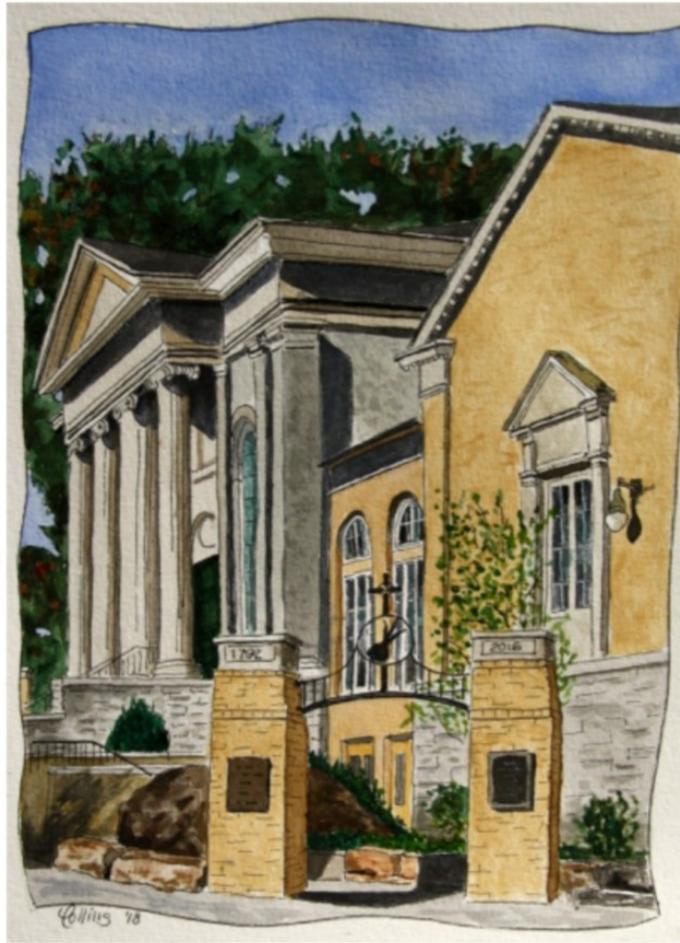




First Presbyterian Church
KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE
- Founded 1792 -

*“For Christ in the Heart of Knoxville,”
the First Presbyterian Church seeks*

- *to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ*
- *to nurture those within its influence*
- *to serve spiritual and human needs*



First Presbyterian Church
FOR CHRIST IN THE HEART OF KNOXVILLE 

LEADERS IN WORSHIP

The Rev. Dr. Jeff McCrory Jr., Transitional Pastor
The Rev. Meredith Loftis, Associate Pastor
Mr. Mark Pace, Organist/Choirmaster/Harpist
Mr. Alex McGavic, Children and Youth Ministries Coordinator

ORDER OF WORSHIP
SEVENTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST
JULY 11, 2021
❖ **THE PREPARATION OF GOD'S PEOPLE** ❖

PRELUDE

Cantabile

Guilmant

WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 148

Leader: Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise him in the heights!

People: Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host!

Leader: Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, you shining stars.

People: Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and cedars, wild animals and all cattle.

Leader: Let us praise the name of the LORD, for his name is exalted; for his glory is above Earth and heaven.

† **OPENING HYMN 32**

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

Ellacombe

1. I sing the mighty power of God
That made the mountains rise,
That spread the flowing seas abroad
And built the lofty skies.
I sing the wisdom that ordained
The sun to rule the day.
The moon shines full at God's command,
And all the stars obey.
2. I sing the goodness of the Lord
Who filled the earth with food.
God formed the creatures through the Word,
And then pronounced them good.
Lord, how thy wonders are displayed,
Where'er I turn my eye,
If I survey the ground I tread,
Or gaze upon the sky!
3. There's not a plant or flower below
But makes thy glories known.
And clouds arise, and tempests blow,
By order from thy throne,
While all that borrows life from thee
Is ever in thy care,
And everywhere that we can be,
Thou, God, art present there.

† **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Lord Jesus,

You tell us to love our enemies. This is hard, for people do attack us, cheat us, and treat us poorly. We want to strike back and give our enemies what we think they deserve.

