



First Presbyterian Church Portsmouth, Ohio

**JANUARY 11, 2026
11 o'clock Worship Service
Baptism of the Lord**

**Rev. Lisa Eye, Minister of Word and Sacrament, Pastor
Dr Phillip Roberts, Liturgist
Ms. Michele Imes, Director of Music
Dr. Phillip Roberts, Organist/Musician**

We are glad you came...

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church

GATHERING TOGETHER AS A COMMUNITY

Something to ponder as you prepare for worship:

And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw God's Spirit descending like a dove and alighting on him. ¹⁷ And a voice from the heavens said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." Matt. 3:16-17

At the beginning of his public ministry, Jesus presents himself to John to be baptized in the Jordan. This is a Trinitarian event: as Jesus emerges from the water, the Holy Spirit descends from heaven as a dove, and we hear a voice naming Jesus as God's beloved Son. In ancient Christian tradition the Baptism of the Lord is closely connected with the Epiphany as both are manifestations of God's saving purpose through Jesus Christ. At this festival of the Christian year, we not only remember Jesus' baptism, but also give thanks for the baptism we share with Christ.

Welcoming the Community

Dr. Phillip Roberts

Announcements & Celebrations (Please see your bulletin)

Dr. Roberts

Prelude

Dr. Roberts

****Call to Worship***

Dr. Roberts

In the beginning, darkness covered the deep,
and God said: Let there be light.

Through the words of the prophet, the Lord said:

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you.

Do not fear, says the Lord; I am with you,

I have called you by name; you are mine.

When Jesus was baptized by John,
Suddenly the heavens were opened.

And as Jesus was coming out of the water,
the Spirit of God rested on him like a dove.

And a voice said: You are my beloved Son;
with you I am well pleased.

The voice of the Lord is over the waters!

And in the temple God's people say: Glory!

****Prayer of the Day***

Dr. Roberts

****Hymn of Praise #327 "From All That Dwell Below the Skies"***

GTG

**Call to Confession*

The Rev. Lisa R. Eye

**Prayer of Confession (unison)*

Merciful God, in baptism you promise forgiveness and new life, making us part of the body of Christ. We are precious in your sight, yet we often forget that we are your beloved. We confess that our love is fickle and inconsistent. We remain preoccupied with ourselves, separated from one another. We cling to destructive habits, hold grudges, and show reluctance to welcome one another. We allow the past to hold us captive. In your loving-kindness, have mercy on us, and free us from sin. Fulfill the promise of baptism so that we may rise to new life in Christ, and live together in grace. Amen. (*silent confess*)

**Declaration of Forgiveness*

Rev. Eye

**Response #10 “Sing Glory to the Name of God” verse 4*

GTG

*May God forever be our peace;
May hymns of glory never cease;
Let all the faithful people come;
Sing praise to God the Three-in-One:
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

**Sharing the Peace*

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

HEARING & PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Prayer for Understanding

Rev. Eye

Scripture

Isaiah 42:1-9

This is the word of the Lord. ***Praise be to God!***

Scripture

Matthew 3:13-17

This is the word of the Lord. ***Praise be to God!***

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***Hymn** #488 *“I Was There to Hear Your Burning Cry”* **GTG**

Reaffirmation of Baptism & Affirmation of Faith

The Meaning of Baptism

**The Renewal of Vows*

Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world? ***I do.***

Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Lord and Savior? ***I do.***

Will you be Christ’s faithful disciple, obeying his Word and showing his love? ***I will with God’s help.***

Prayer** ...Remember your baptism and be thankful! In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. ***Amen.

***Affirmation of Faith** **#35 “Apostles’ Creed”** **GTG**

Prayers of the People & The Lord’s Prayer

Rev. Eye

....hear us as we pray as Jesus taught his disciples to pray, saying, **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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

Rev. Eye

Offering Instrumental

Dr. Roberts

***The Doxology** #606 *“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”* **GTG**

**Thanksgiving & Dedication (unison)*

O God, at his baptism, you acknowledged Jesus as your beloved Son, and through him you opened us to a way to become your children by grace. By grace you have been with us at every moment of our lives, and we trust that

you will be with us as life unfolds. Receive these gifts and our lives as a sign of our trust and dedication to live as your faithful children, born in the waters of baptism by the power of the Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

CALL TO MISSION

**Closing Hymn #182 “Baptized in Water” GTG*

Congregational Meeting (see Congregational Meeting Packet)

Acolyte Recessional

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

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

Please pray for your 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, public schools, city of Portsmouth and its leadership, state and national leadership, and those incarcerated.

Our Church and Community Calendar, Dec. 2025– January 2026

The FPC Food Pantry will be closed until further notice due to Sanctuary Restoration.

Jan. 2026: Armbrust meeting TBA.

Jan. 11: Congregational Meeting immediately following Worship, for the purpose of electing officers and presenting the 2026 Budget.

Jan. 14: BCR meeting at 12P

Jan. 14: Session meeting in Conf. Rm., 1P

Jan. 17: (Sat.) Officer Training/2026 Planning & Boundary Training, 10-2P
W/lunch.

Jan. 25: Deacons meeting following
Worship.

Our Heartfelt Love & Prayers go out to Family & Friends as our Dear Sister and long time member, Pat Henderson, has transitioned to her Eternal Home.

(December 26, 2025)

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: 10A - 4P in Office. Fridays: Off

Pastors Email: leyefirstpresportsmouth@gmail.com

Pas. Study: (740)529-7117

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<https://www.firstpresportsmouthoh.com>

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

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SERMON NOTES

SERMON TITLE

SCRIPTURE VERSE(S)

WHAT DID I HEAR THAT RAISED QUESTIONS?

HOW CAN I APPLY THIS TO MY LIFE?

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