:1-12

Pew Bible, OT p. 528

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Alleluia

Bryan Sharpe

“Alleluia” is a transliteration of the Hebrew word “hallelūyāh,” meaning “praise the Lord.”

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Jeremiah 29:4-7

Pew Bible, OT p. 731

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“Making the Best of Babylon”

Rev. Brenna Dykman

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

***HYMN #351**

All Who Love and Serve Your City

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*from the Confession of Belhar*)

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.

INVITATION TO OFFERING

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

OFFERTORY

Open My Heart

Ana Hernández

All are welcome to join in singing...

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all
 people here below; praise Holy Spirit ever more;
 praise Tri-une God, whom we adore. Amen.

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

*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 #39**

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Toccata in 7

John Rutter

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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 loving memory of John & Ann Smeaton by Janet & David Leatherwood.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church Directory Photo Days

When: Today, Sun, Oct 12, before & after worship

Where: Chapel Narthex

The Deacons are putting together a new photo directory! Today is the last day to take member photos at church. If you haven't already, please stop by before or after worship. For questions, check in with Shelby Walker, Dustin Coles, or Cindy Finch.

PWM Bake Sale Presales

When: Sun, Oct 12, 19, 26 & Nov 26, 11:30 am

Where: Geneva Hall

PWM will be offering samples and presale signup opportunities at the Sunday coffee hour throughout October and the first week of November. Come enjoy delicious baked and canned items and support our fundraiser!

Menucha Fall Tree Walk

When: Sat, Oct 18, 1:00-3:00 pm

Where: Menucha

Menucha's Fall Tree Walk is this Saturday! Begin at the Greenhouse then set out on a self-guided stroll to enjoy the beauty and variety of Menucha's trees. Mark your calendars—you won't want to miss it!

Randall Vemer Exhibit Opening Reception

When: Sun, Oct 19, 11:30 am

Where: Chapel Art Gallery

You are invited to join us in the art gallery next week to meet artist Randall Vemer and view his multimedia gallery, MusArt. This project is a multifaceted experience of 50 music-inspired paintings featuring musicians from around the world, QR codes to hear them play, poetry, instruments, a 90-page book, and a documentary film with original music by a Grammy-winning composer. Refreshments will be served.

Volunteer Opportunity: FPC Nursery

We are in need of more volunteers to work in the nursery during Sundays. Can you volunteer for one Sunday a month, once a quarter, or even once a year? We need caring adults to help look after the younger members of our church. If you can help please reach out to Paula at paulacarpenter26@gmail.com.

The Heresy of Christian Nationalism

When: Sun, Oct 19 & 26, 11:45 am

Where: Heritage Room

Join us for this timely course beginning next Sunday! This two-part class with Dr. Chauncey Handy of Reed College explores Christian nationalism as a modern expression of the classical heresy of Arianism. The course will highlight problematic trends, especially how this movement reflects itself in distorted practices of biblical interpretation.

Big Ideas Book Group October Meeting

When: Tue Oct 21, 6:00 pm

Where: Chapel

Join us next week as we explore *The Other Half of Church* by Jim Wilder and Michel Hendricks. Discover how brain science and biblical truth come together to address spiritual stagnation, shallow community, and fleeting transformation. Could living a "full-brained faith" be the key to lasting joy and vibrant Christian community? Let's talk about it! All are welcome—come ready to engage with big ideas and honest questions.

Menucha Volunteer Work Party

When: Sat, Oct 25, 9:00 am-3:00 pm

Where: Menucha

Join us for the next Menucha Volunteer Work Party! We'll spend a day together, sharing meaningful work, good company, and lunch. This gathering will focus on preparing the grounds and planting their new Peace Pole, a special gift in honor of Rev. Spencer Parks. To sign up email Menucha at hello@menucha.org.

Peace Pole Dedication

When: Sun, Oct 26, 4:00 pm

Where: Menucha

All are invited later this month to celebration the dedication of the Peace Pole our congregation gave to Menucha in honor of Spencer Parks' twenty years as executive director. Weather permitting, we'll hike to the Columbia River overlook where the pole is planted; otherwise we'll gather in The Barn. A short time of fellowship over Menucha cookies will follow in The Barn.

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. Aaron Morris, Parish Associate

Greg Homza, Director of Music Ministries

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Office Hours

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

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