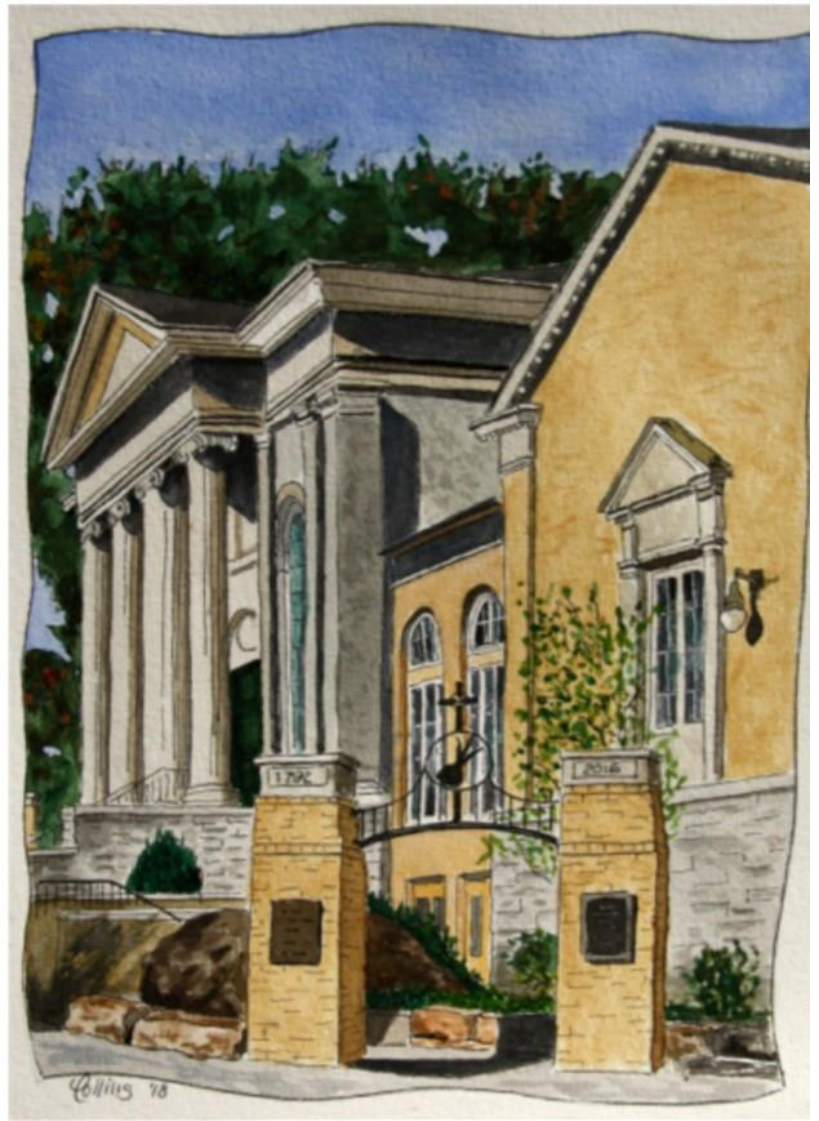




*“For Christ in the Heart of
Knoxville,” the First Presbyterian
Church seeks*

- *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

Noah Jones, Bible Bearer

ORDER OF WORSHIP
TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD
FEBRUARY 27, 2022
✧ **THE PREPARATION OF GOD'S PEOPLE** ✧

PRELUDE

Sarabande (after Felix Mendelssohn)

Gordon Young

WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

CALL TO WORSHIP

Jesus Loves Me
Wednesday Night Kids and Friends

Traditional

† OPENING HYMN 12

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

St. Denio

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1. Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.</p> <p>2. Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might:
thy justice, like mountains high soaring above;
thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and
love.</p> | <p>3. To all, life thou givest, to both great and small.
In all life thou livest, the true life of all.
We blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree,
then wither and perish; but naught changeth thee.</p> <p>4. Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light.
Thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight.
All praise we would render; O help us to see
'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!</p> |
|---|--|

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of Mercy and Grace,
you come to us in Jesus of Nazareth
to break down the dividing walls of hostility between us:
Yet we maintain walls that separate and isolate.

You give us the ministry of reconciliation:
Yet we nurse our wounds and withhold mercy and forgiveness.

You invite us to join with Peter, James, and John
on the mountain of Transfiguration:
Yet we deny the wonders you have worked in our own lives.

