



First Presbyterian

CHURCH OF PORTLAND

Service for the Lord's Day
August 16, 2026
10:30 AM
Twelfth 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

Aria on a Chaconne
Prelude in D

Joel Martinson
Adam Heron

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

As the Deer

Martin J. Nystrom

As the deer pants for the water, so my soul longs after you.
You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship you.
You alone are my strength, my shield; to you alone may my spirit yield.
You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship you.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

As a deer longs for flowing streams,
so my soul longs for you, O God.
My soul thirsts for the living God.
When shall we come and behold the face of God?
We hope in God,
and we shall again praise Them, who meets us when we seek Them.

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

In life and in death you bless us, O God.
When trouble overwhelms us, you save us.
When sorrow overtakes us, you comfort us.
When death overcomes us, you overcome death and raise us to new life.
You promise us joy everlasting
and, even now, give us glad hope and glimpses of your realm,
which is to come when Christ makes all things new.
For calling us your children and bestowing upon us such great love,
we give you thanks, in Jesus' name.
Amen.

***HYMN #386**

Come, Worship God

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

Gracious God, you call us your own children and cover us with your love.
We would seek your righteousness, your justice, your very face,
yet we are often distracted or believe that there are things we must do
before truly seeking you to make ourselves worthy.
Forgive us, tame our wayward wills, and draw us to you,
that we may live lives to the fullest with our eyes locked on your path.
In the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Prayers of confession continue in silence.

***LORD, HAVE MERCY**

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
- on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Healey Willan, 1928

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Sisters and brothers, no one who takes refuge in God will be condemned.
Believe the good news! In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God!

***RESPONSE OF PRAISE #645 (verse 4)**

**Throughout my toilsome way along I sing aloud thy praises,
that all may hear the grateful song my voice unwearied raises.
Be joyful in the Lord, my heart; both soul and body, take your part:
to God all praise and glory!**

Text: Johann Jacob Schütz, 1675; trans. Frances Elizabeth Cox, 1864, alt.
Tune: MIT FREUDEN ZART, 8.7.8.7.8.8.7; Bohemian Brethren's *Kirchengesang*, 1566

***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.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Juno Ann Apalla	Jason Scheer
Christin Chown	Barbara Tremaine
Joseph Dollowitch	Eileen Tremaine
Jennifer Eskridge	

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

Steve Chown

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 42

Pew Bible, OT p. 515

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

As the deer yearns for running waters, so my soul yearns for you, O God.

Like the deer that yearns for running streams,
so my soul is thirsting for you my God.

My soul is thirsting for God, the God of my life;
when can I enter and see the face of God?

O send forth your light and your truth; let these be my guide.
Let them bring me to your holy mountain, to the place where you dwell.

And I will come to the altar of God, the God of my joy.
My Redeemer I will thank you on the harp, O God, my God.

— Psalm 42:1-2; Psalm 43:3-4

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 5:1-6

Pew Bible, NT p. 4

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Rev. Andrew Wall

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

***HYMN #353**

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*Unison*)

We believe in God, whose love reaches to the poor in spirit,
whose mercy embraces those who mourn,
and whose justice lifts up the humble.

We believe in Jesus Christ, who announced the coming of God's kingdom,
who called the unlikely "blessed," who welcomed the forgotten,
fed the hungry, forgave sinners, made peace among enemies,
and remained faithful even to the cross.

We believe the Holy Spirit forms us into the likeness of Christ,
creating in us humble hearts, a hunger for righteousness,
merciful hands, pure intentions, and the courage to make peace.

We believe that God's kingdom is already breaking into the world,
even as we await its fullness.

Therefore, we will seek justice, extend mercy, walk humbly with our God,
and rejoice in hope, trusting that nothing can separate us
from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

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

Satisfied

Ralph E. Hudson

All my life long I had panted for a drink from some cool spring
that I hoped would quench the burning of the thirst I felt within.
Hallelujah! I have found him whom my soul so long has craved!
Jesus satisfies my longings; through his blood I now am saved.

Feeding on the husks around me till my strength was almost gone,
longed my soul for something better, only still to hunger on.

Well of water ever springing, bread of life so rich and free,
untold wealth that never faileth my Redeemer is to me.