Forgive us, not for this impulse, but for when we act upon it. You turned the other cheek and loved those who persecuted you. This also is hard. We don't know how to do these things apart from your Spirit. Come Holy Spirit and enable us to live out your will among even those who hate us. (*silent confession*)

† **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

† **MUSICAL RESPONSE 580**

Glory Be to the Father

Gloria Patri

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.

† PASSING OF THE PEACE

Since God has forgiven us, we are free to forgive one another. You are invited to reach out to your neighbors with a smile or peace sign, or at home through phone calls, texts, faxes, carrier pigeons, or social media and greet each other with a virtual sign of Christ's peace.

† **MUSICAL RESPONSE** 378 *We Wait the Peaceful Kingdom (verse 2)* Merle's Tune
Where is the peaceful kingdom? When will this new day start? We long for peace and comfort to reign within each heart. Yet not in our lives only, nor simply in our home: we pray that all creation will one day find shalom.

❖ THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD ❖

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON Matthew 5:43-48 Ron Mayer
"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.'⁴⁴ But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,⁴⁵ so that you may be children of your Father in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous.⁴⁶ For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same?⁴⁷ And if you greet only your brothers and sisters, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same?⁴⁸ Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect."

SPECIAL TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES
(Children aged 3 - 2nd grade are welcome to join Children's Church)

ANTHEM *Lead Me Lord* Samuel Sebastian Wesley
Julie Belanger Roy, Contralto
Lead me, Lord, lead me in thy righteousness, make thy way plain before my face. For it is thou, Lord, thou, Lord only, that makest me dwell in safety. Lead me, Lord, lead me in true holiness, teach me to love and trust in Thee. Thou are our God, the God of our salvation, all nations shall praise Thy holy name.

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON Psalm 129
"Often have they attacked me from my youth" - let Israel now say -² "often have they attacked me from my youth, yet they have not prevailed against me."³ The plowers plowed on my back; they made their furrows long."⁴ The Lord is righteous; he has cut the cords of the wicked."⁵ May all who hate Zion be put to shame and turned backward.⁶ Let them be like the grass on the housetops that withers before it grows up,⁷ with which reapers do not fill their hands or binders of sheaves their arms,⁸ while those who pass by do not say, "The blessing of the Lord be upon you! We bless you in the name of the Lord!"

SERMON *What to Do with Enemies* Rev. Dr. Jeff McCrory, Jr.

❖ THE RESPONSE OF GOD'S PEOPLE ❖

† **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *Westminster Larger Catechism, Q and A 183*
Question: For whom are we to pray?
Answer: **We are to pray for the whole Church of Christ upon earth, for magistrates, and ministers, for ourselves, our brethren, yea, our enemies, and for all sorts of men living, or that shall live hereafter, but not for the dead.**

† HYMN OF RESPONSE 443*There is a Redeemer*

Detroit

1. There is a Redeemer,
 Jesus, God's own Son;
 Precious Lamb of God,
 Messiah, Holy One.

2. Jesus, my Redeemer,
 Name above all names,
 Precious Lamb of God,
 Messiah, hope for sinners slain. *(Refrain)*

Refrain:

Thank you, O my Father,
 For giving us your Son,
 And leaving your Spirit
 Till the work on earth is done.

3. When I stand in glory,
 I will see His face;
 There I'll serve my King forever,
 In that holy place. *(Refrain)*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Meredith Loftis

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed 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 us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

RECEPTION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

You may place your offering in the offering plates on the side aisles or you are invited to mail in your tithes and offerings to the church office or give online at www.fpcknox.org/donate.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM*Prelude on "St. Columba" Tune*

Healey Willan

† DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION 606

Old Hundredth

**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.**

† SENDING HYMN 450*Be Thou My Vision*

Slane

1. Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
 Naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
 Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
 Waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

3. Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise;
 Thou mine inheritance, now and always;
 Thou and thou only, first in my heart,
 High King of Heaven, my treasure thou art.

2. Be thou my wisdom,
 And thou my true Word;
 I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
 Thou my soul's shelter,
 And thou my high tower;
 Raise thou me heavenward,
 O Power of my power.

4. High King of Heaven, my victory won,
 May I reach heaven's joys,
 O bright heaven's Sun!
 Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
 Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

† CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**POSTLUDE***Trompette in Dialogue*

Clerambault

†- Please stand if you are able

Beverly Landguth will be performing as a guest organist for the weeks of July 11th, 18th, and 25th.

