



**First
Presbyterian**
CHURCH OF PORTLAND

Service for the Lord's Day

**January 18, 2026
10:30 am
Second Sunday after Epiphany**

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

Six Baroque Variations on *We Shall Overcome*

Gaël Liardon

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 Sunday

Duke Ellington

Savior God above, God almighty, God of love, please look down and see my people through.

I believe that God put sun and moon up in the sky.
I don't mind the gray skies, 'cause they're just clouds passing by.

Heaven is a goodness time, a brighter light on high.
Love your neighbor as yourself, and have a brighter by and by.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

God calls us here together — each of us, all of us, our whole selves.

We bring our questions, our longings, our hopes, our dreams and our fears.

Jesus invites us to come and see where God is at work.

Across the street and across the globe, Jesus is present.

Within these walls and within our hearts, God is here.

Let us worship the God who reaches out in love and invites us to come and see!

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

Almighty God, your son our Savior Jesus Christ is the light of the world.
May your people, illumined by your Word and Sacraments,
shine with the radiance and glory,
that he may be known, worshiped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth;
for he lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.
Amen.

***HYMN #667**

When Morning Gilds the Skies

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

Saving God, we confess that we often have not waited patiently for you.
We have preferred to sing our own song, to go our own way,
and to put our trust in idols, institutions and individual strength
rather than trusting you.
We confess that it is easier to bring you sacrifices and offerings,
rather than offering our lives to you.
We search for delight in all the wrong places.
We keep quiet about the ways we have experienced your love and presence,
and we fail to invite others to come and see you, the source of life and love,
at work all around us.
Forgive us, God.
Abide in us until your new song of hope and redemption pours from our lips,
and your love is shared in our words and deeds.

Prayers of confession continue in silence.

***LORD, HAVE MERCY**

The musical notation is written on two staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the hymn: "Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -". The second staff continues the melody: "- on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us." The notation includes various note values (quarter, eighth, and half notes), rests, and a fermata over the final note of the second line.

Healey Willan, 1928

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

God inclines to us, rescues us and sets us again on solid ground.

God has not withheld mercy from us.

Trust in the steadfast love and faithfulness of God and know that we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God.

***RESPONSE OF PRAISE**

**With the saints we lift our voices, God of power, God of might.
All creation shines with glory, singing praises day and night:
alleluia, alleluia, holy, holy, holy light.**

Text: © 2011 by David Gambrell Tune: LAUDA ANIMA, 8.7.8.7.8.7; John Goss, 1869

***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

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF ELDERS AND DEACONS

Elders being ordained: Patty Macfarlane-Hoder

Elders being installed: Sharon Brown, Kathryn Hill, Chris Rasmussen,
Russell Smith

Deacons being ordained: Anne Clark, Jan Halsey, Sara Spiers

Deacons being installed: Sandy Castles, Lisa Snodderly, Mike Starosciak

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Estelle Brunner

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 49:1-7

Pew Bible, OT pg. 679

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

The Lord Is My Light

Jacques Berthier / Taizé

The Lord is my light, my light and salvation:
in God I trust; in God I trust.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

1 Corinthians 1:1-9

Pew Bible, NT pg. 165

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“I Give Thanks For You”

Rev. Heidi Bolt

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

***HYMN #39**

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

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

We know our efforts cannot bring in God's kingdom.

But hope plunges us into the struggle for victories over evil

that are possible now in the world, the church, and our individual lives.

Hope gives us courage and energy to contend against all opposition,

however invincible it may seem,

for the new world and the new humanity that are surely coming.

Jesus is Lord!

He has been Lord from the beginning.

He will be Lord at the end.

Even now he is Lord.

INVITATION TO OFFERING

*Thank you for your faithful support of the church.
For various ways to contribute to the life and ministry of the church,
please refer to page 6 of the worship bulletin.*

OFFERTORY

We the People

Ana Hernández

We the people, free and strong, keeping faith, pressing on,
marching, singing, righting wrong— step by step and song by song.

How sweet the sound when people rise as justice rings its rallying cries—
with love more spacious than the skies, with love more spacious than the skies.

How sweet the sound when people rise and tell their truths against the lies—

How sweet the sound when people rise embracing hope that never dies—

— Jeannette M. Lindholm, 2025

***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 #649**

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

***BENEDICTION**

May the Lord bless you and keep you.
May the Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you.
May God give you the grace never to sell yourself short;
grace to risk something big for something good;
and grace to remember the world is now too dangerous for anything but the truth
and too small for anything but love.
May God take your minds and think through them.
May God take your mouths and speak through them.
May God take your hands and work through them.
May God take your hearts and set them on fire.

