



**First
Presbyterian**
CHURCH OF PORTLAND

Service for the Lord's Day

July 14, 2024

10:30 am

Eighth 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

Prelude on *Charlestown*
Prelude in D

James Gilbert
Adam Heron

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

Stand, O Stand Firm

Trad. Cameroon

Stand, O stand firm and see what our God can do.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

The earth is the LORD's and all that is in it,
the world, and those who live in it.

Who shall ascend the hill of the LORD?

And who shall stand in God's holy place?

Those who have clean hands and pure hearts,
who do not lift up their souls to what is false.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

**God of Life, heal the brokenness we find in our world,
that we may acknowledge your wonderful deeds
and offer you thanks from generation to generation
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Holy God,
 we belittle ourselves in the face of overwhelming problems.
 We tell ourselves we are powerless to create positive change.
 We tell ourselves peace is impossible
 as we invest billions in weapons of war.
 We refuse new ideas, new solutions, new voices.
 We are stuck – trapped! – in our comfortable ways.
 Forgive our reluctance, God.
 Forgive our ignorance. Forgive our excuse-making.
 Turn us to all that is possible through you.

Prayers of confession continue in silence.

***LORD, HAVE MERCY**

Cantor first, then ALL

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

© 1996 by Christopher Walker

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

The Lord is merciful and gracious,
 slow to anger, and abundant in loving kindness.
 Believe the good news of the gospel:
 in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God!

***RESPONSE OF PRAISE**

THAXTED

O God be-yond all prais-ing, we wor-ship you to - day
and sing the love a - maz - ing that songs can-not re - pay;
for we can on-ly won-der at ev - 'ry gift you send,
at bless-ings with-out num-ber and mer-cies with-out end:
we lift our hearts be - fore you and wait up-on your Word,
we hon - or and a - dore you, our great and might-y Lord.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of six staves of music in 3/4 time, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below each staff. The music is written in a simple, accessible style with a mix of eighth and quarter notes, and some rests. The final note of the sixth staff is a double bar line.

Text: Michael Perry © 1982 by Hope Publishing Co. Music: Gustav Holst

***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

COMMISSIONING OF YOUTH MISSION TRIP PARTICIPANTS

Ian & John Hoder
Ford & Sophie June Morris
Steve Snodderly

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Diane Ponder

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 24

Pew Bible, pg. 502

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Lift Up the Gates Eternal

Israeli folk melody

Lift up the gates eternal; lift up your voices;
the King of glory comes; the nation rejoices.

See, all the earth is God's, its people and nations;
God built it on the deeps and laid its foundations.
Who can go up this mountain, who stand in praising?
Those who are pure, who come with clean hands upraising.

Come, lift your voices high; be lifted to glory;
the Lord our God approaches; come, shout the story.
Who is this glorious one, for whom we are waiting?
We wait the mighty Lord, our God celebrating.

Come, lift your heads with joy; come, lift up your tower;
the King of glory comes in full might and power.
Who is this King of glory of whom we're singing?
Our God, the Lord of Hosts, the victory is bringing.

— Arlo D. Duba, 1984; ref. Willard F. Jabusch, 1966, alt.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Amos 7:7-15

Pew Bible, pg. 855

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“The Plumb Line”

Rev. Brenna Dykman

*HYMN #351

All Who Love and Serve Your City

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

(*from A Brief Statement of Faith*)

**We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father.
In sovereign love God created the world good
and makes everyone equally in God's image,
male and female, of every race and people,
to live as one community.
But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator.
Ignoring God's commandments,
we violate the image of God in others and ourselves,
accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature,
and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care.
We deserve God's condemnation.
Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation.
In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah
chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth.
Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel
from the house of bondage.
Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.
Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child,
like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home,
God is faithful still.**

Thank you for your faithful support of the church. For various ways to contribute to the life and ministry of the church, please refer to page 8 of the bulletin.

OFFERTORY

The Lord Now Sends Us Forth

Pedro Infante

The Lord now sends us forth with hands to serve and give,
to make of all the earth a better place to live.
The angels are not sent into our world of pain
to do what we were meant to do in Jesus' name;
that falls to you and me and all who are made free.
Help us, O Lord, we pray, to do your will today.

— José Aguiar; tr. Gerhard M. Cartford, 1998

***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 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**

Let Justice Flow like Streams

**Let justice flow like streams of sparkling water, pure,
enabling growth, refreshing life, abundant, cleansing, sure.**

**Let righteousness roll on as others' cares we heed,
an ever-flowing stream of faith translated into deed.**

**So may God's plumb line, straight, define our measure true,
and justice, right, and peace pervade this world our whole life through.**

Text: Jane Parker Huber, 1981 © Westminster/John Knox Press
Tune: ST. THOMAS, SM; *The Universal Psalmist*, 1763; adapt. Aaron Williams, 1770

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Prelude in F Major

Fanny Mendelssohn Hensel

Music reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-706706.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

July Coffee Hour Volunteers

If your last name begins with T, U, or V, July is your month to shine at Coffee Hour! Please visit <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10COD4AABA92BA2FFCE9-46813925-coffee#/> to sign up or call Alexis in the church office at (503) 228-7331 or Amy Hall at (503) 330-0377. Thank you for helping to make Coffee Hour a welcoming, warm, and tasty event!

