



**First
Presbyterian**
CHURCH OF PORTLAND

Service for the Lord's Day

January 19, 2025

10:30 am

Second Sunday after Epiphany

Please remember to silence your cell phone.

Regular text is read by minister.

*Please stand as you are able.

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

Impromptu in G-flat, Op. 90, No. 3

Franz Schubert

(Darlene Cusick, guest 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

God of Wondrous Beauty

Christine Manderfeld

God of wondrous beauty! Light of all creation!
Awaken in our hearts new songs of praise.
Give praise to God, all you nations. Give glory, all you peoples.
Strong is God's love for us; God is faithful forever.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Siblings in Christ, rejoice.

We live sustained by God's presence and love. Thanks be to God.

As we mourn the wounds of God's children, God weeps with us.

As we struggle for justice, God struggles with us.

As we strive for peace, God strives with us.

As we work to build the beloved community, God works with us.

As we offer our gifts to all, God blesses us.

Siblings in Christ, rejoice.

Sustained by God's presence and love, we worship God.

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

Giver of Life for us all, you have created us to love;
you have created us to be a community— a beloved community.
You have created us to love and to value one another;
to bring fairness and justice into all of what we do,
into all of who we are.

Thank you for prophets, in our world and in this church—
who spoke and continue to speak truth about your vision for our lives—
who speak truth about privilege and injustice—
who speak truth about hate and complacency—
and who do something about it.

God, we have all that we need to change the Church,
to change this world.

Thank you for grace, and goodness, and strength, and life
and thank you for this day and this time,
to be in community with one another. Amen.

***HYMN #12**

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

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

You have blessed us with a variety of gifts, Holy God,
but we are reluctant to share.
We hoard what is most valuable
and make excuses for ourselves when called to share.
The Spirit has blessed each of us uniquely,
but we hide our light under a bushel and fail to rise to our potential.
God, forgive us and embolden us.
Help us to claim our gifts and put them to good use.

Prayers of confession continue in silence.

***LORD, HAVE MERCY**

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the hymn 'LORD, HAVE MERCY'. The first staff is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time, with lyrics: 'Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -'. The second staff continues the melody, with lyrics: '- on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.' The notation includes various note values, rests, and a fermata over the final note.

Healey Willan, 1928

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Our God is a loving God, full of mercy.

In Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

Believe in this forgiveness, be at peace, and respond in grateful service.

Thanks be to God!

***RESPONSE OF PRAISE**

With the saints we lift our voices, God of power, God of might.

All creation shines with glory, singing praises day and night:

alleluia, alleluia, holy, holy, holy light.

Text: © 2011 by David Gambrell Tune: LAUDA ANIMA, 8.7.8.7.8.7; John Goss, 1869

***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

Estelle Brunner

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 36:5-10

Pew Bible, pg. 510

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Hide Me Under the Shadow of Thy Wings

John E. West

Hide me under the shadow of thy wings, O Lord,
and give thine angels charge concerning me:
that I may lie down in peace and take my rest,
for it is thou, Lord, only, that makest me to dwell in safety.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

John 2:1-11

Pew Bible, pg. 93

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

***HYMN**

Jesus, Come! For We Invite You

**Jesus, come! for we invite you, guest and master, friend and Lord;
now as once at Cana’s wedding, speak, and let us hear your word:
lead us through our need or doubting, hope be born and joy restored.**

**Jesus, come! transform our pleasures, guide us into paths unknown;
bring your gifts, command your servants, let us trust in you alone:
though your hand may work in secret, all shall see what you have done.**

**Jesus, come! in new creation, heav’n brought near in pow’r divine;
give your unexpected glory changing water into wine:
rouse the faith of your disciples, come, our first and greatest Sign!**

**Jesus, come! surprise our dullness, make us willing to receive
more than we can yet imagine, all the best you have to give:
let us find your hidden riches, taste your love, believe, and live!**

Text: Christopher M. Idle © 1982 by Hope Publishing Co.

Music: PICARDY, 8.7.8.7.8.7; French melody, 17th cent.

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

(*from A Brief Statement of Faith*)

**We trust in Jesus Christ,
fully human, fully God.
Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:
preaching good news to the poor
and release to the captives,
teaching by word and deed and blessing the children,
healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted,
eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners,
and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.
Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition,
Jesus was crucified,
suffering the depths of human pain
and giving his life for the sins of the world.
God raised this Jesus from the dead,
vindicating his sinless life,
breaking the power of sin and evil,
delivering us from death to life eternal.**

Thank you for your faithful support. To contribute to the life and ministry of this congregation, please refer to page 6 of the worship bulletin.

OFFERTORY

Lift Every Voice and Sing

J. Rosamund Johnson

(The congregation is invited to join in singing – #339 in the hymnal.)

