



First Presbyterian Church
FOR CHRIST IN THE HEART OF KNOXVILLE 

“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*

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

Henry Barton, Crucifer

Noah Jones, Bible Bearer

ORDER OF WORSHIP
FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

MARCH 6, 2022

✠ THE PREPARATION OF GOD'S PEOPLE ✠

PRELUDE

Prelude in Eb

William Harris

WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Let us be led by the Spirit,

**People: Even if the path to the promised land
leads straight through the desert,**

Leader: Through hunger and doubt and temptation;

People: Even if we are led where we would rather not go.

Leader: Yet we will be led by the Spirit

People: And end our journey rejoicing in the Lord our God.

All: Come, let us worship God!

† OPENING HYMN 275

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Ein Feste Burg

1. A mighty fortress is our God,
A bulwark never failing.
Our helper he, amid the flood
Of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe
Doth seek to work us woe.
His craft and power are great,
And armed with cruel hate,
On earth is not his equal.

3. And though this world, with devils filled,
Should threaten to undo us,
We will not fear, for God hath willed
His truth to triumph through us.
The Prince of Darkness grim,
We tremble not for him.
His rage we can endure,
For lo, his doom is sure.
One little word shall fell him.

2. Did we in our own strength confide,
Our striving would be losing,
Were not the right man on our side,
The man of God's own choosing.
Dost ask who that may be?
Christ Jesus, it is he.
Lord Sabaoth his name,
From age to age the same,
And he must win the battle.

4. That word above all earthly powers,
No thanks to them, abideth.
The Spirit and the gifts are ours
Through him who with us sideth.
Let goods and kindred go,
This mortal life also.
The body they may kill;
God's truth abideth still.
His kingdom is forever.

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, forgive us when we fail to trust in you. We fall to temptation; we are swayed by false words; we speak false words of our own. We desire earthly kingdoms and dismiss your heavenly realm. We seek to provide for ourselves and reject the bread of life you offer. In turning from you, we settle for less than the abundant life you intend. Forgive us, God of grace. Teach us to rely on your saving word, to trust in your sustaining care, and to worship and serve you alone; through Jesus Christ our Lord... *(a moment for silent confession)*

† ASSURANCE OF PARDON

† **MUSICAL RESPONSE** 581 *Glory Be to the Father* Gloria Patri
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

† **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

† **MUSICAL RESPONSE** 840 *When Peace Like a River* (verse 1) Vile Du Havre
When peace like a river attendeth my way, when sorrows like sea billows roll,
Whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say, it is well, it is well with my soul.
It is well with my soul; it is well; it is well with my soul.

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

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON Deuteronomy 26:1-11 (*see insert*) Jennifer Jones

SPECIAL TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON Luke 4:1-13 (*see insert*)

SERMON "Let's Make a Deal" Rev. Mark R. Curtis

✠ **THE RESPONSE OF GOD'S PEOPLE** ✠

† **HYMN OF RESPONSE** 618 *O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High* (*see insert*) Deo Gracias

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 *The Serpent* Thomas Pavlechoko

"What do you ssee?" the sserpent ssaid. The woman answered "Death."

"It is not death," the sserpent ssaid, "It surely is not death."

"I see what God told us to see," The woman quickly said.

"Ssee what I ssay," the sserpent ssaid. "Ssee what I ssay," it ssaid.

"What do you ssee?" the tempter ssaid, The Savior answered, "Stone."

"Must it be sstone?" the tempter ssaid, "It surely could be bread."

"Let it be stone," the Savior said, "For life is more than bread.

See what the scripture says," he said, "See what the scripture says."

We see what we are told to see, Whom shall we listen to? Give us the grace, O God, to see, What we are told by you.

† **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.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right to give thanks to you, God Almighty ...

...And so, with all your people on earth and all the company of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

Creator God, You brought all things into being and called them good.

**From the dust of the earth you formed us into your image
and breathed into us the breath of life.**

When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast.