POSTLUDE

Prelude on *Lift Every Voice*

Wayne L. Wold

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: Dennis Bradley, Kathy Callas, Louise Grose, Russ Mendenhall, Anna & Bill Myers, Jackie West, and others facing illness and loss.

You can request prayer by calling 503-228-7331 x 2 or emailing prayer@firstpresportland.org. Please let us know whether you would like someone to follow up with you and whether your request should be shared publicly or kept confidential.

IN MEMORIAM

Our prayers are with the family of Ann Leuthauser who passed away on January 10, 2026.

**SANCTUARY
FLOWERS**

Today's sanctuary flowers are given in loving memory of Dav, Suzie, & David Castles by their children and grandchildren.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Celebrating Pastor Heidi's Time at FPC

When: today, Sun, Jan 18, 11:30 am

Where: Geneva Hall

After worship today, please join us to thank Pastor Heidi Bolt for her time of service to FPC Portland. During the coffee hour, enjoy her favorite snack and share with her your words of appreciation for the leadership and guidance she has offered to us since September 2024. As her new job is with the Presbytery, we look forward to an ongoing relationship with her and her family, including Sophia, our delightful intern.

Big Ideas Book Group December Meeting

When: Tue, Jan 20, 6:00 pm

Where: Chapel

The Big Ideas Book Group will meet next week to discuss the second half of *Belonging Without Othering: How We Save Ourselves and the Word* by John A. Powell and Stephen Menendian. Powell is a law professor at UC Berkeley and former legal director of the ACLU. The text is divided into two parts: Othering and Belonging. We discussed the first four chapters in December and will discuss "Belonging" (chapters 5-7) this month. We hope you'll join us for this time of conversation and education!

Women's Book Club

When: Tue, Feb 3, 11:15 am

Where: Heritage & Zoom

(us02web.zoom.us/j/87566750637)

Join us for February's discussion of *Becoming Madame Secretary* by Stephanie Dray, led by Jan Mittelstaedt! This historical novel highlights political events from 1909-63 including the life of Frances Perkins, first woman ever to serve as Secretary of Labor in FDR's Cabinet. Her ideas changed the country and the role of women forever so that women today are able to do many things they take for granted. The book covers the Great Depression, Suffragette Movement, New Deal, Social Security, Child Labor Laws, her romance and marriage.

Have an announcement for the bulletin or eBlast?

Submit it at this link by the Monday each week!

shorturl.at/sj0DU

Menucha Winter Volunteer Work Party

When: Sat, Feb 7, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Where: Menucha

Join us in a few weeks for the next Menucha work party! We would greatly appreciate your time and talents contributed to critical projects while connecting with fellow volunteers and our staff. We will be working inside, so the weather will not hinder us! You will make a lasting impact and get time on the property. Please email hello@menucha.org to sign up or call the Menucha office at 503-695-2243.

Camp & Retreat Sunday

When: Sun, Feb 8, 10:30 am

Where: FPC Sanctuary

In February, we honor the ministry of Camp & Retreats with a special worship service open to all! Menucha's Executive Director, Rev. Courtney McHill, will be preaching at this meaningful service. Join us for the opportunity to celebrate sacred spaces like Menucha and hear inspiring words from the retreat center's very own leader.

2026 Stewardship Campaign

"Let Your Light Shine Before Others"

As we move forward in faith, our 2026 FPC Stewardship Campaign goal is \$650,000. Thanks to the generosity of so many households and individuals, we've already received \$570,721 in pledges. This means we have just over \$79,000 left to reach our goal! These gifts enable us to share God's love locally, across the community, and around the world. Thank you for your continued support and for being a part of FPC's mission to share God's love far and wide. Together, our individual lights shine brighter!

Seeking Coffee Hour Volunteers!

Coffee hour is one of the most meaningful ways we connect as a church community, a time of fellowship that brings the most people together each week. We rely on volunteers year-round, rotating by last name to share the joy and the work (January is last names starting with H) but everyone is always welcome to help any time! It's a simple, fun way to serve, meet new people, and support our shared life together. Please consider signing up online (shorturl.at/Xv1lf) or in Geneva during today's coffee hour. We'd love to have you!

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. Andrew Wall, Associate Pastor, Spiritual Formation

Rev. Aaron Morris, Parish Associate

Greg Homza, Director of Music Ministries

Marc Lavender, Church Business Administrator

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Support Staff:

Alexis Crawford, Communications Coordinator

Deb Davis, Bookkeeper

Bill Edwards, Sexton, Events & Wedding Coordinator

Eric Park, Maintenance Technician

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Office Hours

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

First Presbyterian Church

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