

First Presbyterian Church

Portsmouth, Ohio

The Rev. Lisa R. Eye, Pastor
Ms. Stephanie Scaggs, Liturgist
Ms. Michele Imes, Director of Music
Dr. Phillip Roberts, Organist/Musician
Ms. Stephanie Scaggs, Media Specialist



October 4, 2026
19th Sunday after Pentecost
World Communion Sunday

Gathering Around the Word

Welcoming the Community

Ms. Stephanie Scaggs

Announcements & Celebrations

Prelude

Dr. Phillip Roberts

***Call to Worship**

Ms. Scaggs

What does the Lord require of us?

To do justice, to love kindness and to walk humbly with God.

Let us worship God!

***Prayer of the Day**

***Hymn**

O God, by Your Mercy, We Come to This Place

Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, 2026

St. Demio

arr. Caniadau y Cyssegr, 1839

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and piano accompaniment. It features a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is primarily in the Soprano and Alto parts, with the piano providing harmonic support. The lyrics are written below the vocal staves.

1. O God, by your mer - cy we come to this place.
2. O Christ, we're not stran - gers or en - e - mies here.
3. Lord, we look a - round and see hate ev - ery - where.
4. Through mis - sions and meet - ings where jus - tice is shown,
5. O Spi - rit, we pray that you'll move through the church,

We feast at your ta - ble on gifts of your grace.
For we're at your ta - ble, and you've made it clear.
Yet, you've shown us grace! It's a gift we're to share.
through co - ops where farm - ers learn they're not a - lone,
till peace, love and u - ni - ty cov - er the earth.

We taste your for - give - ness, then learn what to do:
We all are God's chil - dren, and blessed from a - bove,
May we share this grace till your bless - ings in - crease
through YAVs who are will - ing to try some - thing new,
O God, bless these gifts with your grace from a - bove,

"Do jus - tice, love kind - ness, walk hum - bly" with you.
we're glo - bal, con - nect - ed, and shaped by your love.
through jus - tice and di - a - logue, kind - ness and peace.
God, make us good part - ners in work - ing with you.
till oth - ers find joy in the feast of your love.

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***Call to Confession**

Ms. Scaggs

***Prayer of Confession (unison)**

Loving God, through Jesus Christ you taught us, “where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” Yet we continue to put our faith in earthly treasures, hoarding up possessions that moth and rust will destroy, clinging to power and privilege whenever we can. Set us free from earthly greed and fear. Forgive us. Teach us to trust in you alone; through Jesus Christ, our true redeemer.
Amen. *(silent prayer)*

***Assurance of Forgiveness**

Rev. Eye

***Response: Hymn# 447**

We Are Forgiven

GTG

*We are forgiven. We are forgiven.
Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.
We are forgiven. We are forgiven.
Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.*

***Sharing the Peace**

The peace of the Christ be with you. And also with you.

Hearing and Proclaiming the Word

Prayer for Understanding

Rev. Eye

Scripture

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Scripture

Matthew 21:33-46

The word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

“Called to Bear Fruit for the Kingdom of God”

Rev. Lisa R. Eye

Responding to the Word

***Hymn #767**

Together We Serve

GTG

***Affirmation of Faith (unison)**

The Apostles’ Creed

Rev. Eye

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, death, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Invitation to the Offering

Ms. Scaggs

Offering Instrumental

Dr. Roberts

***Doxology #717**

For the Life That You Have Given

GTG

*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.*

***Thanksgiving and Dedication (unison)**

Ms. Scaggs

Gracious God, your Table reminds us that you have given us all we need, and then some. You create more than we could ever hope to return. You share more than we could ever hope to deserve. Accept our humble gifts. As tenants in your vineyard we rejoice in being called to share your abundant harvest with the world you so love. Use them and use us to your glory in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Table

Rev. Eye

The invitation to the Lord's Supper is extended to all who seek to follow Jesus Christ, remembering that access to the Table is not a right conferred upon the worthy, but a gift of grace given to the undeserving who come in faith, repentance, and love. This is not a Presbyterian table, but the Lord's Table. Members, friends, and guests are welcome to share in this feast our Lord has prepared!

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving & the Lord's Prayer

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give our thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise.... Therefore, we praise you, joining the faithful who hunger and thirst for righteousness and singing the hymn of the whole creation:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

We praise you, most holy God, for Jesus Christ, your Word made flesh.... Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us.... As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray: **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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. 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 Communion of the People

Elders will serve the communion elements of bread and juice to worshipers in their seats. Once everyone has been served, the pastor will lead the congregation in taking the elements together.

Prayer After Communion

Rev. Eye

Following the Word into the World

***Hymn #318**

In Christ There Is No East or West

GTG

***Congregational Charge**

Rev. Eye

Who are you?

We are the church! People who believe the good news about Jesus.

Who are you?

We are the church! Gathered by the Holy Spirit, built up in faith, hope, and love.

Who are you?

We are the church! Sent out by God's Spirit to proclaim the gospel in word and deed.

***Benediction**

***Sending Song #70**

What Does the Lord Require of You?

GTG

What does the Lord require of you? What does the Lord require of you?

Justice, kindness, walk humbly with your God.

Justice, kindness, walk humbly with your God.

