First Presbyterian
CHURCH OF PORTLAND

Service for the Lord's Day

October 18, 2026
10:30 AM
Twenty-First 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

All Things Bright and Beautiful — arr. Mary Beth Bennett
My Father's World — arr. Jason W. Krug

(Handbell Ensemble; Paul Butler, director)

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

O Lord, My Shepherd — Sam Batt Owens

O Lord, my Shepherd, I'll not want, you make me down to lie;
in pastures green you lead my soul, the quiet waters by.

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Look at the birds of the air;
they do not sow or reap.
Yet our heavenly Father feeds them.
Consider the wildflowers;
they do not work or stress.
Yet God clothes them in beauty.
The Lord is our shepherd;
we shall not want.
Let us worship the God who provides,
resting in green pastures and still waters.

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

Gracious God,
you are our Good Shepherd,
guiding us along right paths and restoring our souls.
In a world consumed by worry and driven by endless striving,
calm our anxious hearts.
Open our eyes to see the ways you care for us each day,
that we might seek first your kingdom and your righteousness.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***HYMN #20** All Things Bright and Beautiful

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

Merciful God,
we confess that our hearts are often heavy with worry.
We fret about our lives,
about what we will eat or what we will wear,
forgetting that you hold us in your care.
We wander from your green pastures,
seeking security in our own striving
rather than trusting in your provision.
Forgive us for our restless anxiety.
Lead us back to the still waters of your grace.
Restore our souls,
that we may dwell in your house
and trust in your goodness all the days of our lives.
Through Christ our Lord.

Prayers of confession continue in silence.

***LORD, HAVE MERCY #576**

(choir first, then all)

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy on us.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Hear the good news:
Even in darkest valleys, God is with us.
God's goodness and mercy pursue us all the days of our lives,
and so we are loved and held by the Creator of all things.
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and made new.
Thanks be to God. Amen.

***RESPONSE OF PRAISE #694** *(verse 1)*

Great God of ev'ry blessing, of faithful, loving care,
you are the fount of goodness, the daily bread we share.
How can we hope to thank you? Our praise is but a start:
sincerely and completely I offer you my heart.

Text: © 2011 by David Gambrell Tune: AURELIA, 7.6.7.6.D; Samuel Sebastian Wesley, 1864

***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 Ted Magnuson

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 23 Pew Bible, OT p. 501

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM My Shepherd Will Supply My Need arr. Howard Helvey

My shepherd will supply my need; Jehovah is his name.
In pastures fresh he makes me feed, beside the living stream.
He brings my wandering spirit back when I forsake his ways,
and leads me, for his mercy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.

When I walk through the shades of death thy presence is my stay;
one word of thy supporting breath drives all my fears away.
Thy hand, in sight of all my foes, doth still my table spread;
my cup with blessings overflows; thy oil anoints my head.

The sure provisions of my God attend me all my days;
O may thy house be mine abode, and all my work be praise.
There would I find a settled rest, while others go and come;
no more a stranger, or a guest, but like a child at home.

(Nick Halsey, cello)

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 6:25-34 Pew Bible, NT p. 6

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON "Quiet" Rev. Aaron Morris

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

HYMN #802 The King of Love My Shepherd Is

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

We believe in God,
the giver of every good gift,
the source and sustainer of all that is.
We believe that all we have and all we are comes from God's generous hand.
We believe in Jesus Christ,
who teaches us that life is more than possessions,
that our worth is more than what we own,
and that our treasure reveals our hearts.
We believe in the Holy Spirit,
who frees us from fear and scarcity,
teaches us contentment,
and opens our hands to generosity.
We confess that we are often tempted by more—
more wealth, more security, more recognition,
more than we need and more than we can hold.
Yet we trust that in God there is enough:
enough grace for our failures,
enough love for our brokenness,
enough bread for the journey,
and enough abundance to share.
Therefore, we choose gratitude over entitlement,
wisdom over impulse, contentment over comparison,
trust over fear, and generosity over accumulation.
We offer ourselves and all that we have for the healing of the world
and the flourishing of our neighbors.
For everything belongs to God,
and we are blessed to be stewards of God's gifts.
Thanks be to God.

MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP Doug Blomgren

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 Look and Learn Young-Soo Nah (arr. John L. Bell)

Look and learn from the birds of the air, flying high above worry and fear;
neither sowing nor harvesting seed, yet they're given whatever they need.
If the God of earth and heaven cares for birds as much as this,
won't he care much more for you, when you put your trust in him?

Look and learn from the flowers of the field, bringing beauty and color to life;
neither sewing nor tailoring cloth, yet they're dressed in the finest attire.
If the God of earth and heaven cares for flowers as much as this,
won't he care much more for you, when you put your trust in him?

