

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

from A Declaration of Faith

Jesus, the long-expected Savior, came into the world as a child, descended from David, conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of Mary, a virgin. He lived as a Jew among Jews. He announced to his people the coming of God’s kingdom of justice and peace on earth. We affirm that Jesus was born of woman as is every child, yet born of God’s power as was no other child. In the person and work of Jesus, God himself and a human life are united but not confused, distinguished but not separated. The coming of Jesus was itself the coming of God’s promised rule. Through his birth, life, death, and resurrection, he brings about the relationship between God and humanity that God always intended. Jesus is Lord! He has been Lord from the beginning. He will be Lord at the end. Even now he is Lord. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen

***CLOSING HYMN** *On This Day Earth Shall Ring* 141

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

As we leave the old year and enter the new, go with these assurances: The risen Lord says, “I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.” Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

POSTLUDE *Procession on “Once in Royal David’s City”* Arr. Alice Jordan
**Please stand if you are able.*

WHAT’S HAPPENING AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN....

All are invited to join us in the fellowship hall to celebrate Ginny and Bill Morrow’s 50th wedding anniversary following the 11am service today. Heavy hors d’Oeuvres will be served. Let’s gather together to show our love and appreciation for Ginny and Bill, and to congratulate them on reaching this incredible milestone in their journey together. We hope to see you all there!

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> | |
| Jane Holland
<i>Director of Finance/Facilities</i> | |

WORSHIP MUSIC NOTES

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|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>O Come, All Ye Faithful</i>
Tune: Adeste Fidelis | <i>Once in Royal David’s City</i>
Tune: Irby |
| <i>“Gloria” from Angels We Have Heard on High</i>
Tune: Gloria | <i>On This Day Earth Shall Ring</i>
Tune: Personent Hodie |
| <i>I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day</i>
Tune: Waltham | <i>Procession on Once in Royal David’s City</i> One License # 1245954 |

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).



By **Stushie Art**

First Presbyterian Church
FOR CHRIST IN THE HEART OF KNOXVILLE

FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

DECEMBER 31, 2023

Connect With Us



www.fpcknox.org

620 State Street
Knoxville, TN 37902

