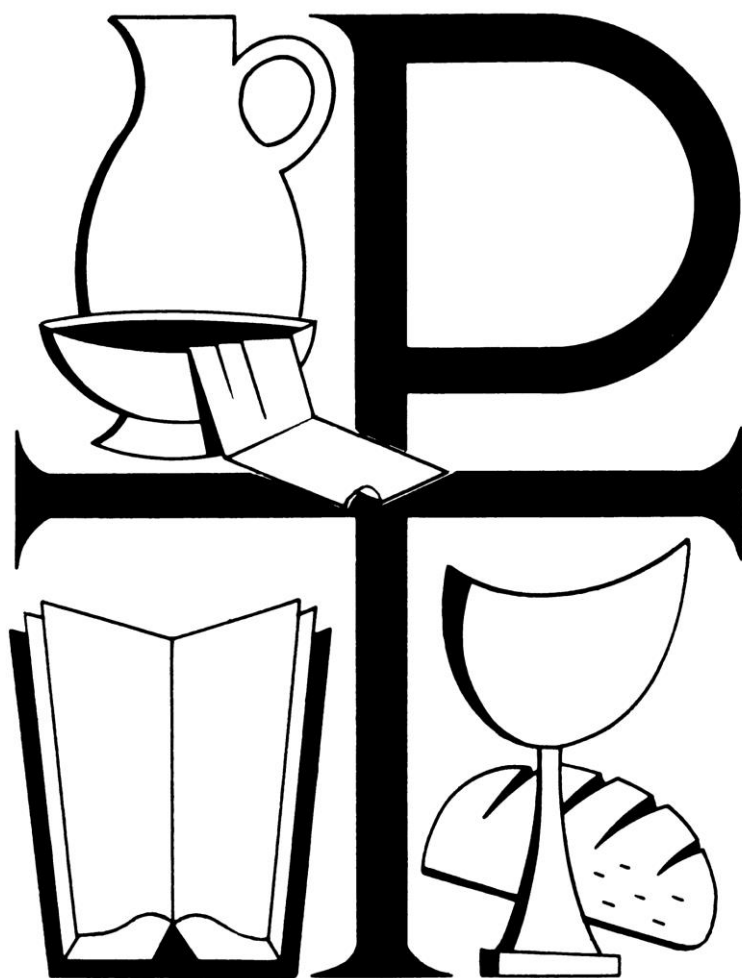


# First Presbyterian Church

402 North Ship Street, Portland, Indiana 47371

[www.firstpcportland.org](http://www.firstpcportland.org) 260-726-8462



## Our Vision Statement

“To provide a ministry which will lead people to strengthen their faith in Jesus Christ and reach out with God’s love.”

**All Saints’ Day**  
**22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**  
November 1, 2020

## **GATHERING BEFORE THE WORD**

Prelude

*Meditation*

arr. F. Asper

Greeting and Announcements

Opening Sentences

Prayer of Praise

### **\*Call to Worship**

Leader: Blessed are the poor in spirit,

(Matt. 5:3)

**People: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

Leader: Then the Lord said: It is finished!

(Rev. 21:6)

**People: Jesus is the Alpha and the Omega.**

Leader: Sing to the Lord a new song;

(Ps. 149:1)

**People: let all the faithful praise the Lord.**

**\*Opening Hymn** “You Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim” Insert  
<https://hymnary.org/page/fetch/GG2013/404/high>

### **\*Call to Confession**

Leader: It is only by the power of God that we are able to stand against evil.

Trusting in God’s grace, let us confess our sin.

### **\*Prayer of Confession** (in unison)

Eternal God, in every age you have raised up men and women to live and die in faith. We confess that we are indifferent to your will. You call us to proclaim your name, but we are silent. You call us to do what is just, but we remain idle. You call us to live faithfully, but we are afraid. In your mercy, forgive us. Give us courage to follow in your way, that joined with those from ages past, who have served you with faith, hope, and love, we may inherit the kingdom you promised in Jesus Christ.

*A Time of Silent Prayer*

### **\*Assurance of Forgiveness**

Leader: Now stand firm in your faith, covered by the saving grace of God and ready to proclaim the gospel of peace.

