

First Presbyterian Church

Portsmouth, Ohio

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

Persevering Toward Wholeness



*“and the leaves of the tree
are for the healing of the nations.”
Revelation 22:2*

Today, as commissioners and advisory delegates to the 227th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) fan out across Milwaukee, Wisconsin to worship at area PC(USA) churches, we, like many other congregations across our denomination, join them in worship using the same theme, scriptures, and many of the same worship elements. We are grateful to the Worship Planning team for the 227th General Assembly for creating and sharing these resources. As we gather to worship in this place, may our siblings in Milwaukee and across the church feel our prayers and may all draw strength from one another. To God be the glory!

June 28, 2026
5th Sunday after Pentecost

Gathering Around the Word

Welcoming the Community

Rev. Lisa R. Eye

Announcements & Celebrations

Elder Betty Kennedy

Prelude

Dr. Phillip Roberts

***Call to Worship** *Psalm 122 (adapt.)*

I was glad when they said to me,
“Let us go the house of the Lord!”

Our feet are standing within your gates.

Pray for the peace of this city.

May they prosper who love you.

Pray for the peace of every place.

May there be wholeness for all.

For the sake of all God’s people

I will say, “Peace be with you.”

For the sake of the house of the Lord

I will seek your good.

***Prayer of the Day**

***Hymn**

Shall We Gather at the River

see p. 5

David Gambrell, PC(USA) Associate for Worship wrote three additional verses to this classic hymn by Robert Lowry to reflect the Assembly’s theme, drawn from Rev. 22:1-5.

***Call to Confession**

Elder Kennedy

***Prayer of Confession (unison)**

Holy One, have mercy on us. You created us in your own image, but we hurt and dishonor one another. You planted us in a garden of good things, but we exploit and abuse the earth. You gave us your word to guide us, but we sin and fall short of your glory. Forgive us God of grace. Clothe us in righteousness, fill us with the fruit of your Spirit, and send us forth in your service, that we may be a source of healing in this world you love so much; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

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

Isaiah 2:1-5

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Scripture

Hebrews 12:1-2
Revelation 21:10, 22-22:1-5

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

Sermon

Persevering Toward Wholeness

Rev. Lisa R. Eye

Responding to the Word

***Hymn #321**

The Church's One Foundation

GTG

***Affirmation of Faith**

from *PC(USA) Book of Confessions* (adapt.)

Heidelberg Catechism

What is your only comfort in life and in death?

**That I am not my own, but belong—
body and soul, in life and in death—
to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ.**

What is the chief end of human life?

Our chief end is to glorify and enjoy God forever.

Westminster Catechism

Jesus Christ, attested for us in Holy Scripture,

Barmen Declaration

is the one Word of God we must hear, trust, and obey
in life and in death.

**The church's commission,
upon which its freedom is founded,
consists in delivering the message
of the free grace of God to all people.**

The church confesses its faith
when it bears a present witness
to God's grace in Jesus Christ.

Confession of 1967

**God's reconciling work in Jesus Christ
is the heart of the gospel in any age.**

We believe in one holy, universal Christian church,
the communion of saints called from the entire human family.

Confession of Belhar

**We believe that God has entrusted the church
with the message of reconciliation
in and through Jesus Christ.**

In life and in death we belong to God.

A Brief Statement of Faith

**With believers in every time and place,
we rejoice that nothing in life or in death
can separate us from the love of God
in Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

Rev. Eye

...Receive all our prayers, spoken and unspoken, as together we pray as Jesus taught his disciples to pray, saying, **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.**

Invitation to the Offering

Elder Kennedy

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)*

Elder Kennedy

Gracious God, we give you thanks that you have planted us on holy ground. Like a tree planted by living waters, you cause us to grow and flourish, bearing good fruit through your Spirit, Use the offerings of our lives to bring healing and wholeness in this place, and in every place; all in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Following the Word into the World

**Hymn*

Leaves of the Tree

see p. 6

A hymn for the 227th General Assembly (2026)

**Congregational Charge*

Rev. Eye

Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses,
let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us,
looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.
Come, Lord Jesus!

**Benediction*

**Sending Song #748*

Go With Us, Lord

GTG

*Go with us Lord, and guide the way
through this and every coming day,
that in your Spirit strong and true
our lives may be our gift to you.*

Acolyte Recessional

Postlude

(Please be seated for the postlude.)

Dr. Roberts

All music is used by permission.

FFPC CCLI Copyright License: 21474063

Streaming License: 21474070

FPC is a Licensed Copyright User, Glory to God, All music

(see permission/license on file)

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.

Shall We Gather at the River

Revelation 22:1-5

For the 227th General Assembly (2026) of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

1 Shall we gath - er at the riv - er, where bright an - gel feet have trod,
2 Root - ed deep be - side the riv - er, see the an - cient tree of life:
3 All the saints are at the riv - er, strug - gles o - ver - come at last;
4 Come, be - lov - ed, to the riv - er, where the Lord has made a way:

with its crys - tal tide for - ev - er flow - ing by the throne of God?
leaves of hope from God the giv - er for the heal - ing of our strife.
now at rest, re - turn - ing nev - er to the e - vils of the past.
here the Sav - ior will de - liv - er through the night to end - less day.

Refrain

Yes, we'll gath - er at the riv - er, the beau - ti - ful, the beau - ti - ful riv - er;

gath - er with the saints at the riv - er that flows by the throne of God.