You bless our lives with boundless love:
Yet we fail to witness to that love,
and so keep others from knowing you.

Forgive our selfishness, we pray.
Transform us by your Spirit and your Word
into that which pleases you,
the image of Christ. Amen. (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

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

Alleluia!

Celtic Alleluia

✦ **THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD** ✦

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON Exodus 34:29-35 (*see insert*) Rev. David Dennis

ANTHEM *Christ, Upon the Mountain Stands (see insert)* Robert Lehman

SPECIAL TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON Luke 9:28-36 (*see insert*)

SERMON Rev. Meredith Loftis

✦ **THE RESPONSE OF GOD'S PEOPLE** ✦

† **HYMN OF RESPONSE** 190 *Swiftly Pass the Clouds of Glory* Geneva

1. Swiftly pass the clouds of glory,
Heaven's voice, the dazzling light;
Moses and Elijah vanish;
Christ alone commands the height!
Peter, James, and John fall silent,
Turning from the summit's rise
Downward toward the shadowed valley
Where their Lord has fixed his eyes.
2. Glimpsed and gone the revelation,
They shall gain and keep its truth,
Not by building on the mountain
Any shrine or sacred booth,
But by following the Savior
Through the valley to the cross
And by testing faith's resilience
Through betrayal, pain, and loss.
3. Lord, transfigure our perception
With the purest light that shines,
And recast our life's intentions
To the shape of your designs,
Till we seek no other glory
Than what lies past Calvary's hill
And our living and our dying
And our rising by your will.

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.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

One Faith, One Hope, One Lord

Craig Courtney

One faith, one hope, one Lord, one church for which He died, one voice, one song, we lift in praise to Him who was and is and shall be evermore. There is one body, one spirit, as you were called to one hope, one Lord, baptism and faith, one God and Father of all, above all, and through all, who is in you all. Though we be many people, diverse with various gifts, we are given to each other for the unity of faith, that we grow in the knowledge of the Son of God, in the fullness of Christ.

† 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 274

You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd

Picardy

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. You, Lord, are both Lamb and Shepherd.
You, Lord, are both prince and slave.
You, peacemaker, and sword-bringer
Of the way you took and gave.
You, the everlasting instant;
You, whom we both scorn and crave. | 3. You, who walk each day beside us,
Sit in power at God's side.
You, who preach a way that's narrow,
Have a love that reaches wide.
You, the everlasting instant;
You, who are our pilgrim guide. |
| 2. Clothed in light upon the mountain,
Stripped of might upon the cross,
Shining in eternal glory,
Beggared by a soldier's toss,
You, the everlasting instant;
You who are both gift and cost. | 4. Worthy is our earthly Jesus!
Worthy is our cosmic Christ!
Worthy your defeat and victory;
Worthy still your peace and strife.
You, the everlasting instant;
You, who are our death and life. |

† CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Doxology Postlude

Peter Pindar Sterns

† - *Please stand if you are able.*

Worship Note: The Prayer of Confession is from "God of Awe and Glory," written by the Rev. Dr. Renee C. Jackson, Southeast Area Minister for the Michigan Conference, UCC.



Please join us in the Fellowship Hall immediately following the service as we celebrate Pastor Meredith and her new journey as a foster parent.

WORSHIP FOR FEBRUARY 27, 2022

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

Exodus 34:29-35

Rev. David Dennis

Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. ³⁰When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. ³¹But Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. ³²Afterward all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the LORD had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. ³³When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face; ³⁴but whenever Moses went in before the LORD to speak with him, he would take the veil off, until he came out; and when he came out, and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, ³⁵the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining; and Moses would put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

ANTHEM

Christ, Upon the Mountain Stands

Robert Lehman

Christ, upon the mountain stands, vision of the Father's blessing, blazing forth to all the lands, Saints and angels now professing, Alleluia! Law and prophets have their place, in the cloud of wondrous glory, chosen witnesses of grace, there to see and tell the story. Alleluia! God, in majesty, descends, then proclaims to all before him, this is my beloved Son! Nations, come now and adore him. Alleluia! Faithful hearts are lifted high. Joyful strains, our voices raising, for this vision's mystery, songs of wonder, hymns of praising. Alleluia!

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 9:28-36

Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. ²⁹And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. ³⁰Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. ³¹They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. ³²Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. ³³Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah"—not knowing what he said. ³⁴While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. ³⁵Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!" ³⁶When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