Lift every voice and sing till earth and heaven ring,
ring with the harmonies of liberty.
Let our rejoicing rise high as the listening skies;
let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;
sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us.
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
let us march on, till victory is won.

Stony the road we trod, bitter the chastening rod,
felt in the days when hope unborn had died.
Yet, with a steady beat, have not our weary feet
come to the place for which our parents sighed?
We have come over a way that with tears has been watered;
we have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered,
out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last
where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;
thou who hast by thy might led us into the light,
keep us forever in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met thee;
lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we forget thee;
shadowed beneath thy hand may we forever stand,
true to our God, true to our native land.

— James Weldon Johnson, 1900

***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

THE SENDING

*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.

*HYMN #546 Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Impromptu in A-flat, Op. 29 Frédéric Chopin

Music reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-706706.

CHURCH CONTRIBUTIONS

Contributions 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 www.firstpresportland.org.



PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*We join in holding in prayer: Kathy Callas, Louise Grose,
Fran Hermanson, Murlan Kaufman, Russ Mendenhall,
Gordon Priedeman, Phyllis Whittington, and others facing
illness and loss.*

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

*Today's sanctuary flowers are given in
loving memory of Dav, Suzie, & David Castles
by their children and grandchildren.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

2025 FPC Stewardship Campaign

“The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases.”
Lamentations 3:22

Recently, we dedicated our 2025 pledges to FPC. Our 2025 goal is **\$740,000**. Our pledges make it possible for us to share God’s love within the congregation, community, and worldwide. We’re grateful that over **108 households** have pledged **\$602,517** to date! If you haven’t done so yet, we ask you to prayerfully consider making a pledge. Simply fill out a pledge card and place it in the offering plate. You can also pledge online. Go to firstpresportland.org and click on the gold box that says “2025 Stewardship Campaign.” Thank you so much for your continued support!

Big Ideas Book Group

The Big Ideas book group will discuss *The Discipleship Opportunity: Leading a Great Commission Church in a Post Everything World* by Daniel Im at **6:00 pm, Monday, January 20, in the Chapel Art Gallery**. The book suggests new ways for church leadership to approach discipleship in an evolving ‘post-Christian’ society. Contact Marilyn Howe at harrietwho92@gmail.com for more information.

Transition Adult Education Classes

Join us for a series of classes after church in the coming weeks on the theme of “Transition,” as we navigate the gifts and challenges of change:

- **January 26** – *Transition at FPC*: Pastor Heidi Bolt discusses the church’s transition process and its future impact
- **February 2** – *Homosexuality and the Bible: How God Changed My Heart and Mind*: Pastor Carmen Goetschius shares her personal story of transformation and how reading scripture changed her views
- **February 23** – *Imagery of the Resurrection*: Kristine Olson explores how art portrays the Resurrection as a transformative event.

Join us from **11:45 am to 12:45 pm in the Heritage Room**. Don’t miss out!

Help Moving Soft Goods and Books

We are looking for a lot of helping hands to move bags of soft goods and boxes of books from the church basement to a U-Haul on **Thursday, January 30, from 8:30 am to 9:30 am**. This is a wonderful way to help support our Uganda mission team! If you can help, please e-mail Pastor Brenna so we know we have a team that is big enough to get the job done. Many hands make light work!

Menucha Work Party

Our next Menucha purposeful work party will be on **Saturday, February 1, from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm**. Lunch will be provided. We’ll begin the new year with community bonding while improving the property. The plan is to work inside the barn on some painting and related work. Please sign up by calling us at (503) 695-2243 or emailing us at hello@menucha.org.

Mission Study Team

Might you be called to service on the Mission Study Team? The team will consist of 5-8 people, with representation from Session and Deacons, and will serve for 6-9 months. They will gather feedback from the congregation and community to assemble a report for Session and COM to guide the Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) in its work. The aim is to have members who are connected to different aspects of church life with a diverse representation of genders and ages. Members will be good listeners who value all contributions and take suggestions and ideas seriously. This team will have significant work to do, but this is vital (and, dare I say, fun!) work that will help the congregation move forward. Please contact Pastor Heidi for details.

Open Circle Resumes

Open Circle has resumed meeting on **Thursday mornings at 10:00 am**. Our study guide for the Winter and Spring seasons is *Let Justice Roll Down: God’s Call to Care for Neighbors and All Creation* by Patricia K. Tull. This group is open to all women in our community, and we welcome visitors and friends. Additional information can be found in the weekly eBlast.

*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. Heidi Bolt, Interim Pastor

Rev. Brenna Dykman, 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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Deb Davis, Bookkeeper

Bill Edwards, Sexton & Wedding 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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