



**First Presbyterian Church
Portsmouth, Ohio**

May 11, 2025
11 o'clock Worship Service

Dr. Marsha Smith, Special Speaker
Ms. Loretta Cooper, Liturgist
Ms. Michele Imes, Choir Director
Dr. Phillip Roberts, Organist

We are glad you came...



Welcome to Worship

Happy Mother's Day



GATHERING TOGETHER AS A COMMUNITY

WELCOMING THE COMMUNITY AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Loretta Cooper

PRELUDE

Dr. Phillip Roberts

THE CHURCH GREETES ONE ANOTHER - by Ciona Rouse

Ms. Cooper

L. This is where my soul smiles

P. This is where my heart dances

L. This is where my fears flee

P. This is where my mind wrestles.

L. This is where my tongue confesses.

P. This is where my loneliness finds company.

L. This is where my spirit meets God

All: Surely, we are in the house of the Lord!

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Ms. Cooper

L. L: Lord, we come to celebrate our mothers today.

P: Thank you for creating this beautiful day to honor them.

L: Phenomenal, that's what they are! We celebrate and lift up these dynamic and incredible women and men, those who have acted as nurturers in our lives.

P: Hallelujah and praise for women and men of God who act as are nurturers and mothers everywhere!

L: Let us worship God!

***PRAYER FOR THE DAY**

Ms. Cooper

***HYMN OF PRAISE #324 "For All the Faithful Women" GTG**

A LITANY FOR WOMAN'S DAY (by M.E. Thornton)

Ms. Cooper

P: O Lord, you are my covering!

L: From the very beginning, when darkness covered the face of the deep,

you, O God, by your Spirit and your Word, created the universe. You set the planet Earth on its foundations, and you cover it as a garment forever.

P: I am your creation, Lord. You are my covering!

L: You formed every person in the covering of a mother's womb.

Humanity is fearfully and wonderfully made. In Eden, you covered us with every precious stone.

P: I am precious to you, O Lord, and you are my covering!

L: O Lord, you protect your people. You cover us in the shadow of your hand. You are a strong deliverer, covering your people in the days of battle.

P: I am a child of God, O Lord, and you are my covering!

L: In Jesus Christ, O God, you bought us with a price, and we know that Your Holy Spirit resides in us. We are more sacred than the holy things that Aaron and his sons covered from the eyes of the enemies of your people.

P: I am sacred to you, O Lord, and you are my covering!

L: By your love, dear Jesus, you have forgiven our transgressions. Your love hides every offense and covers every sin. Because of your grace, our debts are not counted against us. Blessed are those whose sins are covered!

All: I am blessed, O God, because you are my covering!

(Silence for personal confession and meditation)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Ms. Cooper

****GLORIA PATRI*** *(all sing)*

Ms. Michele Imes

**Glory be to the Father
and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost,
as it was in the beginning,
is now and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, Amen.**

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

INTRODUCTION OF OUR SPEAKER

Ms. Loretta Cooper

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON Isaiah 49:15-16; 66:13 Dr. Marsha Smith

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON Psalm 36:5-7

L. The Word of the Lord.

P. Praise be to God!

SPECIAL MUSIC

Dr. Roberts

THE MESSAGE "A Mother's love, a reflection of God's Love" Dr. M. Smith

***OUR AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Ms. Cooper

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.

HYMN

#250 "In the Bulb There Is a Flower" GTG

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Ms. Cooper

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in Heaven. Hallow 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. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

GIVING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS TO THE LORD

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Ms. Cooper

God has given us life in the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. In gratitude, let us offer our hearts and the fruit of our labor to God's service.

OFFERTORY INSTRUMENTAL

Dr. Roberts

***The Doxology**

**Praise God,
from whom all blessings flow;
praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

***THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION** (spoken in unison) Ms. Cooper

We bring our gifts to you in response to good news. Christ is risen. Indeed, and abides in us still. May all that we do be in response to new life. O God, receive what we offer and transform all of our being to conform to your will. Extend your grace through us so that others hear of the salvation you bring.

