

Friends, you are commissioned as representatives of the body of Christ in this place to the Montreat Youth Conference. Whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God through him. **Amen.**

**CLOSING HYMN**                      *Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!*                      305

**CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**                              *Rondeau*                              Joseph Mouret

*\*Please stand if you are able.*

**WHAT'S HAPPENING AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN....**

We welcome **Beverly Landguth as our guest organist this morning.** Beverly has been playing the organ since age 12 and has degrees in music education. She is retired and now fills in as a substitute organist at various churches.

There will be a **reception for Dr. Andy Morgan** after the 11 am service today in the Fellowship Hall. Andy is our new Director of Family Faith Formation.

**Join us on Wednesdays this summer for some fellowship and mission opportunities!** No need to RSVP; just show up. We can't wait to enjoy some summer fun with you. See the calendar below for June events. Contact Pastor Meredith Loftis for more details at [meredith@fpcknox.org](mailto:meredith@fpcknox.org).

- **June 14 at 4:00 pm** - Mission Project at FPC: Pack care packages for KAT Bus employees and enjoy ice cream afterwards. Bring individually wrapped snacks to contribute.
- **June 21 at 5:00 pm** - Lakeshore Park playground: Bring a picnic supper and camp chairs! Bring balls to play in field next to playground. 5930 Lyons View Pike, Knoxville, TN 37919
- **June 28 at 10:00 am** - Mission Project at FPC: Clean-up day in graveyard and around church building followed by sub sandwiches for lunch.

**Please join members of First Presbyterian at the FREE "Caring and Coping Caregiver Workshop"** on Thursday, June 22, 2023 at the Rothchild Conference Center at 8807 Kingston Pike, Knoxville, TN 37923. This is a great opportunity for understanding the responsibilities of caregiving for degenerative diseases as well in other situations. Dr. Roberto Fernandez-Romero, Director of the Pat Summitt Clinic, elder law attorneys and other individuals will lead us through the workshop. Check-In is at 8:30 am—Lunch 11:30 am—Ends 1:30 pm. This workshop is presented by Alzheimer's Tennessee.

If you are interested in participating, please contact Mary Wilson ([mqwilson1@gmail.com](mailto:mqwilson1@gmail.com) or 865-680-2239.) Transportation can be provided or we can take the van from the church. For more information go to [www.alzTennessee.org/Workshops](http://www.alzTennessee.org/Workshops) or call 865-544-6288.

**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](http://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 to give securely online at [www.fpcknox.org/donate](http://www.fpcknox.org/donate) or by scanning the QR code to the right with your smart phone.



**STAFF AND LEADERS IN WORSHIP**

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| The Rev. Mark R. Curtis<br><i>Senior Pastor</i>              | Laura Harmon<br><i>Church Administrator</i>                                    |
| The Rev. Dr. Meredith Loftis<br><i>Associate Pastor</i>      | Lauren Nunn<br><i>Director of Parent's Day Out /<br/>Childcare Coordinator</i> |
| Dr. Andy Morgan<br><i>Director of Family Faith Formation</i> | Sandra Robinson<br><i>Administrative Assistant</i>                             |
| Mark Pace<br><i>Organist/Choirmaster</i>                     | Victor Lenoir<br><i>Custodian</i>  |
| Mary Wilson<br><i>Adult Ministry Coordinator</i>             | Paul Seguna<br><i>Sound Engineer</i>   |
| Katie Norrell<br><i>Director of Communications</i>           |  |
| Jane Holland<br><i>Director of Finance/Facilities</i>        |  |

**WORSHIP MUSIC NOTES**

<i>Prelude on hymn "St. Columba"</i>	<i>One License # 241727</i>	<i>Here O My Lord</i>	<i>One License # 1037647</i>
<i>I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light</i>	<i>One License # 123319</i>	<i>Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!</i>	<i>One License #121563</i>
<i>I Rejoiced When I Heard Them Say</i>	<i>One License # 98231</i>	<i>Rondeau</i>	<i>One License #FBC-A004889</i>
<i>To Abraham and Sarah</i>	<i>One License # 118010</i>		

**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).*



*First Presbyterian Church*  
FOR CHRIST IN THE HEART OF KNOXVILLE

**SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**JUNE 11, 2023**

Connect With Us



[www.fpcknox.org](http://www.fpcknox.org)

620 State Street  
Knoxville, TN 37902

## THE PREPARATION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

**PRELUDE** *Prelude on hymn "St. Columba"* Healey Willan

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

In faith, Abraham and Sarah set out for a new land.

**In faith, we seek to follow God in our lives.**

In faith, the church seeks to find the future to which God calls us.