Leaves of the Tree

Revelation 22:1-5

For the 227th General Assembly (2026) of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

1 Leaves of the tree for the heal - ing of na - tions—
2 Leaves of the tree for the heal - ing of na - tions—
3 Leaves of the tree for the heal - ing of na - tions—
4 We are the leaves for the heal - ing of na - tions—

off - rings of peace mak - ing God's in - vi - ta - tion,
hud - ding and flow' - ring in love's trans - for - ma - tion,
God's tree of life yield - ing our new cre - a - tion,
we are the trees clap - ping our ju - bi - la - tion;

balm for our wounds and the palms of re - joic - ing;
whisp' - ring God's pres - ence and shout - ing God's glo - ry,
tree of the gar - den and life - giv - ing riv - er
we are the branch - es, in Christ ev - er - grow - ing;

branch - es ex - ten - ded, their wel - come are voic - ing.
wit - ness through time to the truth of our sto - ry.
root - ed and ground - ed in love by the Giv - er.
we are God's peo - ple, with praise ov - er - flow - ing.

Text: Deborah A. Black, 2026

Music: Paris Antiphoner, 1651; harm. La Feillée's *Méthode du plain-chant*, 1808

O QUANTA QUALIA (11.11.11.11)

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



The 227th General Assembly of the PC(USA) began on June 22nd as commissioners and advisory delegates met online for the opening plenary session and committee meetings. Assembly participants have now gathered in Milwaukee, WI. Following worship in local congregations, the assembly will convene in plenary sessions to hear committee reports and consider recommendations. At the conclusion of the business sessions on Thursday, July 2nd, the assembly will elect Moderators of the 228th General Assembly (2028) who will serve as ambassadors of the work done by the 227th assembly in the coming years and moderate the meeting in 2028. We continue to pray for all participants as well as those attending from the Presbytery of Scioto Valley: Ruling Elder Commissioners, Susan Dietz and Tina Johnson; Teaching Elder Commissioners, Jason Link and Todd Tracy; Young Adult Advisory Delegate, Addy Tracy; along with Presbyter for Congregational Life and Transitions, Emily Krause Corsine, and Stated Clerk, Bill Gause. To follow GA business and news, go to www.pcusa.org and follow the GA links.

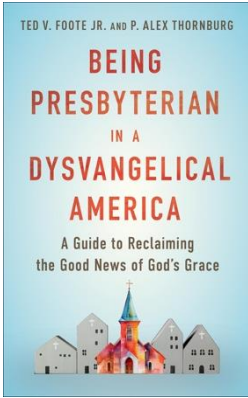
Our neighbors at Second Presbyterian Church have invited us to an Independence Day worship and lunch celebration next Sunday, July 5th at 9:30 a.m. Please join us for this time of shared witness as we pray for our nation on the occasion of its 250th anniversary. Members of First Presbyterian will join Dr. Stan Workman and the Second Presbyterian Choir in presenting special music, Pastor Lisa Eye will join Pastor Allison Bauer in leading worship, and we are providing a “birthday cake” for the fellowship lunch following worship. ***There will not be a service at First on this day, so we hope that you can attend in person or participate in the livestream on YouTube: Second Presbyterian Church Portsmouth, OH.***

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.

Building Update: The second phase of the sanctuary work – ceiling restoration, painting, and cleaning – is in process. The old ceiling has been removed, and a new ceiling is being installed before plaster work begins. Thank you to all who have made financial gifts to support this work! Please stay tuned for more updates.

Armbrust Student Program Applications Are Open! Help spread the word. The Armbrust Student Loan Program is gearing up for a new school term, and applications are now available. Loans can support academic and technical education expenses. Persons interested may download the application from the church website and get ready for an exciting year of learning and growth. If you have any questions, please let us know.

The FPC Food Bank is open on the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th Thursdays has reopened from 12 to 2 p.m. Volunteers are still needed. Please contact Rachel Collingsworth or the Church Office to learn more.



A new book study begins on Wednesday, July 1st. Join us for a simple supper at 5:00 pm followed by a discussion led by Pastor Lisa Eye of *Being Presbyterian in a Dysvangelical America: A Guide to Reclaiming the Good News of God's Grace* written by Ted Foote and Alex Thornburg, led by Pastor Lisa Eye.

“Ted and Alex have written a very readable guide that, in a spirit of humility and with touches of humor, articulates why Presbyterians sometimes feel out of sync with many prominent and loud Christian voices in America. It is a wonderful reminder of our theological heritage and an honest examination of our PC(USA) history that makes clear the importance of our distinct witness as Presbyterians.” – Cece Armstrong and Tony Larson, Co-Moderators of the 226th General Assembly (2024) of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

Copies of the book are available on the table as you enter Fellowship Hall.

Church & Community Calendar

Sunday, June 28: Regular Deacons Meeting following worship

Wednesday, July 1: Ministry of Congregational Life Meeting, Cancelled

Wednesday, July 1: Dinner, 5:00 p.m. & Book study, 5:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall

Thursday, July 2: Armbrust Student Loan Committee, 5:00 p.m. via Zoom

Sunday, July 5: Joint Independence Day Worship & Lunch at Second Presbyterian Church, 9:30 a.m.

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: bevphipps1stpres@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

221 Court St., Portsmouth, OH 45662

(740) 353-4259 Church Office

Email: firstpresportsmouth@gmail.com

Website: www.firstpresportsmouthoh.com

YouTube: www.youtube.com/@firstconnections4806

Facebook: <https://facebook.com/firstpresbyterianchurchportsmouthohio>