CALL TO MISSION

*** CLOSING HYMN "Faith of Our Mothers"** by Patton/Hemy (see lyrics below)

430

Faith of Our Mothers

1. Faith of our moth - ers, liv - ing still In cra - dle song and
 2. Faith of our moth - ers, lov - ing faith, Fount of our child - hood's
 3. Faith of our moth - ers, guid - ing faith, For youth - ful long - ing,
 4. Faith of our moth - ers, Chris - tian faith, In truth be - yond our

bed - time prayer; In nurs - ery lore and fire - side love,
 trust and grace, Oh, may thy con - se - cra - tion prove
 youth - ful doubt, How blurred our vi - sion, blind our way,
 stum - bling creeds, Still serve the home and save the Church,

Thy pres - ence still per - vades the air, Faith of our moth - ers,
 Source of a fin - er, no - bler race; Faith of our moth - ers,
 Thy prov - i - den - tial care with - out, Faith of our moth - ers,
 And breathe thy spir - it through our deeds; Faith of our moth - ers,

liv - ing faith, We will be true to thee till death.
 lov - ing faith, We will be true to thee till death.
 guid - ing faith, We will be true to thee till death.
 Chris - tian faith, We will be true to thee till death.

***CONGREGATIONAL CHARGE**

Dr. Smith

GOD SENDS US OUT TO SERVE

***SENDING SONG** #541 "God Be with You Till We Meet Again" **GTG**

ACOLYTE RECESSIONAL

POSTLUDE

Dr. Roberts

***The asterisk indicates when we rise to our feet in spirit,
as we are able in body.**

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**In the event of worship being postponed due to inclement weather conditions
an announcement will be sent to your email and the FPC's Facebook page**



Will you lend a hand? There is an urgent need for hygiene products for the disadvantaged and unhoused individuals in Portsmouth. The church is working to collect as many bottles of 3-in-1 shampoo, conditioner, and body wash liquid soap as possible,* which can be found at great prices in any town. You can contribute to this initiative by dropping off your donation at First Presbyterian Church (FPC) or by making a special contribution to the deacons for purchasing supplies. First Presbyterian Church operates a Food Pantry that relies entirely on the generosity of its members and friends and serves as a hub for emergency assistance and weekly food distributions. Together, we can make a meaningful impact! **We recommend shopping at the Dollar Store.*



**AN UPDATED PRAYER LIST IS LOCATED ON
THE EDUCATION ANNEX BULLETIN BOARD**

Our Church and Community Calendar May 2025

The Food Pantry is closed every first Thurs. of the month. Open Thurs. 12-2P

- May 11: We welcome Dr. Marsha Smith, guest speaker, Mother's Day, 11A
May 13: Pastor returns.
May 13: Called meeting of Session (Guest: Rev. Kathy Nice, EP), 5:30P,
May 14: Board of Session Meets, 1P (Guest: Jodi High)
May 15: Community group meets in Conf. Rm., 5P
May 20: PSV meets, 3:30P (Circleville PC)
May 21: Steering Committee gathers, FPC
May 22: Arthur Armbrust Student Loan Cmte. (ASLC) meets, 5:30, Hybrid
May 25: Pastor preaches at Hillview Manor, 3P
May 26: Memorial Day – Office Closed
May 27: Community Action Outreach, community members meet, 11:30A
May 27: Secty. out for half a day.

Church Contact Information

Pastor & Church Secretary's Office Hours for the Week

Sunday: Worship and office hours. Mondays:

Home office (worship planning, prep, and meetings)

Tuesday thru Thursday: 10 A - 4 P Fridays: Off

Email: rjohnson.fpc@gmail.com or rev.ron.johnson@gmail.com

Pas. Study: (740)529-7117 M: (434)770-1052

Virginia M. Stinnett, Admin. Aid/Church Secretary,

vstinnett.fpcport@gmail.com

Church Office: (740)353-4259 or (740)529-7117

Office Hrs. Sun., Tues -Thurs: 9A-3:35P

EMAIL: firstpresbyterian.portsmouth@gmail.com

<https://www.firstpresportsmouthoh.com>

<https://www.youtube.com/@firstconnections4806>

<https://facebook.com/firstpresbyterianchurchportsmouthohio>

SERMON NOTES

SERMON TITLE _____

SCRIPTURE VERSE(S) _____

WHAT DID I HEAR THAT RAISED QUESTIONS? _____

HOW CAN I APPLY THIS TO MY LIFE? _____

WHAT WOULD I LIKE TO STUDY FURTHER? _____

MY HEART-FELT PRAYER TO GOD FOR THOSE IN MY LIFE AND MYSELF