



First Presbyterian

CHURCH OF PORTLAND

Service for the Lord's Day

August 30, 2026

10:30 AM

Fourteenth 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

Ave verum corpus, K. 618
Prelude on *When the Saints*

W.A. Mozart (arr. F. Liszt)
Rebecca Groom te Velde

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

Lord, Who May Enter Your House?

John L. Bell

Lord, who may enter your house? Who may remain in your presence?
Whoever leads a blameless life, and does what is right;
who speaks the truth from the heart, whose tongue is never used for slander.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord?

Those who have clean hands and pure hearts.

Who shall stand in God's holy place?

Those who do not lift up their souls to what is false.

The earth is the Lord's, and all that is in it.

We come before the God who knows us completely.

Blessed are the pure in heart.

For they shall see God.

Let us enter the room of integrity, bringing our whole selves before God.

Let us worship the God who sees our hearts and loves us still.

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

Gracious God, you know us more completely than we know ourselves.
You see what is visible and what is hidden,
our words and our motives, our strengths and our divided hearts.
Bring us into your presence this morning with honesty and humility.
Make our hearts undivided, our lives truthful,
and our desire for you greater than our desire to impress others.
As we worship, help us to see you more clearly and to become more like you.
Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

***HYMN #1**

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!

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

Merciful God, we confess that our hearts are often divided.
We want to be seen as good more than we want to become good.
We sometimes do what is right for the wrong reasons.
We seek recognition for our generosity, approval for our goodness,
and the appearance of faithfulness more than faithfulness itself.
Forgive us for the ways our public selves and private selves do not match.
Forgive our hidden motives, our compromises, our anxieties,
and the things we place before you.
You know us completely, and still you love us.
Make our hearts whole.
Give us a single purpose:
to love you, to love our neighbors, and to live truthfully in your presence.
In the name of Jesus Christ,
who sees us as we are and calls us toward who we can become.

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.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Hear the good news:

God does not turn away from hearts that are broken, divided, or burdened.

God meets us with mercy.

The God who knows everything about us loves us still.

In Christ, we are forgiven and made new.

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

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.

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

Diane Ponder

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 24:3-6

Pew Bible, OT p. 502

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

MUSICAL OFFERING

Adagio *from* Piano Sonata No. 4
in E-flat Major, K. 282

W.A. Mozart

(Darlene Cusick, pianist)

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 5:1-8

Pew Bible, NT p. 4

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

“The Room of Integrity”

Rev. Dr. Joan Miller

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

***HYMN #286**

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

***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.

MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP

Open Circle

Estelle Brunner

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

Lord, Make Us More Holy African American spiritual

Lord, make us more holy until we meet again.
Lord, make us more loving until we meet again.
Lord, make us more patient until we meet again.
Lord, make us more faithful until we meet again.

*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 contains the melody for "people here be low; praise Holy Spirit ever more;". The third staff contains the melody for "praise Tri-une God, whom we adore. Amen." 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 #804**

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

For All the Saints

arr. Wilbur Held

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 by Alice Corwin in loving memory of her husband, Dr. Ray Corwin.

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

Adult Education Groups Start Back This Week!

All groups are available in person and on Zoom.

- **Women's Book Club** Tue, Sep 1, 11:15 am (Heritage)
- **Open Circle**: Thu, Sep 3, 10:00 am (Heritage)
- **Practical Theology**: Fri, Sep 4, 11:00 am (John Knox)
- **2 Dudes**: Fri, Sep 4, 1:00 pm (John Knox)

Ways to Engage at FPC!

Ever wondered what opportunities there are to serve, connect, and learn at FPC? A new chart lists all our opportunities and how to get started with them! Click the link in the eBlast to access an electronic version (updated often!). A printed version of the chart is posted on the bulletin boards in Geneva Hall. Get connected!

Service for Personal Restoration and Healing

When: Today, 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. Come as you are this afternoon for a service of gentle reflection and prayer. All are welcome.

September Birthdays Celebration

When: Sun, Sep 6, 11:30 am

Where: Geneva Hall

After worship next week, we'll wish a happy birthday to all those born in September. We would love to celebrate you with cupcakes and a song at coffee hour!

Kick Off Sunday Service & Picnic

When: Sun, Sep 13, during and after worship

Where: Sanctuary & Plaza

Celebrate the start of a new school year and the learning ahead at FPC! Students are invited to bring backpacks for a blessing during worship. In the afternoon, we'll enjoy a picnic, live music, bubbles, and fun water activities on the Plaza! *Food and volunteer signups are available in Geneva Hall.* Wear denim and/or a red bandana and join us for a day of fun and fellowship!

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

Adult Ed Study: Accidental Saints: Finding God in All the Wrong People by Nadia Bolz-Weber

When: Tue, Sep 15 - Oct 27, 7:00 pm

Where: Zoom

Starting next month, join us each week as Pastor Andrew Wall leads a discussion of this spiritual memoir. Bolz-Weber, a tattooed and profane Lutheran pastor, uses the liturgical calendar to share gritty, funny, and honest stories of finding divine grace through the messy, broken people of her Denver congregation. You can find the book at your local library or book store. We'll also have a few copies in the church library. *Contact the church office for the Zoom link.*

New Saltshakers Cohorts

When: quarterly, Oct 2026 - Sep 2027

Saltshakers is a fellowship program that organizes groups of 6-8 people who gather quarterly throughout the year to share a potluck meal in their homes. It's a great opportunity to get to know other FPC members, build connection, and support each other! Every Sunday during September, Jean Smith will be available after worship for signup and questions. *Signup deadline: Sunday, September 27.*

Volunteer Opportunity: Nursery Supervision

We need nursery volunteers for this coming program year! We are looking for 2-3 individuals to commit to 1-2 Sundays a month. Responsibilities include supervision of the littles in the nursery as well as support to any parents there with their kids. If you are interested and/or willing, please contact Pastor Andrew (awall@firstpresportland.org).

***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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