

# First Presbyterian Church

Sunday July 12th, 2026

10:30am Worship

## GATHERING MUSIC

PRELUDE "Bind Us Together, Lord" arr. Mark Hayes

SPECIAL MUSIC "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing" arr. Craig Courtney  
*Agnese Goin, soloist, and Will Lively, trumpet*

WELCOME ~ *Please sign the friendship pads*

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP

God's creation delights and astonishes.

**Your word is our heritage forever, the joy of our hearts.**

Your word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path.

**Let the people pause and wonder!**

God, the Creator, has made it all.

**Let all creation shout and sing! Alleluia!**

\*HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 367 "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"

## \*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**O God, your word falls on hardened ground when our worldly anxiety and attachment to wealth crowd out your place in our lives. We have neglected to tend the soil of our lives. We let it stay shallow and rocky by not learning from the experience of others. We let it be riddled with thorns by succumbing to our own prejudices. Life-giving God, help us to tend our soil. Open us to being challenged, enable us to learn, so that your word will take root. Plant the seeds of your gospel in each of our hearts until we bloom and bear good fruit in our lives. (Silent confession). Amen.**

\*HOLY INTERRUPTION ~ *Please share signs of God's peace with your neighbors*

SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

SERMON "The Ground of Faith" Dr. Brad Walker

## STATEMENT OF FAITH

Segment from *The Confession of 1967*

**The life, death, resurrection, and promised coming of Jesus Christ has set the pattern for the church's mission. His human life involves the church in the common life of all people. His service to men and women commits the church to work for every form of human well-being. His suffering makes the church sensitive to all human suffering so that it sees the face of Christ in the faces of persons in every kind of need. His crucifixion discloses to the church God's judgment on the inhumanity that marks human relations, and the awful consequences of the church's own complicity in injustice. In the power of the risen Christ and the hope of his coming, the church sees the promise of God's renewal of human life in society and of God's victory over all wrong. The church follows this pattern in the form of its life and in the method of its action. So to live and serve is to confess Christ as Lord. Amen.**

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and THE LORD'S PRAYER

\*HYMN OF SENDING NO. 307 "God of Grace and God of Glory"

\*CHARGE AND BLESSING

\*POSTLUDE

## Worship Notes

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*Please be aware the 10:30am service is live streamed on Facebook and YouTube*

WIFI Network: FPCK-GUEST Password: Genesis1:3-4

[www.firstpreskingsport.org](http://www.firstpreskingsport.org)

Church office: (423) 245-0104