



First Presbyterian

CHURCH OF PORTLAND

Service for the Lord's Day
July 19, 2026
10:30 AM
Eighth 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 *Ubi caritas*
Prelude on *All Are Welcome*

Gerald Near
Lynn Trapp

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

Spirit of the Living God

Daniel Iverson

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, let us gather before God,
who created us for connection and community.

**God opens God's self to us,
inviting us into holy relationship and deep communion.**

Let us bring our whole selves—
our joys, our fears, and our vulnerabilities.

**For in our shared humanity, we find the courage to love.
Let us worship the God who loves us completely.**

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

Creator God, you breathed life into dust and called us into being,
risking your own heart to form a world
capable of both deep love and profound grief.
Teach us to embrace the vulnerability of Christian hospitality.
Help us to discern when to seek solitude for renewal,
and when to boldly open our doors and our hearts to others,
just as you have opened yourself to us. Amen.

***HYMN #301**

Let Us Build a House (*Verses 1, 4, 5*)

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

Holy God, we confess that true vulnerability frightens us.
You call us to the Christ-like love that is patient, kind, and enduring,
yet we often retreat behind walls of our own making.
We confuse faithful boundaries with self-protective isolation.
We hesitate to offer hospitality, fearing the cost of intimacy
and the possibility of grief. Forgive our closed hearts.
Give us the courage to step out of hiding, to risk loving deeply,
and to trust in your unfailing grace.

Prayers of confession continue in silence.

***LORD, HAVE MERCY**

Cantor first, then ALL

The musical notation is written on three staves in 3/4 time, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple and repetitive. The lyrics are: Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

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**

Friends, hear the good news: Love never fails.

Even when we hide, God's grace seeks us out.

In Christ, we are fully known, fully forgiven, and unconditionally loved.

Thanks be to God!

***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; 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

*We are grateful for the joy and energy children bring to our faith community
and look forward to our Children's Moments resuming after the summer months!*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Lori Sievert

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Genesis 2:18-24

Pew Bible, OT p. 2

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Creating God, Your Fingers Trace

Vernon Griffiths
(arr. John Ferguson)

Creating God, your fingers trace the bold designs of farthest space;
let sun and moon and stars and light and what lies hidden praise your might.

Sustaining God, your hands uphold earth's mysteries known or yet untold;
let water's fragile blend with air, enabling life, proclaim your care.

Redeeming God, your arms embrace all now despised for creed or race;
let peace, descending like a dove, make known on earth your healing love.

Indwelling God, your gospel claims one family with a billion names;
let every life be touched by grace until we praise you face to face.

— Jeffrey Rowthorn, 1979

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

Pew Bible, NT p. 175

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"Welcome In"

Rev. Aaron Morris

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*HYMN #727

Will You Let Me Be Your Servant

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*Unison; from the PCUSA Declaration of Faith, 1985*)

**God created human beings with a need for community
and with freedom to enter into it
by responding to their Maker with grateful obedience
and to one another with love and helpfulness.**

**We believe that we have been created to relate to God and each other
in freedom and responsibility.**

**We may misuse our freedom and deny our responsibility
by trying to live without God and other people
or against God and other people.**

**Yet we are still bound to them for our life and well-being,
and intended for free and responsible fellowship with them.**

**Since every human being is made for communion with God and others,
we must treat no one with contempt.**

We are to respect and love all other people and ourselves as well.

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Thank you for your faithful support.

Contributions to the life and ministry of this congregation 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 firstpresportland.org.*



OFFERTORY

The Gift of Love

Hal Hopson

Though I may speak with bravest fire, and have the gift to all inspire,
and have not love; my words are vain, as sounding brass, and hopeless gain.

Though I may give all I possess, and striving so my love profess,
but not be given by love within, the profit soon turns strangely thin.

Come, Spirit come, our hearts control, our spirits long to be made whole.
Let inward love guide every deed; by this we worship, and are freed. Amen.

***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 #766

The Church of Christ Cannot Be Bound

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

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

Felix Mendelssohn

Music reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-706706.

IN MEMORIAM

*Our prayers are with the family of Hal Broughton
who passed away on June 26, 2026.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*We join in holding in prayer: Dennis Bradley, Kathy Callas,
Doug Marcks, 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.*

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

*Today's sanctuary flowers are given by John & Grace Babatunde
in honor of their 48th wedding anniversary.*

VISITING US?

*We're so happy to welcome you to FPC!
Please take a moment to fill out a visitor card
(located in the back of the pews) or scan the
QR code to the right for a digital version.*

*We hope you'll join us at coffee hour
downstairs in Geneva Hall after the service.
We'd love to get to know you!*



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Yarn for Prayer Shawls/Blessing Blankets

YARN ALERT! Knitters and crocheters - did you know? There's a bag containing a selection of yarns located in the first box in the Prayer Shawls and Blessing Blankets closet (next to the glass office) for you to use for this ministry. Please take what you need!

Presbyterian Women's Ministry Meeting

When: Sun, Jul 26, 11:45 am

Where: Heritage Room

Presbyterian Women's Ministry will hold a meeting next Sunday following worship. Zoom address will be provided for those unable to attend in person. Topics to be discussed are recipients of our mission funds, the annual bake sale and an election.

Register Now: Walk the Wildwood

When: Sat, Aug 8, 7:30 am

Where: Hoyt Arboretum

Don't miss the 5th annual Walk the Wildwood on August 8 at Hoyt Arboretum! Enjoy a guided walk through Portland's Hoyt Arboretum, a catered lunch, and stories of hope from Kamwenge Secondary and Vocational School in Uganda. We're a third of the way towards our \$15,000 goal and 37 registrants short of our 100-person target as we mark the school's 20th anniversary. Register at firstpresportland.org/news-events/walk-the-wildwood or get registration help in Geneva Hall after service today!

Menucha Summer Volunteer Work Party

When: Sat, Aug 15, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Where: Menucha

Menucha's next work party is coming up soon! We'll celebrate summer by bonding as a community while improving the sacred property, with a particular focus on our paths and trails. Lunch will be provided. Please sign up by emailing Menucha at hello@menucha.org. If you have any questions, feel free to also email or call the Menucha office at 503-695-2243.

Summer Choir Invitation

All are welcome to join in singing with the Summer Choir through the end of August. There is no mid-week rehearsal, but participants are asked to prepare on their own during the week. Contact Greg Homza (ghomza@firstpresportland.org) for more info.

Have an announcement for the bulletin or eBlast? Submit it at this link by Monday each week! shorturl.at/eVnBQ

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. Dr. Joan Miller, Interim Head Pastor
Rev. Brenna Dykman, Associate Pastor
Rev. Andrew Wall, Associate Pastor
Rev. Aaron Morris, Stated Supply Pastor
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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