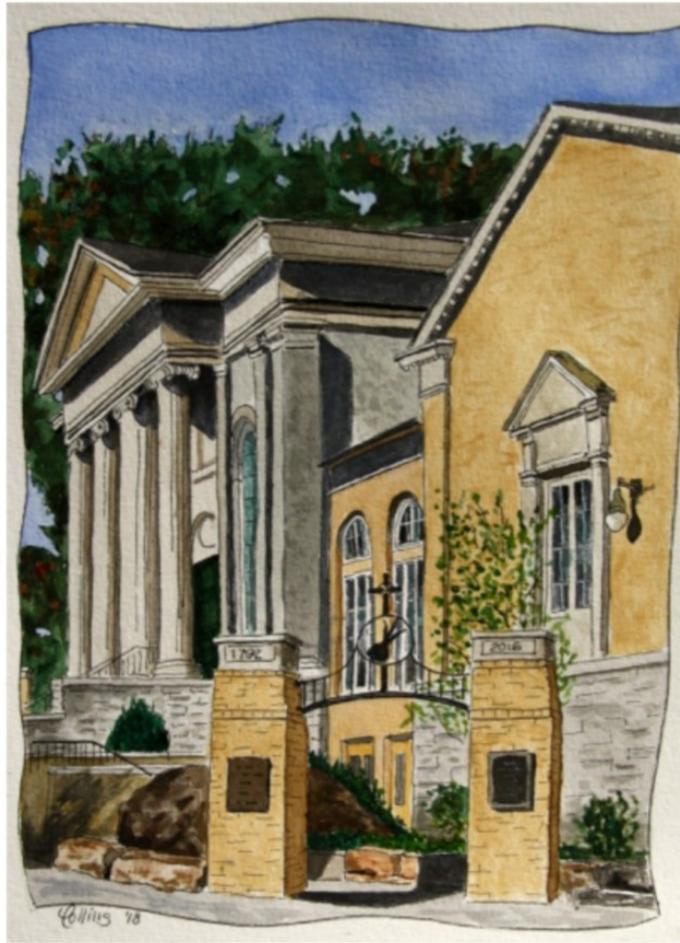




First Presbyterian Church
KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE
- Founded 1792 -

*“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
EIGHTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST
JULY 18, 2021
❖ **THE PREPARATION OF GOD'S PEOPLE** ❖

PRELUDE

Prelude and Fugue in C Major

J.S. Bach

WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 103

Leader: Praise my soul, the King of Heaven.

People: For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is his steadfast love towards those who fear him.

Leader: As a father has compassion for his children, so the LORD has compassion for those who fear him.

People: For he knows how we were made; he remembers that we are dust.

Leader: Alleuia! Alleluia! Let us praise the everlasting King.

† OPENING HYMN 620

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

Lauda Anima

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;
To his feet your tribute bring;
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
Evermore his praises sing:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise the everlasting King. | 3. Fatherlike, he tends and spares us;
Well our feeble frame he knows;
In his hands he gently bears us,
Rescues us from all our foes.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Widely yet his mercy flows. |
| 2. Praise him for his grace and favor
To his people in distress;
Praise him still the same as ever,
Slow to chide, and swift to bless:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Glorious in his faithfulness. | 4. Angels, help us to adore him;
You behold him face to face.
Sun and moon, bow down before him,
Dwellers all in time and space:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise with us the God of grace. |

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord Jesus,

We do not like waiting. Living in an instant society we click on Instagram, send emails, and tweet without a moment's reflection. We are frustrated when we have to wait in line, when someone doesn't return our text message, and when events don't go according to plan. Forgive our impatience and hurry, O patient God. Quiet us, Holy Spirit, that we may submit to you, waiting for you to lift us at the right time. *(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 *James 5:7-11* Sandra Robinson (*see insert*)

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

ANTHEM *Christ We do All Adore Thee* Dubois

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON Psalm 130 (*see insert*)

SERMON *The Waiting is the Hardest Part* Rev. Dr. Jeff McCrory, Jr.

❖ THE RESPONSE OF GOD'S PEOPLE ❖

† **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *James 4:7-10*

Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ⁸ Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. ⁹ Lament and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned into mourning and your joy into dejection. ¹⁰ Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

† **HYMN OF RESPONSE** 353 *My Hope is Built on Nothing Less* Solid Rock

1. My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
But wholly lean on Jesus' name.
2. When darkness seems to hide his face,
I rest on his unchanging grace;
In every high and stormy gale,
My anchor holds within the veil. (*Refrain*)
3. His oath, his covenant, his blood
Support me in the whelming flood;
When all around my soul gives way,
He then is all my hope and stay. (*Refrain*)
4. When he shall come with trumpet sound,
O may I then in him be found,
Dressed in his righteousness alone,
Faultless to stand before the throne. (*Refrain*)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Alex McGavic

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

The Gift of Love

Arr. James Pethel

† 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 816

If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee

Wur Nur Den Lieben Gott

1. If thou but trust in God to guide thee,
With hopeful heart through all thy ways,
God will give strength, whate'er betide thee,
To bear thee through the evil days.
Who trusts in God's unchanging love
Builds on the rock that nought can move.
2. Only be still, and wait God's leisure
In cheerful hope, with heart content
To take whate'er thy Keeper's pleasure
And all-discerning love hath sent.
No doubt our inmost wants are clear
To One who holds us always dear.
3. Sing, pray, and swerve not from God's ways,
But do thine own part faithfully.
Trust the rich promises of grace;
So shall they be fulfilled in thee.
God never yet forsook at need
The soul secured by trust indeed.

† CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Toccata in E Minor

Pachelbel

†- *Please stand if you are able*

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

Scripture Reading for July 18, 2021

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

James 5:7-11

Sandra Robinson

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸ You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. ⁹ Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! ¹⁰ As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. ¹¹ Indeed we call blessed those who showed endurance. You have heard of the endurance of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalm 130

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord. ² Lord, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications! ³ If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? ⁴ But there is forgiveness with you, so that you may be revered. ⁵ I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in his word I hope; ⁶ my soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning, more than those who watch for the morning. ⁷ O Israel, hope in the Lord! For with the Lord there is steadfast love, and with him is great power to redeem. ⁸ It is he who will redeem Israel from all its iniquities.