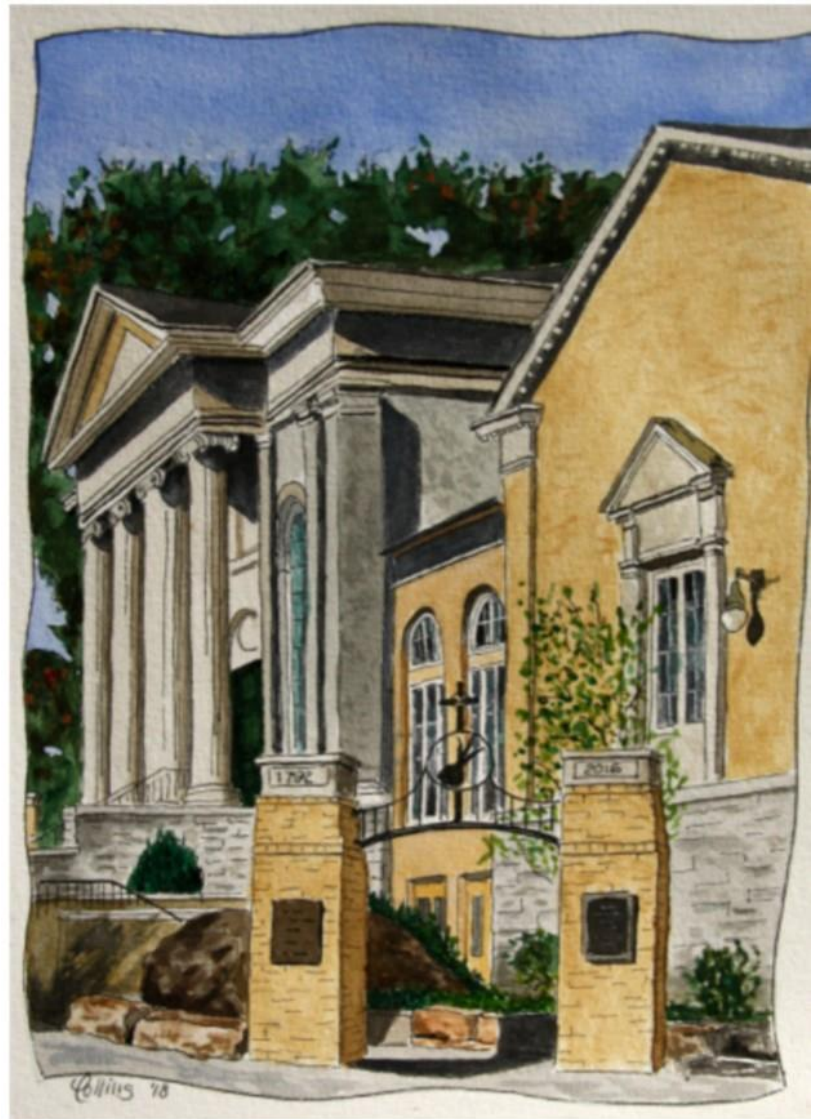




*“For Christ in the Heart of  
Knoxville,” the First Presbyterian  
Church seeks*

- *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. Mark R. Curtis, Senior Pastor

The Rev. Meredith Loftis, Associate Pastor

Mr. Mark Pace, Organist/Choirmaster

Mr. Alex McGavic, Children and Youth Ministries Coordinator

Bikyeombe Kisubi, Crucifer

Parson Campen, Bible Bearer

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**  
**FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY**  
**JANUARY 30, 2022**  
✦ **THE PREPARATION OF GOD'S PEOPLE** ✦

**PRELUDE**

*O Master Let Me Walk With Thee*  
Adult Handbell Choir

Arr. Dan R. Edwards

**WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION**

**† CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: People of God, come hear the good news.

People: **But we hear the voice of God calling us  
to places we are afraid to go.**

Leader: People of God, take courage in the loving,  
sustaining presence of God.

People: **We are here to find strength and courage,  
to find faith and hope, to lean on  
the everlasting, loving arms of God.**

All: **Let us Worship God!**

**† OPENING HYMN 463**

*How Firm a Foundation*

Foundation

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p>1. How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,<br/>Is laid for your faith in God's excellent Word!<br/>What more can be said than to you God hath said,<br/>To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?</p> <p>2. "Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed,<br/>For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;<br/>I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,<br/>Upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.</p> <p>3. "When through the deep waters I call thee to go,<br/>The rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;<br/>For I will be near thee, thy troubles to bless,<br/>And sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.</p> | <p>4. "When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,<br/>My grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply;<br/>The flame shall not hurt thee; I only design<br/>Thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.</p> <p>5. "The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose,<br/>I will not, I will not desert to its foes;<br/>That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,<br/>I'll never, no, never, no, never forsake."</p> |
|--|--|

**† PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love. We have not loved our neighbors, and we have refused to hear the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience; through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

*(a moment for silent confession)*

**† ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**† MUSICAL RESPONSE 583**

*Glory to God*

Gloria

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

**† PASSING OF THE PEACE**

✦ THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD ✦

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

Jeremiah 1:4-10

Craig Wrisberg

Now the word of the LORD came to me saying,

<sup>5</sup>“Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations.”

