



**First  
Presbyterian**  
CHURCH OF PORTLAND

# Service for the Lord's Day

August 11, 2024

10:30 am

Twelfth 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 *Amazing Grace*  
Prelude on *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

Harold M. Best  
J. Bert Carlson

### 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

Jesus Christ is the bread of life.

**Whoever comes to Jesus will never be hungry.**

Whoever believes in him will never thirst.

**The Lord's steadfast love has redeemed us.**

### \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Grant us, O Lord,

**the grace always to do and think what accords with your purpose;**

**that we, who cannot exist without you,**

**may be enabled to live according to your will;**

**through Jesus Christ our Lord,**

**who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,**

**one God, forever and ever. Amen.**

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry,  
 too real to hide, and too deep to undo.  
 Forgive what our lips tremble to name,  
 what our hearts can no longer bear,  
 and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment.  
 Set us free from a past that we cannot change;  
 open to us a future in which we can be changed;  
 and grant us grace to grow more in your likeness and image;  
 through Jesus Christ, the light of the world.

*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.

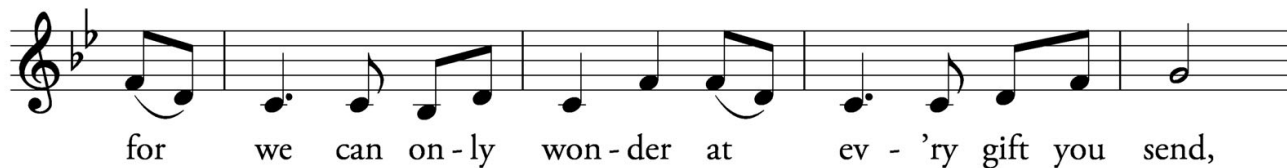
© 1996 by Christopher Walker

**\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

God has redeemed us from all our iniquities  
 through Christ who loved us and gave himself for us.  
 Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:  
 in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.  
**Thanks be to God!**

**\*RESPONSE OF PRAISE**

THAXTED



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

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Lori Sievert

## FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Ephesians 4:25—5:2

Pew Bible, pg. 194

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## ANTHEM

Prayer of St. Francis

Sebastian Temple

Make me a channel of your peace. Where there is hatred, let me bring your love.  
Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord, and where there's doubt, true faith in you.  
Make me a channel of your peace. Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope.  
Where there is darkness, only light, and where there's sadness, ever joy.  
O, Master, grant that I may never seek so much to be consoled as to console,  
to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love with all my soul.  
Make me a channel of your peace. It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,  
in giving of ourselves that we receive, and in dying that we're born to eternal life.

## SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Jeremiah 29:1, 4-11

Pew Bible, pg. 731

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## SERMON

“Making Plans”

Rev. Dr. Spencer Parks

## \*HYMN #39

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

## \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*Unison*)

(*from Colossians 1:15-20*)

**Jesus Christ is the image of the invisible God,  
the firstborn of all creation;  
in him all things in heaven and on earth were created,  
things visible and invisible.  
All things have been created through him and for him.  
He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together.  
He is head of the body, the church; he is the beginning,  
the firstborn of the dead,  
so that he might come to have first place in everything.  
For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,  
and through him God was pleased to reconcile all things,  
whether on earth or in heaven,  
by making peace through the blood of his cross. Amen.**

*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 7 of the worship bulletin.*

**OFFERTORY**

May God Support You All Your Days Lee Hastings Bristol, Jr.

May God support you all your days, in times of gladness and in need.  
May God remember you with grace and bless your every word and deed.

May God confirm your heart's desire and bring to fullness all your plans.  
May God's sustaining love inspire your shouts of praise and joyful dance.

May God be near you when you pray, to help you with a gentle hand.  
May God forever guide your way and lead you to the promised land.

Our hope is in the Holy One. The swift and strong will surely fall,  
but you will stand with God alone, who hears and answers when you call.

