

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN....

Presbytery-wide Bible study "Studies in Genesis" started January 8th. The Bible study is both in-person at area churches and on Zoom and takes place at the following dates below on Sundays from 3 - 4:30 pm. Led by Rev. Dr. Wendy Neff.

Live in-person teaching schedule:

January 29 - canceled for health reasons

February 5 - Mars Hill Presbyterian (Athens)

February 12 - Farragut Presbyterian (Knoxville)

The Genesis Bible Study is also available on the Presbytery's Zoom site in Meeting Room "A" and can be entered by going to www.presbyteryeasttn.org/Zoom. The page password is: prepass. Once you're in the Presbytery meeting room area, click to enter Meeting Room A. Please join us for this wonderful study!

"What's Your Story" series begins February 1st. This is a great way to get to know other FPC members and hear stories about their lives and their faith. This series will meet for three weeks starting February 1st.

The **Discipleship Sunday school class** will continue to study the book of Mark using the commentary by N.T. Wright. Newcomers are welcome. This class is for adults of all ages and meets in the Courtyard A on the same level as the Fellowship Hall on the second floor. You can contact Judy Cagle for more info at barlach4227@yahoo.com.

Foundation Builders will be studying *The History of Christianity: From the Disciples to the Dawn of the Reformation*. This should be a very interesting study, and it is not like any study we have undertaken in the past. Each lesson is 30 minutes in length, and we will follow the DVD with discussion. Please join us in Heritage Classroom B on the third floor on Sunday at 10:00 am and bring a friend. Ginny and Bill Morrow will be leading the discussion. You can contact the Morrrows for more info at twomorrow@bellsouth.net.

The Carrick class will be studying Ecclesiastes in February and meets in the Carrick Class Room on the third floor and is led by Debbie Christiansen and Debbie Jones. You can contact Debbie Jones for more info at fff1954@comcast.net.

The Embarked Sunday school class will be spending the next few months exploring spiritual practices and using the Sparkhouse Ignite video series to facilitate our discussion. Join us for good fellowship and conversation! Class begins at 10:00 am in the James Park room on the second floor. Email Preston Smith at prestonsmith07@gmail.com or Diana Curtis at diana.curtis11@gmail.com for more info.

PET Youth Summit at Camp Holston is Feb. 17-20th. Registration Fees are tiered: \$200, \$250, \$300. Scholarships are available upon request. Email youthcommittee@presbyteryeasttn.org for more information.

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 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 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
Senior Pastor

The Rev. Meredith Loftis
Associate Pastor

Mark Pace
Organist/Choirmaster

Mary Wilson
Adult Ministry Coordinator

Katie Norrell
Director of Communications

Jane Holland
Director of Finance/Facilities

Laura Harmon
Church Administrator

Lauren Nunn
Director of Parent's Day Out /
Childcare Coordinator

Sandra Robinson
Administrative Assistant

Victor Lenoir
Custodian

Paul Seguna
Sound Engineer

B. K. Kisubi
Crucifer

Sam Buchanan
Bible Bearer

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

4TH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANAY
JANUARY 29, 2023

Connect With Us



www.fpcknox.org

620 State Street
Knoxville, TN 37902

THE PREPARATION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

PRELUDE *Prelude from "Te Deum"* Charpentier/Hand

WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, all who are poor in spirit;
come, all who mourn;
come, all who are meek;
come, all who hunger and thirst after righteousness.

**Come, all who would be merciful;
come, all who would be pure in heart;
come, all who would be peacemakers.**

Let us gather together –
the weak, the powerless, and the foolish.

**We come, because the source of our life is Jesus Christ.
Let us worship the God of every blessing.**

***OPENING HYMN** *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee* 611

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Forgive us, O God, for our spiritual arrogance.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

Forgive us our false independence.

Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

Forgive us our jealous anger and misplaced aggression.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
for they shall be filled.

Forgive us for always wanting more.

Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

Forgive us our hard hearts and insensitivity.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

Forgive us for our careless commitment.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God.

Forgive us for choosing competition over cooperation.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Forgive us for not taking a stand...
(silent confession)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***MUSICAL RESPONSE** *Glory to God* 583

**Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest! Glory to
God, glory to God, alleluia, alleluia!**

PASSING OF THE PEACE

***MUSICAL RESPONSE** *Alleluia!* 587
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON *Micah 6:6-8* Jim Given

"With what shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? ⁷ Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?" ⁸ He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

ANTHEM *Offertory* John Ness Beck
One License #21782

With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before Him with burnt offerings, shall I come before Him with yearling calves? Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousand rivers of oil? Shall I give my first-born for my transgressions, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul? He has shown you, O man, he has shown you what is good. And what does the Lord require of you, but to do justice and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

SPECIAL TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON *Matthew 5:1-12*

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ² Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying: ³ "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ⁴ Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. ⁵ Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. ⁶ Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. ⁷ Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. ⁸ Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. ⁹ Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. ¹⁰ Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ¹¹ Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

SERMON "The Real World" Rev. Mark R. Curtis

THE RESPONSE OF GOD'S PEOPLE

***HYMN OF RESPONSE** *Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!* 804

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER Ginny Morrow

**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 *Blessed are They* Jack Noble White

Blessed are the poor who search for God, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see their God. Blessed are the hungry, they shall be filled, and those who mourn, shall laugh for joy. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God. Blessed are all the children of God. Blessed are they.

***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.**

***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 res-
urrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

***CLOSING HYMN** *What Does the Lord Require of You?* 70
One License #60048

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

***POSTLUDE** *Prelude in C Major, BWV 547* Johann S. Bach

**Please stand if you are able.*