**In faith, we gather now to worship, seeking new life in Christ.**

**God of present, past, and future, guide us now to your new age of promise**

**\*OPENING HYMN** *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah* 65

#### \*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, you called Abraham and Sarah to dream a seemingly impossible dream – that you would transform a barren and lifeless situation into one overflowing with promise and hope. Through faith in you, Abraham and Sarah believed your promises.

**Forgive us, O God, when we think of your call on our lives as an impossible dream or an unwelcome interruption. Forgive us when we do not expect to hear your voice in the midst of our daily lives, and so fail to discern your presence and heed your call...**

*(a moment for silent confession)*

Gracious and loving God, forgive our lack of trust in you.

**Lord, have mercy on us and forgive us.**

Help us when we hesitate, and strengthen us where we are weak.

**Breathe your Spirit afresh into our hearts and our minds and our lives so that we have the courage to follow Jesus wherever he leads us. Amen.**

#### \*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

**\*MUSICAL RESPONSE** *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light* 377

*I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to follow Jesus. God set the stars to give light to the world. The star of my life is Jesus. In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike. The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.*

#### \*PASSING OF THE PEACE

**\*MUSICAL RESPONSE** *I Rejoiced When I Heard Them Say* 400

*For the peace of all nations, pray: for God's peace within your homes. May God's lasting peace surround us; may it dwell in Jerusalem. Shalom, shalom, the peace of God be here. Shalom, Shalom, God's justice be ever near.*

## THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

**FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON** Genesis 12:1-9 Greg Efurt

Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup>I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." <sup>4</sup>So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. <sup>5</sup>Abram took his wife Sarai and his brother's son Lot, and all the possessions that they had gathered, and the persons whom they had acquired in Haran; and they set forth to go to the land of Canaan. When they had come to the land of Canaan, <sup>6</sup>Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. <sup>7</sup>Then the LORD appeared to Abram, and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built there an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him. <sup>8</sup>From there he moved on to the hill country on the east of Bethel, and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east; and there he built an altar to the LORD and invoked the name of the LORD. <sup>9</sup>And Abram journeyed on by stages toward the Negeb.

**ANTHEM** *This is The Day* Wolfgang A. Mozart

This is the day the Lord hath made, He calls the hours his own;  
Let heaven rejoice, let earth be glad, And praise surround the throne.  
Hosanna in the highest strains The church on earth can raise;  
The highest heavens, in which he reigns, Shall give him nobler praise.  
The God of our salvation. Give thanks to God for he is good. Alleluia!

### SPECIAL TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

**SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON** Matthew 9:9  
<sup>9</sup>As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, "Follow me." And he got up and followed him.

**SERMON** "The Voice" Rev. Mark Curtis

## THE RESPONSE OF GOD'S PEOPLE

**\*HYMN OF RESPONSE** *To Abraham and Sarah* 51

### RECEPTION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

**OFFERTORY** *Here O My Lord* Lani Smith arr. Edward Dearle

**\*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.**

## COMMISSIONING OF MONTREAT YOUTH CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS

**MINISTER:** As many of you as were baptized into Christ Galatians 3:27-28 have clothed yourselves with Christ.

**MONTREAT GROUP:** There is no longer Jew or Greek Ephesians 4:1-6  
there is no longer slave or free,  
there is no longer male and female;  
for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.

**CONGREGATION:** **How very good and pleasant it is** Psalm 133:1, 3  
**when sisters and brothers live together in unity!**

**ALL:** **It is like the dew of Mount Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion. For there the LORD ordained the blessing of life forevermore.**

### STATEMENT AND QUESTIONS TO PARTICIPANTS

**LEADER:** Who is your Lord and Savior?  
**COMMISSIONEES:** **Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior.**

**LEADER:** Will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his Word and showing his love?  
**COMMISSIONEES:** **I will, with God's help.**

**LEADER:** Do you welcome the responsibility of representing First Presbyterian Church, and will you seek to follow Christ in all that you do and say at Montreat?

**COMMISSIONEES:** **I will, with God's help.**

**LEADER:** Do you, the members of First Presbyterian, confirm the call of God to our sisters and brothers to grow in faith, learning, and fellowship by participating in the Montreat Youth Conference?  
**ALL:** **We do.**

**LEADER:** Will you support them with your prayers while they're away, welcome them warmly when they return, and pester them enthusiastically for stories about their experience?

**ALL:** **We will!**

Faithful God, in baptism you claimed us; and by your Holy Spirit you are working in our lives, empowering us to live a life worthy of our calling. We thank you for leading these young people and their adult leaders to this time and place. Ground them in your truth and guide them by your Holy Spirit, so that in their participation in the Montreat Youth Conference, they may grow in faith, hope, and love and be faithful disciples of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. **Amen.**