

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

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.

***CLOSING HYMN**

Day Is Done

676

One License #84093

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE** *Prelude in D Major, BWV 532* Johann S. Bach

**Please stand if you are able.*

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN....

About *Unbind Him* by Hannah Garrity: As I met with this text, I was drawn to Jesus' call for Lazarus to be unbound. To represent the fabrics used ... for burial, I wrapped a canvas in linen. You're not really supposed to do that. The canvas was already stretched and gessoed. It was ready to resist the oil paint medium I was applying. However, the texture of the binding cloth matters for this tactile text. I began to scrape the paint onto the woven strands. The linen fabric absorbed the paint as I scraped it on with a palette knife. In the final image, the linen shows through the paint and the paper lace design, representing the bindings.

The Downtown Lenten lunch will be held here on Wednesday at noon.

Holy Week:

Palm Sunday is April 2. Services will be held at 8:45 and 11 am.

The Maundy Thursday service is April 6 at 6:30 pm. Dinner will be served at 5:30 pm.

Stations of the Cross will be held on April 7 at 5:30 pm in Market Sq.

Easter Sunday is April 9. Services will be held at 7 and 11 am. There will be light refreshments served after the early service and ending at 10:45 am. The musical prelude will begin at 10:45 am.

The **Congregational Retreat** will be at Montreat in North Carolina on April 28-30th. The theme will be "Continuing our Story: Preparing for God's Future" and the speaker will be Julianne Elaine Clayton. To hold your spot, please fill out the form on the newsletter and drop it in offering plate, bring it to the church office, or email it to Emily Smith at memilysmith@gmail.com. The deadline for signing up is today, the 19th. For questions, please contact Emily Smith or Liz Key at lizkey1@gmail.com.

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 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

