



First Presbyterian

CHURCH OF PORTLAND

Service for the Lord's Day

September 27, 2026

10:30 AM

Eighteenth 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

Intermezzo in C Major, Op. 119, No. 3

Johannes Brahms

Intermezzo in E Major, Op. 116, No. 6

Johannes Brahms

(Darlene Cusick, pianist)

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

Be Still and Aware

Sally Ann Morris

Be still and aware of God's presence within and all around.

— John Philip Newell, 2000

*CALL TO WORSHIP

We are children of God, learning to walk.

Day by day, we are learning to be the church.

God is a loving parent, teaching us to walk.

God loves us, leads us, and feeds us.

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

Extravagant God,
you offer riches that no earthly pleasures can match.
You pour out mercy and cover us with love.
You show us true justice and offer us peace.
You provide for us with every need
and promise us eternal life with you.
In the midst of the glitz and glamor of this world,
nothing, and no one, shines with your brilliance.
Bathe us in the light of Christ,
illumine us with your Holy Spirit,
and enable us to live only for you.
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

***HYMN #14**

For the Beauty of the Earth

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

Holy God, you lavish us with good gifts,
yet we persist in seeking after that which robs us of abundant life.
We hold fast to our anxieties and give in to our greed;
we desire the very things that harm us.
Forgive us, purify us,
and sustain us by the strength of your Holy Spirit,
we ask in Jesus' name.

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**

If God is for us, who is against us?
In Jesus Christ you have been set free.
Know that you are forgiven, and be at peace.
Thanks be to God.

***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

COMMISSIONING OF CONFIRMANDS

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Linda Grabe

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Ecclesiastes 5:10-15

Pew Bible, OT p. 617

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Ah, Thou Poor World, Op. 110, No. 2

Johannes Brahms

Ah, thou poor world, thou cheatest me, that I confess unfeignedly,
yet in thee seek my pleasure.

False world, thou art but idle show, thy splendor fades, as well I know,
thy joys have briefest measure.

Thy wealth, thine honors manifold, in need, in death, no comfort hold,
thy gold is naught but tinsel gold, be thou, O Lord, my treasure.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

“The Trouble with More”

Rev. Andrew Wall

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

HYMN #450

Be Thou My Vision

***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.

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

Take My Life, that I May Be

J. Aaron McDermid

Take my life, that I may be consecrated, Lord, to thee;
take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love;
take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for thee.

Take my voice and let me sing always, only, for my King;
take my lips and let them be filled with messages from thee.

Take my will and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne. Amen.

— Frances R. Havergal, 1874

*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 #307**

God of Grace and God of Glory

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Prelude on *Cwm Rhondda*

Paul Manz

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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 honor of all those who join us in worship each week, both near and far!

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!*



FPC's Annual Season of Giving: For Such a Time as This

In the Book of Esther, Esther is called by God provide critical assistance to her people in mortal danger “for such a time as this.” Once again, we live in a time of danger and uncertainty. FPC is in a position to address such a time as this with thoughtful faith, generosity, and meaningful action.

Our new sermon series “Enough” launches our season of giving, underscoring the role of giving as an expression of faith. Pastor Andrew’s opening sermon reminds us that our present moment is marked by a broader and deeper sense of uncertainty. Economic questions are now joined by cultural, environmental, and communal challenges that touch every part of life. However, God continues to work through us with faith that steadies us, generosity that grounds us, and trust that reminds us we have hope in the face of every trial.

As we enter this season of giving, we invite you to listen, reflect, and participate fully in our shared work of hope “for such a time as this.”

ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Art Gallery Exhibit Next Week!

When: Sun, Oct 4, 11:45 am

Where: Chapel Art Gallery

Today is your final opportunity to view the Mirabella Artists Group exhibit in our chapel art gallery. Next Sunday after worship, we'll host an opening reception for our next exhibit - Inga Dubay's "With Singleness of Heart: Calligraphic & Asemic Writing." Make sure to stop by the gallery after worship today and join us next week to celebrate our new exhibit!

General Assembly Delegate Talk

When: Sun, Oct 4, 1:30 pm

Where: Heritage Room

Join General Assembly delegate Kris Voss-Rothmeier as he presents on his time at GA and focuses on the process and rationale behind decision RIW-04, in which the denomination addressed the ongoing war in Gaza and declared Israel's actions in Gaza as a genocide. If you are curious and want to learn more about this official decision and declaration, be there!

October's Women's Book Club

When: Tue, Oct 6, 11:15 am

Where: Heritage & Zoom

(us02web.zoom.us/j/87566750637)

October's book club will discuss *Far From Home* by Lisa Murkowski. The book recounts the Alaskan Senator's journey through the challenges of growing up far from home and finding her place in the world. It explores themes of family, identity, resilience, and the experiences that shape who we become. We hope you'll join us for this month's discussion!

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! *Today is the last day to sign up with Jean Smith after worship!*

Support the JWH Pop-Up Shop!

The new clothes closet supported by FPC will hold its first pop-up shop at the Julia West House **tomorrow, Monday, September 28**, and we need fall clothing donations for men and women — think head to toe. We're especially low on sweatshirts (all sizes) and adult Halloween costumes! Please drop off items at Geneva Hall after service or during normal business hours. Contact Eileen Tremaine (530-524-5420) with questions!

Seeking Visual Arts Volunteers

We're looking to grow our team of volunteers who help make our Visual Arts program possible. There are five opportunities each year and two different ways to get involved: helping install a new exhibit or welcoming guests and assisting with the reception at the opening of each show. If you'd like to learn more and see if it might be a good fit for you, stop by the info table after church today.



WORD COMMUNION SUNDAY
OCTOBER 4, 2026

What does the Lord require of you?
...to love kindness
Micah 6:8

 WORLD COMMUNION OFFERING



This Week at FPC

Sun	9/27	11:30 am	Coffee Hour Fellowship (Geneva Hall)
Mon	9/28	2:00 pm	Community Dinner (prep @ FPC kitchen)
		5:00 pm	Community Dinner (serve @ Alder House, JWH, Rosenbaum)
Tue	9/29	7:00 pm	Accidental Saints Discussion (chapters 6-8, Zoom)
Thu	10/1	10:00 am	Women's Open Circle (Heritage & Zoom)
Fri	10/2	11:00 am	Practical Theology (John Knox & Zoom)
		1:00 pm	Two Dudes (John Knox & Zoom)
Sun	10/4	9:00 am	Lectionary Bible Study (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 authentically with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love while expanding the circle where God's love is known.



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

First Presbyterian Church of Portland

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