— Clara Tear Williams, 1875

*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.

The musical notation is written on three staves in G major (one sharp). The first staff contains the melody for "Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all". The second staff continues with "peo-ple here be - low; praise Ho-ly Spir-it ev - er - more;". The third staff concludes with "praise Tri-une God, whom we a - dore. A - men." and ends with a double bar line.

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 #366

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

*BENEDICTION

ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE PNC

POSTLUDE

Toccata on *Great Day*

Adolphus Hailstork

Music reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-706706.

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 in loving memory of Tom Withycombe by Kathy Withycombe and families.

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

All-Church Picnic

When: Sun, Aug 23, 12:00 pm

Where: Menucha

Our annual all-church picnic is next Sunday! Bring a potluck dish to share! Beverages will be provided. We will meet by the swimming pool and enjoy some summer fun and fellowship! *Potluck dishes are divided by the first letter of your last name: A - H: dessert; I - O: main dish; P - Z: salad or side dish*

Covenant Conversations: Cascades

When: Sat, Aug 29, 10:00am- 3:30 PM

Where: Westminster PC

As a member of the Covenant Network of Presbyterians, FPC is honored to help host Covenant Conversations: Cascades, a Presbytery-wide gathering focused on faithful inclusion. Through worship, conversation, and workshops, we'll explore Scripture, our faith tradition, and the stories around us as we grow in recognizing the image of God in all people. Together, we'll support church leaders, engage challenging conversations, and deepen our witness. Join us for this meaningful time of learning, connection, and growth. Registration is \$25 and includes lunch (group discounts available). More info and registration here: covnetpres.org/events/cascades

Service for Personal Restoration and Healing

When: Sun, Aug 30, 2:00 pm

Where: Chapel

Christ calls the heavy laden to find rest, acknowledge our burdens, and seek God's peace together. With the stress of current events, unrealized hopes, or personal loss, we all need space to reflect and process our emotions. So come as you are and join us at the end of the month for this service of gentle reflection and prayer. All are welcome.

PWM Annual Bake & Craft Sale

The PWM Bake and Craft Sale is coming in November. For now, as gardens and creative projects flourish, please consider contributing homemade jams, pickles, baked goods, soaps, potholders, crafts, homemade cards, or anything else you cook or make. Proceeds will support next year's FPC Women's Retreat, so everyone can attend regardless of cost. More details soon!

Open Circle Fall Start Date

When: Thu, Sep 3, 10:00 am

Where: Heritage/Online

Open Circle invites all women of First Presbyterian to the start of our 37th year of Bible study, spiritual connection, and a bit of church office support. This season, we will meet on the first and third Thursdays of each month. Our 2026–2027 Horizons Bible Study, "United Through Christ, Bound to Each Other," explores Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians. Study books are \$14 and available at the Open Circle table in Fellowship Hall during Sunday Coffee Hour. We hope you'll join us!

Save the Date: Kick-Off Sunday

When: Sun, Sep 13

Where: Sanctuary & Plaza

Save the date now for our annual Kick-Off Sunday! We'll celebrate the start of a new school year and education season here at FPC as well as share a picnic together on the plaza. More details will be shared in the coming weeks!

DoveLewis Service of Remembrance

When: Sun, Sep 13, 4:00 pm

Where: Sanctuary

Remember, reflect, and find support with us at the Annual DoveLewis Service of Remembrance. We'll honor the beloved animal companions who shaped our lives with unconditional love. Whether your pet loss is recent or long ago, you're welcome here to share in remembrance. More info and RSVP at this link: shorturl.at/X43pO

Menucha Annual Fundraiser

When: Sun, Sep 13, 4:30 pm

Where: Menucha

Menucha invites you to their Annual Fundraising Dinner, "Gathered in Harmony." Celebrate with an evening of music, storytelling, and shared purpose. Enjoy a delicious dinner and inspiring program while supporting Menucha's mission. Learn more and purchase tickets at menucha.org/fall-fundraising-dinner. Ticket sales end this Saturday, August 22.

***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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[@FirstPresPortland](https://www.facebook.com/FirstPresPortland)



[@FirstPresPortland](https://www.instagram.com/FirstPresPortland)

Office Hours

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

First Presbyterian Church

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