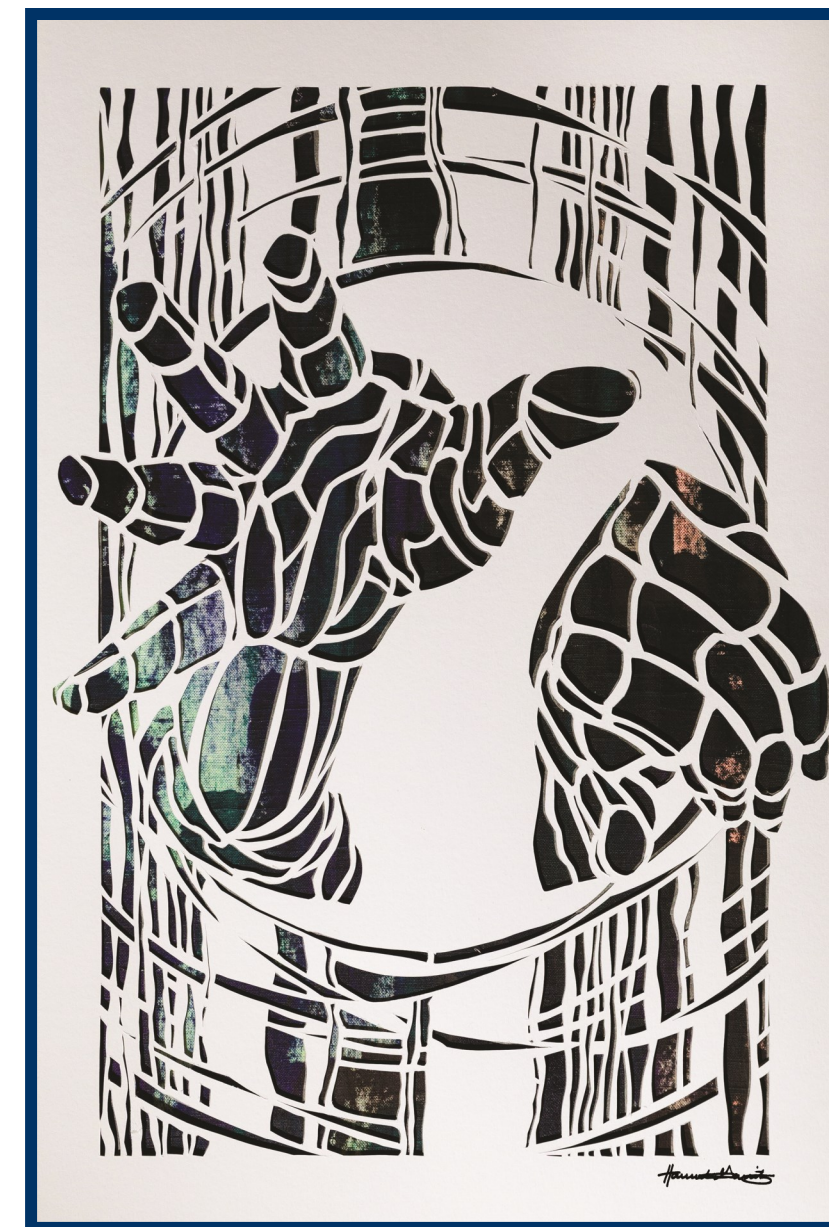
Paul Seguna
Sound Engineer

Jack Bryan
Crucifer

Eli Jones
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).



Unbind Him by Hannah Garrity, inspired by John 11:1-45

First Presbyterian Church
FOR CHRIST IN THE HEART OF KNOXVILLE

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

MARCH 26, 2023

Connect With Us



www.fpcknox.org

620 State Street
Knoxville, TN 37902

THE PREPARATION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

PRELUDE Cantilena on A New Commandment David Blackwell
One License #33941

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

We come to follow Christ

Who says, "Take up your cross."

We come to follow Christ

Who bids us come and die.

We come to follow Christ

Who summons us to new life.

We come to follow Christ

Let us worship God!

***OPENING HYMN** Love Divine, All Loves Excelling 366

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God, we come before you as those who have been baptized into the death of Jesus Christ, and who seek to be raised to new life in Christ. Yet we confess our fear of death. We fear death as life's ending, and its threat hidden in poverty, danger, or sickness. We fear death as letting go of old ways, old relationships, old self-understandings. We confess our fear of life. We build walls to protect ourselves from change that comes too fast and possibilities that seem too bewildering. God, help us to trust our lives into your keeping, and raise us to walk in newness of life, through Jesus Christ our Lord... (a moment for silent confession)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***MUSICAL RESPONSE** Jesus, Remember Me 227
One License #00122

Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.

Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom. (3x)

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

***MUSICAL RESPONSE** When I Survey the Wondrous Cross (vv. 1 and 3) 223

*When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.*

See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down;

Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown?

THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON Psalm 130 John Whaley

Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD. ² Lord, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications! ³ If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? ⁴ But there is forgiveness with you, so that you may be revered. ⁵ I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in his word I hope; ⁶ my soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning, more than those who watch for the morning. ⁷ O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love, and with him is great power to redeem. ⁸ It is he who will redeem Israel from all its iniquities.

ANTHEM Steal Away Arr. Nicholas White

Steal away to Jesus. Steal away home. I ain't got long to stay here. My Lord, he calls me, he calls me by the thunder; the trumpet sounds within my soul, I ain't got long to stay here. Green trees are bending, poor sinners stand a trembling; the trumpet sounds within my soul, I ain't got long to stay here.

SPECIAL TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON John 11:17-44

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. ¹⁸ Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, ¹⁹ and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. ²⁰ When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. ²¹ Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." ²³ Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." ²⁴ Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." ²⁵ Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, ²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" ²⁷ She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world."

When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." ²⁹ And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. ³⁰ Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. ³¹ The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. ³² When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." ³³ When

Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. ³⁴ He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." ³⁵ Jesus began to weep. ³⁶ So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" ³⁷ But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. ³⁹ Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." ⁴⁰ Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" ⁴¹ So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. ⁴² I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." ⁴³ When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" ⁴⁴ The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

SERMON "Dead Man Walking" Rev. Mark R. Curtis

THE RESPONSE OF GOD'S PEOPLE

***HYMN OF RESPONSE** Breathe on Me, Breath of God 286

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER Rev. Meredith Loftis

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 Thou Wilt Keep Him in Perfect Peace Samuel S. Wesley

Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on Thee. The darkness is no darkness with Thee, but the night is as clear as the day. The darkness and the light to Thee are both alike. God is light and with Him is no darkness at all. Oh let my soul live and it shall praise Thee. For Thine is the Kingdom, the power and the glory, for evermore.

