

God works through each person in a unique way,
but it is God's purpose that is accomplished.

**To each is given a gift of the Spirit
to be used for the common good.
Together we are the body of Christ,
and individually members of it.**

**STATEMENT ON ORDINATION & INSTALLATION-PRESENTATION
OF CANDIDATES** Rachel Patton McCord, Clerk of Session

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS see insert

PRAYER OF ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION

UNISON PRAYER

**Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon these
servants whom you called through baptism and marked
as your own. Grant them the same mind that was in
Christ Jesus. Give them courage to show the
compassion of Christ in their actions. Give them the
gifts of your Spirit to build up the church, to strengthen
our life together, and to lead with compassion and
vision. In the walk of faith, and for the work of ministry,
give them gladness and strength, discipline and hope,
humility, humor, and courage, and an abiding sense of
your presence; for we pray in the name of Jesus Christ,
the Head of the Church. Amen.**

DECLARATION OF ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION

CHARGE TO THE NEW OFFICERS

***CLOSING HYMN** *We Three Kings of Orient Are* (vv. 1, 2 & 5) 151

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE** *How Bright Appears the Morning Star* Max Drischner

**Please stand if you are able.*

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN....

Wednesday, January 11 - First Worshipful Wednesday: we
will be finishing up an earlier DVD Sunday School series called "First
Light: Jesus and the Kingdom of God" with a discussion afterward.
This is a study of the historical Jesus and the Kingdom of God.

Thursday, January 12, 1:30 p.m. - Yarn Circle meets in the
Parlor. Contact Jane via jane@fpcknox.org for more details.

WELCOME

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church, Knoxville. We have been part
of the downtown Knoxville community since 1792. We embrace peo-
ple 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 Friend-
ship 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

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 en-
trance 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

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

JANUARY 8, 2023

Connect With Us



www.fpcknox.org

620 State Street
Knoxville, TN 37902

THE PREPARATION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

PRELUDE *Epiphany Carols for Alto Recorder and Violin* Cindy Blevins
Mark Pace, Alto Recorder Rachel McCord, Violin

WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

***CALL TO WORSHIP** *from Isaiah 60 & John 12*

Arise, shine; for your light has come,

And the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

Nations shall come to your light

And rulers to the brightness of your rising.

Jesus said: I am the light of the world.

Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness

but will have the light of life.

***OPENING HYMN** *What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright* 152
One License #84269

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of grace,

you have given us Jesus,

the light of the world,

but we choose darkness

and cling to things that hide the brightness of your love.

Help us, like the Magi, to search for your light,

that forgiven and renewed,

we may announce your good news to the world

and tell of your glory shining in the face of Jesus Christ,

our Lord and our light forever...

*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 *Isaiah 60:1-6* Zee Troutman

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has

risen upon you. ² For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick

darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory

will appear over you. ³ Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. ⁴ Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. ⁵ Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. ⁶ A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

SPECIAL TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON *Matthew 2:1-12*

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ² asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." ³ When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴ and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵ They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: ⁶ 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.' " ⁷ Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸ Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." ⁹ When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹ On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹² And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

SERMON "Another Way" Rev. Mark R. Curtis

THE RESPONSE OF GOD'S PEOPLE

***HYMN OF RESPONSE** *Arise, Your Light Is Come!* 744
One License #07293

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Words of Institution

Breaking and Sharing of the Bread

Pouring and Sharing of the Cup

Music During Communion *The Shepherds Farewell* Hector Berlioz
Thou must leave Thy lowly dwelling, The humble crib, the stable bare. Babe, all mortal babes excelling, Content our earthly lot to share. Loving father, Loving mother, Shelter Thee with tender care! Blessed Jesus, we implore Thee with humble love and holy fear. In the land that lies before Thee, Forget not us who linger here! May the shepherd's lowly calling, Ever to Thy heart be dear! Blest are ye beyond all measure, Thou happy father, mother mild! Guard ye well your heav'nly treasure, The Prince of Peace, The Holy Child! God go with you, God protect you, Guide you safely through the wild!

Prayer of Dedication (unison)

God of new beginnings, begin again with us. Open our hearts to hope and open our eyes to new directions. Set before us this day the way of Christ, and set within us your Holy Spirit. Enable us to go forth with confidence certain that amidst the constancy of change, your love remains forever and your hope upholds us always, for we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, who is the same yesterday, today, and forever. Amen.

RECEPTION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY *Three Kings from Persian Lands Afar* Peter Cornelius
Scott Beasley, Baritone

Three Kings from Persian lands afar to Jordan follow the pointing star: and this the quest of the travelers three, where the new-born King of the Jews may be. Full royal gifts they bear for the King; gold, incense, myrrh are their offering. How brightly shines the morning star! With grace and truth from heaven afar our Jesse tree now bloweth. The star shines out with a steadfast ray; the kings to Bethlehem make their way, and there in worship they bend the knee, as Mary's child in her lap they see; their royal gifts they show to the King; gold, incense, myrrh are their offering. Of Jacob's stem and David's line, for thee, my Bridegroom, King divine, my soul with love o'erfloweth. Thou child of man, lo, to Bethlehem the Kings are traveling, travel with them! The star of mercy, the star of grace, shall lead thy heart to its resting place. Gold, incense, myrrh thou canst not bring; offer thy heart to the infant King. Thy word, Jesu, inly feeds us, rightly leads us, life bestowing. Praise, O praise such love o'erflowing.

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

There are varieties of gifts,

but it is the same Spirit who gives them.

**There are different ways of serving God,
but it is the same Lord who is served.**

ELDERS AND DEACONS CLASS OF 2025

Elders

Sherri Allison
Harris Eddins (youth)
Bill Eversole
Ken Keith
Robyn McAdoo
Susan Seagraves
Craig Wrisberg

Deacons

Debbie Christiansen
Robyn Leitch
Raymond McCord
Kelly Norrell
Max Pittenger (youth)
Brent Trentham

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS TO OFFICERS

Do you trust in Jesus Christ your Savior, acknowledge him Lord of all and Head of the Church, and through him believe in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?

Do you accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be, by the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the Church universal, and God's Word to you?

Do you sincerely receive and adopt the essential tenets of the Reformed faith as expressed in the confessions of our church as authentic and reliable expositions of what Scripture leads us to believe and do, and will you be instructed and led by those confessions as you lead the people of God?

Will you fulfill your office in obedience to Jesus Christ, under the authority of Scripture, and be continually guided by our confessions?

Will you be governed by our church's polity, and will you abide by its discipline? Will you be a friend among your colleagues in ministry, working with them, subject to the ordering of God's Word and Spirit?

Will you in your own life seek to follow the Lord Jesus Christ, love your neighbors, and work for the reconciliation of the world?

Do you promise to further the peace, unity, and purity of the church?

Will you seek to serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love?

(For deacon) Will you be a faithful deacon, teaching charity, urging concern, and directing the people's help to the friendless and those in need? In your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?

(For elder) Will you be a faithful elder, watching over the people, providing for their worship, nurture, and service? Will you share in government and discipline, serving in governing bodies of the church, and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?

QUESTIONS TO THE CONGREGATION

Do we, the members of First Presbyterian Church, accept these people as deacons and ruling elders, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ?

Do we agree to pray for them, encourage them, to respect their decisions, and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the Church?