When rain fell upon the earth forty days and forty nights,

**you bore up the ark on the waters,
and established an everlasting covenant
with every living creature upon the earth.**

When you delivered us from slavery

and made us your people,

**you led Moses to your mountain for forty days and forty nights
and gave us your teaching.**

You led us through the wilderness and brought us to the promised land.

**You sent your Son to face temptation in the desert,
so that in him, we might find eternal life.**

Help us, O God, to be obedient to your call:

**to love all your children, to do justice and show mercy,
and to live in peace with your whole creation. Amen.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Breaking and Sharing of the Bread

Pouring and Sharing of the Cup

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

Like As the Hart

Herbert Howells

Like as the hart desireth the waterbrooks, so longeth my soul after thee, O God. My soul is athirst for the living God, yes, even for the living God. When shall I come to appear before the presence of God? My tears have been my meat day and night, while they daily say unto me, where is now thy God? My tears have been my meat day and night.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Gracious God, guide us through the desert of life, quench our thirst with living waters, satisfy our hunger with the bread of heaven. Give us strength to serve you until the promised day of resurrection, when with the redeemed of all the ages we will feast at your table in glory.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ we pray; Amen.

† SENDING HYMN 543 *God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me* (see insert)

Green Tyler

† CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Please stay for the congregational meeting immediately following the service.

† - Please stand if you are able.

WORSHIP FOR MARCH 6, 2022

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

Jennifer Jones

When you have come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, ² you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. ³ You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, “Today I declare to the LORD your God that I have come into the land that the LORD swore to our ancestors to give us.” ⁴ When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the LORD your God, ⁵ you shall make this response before the LORD your God: “A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. ⁶ When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, ⁷ we cried to the LORD, the God of our ancestors; the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. ⁸ The LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; ⁹ and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. ¹⁰ So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O LORD, have given me.” You shall set it down before the LORD your God and bow down before the LORD your God. ¹¹ Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the LORD your God has given to you and to your house.

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 4:1-13

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, ² where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. ³ The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread.” ⁴ Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone.’” ⁵ Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. ⁶ And the devil said to him, “To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. ⁷ If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.” ⁸ Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.’” ⁹ Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, ¹⁰ for it is written, ‘He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,’ ¹¹ and ‘On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’” ¹² Jesus answered him, “It is said, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’” ¹³ When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

† **HYMN OF RESPONSE** 618 *O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High*

Deo Gracias

1. O love, how deep, how broad, how high,
Beyond all thought and fantasy,
That God, the Son of God, should take
Our mortal form for mortals' sake.
2. For us baptized, for us he bore
His holy fast and hungered sore;
For us temptations sharp he knew,
For us, the tempter overthrew.
3. For us by wickedness betrayed,
For us, in crown of thorns arrayed,
4. For us he bore the shameful cross and death;
For us gave up his dying breath.
5. For us he rose from death again;
For us he went on high to reign;
For us he sent the Spirit here
To guide, to strengthen, and to cheer.
5. All glory to our Lord and God,
For love so deep, so high, so broad:
The Trinity whom we adore
Forever and forevermore.

† **SENDING HYMN** 543 *God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me*

Green Tyler

1. God, be the love to search and keep me;
God, be the prayer to move my voice;
God, be the strength to now uphold me:
O Christ, surround me;
O Christ, surround me.
2. Bind to myself the Name of Holy,
Great cloud of witnesses enfold;
Prophets, apostles, angels witness:
O Christ, surround me;
O Christ, surround me.
3. Brightness of sun and glow of moonlight,
Flashing of lightning, strength of wind,
Depth of the sea to soil of planet:
O Christ, surround me;
O Christ, surround me.
4. Walking behind to hem my journey,
Going ahead to light my way,
And from beneath, above, and all ways:
O Christ, surround me;
O Christ, surround me.
5. Christ in the eyes of all who see me,
Christ in the ears that hear my voice,
Christ in the hearts of all who know me:
O Christ, surround me;
O Christ, surround me.