First Presbyterian
CHURCH OF PORTLAND

Service for the Lord's Day

November 8, 2026
10:30 AM
Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
Giving Sunday

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

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing — arr. Phil Lehenbauer
Sweet Hour of Prayer — William B. Bradbury
(arr. Mitchell and Sandra Eithun)

(Handbell Ensemble; Paul Butler, director; Noelle Howe, 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

Sweet Hour of Prayer — William B. Bradbury

Sweet hour of prayer! Sweet hour of prayer! that calls me from a world of care,
and bids me at my Maker's throne let all my needs and wants be known.
In seasons of distress and grief, my soul has often found relief,
and oft escaped the tempter's snare by your return, sweet hour of prayer!

Sweet hour of prayer! Sweet hour of prayer! whose wings shall my petition bear
to One whose truth and faithfulness engage the waiting soul to bless.
And since I'm bid to seek God's face, believe God's word, and trust God's grace,
I'll cast away my every care, and wait for you, sweet hour of prayer!

— William Walford, 1845, alt.

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Everything we have comes from God.
And from God's hand we have given.
God has entrusted each of us with gifts.
May we use them faithfully.
God has given us enough to bless our neighbors and our world.
May we live with open hands and generous hearts.
Come, let us give thanks to the God whose generosity knows no end.

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

God of abundance,
we give you thanks for all that has been entrusted to us.
For the gifts we recognize and the gifts we sometimes overlook;
for resources, relationships, opportunities,
and the simple gift of another day — we give you thanks.
Teach us to see our lives not as possessions to protect
but as gifts to be shared.
May all that we have and all that we are
be used for your purposes and for the flourishing of your world.
Amen.

***HYMN #475** Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

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

Gracious God, we confess that we sometimes forget whose gifts these are.
We act as owners when you have called us stewards.
We bury gifts because we are afraid.
We withhold because we do not trust.
We compare ourselves with others
rather than giving thanks for what you have entrusted to us.
Forgive us.
Give us courage to use our gifts faithfully,
wisdom to use them well,
and joy in sharing them generously.

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**

Remember this good news:
God does not ask us to earn God's love.
God gives it freely.
God does not ask us to manufacture abundance.
God invites us to participate in it.
We are forgiven.
We are blessed.
We are entrusted with gifts.
And we are free to use them for God's purposes.
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 Linda Grabe

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING 1 Chronicles 29:9-16 Pew Bible, OT p. 387

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM We Are an Offering Dwight Liles

We lift our voices; we lift our hands; we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering.
Lord, use our voices; Lord, use our hands; Lord, use our lives; they are yours: we are an offering.
All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be, we give to you.
We lift our voices; we lift our hands; we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 25:14-30 Pew Bible, NT p. 28

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON "The Joy of Giving" Rev. Dr. Joan Miller

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

HYMN #716 God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

***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.

GIVING COMMITMENT INVITATION

Our commitments are not payments for God's love
and they are not simply a way to balance a church budget.
They are an act of faith.
They are our way of saying:
"God, all that we have comes from you.
Receive what we offer,
and use it for your purposes."
With gratitude for what we have received
and hope for what God can do through us,
let us offer our gifts, our resources, and our lives.

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 #709 God, We Honor You

– Please join in singing –

God, we honor you, God, we trust in you. God, we worship and adore you.
Take what we bring, offered to you. Teach us to show your abundant blessings.
Alleluia, amen.

— James E. Clemens, 2008

***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

***DEDICATION OF COMMITMENT**

All things come from you, O God.
And of your own have we given you.
Receive these gifts and use them for your work.
Make us faithful stewards of all you entrust to us.
May our giving become an expression of our love.
And may our lives become an expression of your generosity.
Amen.

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 #697** Take My Life

***BENEDICTION**

INTERLUDE Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow arr. Robert J. Powell

ANNUAL MEETING

We invite you to remain in the Sanctuary for our Annual Meeting. You can find all the information about the meeting in the Annual Report 2026. If you have not received an Annual Report 2026 today, please see an usher. Thank you for participating in the life of our church!

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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 Svetla Rousseva by Ann & Peter van Bever.

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

All Church Luncheon
When: Today, Sun, Nov 8, following worship
Where: Geneva Hall
Celebrate Giving Sunday and our Annual Meeting with a festive meal together after worship today! This lunch is our way of saying thank you for your faithful witnessing, generous financial giving, and continued support of FPC's ministries in our church, neighborhood, and world. We're also excited to celebrate all that God has accomplished through FPC over the past year. Please join us! As you enjoy the meal, we invite you to share with your tablemates why you come to FPC and what inspires you to support its ongoing work.

Building for Hope Meeting
When: Sat, Nov 14, 9:30 am-12:30pm
Where: FPC Campus
What might God do with the resources already in our hands if we approach the future with imagination and a mindset of abundance rather than scarcity? You're invited to join us this Saturday as we consider the possible answers to this question as part of our Building for Hope project! Together, we'll enjoy a day of learning, conversation, inspiration, and imagining new possibilities for the future of the church. Lunch will be provided. Please email Lisa Snodderly by **tomorrow, Mon Nov 9**, if you will be attending (lisafs@sterling.net).

USAF Band of the Golden West Clarinet Trio
When: 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. Don't miss this opportunity to enjoy an evening of outstanding music. Invite your friends and family, and reserve your free tickets today at this link: 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. You'll gain practical communication skills, discover opportunities for common ground, and learn how to navigate disagreements with respect and understanding. Everyone is welcome! Learn more and register here (use code BRAVER for free registration): shorturl.at/tivrX

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

Today is Giving Sunday!

In service today, we will have the opportunity to consecrate our personal commitments for the coming year. You should have received a Giving Campaign brochure and pledge card in the mail. Additional cards are available at the entrances to the sanctuary.

We invite you to prayerfully consider what your offering to God through our church will be in the coming year, fill out a card, and bring it forward during the offering in today's worship service.

Thank you for your generous support of FPC's ministries!

This Week at FPC

Sun	**11/8**	12:00 pm	**All Church Luncheon** (Geneva Hall)
Fri	**11/13**	11:00 am	**Practical Theology** (John Knox & Zoom)
		1:00 pm	**Two Dudes** (John Knox & Zoom)
Sat	**11/14**	9:30 am	**Building for Hope Meeting** (FPC Campus)
Sun	**11/15**	9:00 am	**Lectionary Study Group** (John Knox & Zoom)
		10:30 am	**Service of Celebration** (Sanctuary)

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

First Presbyterian Church of Portland
1200 SW Alder Street, Portland, OR 97205
www.firstpresportland.org, (503) 228-7331