<sup>6</sup>Then I said, “Ah, Lord GOD! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy.” <sup>7</sup>But the LORD said to me, “Do not say, ‘I am only a boy’; for you shall go to all to whom I send you, and you shall speak whatever I command you. <sup>8</sup>Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, says the LORD.”

<sup>9</sup>Then the LORD put out his hand and touched my mouth; and the LORD said to me, “Now I have put my words in your mouth. <sup>10</sup>See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms, to pluck up and to pull down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant.”

ANTHEM

*Love Never Fails*

Jack Noble White

*Though I speak with tongues of angels, and have not love, I am nothing. Though I have wisdom and knowledge, and have not love, I am nothing. Love never fails. Though I have the faith to move mountains, and have not love, I am nothing.*

*Though I shower gifts on the needy, and have not love, I am nothing. Love never fails.*

SPECIAL TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal.

<sup>2</sup>And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. <sup>3</sup>If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

<sup>4</sup>Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant <sup>5</sup>or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; <sup>6</sup>it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. <sup>7</sup>It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. <sup>8</sup>Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. <sup>9</sup>For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; <sup>10</sup>but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. <sup>11</sup>When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. <sup>12</sup>For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. <sup>13</sup>And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

SERMON

Rev. Meredith Loftis

✦ THE RESPONSE OF GOD'S PEOPLE ✦

† HYMN OF RESPONSE 833

*O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go*

St. Margaret

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Love that wilt not let me go,<br>I rest my weary soul in thee;<br>I give thee back the life I owe,<br>That in thine ocean depths its flow<br>May richer, fuller be.                   | 3. O Joy that seekest me through pain,<br>I cannot close my heart to thee;<br>I trace the rainbow through the rain,<br>And feel the promise is not vain<br>That morn shall tearless be. |
| 2. O Light that followest all my way,<br>I yield my flickering torch to thee;<br>My heart restores its borrowed ray,<br>That in thy sunshine's blaze its day<br>May brighter, fairer be. | 4. O Cross that liftest up my head,<br>I dare not ask to fly from thee;<br>I lay in dust life's glory dead,<br>And from the ground there blossoms red<br>Life that shall endless be.    |

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Mark R. Curtis

**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](http://www.fpcknox.org/donate).

## OFFERTORY ANTHEM

*Not For Tongues of Heaven's Angels*

Roy Hopp

*Not for tongues of heaven's angels, not for wisdom to discern, not for faith that masters mountains, for this better gift we yearn: may love be ours, O Lord. Love is humble; love is gentle; love is tender, true and kind; love is gracious, ever patient, generous of heart and mind: may love be ours, O Lord. Never jealous, never selfish, love will not rejoice in wrong; never boastful, nor resentful, love believes and suffers long: may love be ours, O Lord.  
In the day this world is fading, faith and hope will play their part,  
but when Christ is seen in glory, love shall reign in every heart: may love be ours, O Lord.*

## † 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.**

## † 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.**

## † SENDING HYMN 697

*Take My Life* (vs. 1-2, 5-6)

Hendon

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. Take my life and let it be<br>Consecrated, Lord, to thee;<br>Take my moments and my days;<br>Let them flow in ceaseless praise;<br>Let them flow in ceaseless praise. | 5. Take my will and make it thine;<br>It shall be no longer mine.<br>Take my heart, it is thine own;<br>It shall be thy royal throne,<br>It shall be thy royal throne. |
| 2. Take my hands and let them move<br>At the impulse of thy love;<br>Take my feet and let them be<br>Swift and beautiful for thee,<br>Swift and beautiful for thee.      | 6. Take my love; my Lord, I pour<br>At thy feet its treasure store;<br>Take myself and I will be<br>Ever, only, all for thee,<br>Ever, only, all for thee.             |

## † CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

*La Rejouissance*

Handel/Gower



*The rose on the chancel* is in honor of the birth of Miller "Millie" Grace Wilson who was born on January 22<sup>nd</sup> to Anna and John Wilson. Joyful family members are grandmother Mary Wilson, uncle William Wilson, and cousin Maddie Pitt.

† - Please stand if you are able.