



Welcome to Pentecost Sunday

**First Presbyterian Church  
Portsmouth, Ohio**

**June 8, 2025  
11 o'clock Worship Service**

Rev. Ronald Johnson, Minister of Word and Sacrament  
Ms. Michele Imes, Liturgist  
Ms. Michele Imes, Choir Director  
Dr. Phillip Roberts, Organist

***We are glad you came...***



# Welcome to Worship



## GATHERING TOGETHER AS A COMMUNITY

### ***WELCOMING THE COMMUNITY***

Rev. Ronald Johnson

### ***ANNOUNCEMENTS***

### ***WORDS TO GATHER BY***

L. God –

**P. we gather in your *presence*.**

L. *Father* –

**P. we long for more of you.**

L. *Jesus* –

**P. we place you at the center.**

L. *Holy Spirit* –

**P. come and fill us with your power.**

***ALL: Help us to be fully present here,  
to your word, to one another,  
and to the world you love. Amen.***

### ***A PRELUDE TO BEGIN WORSHIP***

Dr. Phillip Roberts

### ***\*CALL TO WORSHIP (call and response)***

Ms. Michele Imes

L. Beloved, pay attention! The Holy Spirit sweeps among us, binding us together as family in Christ.

**P. We are children of God, heirs of grace.**

L. Beloved, have you noticed? The Holy Spirit moves among us, creating and renewing the whole of creation, inspiring us to co-create with God and one another.

**P. We are children of God, co-creators in grace.**

L. Beloved, be encouraged. The Holy Spirit lives among us, surrounding us with mercy and grace, witnessing to us about God's steadfast love for God's people.

**P. We are children of God, witnesses to grace.**

L. Beloved, pay attention! Whether in a rushing wind or a gentle breath,

the Holy Spirit welcomes you here, for we are all children of God, brought together by grace.

**ALL: We are children of God, knit together by the Spirit.  
Thanks be to God! Amen.**

*Written by Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, October 2024.*

**\*PRAYER FOR THE DAY**

Ms. Imes

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE** #290 "O Day of Joy and Wonder!" **GTG**

**A CALL TO CONFESSION**

Ms. Imes

**A PRAYER OF CONFESSION** *(spoken in unison)*

***Gracious and loving God, open our hearts so that we are able to admit to you the fullness of our lives – that which is beautiful and good, and that which is hurtful and hateful. We confess that we do not follow Jesus in all that we do. We love with conditions. We judge and condemn.***

***We cast the first stone and keep the logs in our own eyes. We do not turn to You as the source of our healing. Forgive us, we pray. Forgive our sins, and empower us to be imitators of Christ in love and service. Amen.***

*(PLEASE, TAKE TIME TO SILENTLY CONFESS SIN  
AND REFLECT ON GOD'S LOVE AND CALL ON YOUR LIFE)*

**ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Rev. Johnson

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

Ms. 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**

**TODAY'S SCRIPTURE LESSON**

**Acts 2:1-21 NLT**

Rev. Johnson

<sup>1</sup> On the day of Pentecost all the believers were meeting together in one place. <sup>2</sup> Suddenly, there was a sound from heaven like the roaring of a mighty windstorm, and it filled the house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup> Then, what looked like flames or tongues of fire appeared and settled on each of

them. <sup>4</sup> And everyone present was filled with the Holy Spirit and began speaking in other languages, as the Holy Spirit gave them this ability.

<sup>5</sup> At that time there were devout Jews from every nation living in Jerusalem. <sup>6</sup> When they heard the loud noise, everyone came running, and they were bewildered to hear their own languages being spoken by the believers.

<sup>7</sup> They were completely amazed. "How can this be?" they exclaimed. "These people are all from Galilee, <sup>8</sup> and yet we hear them speaking in our own native languages! <sup>9</sup> Here we are—Parthians, Medes, Elamites, people from Mesopotamia, Judea, Cappadocia, Pontus, the province of Asia, <sup>10</sup> Phrygia, Pamphylia, Egypt, and the areas of Libya around Cyrene, visitors from Rome <sup>11</sup> (both Jews and converts to Judaism), Cretans, and Arabs. And we all hear these people speaking in our own languages about the wonderful things God has done!" <sup>12</sup> They stood there amazed and perplexed. "What can this mean?" they asked each other.

