



**First Presbyterian Church
Portsmouth, Ohio**

**August 17, 2025
11 o'clock Worship Service**

Rev. Allison Bauer, Minister of Word and Sacrament
Guest Minister

Mrs. Stephanie Scaggs, 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

Mrs. Stephanie Scaggs

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORDS TO GATHER BY

Mrs. Scaggs

L. O God, pour out the Spirit of grace and love. Deliver us from cold hearts and wandering thoughts,

P. *that with steady minds and burning zeal we may worship you in spirit and truth. Amen.*

Faith Alive Christian Resources; Calvin Institute of Christian Worship. The Worship Sourcebook, Second Edition. Faith Alive Christian Resources. Kindle Edition.

***A CALL TO WORSHIP**

Mrs. Scaggs

L. In a world wounded by war and worry,

P. God calls us to behold what is beautiful.

L. When despair speaks louder than hope,

P. The Spirit whispers truth through beauty.

L. Come, we who are weary and wondering—

**ALL. Let us worship the One whose glory is grace,
whose beauty saves.**

***PRAYER FOR THE DAY**

Mrs. Scaggs

***HYMN OF PRAISE** #363 "Rejoice, the Lord is King!" **GTG**

***A CALL TO CONFESSION**

Mrs. Scaggs

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

Mrs. Scaggs

God of beauty and truth, we confess that we are quick to notice what is broken, and slow to see what is beautiful. We ignore the cries of creation and miss the quiet grace in our neighbors. We confess the ways we distort, diminish, or disregard Your image in others and in ourselves. Forgive us. Restore our vision, renew our hearts, and help us to join You in creating beauty in a hurting world.

*(Please Take Time to Silently Confess Sin
and Reflect on God's Love and Call on Your Life)*

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Rev. Bauer

***GLORIA PATRI** *(sung in unison)*

**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

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

Rev. Bauer

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Psalm 137:1–6 NRSV

Mrs. Scaggs

- ¹ By the rivers of Babylon—there we sat down, and there we wept when we remembered Zion.
² On the willows there we hung up our harps.
³ For there our captors asked us for songs, and our tormentors asked for mirth, saying, “Sing us one of the songs of Zion!”
⁴ How could we sing the Lord’s song in a foreign land?
⁵ If I forget you, O Jerusalem, let my right hand wither!
⁶ Let my tongue cling to the roof of my mouth, if I do not remember you, if I do not set Jerusalem above my highest joy.

Leader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Philippians 4:4-8 NRSV

Rev. Bauer

- ⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.
⁵ Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.
⁸ Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

Leader: The Word of the Lord
People: Thanks be to God

SPECIAL MUSIC

Mr. Ethan Cooper

THE MESSAGE

Rev. Allison Bauer

Making Beauty While the World is Burning: Beauty as Resistance

HYMN OF RESPONSE

#630 "Fairest Lord Jesus" **GTG**

****AFFIRMATION OF FAITH*** (Adapted from A Brief Statement of Faith) Rev. Bauer

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. In life and in death, he reveals God's beauty: loving the outcast, healing the broken, speaking truth. We believe that beauty is not weakness, but power: a force of grace stronger than death and a sign of God's kingdom already among us. We affirm a faith that seeks not control, but communion; not certainty, but wonder; not escape, but incarnation. In gratitude, we seek to serve Christ with lives marked by mercy, wonder, beauty, and joy.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Bauer

...And now we pray as Jesus taught us to pray, saying;

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 our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the Kingdom and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

GIVING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS TO THE LORD

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Mrs. Scaggs

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. Scaggs
Blessed are you, God of all creation. Through your goodness, we have these gifts to share. Bless what we offer for your purposes. Give us courage to offer ourselves more fully to you, so that our lives bring you honor and glory through Christ our Lord. Amen.

A CALL TO MISSION

*** CLOSING HYMN** #623 "I've Got Peace Like a River" **GTG**

***CONGREGATIONAL CHARGE AND BENEDICTION** Rev. Bauer

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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OUR PRAYER LIST IS LOCATED ON THE EDUCATION ANNEX BULLETIN BOARD

Our Church and Community Calendar August 2025

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

- Aug. 17: We welcome Rev. Allison Bauer to the pulpit, 11A.
- Aug. 19: PSV meets, 3:30 PM, Covenant PC, Columbus, Hybrid.
- Aug. 20: Director of Armbrust Stud. Loan Program in.
- Aug. 20: Pastor to Columbus Airport, pick up ASL director, 3P.
- Aug. 20: Bible Study, History of Christianity Series, 5:30-6:45P.
- Aug. 21: Armbrust S.L. attends New Student Event, Shawnee St. U., 9A-3P
- Aug. 21: Pastor drops Pastor Perry at Columbus Airport
- Aug. 22: Armbrust S.L. attends Community Fair, Shawnee St. U., 6-7:30P
- Aug. 22: Pastor attends Univ. Shawnee Fair, 6-7:30P
- Aug. 26: Church Secty. out at 1:30P.
- Aug. 26: Pastor participates with PSV COM, Hybrid, 1-3P.
- Aug. 27: Bible Study, History of Christianity Series, with light meal, 5:30P

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 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 Hours: 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