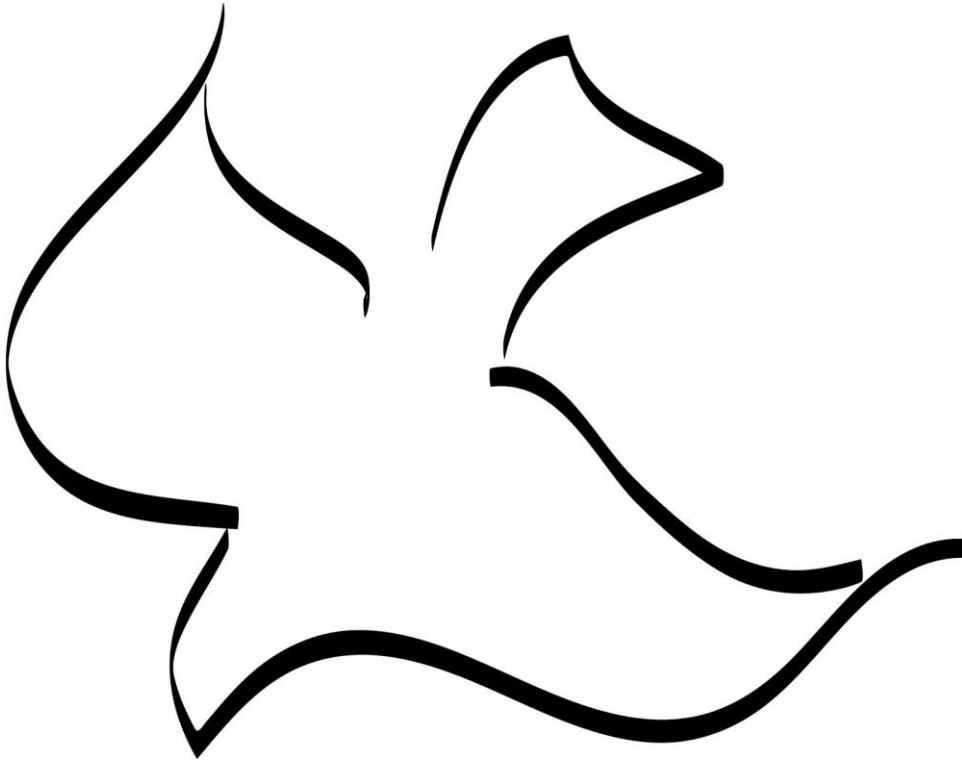


19th Sunday after Pentecost  
September 29, 2024

# 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.”

## GATHERING BEFORE THE WORD

### Prelude

### Greeting and Announcements

### Opening Sentences

### \*Doxology - all to sing

No. 592

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

### \*Prayer of Praise

### \*Call to Worship

Leader: We gather in this place seeking to live in faithful community and asking God to guide us.

**People: Lord, revive our souls,**

Leader: that we might lift each other up.

**People: Lord, revive our souls,**

Leader: that we might order our communities in ways that lead us toward love.

**People: Lord, revive our souls!**

Leader: Let us worship God.

### \*Opening Hymn

[“When Morning Gilds the Skies”](#)

### \*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)

**Let the words of our mouths and the meditation of our hearts be acceptable to you, O Lord, our rock and our redeemer. For you are our rock, and yet we place our faith in sinking sand. You are our redeemer, and yet we are convinced that we must save ourselves. You are our source of unity, and yet we isolate ourselves in every way we can. You are our fount of forgiveness, and yet we fear that we will be**

condemned. Forgive us, O Rock. Forgive us, O Redeemer, and show us what it means to forgive one another.

*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. Though we wander from the truth, God brings us back and saves our souls from death. God's grace and mercy are never ending. This is good news!

**All: 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.*

**\*We Share God's Peace**

Leader: May the peace of the Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

*(You are invited to share God's peace as you greet those around you.)*

**Special Music**

**Minute for Mission**

**LISTENING FOR THE WORD**

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Old Testament Reading** [Esther 7:1-6,9-10; 9:20-22](#) (NRSV)

**Hymn** (seated) "Jesus Loves Me" No. 304

*Jesus loves me! This I know. For the Bible tells me so;  
Little ones to Him belong; They are weak, but He is strong.  
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.*

**Children's Message**

*(Children grades K-8 may be dismissed to Sunday School)*

**PROCLAIMING THE WORD**

**Prayer for Illumination**

**New Testament Reading**

[James 5:13-20](#) (NRSV)

**Sermon**

***"Any Among You"***

*whose word saved*

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**

**\*Sending Hymn** "[Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!](#)"

**\*Charge and Benediction**

**Postlude**

*(We invite you to remain seated through the Postlude.)*

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

**Lectionary readings for October 6, 2024**

Job 1:1; 2:1-10; Psalm 26  
Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12; Mark 10:2-16