Portland Pride Parade

Join us in walking with the Friendly House delegation at the Portland Pride Parade on **Sunday, July 21**. Stop by our sign-up table during Coffee Hour **today** to get all the details!

Walk The Wildwood - Saturday, August 10

If you haven't already, please stop by our registration table during Coffee Hour **today** to register for Walk The Wildwood. This year features an easy, 1-mile walking path suitable for all ages and abilities. For those seeking more of a challenge, we also have 3.5-mile and 7.5-mile routes! For event details, visit <https://pim-africa.org/walk-oregon> or contact Kathryn Hill at hillka@teleport.com. If you're unable to attend but would like to donate to support Kamwenge Secondary and Vocational School, please visit [Donate to Walk the Wildwood](#). Also, don't forget that we're partnering with GotSneakers? this year to raise funds and keep sneakers out of landfills. Drop off your gently used sneakers in Geneva Hall or at the event. This effort will not only help support the school in Uganda but also the environment.

Retirement Celebration for Pastor Spencer

Join us after worship on **August 11**, as we celebrate Pastor Spencer's retirement. We are preparing a treasure box for Spencer filled with cards, letters, poems, and drawings. Feel free to send your contributions to the church office in advance or bring them on **August 11**. You may also email a message for Spencer to Alexis in the church office at office@firstpresportland.org to be included in the treasure box. Stay tuned for details to come.

Labor Day Retreat Registration is Open!

Complete your summer with First Church's All-Church Retreat, **Friday, August 30** through **Sunday, September 1**, at Menucha Retreat and Conference Center in the beautiful Columbia Gorge. Everyone is invited! Visit <https://firstpresportland.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/87/responses/new> to complete your registration or stop by the registration table **today** during Coffee Hour. This year's program theme is Life-Transitions, guided by experienced retreat leader, the Rev. Joyce Emery of East Woods Presbyterian in Vancouver. We hope to see you there!

Congregational Nominating Committee (CNC)

The Congregational Nominating Committee is starting to meet to nominate new Elders and Deacons to serve terms starting in January 2025. If you would like to be considered or would like to nominate someone to serve, please contact Pete Vanden Bosch at petevandenbosch@gmail.com or (503) 440-7886.

Julia West Construction Update

Visit https://www.firstpresportland.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/Neighborhood-Construction-Update_Julia-West-House_07.03.2024.pdf for the latest information on the Julia West construction project.

Pushpay Giving

Our online payment processing migration to Pushpay (parent of CCB) platform continues. Members with recurring gifts in CCB for pledges and other donations will receive emails with prompts for recreating recurring gifts in Pushpay. Contact Marc Lavender at cba@firstpresportland.org with any questions.

Youth Internship Application

Calling all high school students! Do you want to play a meaningful role in the life of a child at FPC and grow as a leader while having fun on Sunday mornings? Consider applying to serve as one of our Children's Ministry Interns. Compensation is provided! To learn more about this faith-enriching opportunity or to apply, please contact Session elder Kristine Olson at kristineolson4@gmail.com. **Application Deadline: August 4, 2024.**

CHURCH CONTRIBUTIONS

Contributions to the church can be made in the following ways:

Mail a check to the church office.

Leave your gifts in the offering plates as you depart worship.

Scan the QR code on the right.

Visit <https://pushpay.com/g/firstpresportland>.



PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

We join in holding in prayer: Suellen Bergdorf, Kathy Callas, Louise Grose, Fran Hermanson, Russ Mendenhall, Gordon Priedeman, Bruce Purdy, Phyllis Whittington, and others facing illness and loss. If you would like your name added to the prayer section of the weekly bulletin, please contact the church office.

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

The sanctuary flowers are given in loving memory of my Dad, Dr. Stan Callas, by Kathy Callas.



Historiated initial U depicting the prophet Amos guiding his flock from a Latin Bible, c. 14th century

*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. Brenna Dykman, Bridge Pastor
Rev. Dr. Spencer Parks, Menucha Director, Associate Pastor
Rev. Carmen Goetschius, Associate Pastor
Rev. David Dornack, Parish Associate
Greg Homza, Director of Music Ministries
Marc Lavender, Church Business Administrator

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Support Staff:

Alexis Crawford, Receptionist
Deb Davis, Bookkeeper
Bill Edwards, Sexton & Events Coordinator
John Kelly, Facility Manager
Sheila Riche, Communications

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 [@FirstPresPortland](https://www.instagram.com/FirstPresPortland)

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

First Presbyterian Church

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