***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.

NEW MEMBERS



Linn Acree has spent her last 30 years in St. Louis working with her husband, Ed, in his orthodontic practice. Now in retirement they are transitioning back to Knoxville and plan to become full-time residents this summer. She enjoys reading, quilting, mah jongg, and grandson, Max Pittenger.



Melanie Davis is a math teacher at Webb School of Knoxville. Her oldest son, Caleb, is in the 8th grade at Webb; her youngest son, Micah, is in the fifth grade at Brickey-McCloud Elementary. Caleb plays basketball, is a robotics team member, and has recently joined the track and field team. Micah plays baseball and basketball and is excited to attend Webb next year. In her free time, Melanie enjoys reading.



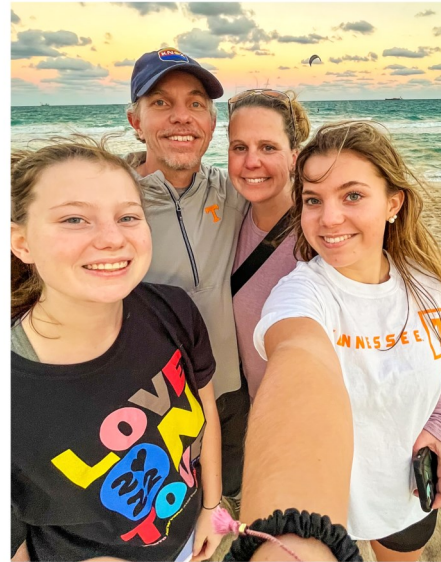
Russell and Ruthie Kuhlman have known each other for 64 years and have been married for 45 of those. They have two children, R Briscoe Jr. and Hannah Gard, and four grandchildren. Ruthie enjoys Bridge, but still feels like a beginner after four years (lol). Russell is Vice President of Retractable Technologies, Inc. and is the President of Old Gray Cemetery Board of Trustees. His avocation is historic preservation.



Kathy Tallent is a retired Elementary Music Teacher. Her interests include reading, knitting, community theater, and she is an avid movie buff.

NEW MEMBERS

Todd Thurman owns and operates Thurman Appraisal Group and holds both the MAI and AI-GRS designations from the Appraisal Institute. He has degrees from the University of Tennessee and is a lifelong football fan. In his spare time, he likes to read, walk/hike, and write, especially poems and short stories. He is also determined to someday be fluent in Spanish. Todd twice served his previous church as a member of session on the Fellowship and Christian Education committees. He is a former member of the UKirk board and is currently a member of the Presbytery Property Committee.



with Todd and Karena.

Parri Thurman is a graduate of Maryville College with a K-8 Teacher licensure and a former elementary School teacher for ESK. She decided to leave the profession after the Pandemic in the summer of 2021. She is currently working part time for Crew Rooms International working on sports, film, and tv production rooming. She enjoys being the KCHS tennis team mom and is currently serving on the Ulster Project of East Tennessee board. In her spare time, she enjoys reading, watching tennis at all levels, and attending UT football games

Karena Thurman is a sophomore at Knoxville Catholic High school. She is a member of the two-time defending state champion tennis team that is currently ranked #1 in the nation. She also is an accomplished violinist who has been a member of the KYSO for 9+ years. Karena is a member of the AMP (Advanced Medical Program) at KCHS and she loves to volunteer with various programs earning her several service awards over the years.

Camilla Thurman is a freshman at Randolph-Macon College in Ashland, Va. She plays the number 1 spot for the women's tennis team and is in the Honors program. She is currently undecided but is leaning towards a major in computer science.