First Presbyterian
CHURCH OF PORTLAND

Service for the Lord's Day

November 15, 2026
10:30 AM
Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost
Service of Celebration

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 in D-flat Major, Op. 28 No. 15 ("Raindrop") Frédéric Chopin

(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 I Will Worship the Lord John Rutter

I will worship the Lord all the days of my life;
I will tell of thy glory and will show forth thy praise;
I will sing and rejoice, for the Lord is my stronghold. Alleluia.

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

The Lord makes a way in the sea and a path in the mighty waters:
We remember God's faithfulness through every generation.
God declares, "I am about to do a new thing;
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?"
Open our eyes to see what God is doing among us.
God promises a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.
We trust that God is making a way,
even where we cannot yet see it.
Come, people of God!
Let us celebrate the love that has sustained us,
the hope that calls us forward,
and the ministry we share.
To God be the glory, forever and ever! Let us worship God!

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

Faithful and ever-creating God,
we gather with grateful hearts,
remembering the many ways you have guided and sustained this congregation.
Through seasons of joy and uncertainty,
through change and challenge,
your love has remained steadfast.
Today we celebrate not simply a new chapter in pastoral leadership,
but the new possibilities you are opening among us.
Root us deeply in your love, awaken our imaginations,
and give us courage to follow where your Spirit leads.
May our worship renew our hope
and strengthen our commitment to serve you and our neighbors.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***HYMN #619** Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven

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

God of yesterday, today, and tomorrow,
we confess that we are often more comfortable with what is familiar
than with what is possible.
We cling to old ways, even when you are calling us toward new life.
We allow fear to limit our imaginations
and sometimes mistake preserving what we have
for fulfilling the mission you have given us.
We confess that we do not always recognize your presence
in the people and places around us,
especially those whose lives and experiences differ from our own.
Forgive us when we fail to see, when we hesitate to act,
and when we forget that your love is greater than anything we can ask or imagine.

Prayers of confession continue in silence.

***LORD, HAVE MERCY**

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.	**Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**
Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.	**Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.**
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.	**Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

© 1996 by Christopher Walker

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Hear the good news:
The God who makes a way through the wilderness
is the same God who makes a way through our failures and fears.
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, renewed, and set free to live in hope.
The past does not bind us, and the future does not belong to our fears.
It belongs to God.
Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God!

***RESPONSE OF PRAISE**

O God, beyond all praising, we worship you today
and sing the love amazing that songs cannot repay;
for we can only wonder at every gift you send,
at blessings without number and mercies without end:
we lift our hearts before you and wait upon your word,
we honor and adore you, our great and mighty Lord.

Text: Michael Perry © 1982 by Hope Publishing Co.
Tune: THAXTED, 13.13.13.13.13.13; 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

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION Rev. Amanda Golbek
Pastor, Mt. Tabor Presbyterian Church (Portland, OR)

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Ephesians 3:14-21 Pew Bible, NT p. 193

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM A Covenant Prayer Allen Pote

Lord, make me what you will, I put myself into your hands.
Put me to doing, put me to suffering, let me be employed for you, or laid aside for you.
Lord, make me what you will, I will no longer be my own.
Let me be full, let me be empty, let me have all things, let me have nothing.
Lord, I freely and with a willing heart, give it all to you, to your pleasure and disposal, Lord;
make me what you will.

— adapted from John Wesley's Covenant Service, 1780

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Isaiah 43:16-21 Pew Bible, OT p. 672

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON "The Doors of Perception" Dr. Phil Faig
Pastor, Old Town Community Church (Alexandria, VA)
Program Director, Building for Hope

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

***HYMN #761** Called as Partners in Christ's Service

A COVENANT FOR A NEW SEASON OF MINISTRY

AN INVITATION TO COVENANT Rev. Dr. Joan Miller

THE QUESTIONS TO THE PASTOR Rev. Andrew Wall

THE QUESTIONS TO THE CONGREGATION Rev. Aaron Morris

- Response -
We will, with God's help.

THE QUESTIONS TO THE PASTOR AND CONGREGATION TOGETHER Rev. Andrew Wall
Rev. Aaron Morris

- Response -
We will, with God's help.

A PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND BLESSING — Cam Birnie
Vice Moderator (NW Region), Presbytery of the Cascades

THE CHARGE TO THE PASTOR — Dr. Phil Faig
Pastor, Old Town Community Church (Alexandria, VA)
Program Director, Building for Hope

THE CHARGE TO THE CONGREGATION — Rev. Robin Garvin
Commission on Ministry Pastoral Transition Advisor

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *(Unison; from A Brief Statement of Faith, PCUSA 1991)*

In a broken and fearful world,
the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing,
to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,
to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.
In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,
we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks
and to live holy and joyful lives,
even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth,
praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"
With believers in every time and place,
we rejoice that nothing in life or in death
can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.
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 — Largo *from* Sonata in G minor, Op. 65 — Frédéric Chopin

(Greg Homza, cellist)

***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 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

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 Walt Meihoff by his wife Jean Meihoff.

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

USAF Band of the Golden West Clarinet Trio
When: Today, Sun, Nov 15, 2:00 pm
Where: Sanctuary
Get ready for an unforgettable musical experience! We are excited to host the U.S. Air Force Band's Clarinet Trio for a special live performance, bringing exceptional musicianship, inspiring melodies, and an exciting concert experience to the community. Free tickets available here: shorturl.at/Fx7NN

"Skills for Disagreeing Better" Workshop
When: Sat, Nov 21, 9:00 am-12:00 pm
Where: Heritage
FPC is excited to partner with Braver Angels for an interactive workshop designed to help participants understand differing perspectives, listen with greater empathy, and share their own viewpoints in ways others can hear. Everyone is welcome! Register here (use code BRAVER for free registration): shorturl.at/tivrX

PWM Bake & Craft Sale
When: Sun, Nov 22, 11:30 am
Where: Calvin Library
The PWM Bake & Craft Sale is in one week! Come join us in Calvin Library during coffee hour to purchase delicious goods and creative crafts, lovingly made by FPC members. Proceeds from this event support our annual women's retreat! We look forward to seeing you there.

December Women's Book Club
When: Tue, Dec 7, 11:15 am
Where: Heritage & Zoom
us02web.zoom.us/j/87566750637
December's meeting will discuss Family of Spies by Christine Kuehn. A true story chronicles the author's grandparents operation of a secret Nazi and Japanese spy ring in Hawaii leading up to the December 6 Pearl Harbor attack. Nancy Icenogle will lead our discussion. We hope to see you there!

FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS

ESTHER 4:14

Giving Campaign 2027

Last Sunday, we received personal commitments from many of you. Thank you for prayerfully considering what offering you will make to God through FPC in 2027. We appreciate your generosity!

If you haven't already done so, we invite you to make your commitment by filling out a pledge card. You can put one in the offering plate, mail it in, or go online. Thank you for your support of FPC!

This Week at FPC

Sun	**11/15**	11:30 am	**Coffee Hour Fellowship** (Geneva)
		2:00 pm	**USAF Band Clarinet Trio Concert** (Sanctuary)
Thu	**11/19**	10:00 am	**Open Circle** (Heritage & Online)
Fri	**11/20**	11:00 am	**Practical Theology** (John Knox & Online)
		1:00 pm	**Two Dudes** (John Knox & Zoom)
Sat	**11/21**	9:00 am	**Braver Angels "Disagreeing Better" Workshop** (Heritage)
Sun	**11/22**	9:00 am	**Lectionary Study Group** (John Knox & Online)
		11:30 am	**PWM Bake & Craft Sale** (Geneva)

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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