<sup>13</sup> But others in the crowd ridiculed them, saying, "They're just drunk, that's all!"

### ***Scripture Lesson continues...***

Ms. Imes

<sup>14</sup> Then Peter stepped forward with the eleven other apostles and shouted to the crowd, "Listen carefully, all of you, fellow Jews and residents of Jerusalem! Make no mistake about this. <sup>15</sup> These people are not drunk, as some of you are assuming. Nine o'clock in the morning is much too early for that. <sup>16</sup> No, what you see was predicted long ago by the prophet Joel:

<sup>17</sup> 'In the last days,' God says,

'I will pour out my Spirit upon all people.

Your sons and daughters will prophesy.

Your young men will see visions,  
and your old men will dream dreams.

<sup>18</sup> In those days I will pour out my Spirit  
even on my servants—men and women alike—  
and they will prophesy.

<sup>19</sup> And I will cause wonders in the heavens above  
and signs on the earth below—

blood and fire and clouds of smoke.

<sup>20</sup> The sun will become dark,  
and the moon will turn blood red  
before that great and glorious day of the Lord arrives.

<sup>21</sup> But everyone who calls on the name of the Lord  
will be saved."

L. The Word of the Lord.

***P. Praise be to God!***

***SPECIAL MUSIC***

Dr. Roberts

***THE MESSAGE***

"From Obstacles to Instruments"

Rev. Johnson

***HYMN OF RESPONSE*** #688 "*Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart*" **GTG**

***PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE***

Rev. Johnson

***The Lord's Prayer***

***\*OUR AFFIRMATION OF FAITH*** (spoken in unison) (from the Nicene Creed)

***We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy, catholic, and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.***

**GIVING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS TO THE LORD**

***INVITATION TO THE OFFERING***

Ms. Imes

***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. Imes  
***Spirit of grace and power, bless the gifts we offer today so that  
they may accomplish surprising things in Jesus' name. Equip each  
of us, and all of us together, to proclaim the Good News with grace  
and power in ways we have not yet dreamed possible. Amen.***

### **CALL TO MISSION**

**\* CLOSING HYMN** #291 "Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness" **GTG**

**\*CONGREGATIONAL CHARGE AND BENEDICTION** Rev. Johnson

### **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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<b>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</b>
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**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 June 2025**

*The Food Pantry is closed every first Thurs. of the month. Open Thurs. 12-2P*  
June 8: The Church celebrates Pentecost Sunday, 11A  
June 8: 2PC Celebrates Anniversary, 9:30A  
June 8: Pleasant Green Baptist Celebrates Freedom Trail Designation, 4P  
June 11: The Board of Session Meets for Reg. Stated Mtg., 1P  
June 12: Clergy Breakfast, 9A  
June 14, Ignite Appalachia Makers Mark., Chillicothe St., Portsm. 10A-3P  
June 15: Father's Day Celebrated  
June 16: PSV Southwest Regional churches mt., 11-1P, Six Sense Brew Co.  
June 17: Community group meets at FPC, 4P  
June 19: Juneteenth Celebrated (see Ohio sched.)  
June 19: Community Group meets at FPC, Conf. Rm., 10:30A  
June 20: First Day of Summer ☺  
June 22: A Light to the Nations NCD concert, Worthington PC, 12N  
June 24: ASLC meets at 5:30P (via Zoom)

### **Church Contact Information**

Pastor & Church Secretary's Office Hours for the Week

Sunday: Worship and office hours. Mondays:

Home office (worship planning and meetings)

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

Email: [rjohnson.fpc@gmail.com](mailto:rjohnson.fpc@gmail.com) or [rev.ron.johnson@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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**