**People:** In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God.

**\*Response of Praise**-all to sing      “Gloria Patri”      No. 579  
*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.*

### **SHARING THE LORD’S SUPPER**

#### **Invitation to the Lord’s Supper**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People:** **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

**People:** **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People:** **It is right to give God our thanks and praise.**

**Prayer of Thanksgiving  
Words of Institution**

### **LISTENING FOR THE WORD**

#### **Prayer for Illumination**

**Old Testament Reading**      Psalm 34:1-10, 22 (NRSV)

### **PROCLAIMING THE WORD**

#### **Prayer for Illumination**

**New Testament Reading**      I John 3:1-3 (NRSV)

**Sermon**    “Now, Already, God’s Children”    The Rev. M. Rex Espiritu

### **RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

**Prayers of the People...The Lord’s Prayer** (‘debts’ and debtors’)

### **BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD**

**\*Closing Hymn**      “For All the Saints” (vs. 1,2,3,5)      Insert  
<https://hymnary.org/page/fetch/GG2013/437/high>

### **\*Charge and Benediction**

**Postlude**      *Andante*      arr. F. Asper

**\*Indicates that those who are able may stand.**

*Large print bulletins are available from the greeters upon request.*

### **Serving Today**

**Liturgist**      Eric Rogers  
**Greeters**      Phil & Linda Frantz  
**Sound Technician**      Eric Byrum

### **Lectionary readings for November 8, 2020**

Amos 5:18-24; Psalm 70;  
I Thessalonians 4:13-18; Matthew 25:1-13

### **Announcements**

**Instructions for individual Communion Cups:** The individual communion cups we are now using for communion contain both bread and juice. The bread is located on the top of the cup. When directed during Sharing the Lord’s Supper, peel back the first layer of plastic to reveal the bread. Then peel back the second layer to access the juice.

**Several members have asked questions about our COVID-19 protocols** at First Presbyterian Church. As others may have those same questions, we will try to respond to the whole congregation as they come up. Here are couple questions from recent weeks:

*May I take my mask off after I sit down in the pews?*

While it may seem safer to take your mask off once you are seated, it’s a bad idea. When we are seated in the sanctuary we are also still breathing (we hope), and one or more of the following may take place: you may talk to someone close by, sing a hymn, cough, or sneeze. Wearing a mask greatly decreases the aerosols that will escape into the room otherwise. In short, please keep your mask on while in Church.

*Exiting on the stone steps outside the old main entrance is difficult for me to manage. May I exit from the new entrance?*

Yes! Just like those who need to use the elevator, feel free to exit as you entered if it’s difficult for you to leave by the standard route. But, please avoid

passing by congregants going in the opposite direction to limit our close contact. We hope our efforts to keep everyone at First Presbyterian Church safe will allow continuing in-person services. Thanks for your cooperation!

**Don't forget your 2021 pledge** for the church budget. We will be dedicating the pledges on Sunday, November 22

**Community Thanksgiving Dinner.** Once again, our church has been asked to provide the ingredients for turkey dressing for the upcoming Community Thanksgiving Dinner. Items needed include loaves of bread, celery, eggs, and large cans of chicken broth. If you would like to provide donated items, please call the church office at 260.726.8462. You will then be given instructions on where and when to deliver your donated items. Due to Covid-19, the meal will be available only in the Asbury United Methodist Church parking lot. Those attending are asked to park and open their vehicle trunks. Then, volunteers will deliver pre-packaged meals. The dinner will be held on Thanksgiving Day, November 26 beginning at 1:00pm.

**Pastor Rex's office hours** will generally be on Monday mornings. You may also contact him at 609.920.4050 (mobile), 765.529.1996 (home), or email at [rex@espiritu.net](mailto:rex@espiritu.net).

### **Church Calendar: November 1-8, 2020**

**TODAY**                      9:00am                      Worship/Communion

**NEXT SUNDAY**        9:00am                      Worship

### **Prayer Concerns**

- Fran Austin's sister & nephew
- Lee Newman (friend of Harry & Carolyn Scott)
- Lonnie Stout
- Tom Dunn
- Vivian Morehous
- Sally Mauger Veil & Sheldon Veil (Meg Mauger's mother and husband)
- Josh Rigby, former student of Carolyn Scott
- Rogers Durham
- Mavis Catalfio, friend of Fran Austin

*Your prayers bless these people and are heard by our gracious God.*

**Last Sunday's Attendance:** 22

**Last Sunday's Offering:** \$1,146.39

### **Church Staff**

<b>Ministers</b>	Every Member and Friend
<b>Transition Pastor</b>	Rev. Rex Espiritu
<b>Custodians</b>	Debbie & Dennis Ford
<b>Choir Director</b>	Linda Rodden
<b>Office Manager</b>	Barbara Cortner
<b>Organist/Pianist</b>	LeRoy Imler