

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN** *God Be with You Till We Meet Again* 541

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE *Fantasia on "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"* John Behnke

**Please stand if you are able.*

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN....

The Narthex flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving honor of Mary Spengler. We thank you Mary for your years of Christian service, fellowship, time and talents. Peace be with you.

We would like to extend a special thanks to Carrie Wright for filling in for Mark Pace at the last minute last Sunday. We appreciate her musical talents and willingness to share them with us.

Get ready for a lively evening of fun and games at our annual Trunk or Treat Fall Festival on Wednesday, October 25th at 5:30 pm in the lower parking lot of First Presbyterian. Decorate your car and bring some candy to hand out to our little ones who will be trick-or-treating from car to car. In addition to the trunk or treating, we'll also have bounce houses and play equipment for children to enjoy. And don't forget to wear your costume! Afterwards, join us in the Fellowship Hall for some delicious pizza at 6:30 pm. This is an event you won't want to miss, so come celebrate the season with us!

All Presbyterian Women of our church are invited to a presbytery-wide Fall Gathering of Presbyterian Women at the John Knox Center in Ten Mile on Saturday, Oct. 28. The day-long event will begin at 9:30 a.m. and include lunch. The cost is \$10/person.

The FPC Youth will be going to the UT vs UConn football game on November 4; all 10 spots taken! Please contact Kallee at (865) 387-4748 or kallee@purvisbuilders.com for details.

WELCOME

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church, Knoxville. We have been part of the downtown Knoxville community since 1792. We embrace people from all walks of life and seek to share our spiritual journey with our community. We are part of the Presbyterian Church (USA). We are delighted that you have joined us in worship today.

To learn more about us, please make a note on the Friendship Pad, sign up for our Thursday newsletter, or connect with us at fpcknox.org, via the QR code to the right, or through social media.



Hearing enhancement devices and large print hymnals are available for use during the service. Please ask an usher for assistance.

OFFERING

You may place your offering in the offering plates when they are passed, or you are invited to give securely online at www.fpcknox.org/donate or by scanning the QR code to the right with your smart phone.



STAFF AND LEADERS IN WORSHIP

- | | |
|--|--|
| The Rev. Mark R. Curtis
<i>Senior Pastor</i> | Laura Harmon
<i>Church Administrator</i> |
| The Rev. Dr. Meredith Loftis
<i>Associate Pastor</i> | Lauren Nunn
<i>Director of Parent's Day Out /
Childcare Coordinator</i> |
| Dr. Andy Morgan
<i>Director of Family Faith Formation</i> | Sandra Robinson
<i>Administrative Assistant</i> |
| Mark Pace
<i>Organist/Choirmaster</i> | Victor Lenoir
<i>Custodian</i> |
| Mary Wilson
<i>Adult Ministry Coordinator</i> | Paul Seguna
<i>Sound Engineer</i> |
| Katie Norrell
<i>Director of Communications</i> | Caleb Davis
<i>Crucifer</i> |
| Jane Holland
<i>Director of Finance/Facilities</i> | Micah Davis
<i>Bible Bearer</i> |

WORSHIP MUSIC NOTES

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <i>Theme and Cantabile on "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"</i>
One License # 90265 | <i>O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing</i>
Tune: Azmon | <i>God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending</i>
Tune: Beach Spring
One License # 00783 |
| <i>Lord of All Good</i>
Tune: Toulon | <i>God Be with You Till We Meet Again</i>
Tune: Randolph | |
| <i>Gloria Patri</i>
Tune: Gloria Patri (Greatorex) | | |

FOR OUR YOUNGER WORSHIPPERS

All children are welcome in worship at FPC. Children, Kindergarten through 2nd Grade, are invited to attend Children's Worship in the Children's Area (2nd floor) after Special Time with Young Disciples. Worship Bags are available at each entrance to the sanctuary. A nursery is available for children, in preschool and younger, in the Nursery rooms (2nd floor).



First Presbyterian Church
FOR CHRIST IN THE HEART OF KNOXVILLE

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

OCTOBER 22, 2023

Connect With Us



www.fpcknox.org

620 State Street
Knoxville, TN 37902

THE PREPARATION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

PRELUDE Theme and Cantabile on John Behnke
"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

This is the day that the Lord has made;
Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

***CALL TO WORSHIP** from Psalm 24 and Romans 14

The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it,
the world, and those who live in it;
We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves.
**If we live, we live to the Lord,
and if we die, we die to the Lord;
so then, whether we live or whether we die,
we are the Lord's.**
"As I live," says the Lord,
**"every knee shall bow,
and every tongue shall give praise to God."**

***OPENING HYMN** Lord of All Good 711

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of majesty,
you have drawn near to us,
but we have turned away from your light.**
**You have chosen us to be your people,
but we confess that we have lived
as though we belonged to ourselves.**
**Forgive us for going the way of the world,
and forgetting your law of love
toward God and neighbor.**
**Empower us by your Spirit
to be faithful followers of Jesus,
who taught us by word and example
how to live as your children
to your honor and glory...**
(a moment for silent confession)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***MUSICAL RESPONSE** Gloria Patri 581
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

***MUSICAL RESPONSE** O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing (v. 2) 610
The name of Jesus charms our fears, and bids our sorrows cease, sings music in the sinner's ears, brings life, and health, and peace.

THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP Filled with the Fullness of God Rob Jones

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10 Jim Given

¹ Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. ² We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly ³ remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴ For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵ because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶ And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, ⁷ so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸ For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. ⁹ For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, ¹⁰ and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

ANTHEM God is My Strong Salvation Austin Lovelace
God is my strong salvation;
what foe have I to fear?
In peril and temptation
my light, my help, is near.
Though hosts encamp around me,
firm to the fight I stand;
what terror can confound me,
with God at my right hand? 021102
Place on the Lord reliance;
my soul, with courage wait;
God's truth be thine affianced,
when faint and desolate.
God's might thy heart shall strengthen,
God's love thy joy increase;
mercy thy days shall lengthen;
the Lord will give thee peace.

SPECIAL TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Dr. Andy Morgan

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON Matthew 22:15-22

¹⁵ Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap him in what he said. ¹⁶ So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷ Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" ¹⁸ But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹ Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰ Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" ²¹ They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." ²² When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

SERMON "Taxing Faith" Rev. Mark R. Curtis

THE RESPONSE OF GOD'S PEOPLE

***HYMN OF RESPONSE** God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending 716

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER Dr. Andy Morgan

**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

OFFERTORY Lord Jesus Think on Me Michael Larkin
Lord Jesus, think on me, and purge away my sin; from earthborn passions set me free, and make me pure within. Lord Jesus, think on me, with many cares oppressed; let me thy loving servant be, and taste your promised rest. Lord Jesus, think on me, nor let me go astray; through darkness and perplexity point thou the heavenly way. Lord Jesus, think on me, that when my life is past, I may the eternal brightness see, and share thy joy at last! Lord Jesus, think on me.

***DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION** 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.**

Memorials and Honorariums

June 9, 2023 – October 11, 2023

MEMORIAL FUND:

Earl Hagler

Linda Manson

Charlie Smith

Jeanne Fox

Helen Ferguson

Ely Driver

FROM:

Lanny & Ann Payne
Pat & Jane Armstrong
Fred & Susan Brackney

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Pat & Jane Armstrong
Anne & Gaines Pittenger
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Susan Smith

Carol Brown