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We are glad you are here and want you to feel welcome as you share in worship!

*The asterisk indicates that worshippers are invited to rise in body or in spirit, as able.

Bold text indicates that the congregation is invited to speak.

GTG refers to ***Glory to God***, the hymnal of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

Visitors are encouraged to sign the guest book near the entrance to the worship space.

If you are looking for a church home, we would love to share more about
the mission and ministry of First Presbyterian Church.

**THE PRAYER LIST IS POSTED ON THE BULLETIN BOARD
IN THE EDUCATION ANNEX**

Let us pray for our ability to be faithful disciples, family, and friends; our church, pastor, the session, deacons, committees, lay leadership, our ministry, outreach, and stewardship; the Boney Fiddle community and its churches, schools, the city of Portsmouth and its leadership, state and national leadership, and those who are incarcerated.

With confidence in God's love and mercy, we lift our prayers for those in need.

*May God hold them and heal them in body, mind, or circumstance,
working in them by grace, wonders beyond all they may dream or hope. Amen.*

To add or remove a name or concern to the Prayer List, please fill out a prayer request form found on the table as you enter the Fellowship Hall or contact the church office.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today we will receive the World Communion Offering.

This is one of the three Special Offerings of the Presbyterian Church (USA). The offering supports ministries of racial justice, gender justice, global witness, and ecumenical and interfaith engagement across our denomination and around the world as we seek to show love for God and help all God's children by living into Micah's call to *do justice, to love kindness and to walk humbly with our God*. Offering envelopes are available on the table as you enter the fellowship hall.



Did you know that there's a simple way you can help spread the word about First Presbyterian Church?

Be sure to "like" and "follow" us on Facebook: <https://facebook.com/firstpresbyterianchurchportsmouthohio>. It only takes a minute and will also help you keep up with our latest news.

Armbrust Student Loan Program Applications Are Open! Help spread the word. The Armbrust Student Loan Program is anxious to provide more low-interest loans to help student reach their learning goals. These loans made possible by a generous bequest, can support academic and technical education tuition, fees, books, and other related expenses for traditional and non-traditional students beyond high school. Persons interested may download the application from the church website. ***There are also copies of the new information brochure on the table in the Fellowship Hall to share.*** If you have any questions, please let us know.

The FPC Food Bank is open on the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th Thursdays from 12 to 2 p.m. Volunteers are still needed. Please contact Rachel Collingsworth or the Church Office to learn more about how you can help serve our neighbors.

Building Update: The careful repair and restoration of our historic sanctuary continues. While we long to return to worship in this beloved space, we are grateful to have the Mary Elizabeth Shwartz Fellowship Hall as an alternate worship and event space until repair work is completed. The second phase of the sanctuary repair – ceiling and plaster restoration, repair and updates to lighting, and preparation of the walls for painting is underway. The repair and repainting of the walls and trim of the upper and lower narthex are also underway to provide a welcoming and safe entrance into the sanctuary. The next phase will include painting, cleaning and restoring flooring, reinstallation of the organ pipes, cleaning and reinstallation of pews, sanctuary furniture, and sound and projection equipment. Once we have a firm completion date, we will share plans for celebrating the return of worship to the sanctuary and the rededication of this space to the glory of God. The Session is also engaging in a visioning process to discern ways that God may be leading this congregation and the resources entrusted to its care into future ministry. Stay tuned for opportunities for congregational participation in this process. Thank you to all who have supported this work through your prayers and financial gifts! Gifts to offset the cost of this project are still being accepted with gratitude. Please contact the church office if you would like more information about how to give.

Church & Community Calendar

Sundays: Church School, 10:00 a.m. on the 3rd floor of the Education Building;
Worship: 11:00 a.m. in the Mary Elizabeth Shwartz Fellowship Hall
Wednesday, October 7: MCL Meeting, 1:00 p.m. in the Lounge (**new time**)
Thursday, October 8: Food Pantry, 12:00-2:00 p.m.
Wednesday, October 14: Reg. scheduled Session mtg in the church Lounge, 1 p.m.
Thursday, October 15: Food Pantry, 12:00-2:00 p.m.
Thursday, October 22: Food Pantry, 12:00-2:00 p.m.
Monday, October 26: Special Session Meeting, 9:00-noon in the Lounge
Thursday, October 29: Food Pantry, 12:00-2:00 p.m.
Armbrust Student Loan Committee Zoom Meeting canceled for Oct. 8. (TBA)

Church Contact Information

Church Office Hours: Tuesday-Thursday, 10:00 am–4:00 pm
Virginia M. Stinnett, Admin. Aid/Church Secretary—Email: vstinnett.fpc@gmail.com; **Phone:** (740) 353-4259
Bev Phipps, Treasurer—Email: bevhipps1stpres@gmail.com; **Phone:** (740) 353-4259
Rev. Lisa R. Eye, Pastor—Email: leyefirstpresportsmouth@gmail.com; **Pastor's Study:** (740) 529-7177
Rev. Eye ordinarily works from her home study on Mondays and observes Fridays as sabbath time.
In case of pastoral emergency, she may be reached at (859) 329-9026.



First Presbyterian Church

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The Synod of the Covenant
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

www.synodofthecovenant.org



www.pcusa.org