What God wants should be our will; where God calls should be our goal.
When we seek the kingdom first, all we've lost is ours again.
Let's be done with anxious thoughts, set aside tomorrow's cares,
live each day that God provides, putting all our trust in him.

— Young-Soo Nah, 1991 (trans. John L. Bell)

***OFFERTORY RESPONSE #717**

**For the life that you have given, for the love in Christ made known,
with these fruits of time and labor, with these gifts that are your own:
here we offer, Lord, our praises; heart and mind and strength we bring;
give us grace to love and serve you, living what we pray and sing.**

— Carl P. Daw Jr., 1987

***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 #39** Great Is Thy Faithfulness

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE Toccata in 7 John Rutter

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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 Nathan and Eleanor Primack by Steve & Candace Primack.

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 in Geneva Hall after the service. We'd love to get to know you!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Joan Out of Office
Pastor Joan will be out of office starting tomorrow, Monday, October 19 through Tuesday, October 27. She will be attending the Building for Hope seminar in Alexandria, VA, for the first part of the trip and then visiting family. We hope her time away is relaxing and renewing!

***Accidental Saints* Discussion Postponed**
When: Tue, Oct 20, 7:00 pm
Where: Zoom
This week's book discussion has been postponed, pushing the remaining two meetings back by one week. We'll meet on October 27 to discuss chapters 15-16 and then on November 3 for our final week to discuss chapters 17-19.

***My Omaha*: Screening & Conversation**
When: Fri, Oct 23, 6:00 pm (doors at 5:30 pm)
Where: Chapel
Service Beyond Our Walls invites you to a screening of *My Omaha*, a new documentary about racial justice, family, political division, and the difficult work of staying connected across deeply held differences. Director Nick Beaulieu and Omaha community organizer Leo Louis II will join us live after the film for an audience conversation. Admission and parking are free, but space is limited! RSVPs are appreciated at this link: shorturl.at/GSYZ3

Coming Up at Menucha
- **Sat, Oct 24, 1:00-3:00 pm:** Annual Tree Walk
- **Sat, Oct 31, 9:00 am-2:00 pm:** Fall Work Party (email hello@menucha.org to sign up)

Arts & Music Sunday
When: Sun, Oct 25, 10:30 am
Where: 2nd Floor Classrooms
Little ones ages 3 to 5 and their grown-ups are invited to join our next Arts & Music Sunday! Every 4th Sunday, following the children's moment in worship, kids participate in an age-appropriate craft that helps us reflect on the abundance of Jesus' love, grace, and generosity for all people and "Circle Time" that includes singing, a simple Bible story, and a prayer. Parents and guardians are warmly welcome to join! For more info, contact Pastor Andrew (awall@firstpresportland.org)

FPC Annual Meeting & Luncheon
When: Sun, Nov 8, 11:30 am
Where: Geneva Hall
Our annual meeting is coming up in November! We'll discuss important information, followed by an all-church luncheon — food will be provided! We look forward to this day with you all.

Sign Up Now: PWM Bake & Craft Sale
When: Sun, Nov 22, 11:30 am
Where: Geneva Hall
The PWM Bake and Craft Sale is coming up soon! If you plan to donate items to this sale, now is a great time to start thinking about what you'd like to share. We'd love to have a myriad of items available—baked goods, jams, pickles, garden bounty, handmade crafts, soaps, potholders, or other creative items! Sign up at this link: shorturl.at/UAjoV



FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS

ESTHER 4:14

Giving Campaign 2027

Today marks the beginning of our annual Giving Campaign! The theme is "For Such A Time As This." It's a time to reflect on the gifts we receive from God and our response to God. We pray that part of this response includes a pledge to support FPC.

Starting today, three of our members will share what FPC means to them and why they pledge. We hope their stories will encourage everyone to generously respond to this campaign.

Our 2027 goal is **$650,000** in pledges.
Your commitment will help FPC meet this goal.

This Week at FPC

Sun	**10/18**	11:30 am	**Coffee Hour Fellowship** (Geneva Hall)
Tue	**10/20**		***Accidental Saints Discussion is postponed this week***
Fri	**10/23**	11:00 am	**Practical Theology** (John Knox & Zoom)
		1:00 pm	**Two Dudes** (John Knox & Zoom)
		6:00 pm	***My Omaha* Screening & Conversation** (Chapel; doors at 5:30 pm)
Sun	**10/25**	9:00 am	**Lectionary Study Group** (John Knox & Zoom)
		9:15 am	**Parent & Baby Play Group** (Nursery)

Email hello@firstpresportland.org for more information & Zoom links.

FPC's Vision Statement

We are committed to loving God and loving our neighbors. We do this through being 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 authentially with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love while expanding the circle where God's love is known.

@FirstPresPortland **@FirstPresPortland**

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

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