— David Gambrell, 2009 (based on Psalm 20)

**\*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 #649**

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

**\*BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

I've Got Peace like a River

arr. Charles Callahan

*Music reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-706706.*

## IN MEMORIAM

*Pastor Carmen's father, Don Goetschius, passed away last week (July 30th), and I invite you to pray for her and her family as they grieve his passing. A memorial service is planned for Monday, August 19th, at 2:00 p.m. at Eastwoods Presbyterian in Vancouver, WA. As we pray, let us remember the words of the Apostle Paul, who affirmed, "In life and in death we belong to God."*

## 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: 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

*Today's sanctuary flowers are from John in celebration of Joyce Evans' birthday, a gift from her family.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Congregational Meeting Notice

The Session of First Presbyterian Church is calling a congregational meeting **today**, directly after the morning service, for the purpose of dissolving the pastoral relationship with Rev. Dr. Parks and designating him as honorably retired to the Presbytery.

### Retirement Celebration for Pastor Spencer

Join us **today** after worship in Geneva Hall as we celebrate Pastor Spencer's retirement. We hope to see you there!

### Labor Day Retreat - Last Day To Sign Up

**Today** is the last day to sign up for the Labor Day Retreat! Come relax, reflect, and enjoy fellowship at Menucha Retreat and Conference Center in the beautiful Columbia Gorge. Everyone is invited to spend the weekend with activities for all ages. Sign up during Coffee Hour or online at <https://bit.ly/3RXKy8v>. This year's program theme is Life-Transitions, guided by the Rev. Joyce Emery of East Woods Presbyterian in Vancouver. Don't miss this wonderful opportunity for community building as we worship, learn, and play together. Scholarships are available.

### FPC BBQ Picnic - Last Day to Buy Tickets

Enjoy an afternoon of fellowship and fun at the annual FPC Big Barbecue Picnic on **Sunday, September 1**, at **1:00 pm**. This traditional meal is prepared on the BBQ smoker at Menucha Retreat and Conference Center. Tickets are \$30 for adults and \$20 for kids (ages 7-17). Visit <https://bit.ly/3RXKy8v> to purchase tickets or visit our registration table during Coffee Hour after worship.

### Children's Ministry Youth Internship

High school students, consider making a difference in a child's life at FPC and grow as a leader! Apply to be a Children's Ministry Intern for one semester or the full year. Compensation is provided!

**Application Deadline: August 11, Phone**

**Interviews: August 12-16, Final Selection: August 18.** Contact Session elder Kristine Olson at Kristine Olson [kristineolson4@gmail.com](mailto:kristineolson4@gmail.com).

### Open Circle Resumes

Open Circle resumes meeting on **Thursday, September 5**, in the Heritage Room on the second floor of the Parish House. Our meetings have a soft start at **10:00 am** when our Zoom link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88908907928> goes live. We begin our study time with prayer at **10:15 am**. This season, we are using *From Judgment to Hope: A Study on the Prophets* by Walter Bruggemann. Books can be purchased at the first meeting for \$11.

### Sunday School Kick-off

Join us for the Sunday School Kick-off on **September 8!** Children in grades K-8 are invited to join our weekly Sunday classes, where we'll enjoy crafts, games, and Bible stories. We can't wait to see you and hope you'll make Sunday School a regular part of your routine this year!

### Blessing of the Backpacks

The annual "Blessing of the Backpacks" will take place on **Sunday, September 15!** Invite your children and grandchildren to bring their backpacks to worship and receive a special blessing from Pastor Carmen for the school year. Sunday school to follow.

### Mary (Mimi) Cernyar Fox's Exhibition

Discover *Painting from the Holy Well*, Mary (Mimi) Cernyar Fox's exhibition, on display in the Chapel Gallery through **October 27**. Her spiritually inspired paintings, shaped by her studies and early life experiences, showcase a profound appreciation for nature and a commitment to peace. For more information, visit [marycernyarfoxart.com](http://marycernyarfoxart.com).

### Walk the Wildwood

On Saturday, August 10, Walk the Wildwood 2024 saw over 80 participants! Stay tuned for updates on funds raised and event photos. You can still support our fundraising efforts through August by donating at <https://bit.ly/3U7vCVc> or dropping off used sneakers in the GotSneakers bin in Geneva Hall.



## *Menucha Sunrise*

*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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[cba@firstpresportland.org](mailto:cba@firstpresportland.org)

### **Support Staff:**

Alexis Crawford, Receptionist

Deb Davis, Bookkeeper

Bill Edwards, Sexton & Events Coordinator

John Kelly, Facility Manager

Sheila Riche, Communications

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### **Office Hours**

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

## **First Presbyterian Church**

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