



**First
Presbyterian**
CHURCH OF PORTLAND

Service for the Lord's Day
September 28, 2025
10:30 AM
Sixteenth 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

In Paradisum
For the Beauty of the Earth

arr. Gerald Near
arr. Marianne Kim

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

Be with Me, Lord

Val Parker

Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.

*CALL TO WORSHIP (adapted from Psalm 91)

The Lord is my refuge forever.

In God I will place my trust.

When we call to the Lord, God hears our prayers.

God's protection will follow us throughout our days.

The Lord is with us in every trial and temptation,

therefore, we will rejoice in the salvation of God.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

We gather together in expectation, O God,

that you have healing and hopeful words to speak to us all.

Minister to us through your Word as we worship you today.

Renew our spirits, bolster our faith,

and strengthen our discipleship, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

***HYMN #14**

For the Beauty of the Earth

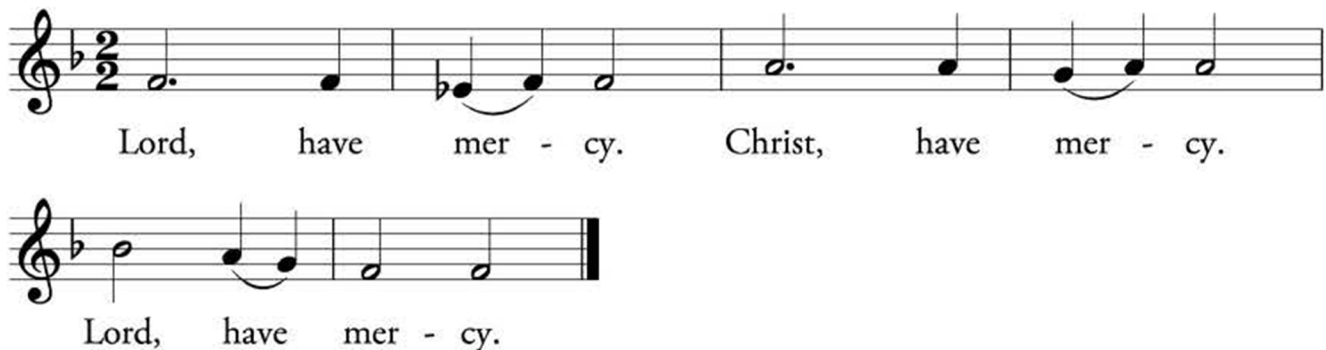
***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Our lives are filled with blessings, O God:
food to eat, clothes to wear,
and friends with whom to share our days.
We are grateful, for your provision and care,
and for the many ways your love enriches our lives.**

**We confess, though, our thoughts are often preoccupied with what we lack.
We worry that we do not have enough,
and turn away from the needs of our neighbors.
Forgive our weakness and these times when our faith falters.
Teach us again to know the contentment of sharing what we have,
and to give not only from our riches,
but also from the parts of our selves
that can only be offered with courage and trust.**

Prayers of confession continue in silence.

***LORD, HAVE MERCY**



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

Lord, have mer - cy.

© 1995 by Hal H. Hopson (*Glory to God* Page 4)

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**God's love is lavish. God's provision abundant.
Friends, trust, believe, and live the Good News of the Gospel:
in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.
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. The first staff contains the melody for the words "Glo - ry to God in the high - est,". The second staff continues with "and peace to God's peo - ple on earth." The music is written in a simple, accessible style with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a 3/4 time signature.

© 1995 by Hal H. Hopson (*Glory to God* Page 4)

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

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Linda Grabe

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16

Pew Bible, OT p. 548

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord, who abide in his shadow for life,
 say to the Lord, "My refuge, my rock in whom I trust!"
 And he will raise you up on eagle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn,
 make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand.
 The snare of the fowler will never capture you, and famine will bring you no fear:
 under his wings, your refuge, his faithfulness your shield.
 You need not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day;
 though thousands fall about you, near you it shall not come.
 For to his angels he's given a command to guard you in all of your ways;
 upon their hands they will bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 16:19-31

Pew Bible, NT p. 79

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.**SERMON**

"Lazarus and the Rich Man"

Rev. Clark Scalera

RESPONSE TO THE WORD***HYMN #757**

Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*from a 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.****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.****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. Amen.**

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

In Paradisum

Chant (Mode VII)

*May the angels lead you into paradise;
may the martyrs greet you at your arrival and lead you into the holy city of Jerusalem.
May the choir of angels greet you,
and with Lazarus, who once was a poor man, may you have eternal rest.*

— text from the Office of the Dead, ca. 7th century

*DOXOLOGY



Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise Christ, all
peo-ple here be - low; praise Ho-ly Spir-it ev - er - more;
praise Tri-une God, whom we a - dore. A - men.

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 #307**

God of Grace and God of Glory

***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 loving memory of Herb Grose by Louise Grose and family.



Peace & Global Witness Special Offering | Oct 5, 2025

When you give to the Peace & Global Witness Offering, you share Christ's peace in a world longing for justice and healing. Our congregation keeps 25% to support local peacemaking efforts, while the rest joins with Presbyterian Church (USA) ministries around the world to promote reconciliation through education, advocacy, justice, and faithful witness.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Biblical Theology for a Climate-Changed World:

Paul, Gospel of Luke, Revelations on Climate Change

When: Today, Sun, Sep 28, 11:45 am

Where: Heritage Room

Join us today for the final installment of this adult ed series in which Dr. Robert Kugler explores biblical traditions that call us beyond ourselves—to live in partnership with nature and in service to others—revealing how Christian scripture offers a compelling theology for today’s climate challenges.

Summer Red Cross Blood Drive

When: Tue, Sep 30, 12:30-6:00 pm (appointment only)

Where: Geneva Hall

FPC is hosting our next community blood drive, and we need your help! **This event is by appointment only.** Every donation helps patients in need and supports emergency care across the country. To schedule your appointment, please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter code: FirstPresbyterianChurch.

October Birthday Celebration Next Week!

When: Sun, Oct 5, 11:30 am

Where: Geneva Hall

Next week, we’ll wish a happy birthday to all those born in October. 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!

God’s Work and Call in Uganda

When: Sun, Oct 5, 11:45 am

Where: Heritage Room

Join us next week for a special talk by Rev. Canon John Mulindabigwi, Founder and Director of Kamwenge Secondary and Vocational School in Uganda. Rev. Mulindabigwi will share the inspiring story of how he and his wife Jolly followed God’s call - selling land to start a school that now serves over 1,500 students.

Menucha Fall Tree Walk

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

Where: Menucha

Menucha’s Fall Tree Walk is coming soon! Begin at the Greenhouse with a warm drink and a cookie, then set out on a self-guided stroll to enjoy the beauty and variety of Menucha’s trees dressed in their autumn colors. Mark your calendars—you won’t want to miss it!

The Heresy of Christian Nationalism

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

Where: Heritage Room

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. Join us for this timely course!

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. By joining us, you’ll be part of creating a lasting new feature on the property to connect us to the larger community in peace. To sign up at hello@menucha.org.

Julia West House Welcome Bags

We’re so excited for the new JWH residents to begin moving in on October 3! To help welcome them, we’re creating 90 welcome bags and need your help! Our most needed items right now are: **shampoo & conditioner, body wash, and mugs**. Thank you for supporting this community effort! For the full list, visit this link: shorturl.at/gBoCT

Mission Study Report Now Available

Thank you to everyone who helped the Mission Study Team produce our final report. From filling out the survey in May to enthusiastically attending the in-depth discussion sessions in June, July and August, your thoughts and recommendations guided our team as we completed our report. This report was approved by Session and is now available at the following link: shorturl.at/9rjEp

Saltshakers Sign Ups

It’s the last week to sign up for the next round of Saltshakers! This fun fellowship opportunity is an excellent way to get to know other church members. To sign up or get more info, chat with Jean Smith at coffee hour or send her an email (jeanel53@gmail.com).

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

Marc Lavender, Church Business Administrator

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Office Hours

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

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