

and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.
**In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,
 we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks
 and to live holy and joyful lives,
 even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth,
 praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"**
**With believers in every time and place,
 we rejoice that nothing in life or in death
 can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.
 Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

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.
 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** *Be Thou My Vision* 450

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE *Little Prelude and Fugue in F Major* Johann S. Bach

**Please stand if you are able.*

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

WORSHIP MUSIC NOTES

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <i>To God Be the Glory</i>
Tune: <i>To God Be the Glory</i>
<i>Angels, from the Realms of Glory</i>
Tune: <i>Regent Square</i>
<i>What Child Is This</i>
Tune: <i>Greensleeves</i>
<i>He Comes to Us as One Unknown</i> | <i>Will You Come and Follow Me</i>
Tune: <i>Kelvingrove</i>
<i>There's a Wideness in God's Mercy</i>
<i>Be Thou My Vision</i>
Tune: <i>Slane</i> | One License # 87129
Once License # 242068
One License # 100931 |
|---|--|--|

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 EPIPHANY

JANUARY 14, 2024

Connect With Us

www.fpcknox.org

620 State Street
 Knoxville, TN 37902

THE PREPARATION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

PRELUDE *O Worship the Lord in the Beauty of Holiness* Christopher Tambling

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

This is the day that the Lord has made;

Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

*CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalm 139

O Lord, you have searched me and known me.

**You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
you discern my thoughts from far away.**

Where can I go from your spirit?

Or where can I flee from your presence?

**If I went to heaven, you would be there;
If I lay down in the world of the dead,
you would be there;
If I flew beyond the east,
or lived in the farthest place of the west,
You would be there to lead me,
You would be there to help me.
I will praise you,
for I am fearfully and wonderfully made!**

*OPENING HYMN

To God Be the Glory

634

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord, when we thought we were abandoned, you came to us as the Christ. When we thought that the world was dark and bleak, you shone forth your light among us. When we thought we were alone, you spoke to us, called us, came to us, loved us, saved us. For your love for us, we give thanks. For your presence among us, we give thanks. For your mercy to us, we give thanks. Change us, O God; give us hearts to trust your promises and follow your ways, for we ask this in Jesus' name... *(a moment for silent confession)*

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*MUSICAL RESPONSE

Angels, from the Realms of Glory (v 4)

143

All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son, evermore your voices raising to the eternal Three in One: come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king!

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

*MUSICAL RESPONSE

What Child Is This (v 3)

145

**So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, one and all, to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise the song on high. The virgin sings her lullaby.
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary!**

THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 1:43-51

Rachel Patton McCord

⁴³ The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." ⁴⁴ Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. ⁴⁵ Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." ⁴⁶ Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." ⁴⁷ When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" ⁴⁸ Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you." ⁴⁹ Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" ⁵⁰ Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these." ⁵¹ And he said to him, "Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

ANTHEM

He Comes to Us as One Unknown

Parry/Ferguson

*He comes to us as one unknown, a breath unseen, unheard;
as though within a heart of stone, or shriveled seed in darkness sown,
a pulse of being stirred, a pulse of being stirred.
He comes when souls in silence lie and thoughts of day depart;
half-seen upon the inward eye, a falling star across the sky
of night within the heart, of night within the heart.
He comes to us in sound of seas, the ocean's fume and foam;
yet small and still upon the breeze, a wind that stirs the tops of trees,
a voice to call us home, a voice to call us home.
He comes in love as once he came by flesh and blood and birth;
to bear within our mortal frame a life, a death, a saving Name,
for every child of earth, for every child of earth.
He comes in truth when faith is grown; believed, obeyed, adored:
the Christ in all the Scriptures shown, as yet unseen, but not unknown,
our Saviour and our Lord, our Saviour and our Lord.*

SPECIAL TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Dr. Andy Morgan

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

1 Samuel 3:1-10

¹ Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. The word of the LORD was rare in those days; visions were not widespread. ² At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; ³ the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was. ⁴ Then the LORD called, "Samuel! Samuel!" and he said, "Here I am!" ⁵ and ran to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down. ⁶ The LORD called again, "Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." ⁷ Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. ⁸ The LORD called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy. ⁹ Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, LORD,

for your servant is listening.' " So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

¹⁰ Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!"

And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

SERMON

"Speak, Lord"

Rev. Mark R. Curtis

THE RESPONSE OF GOD'S PEOPLE

*HYMN OF RESPONSE

Will You Come and Follow Me

726

RECEPTION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

Maurice Bevan

*There's a wideness in God's mercy, like the wideness of the sea;
There's a kindness in His justice, which is more than liberty.
There is no place where earth's sorrows are more felt than up in Heaven;
There is no place where earth's failings have such kindly judgment given.
For the love of God is broader than the measure of our mind;
And the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.
But we make His love too narrow by false limits of our own;
And we magnify His strictness with a zeal He will not own.
There is plentiful redemption in the blood that has been shed;
There is joy for all the members in the sorrows of the Head.
There is grace enough for thousands of new worlds as great as this;
There is room for fresh creations in that upper home of bliss.
If our love were but more simple, we should take Him at His word;
And our lives would be all gladness in the joy of Christ our Lord.*

*DOXOLOGY

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

from A Brief Statement of Faith

**We trust in God the Holy Spirit,
everywhere the giver and renewer of life.
The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,
sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor,
and binds us together with all believers
in the one body of Christ, the church.
The same Spirit
who inspired the prophets and apostles
rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,
engages us through the Word proclaimed,
claims us in the waters of baptism,
feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,
and calls women and men to all ministries of the church.
In a broken and fearful world
the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing,
to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,
to unmask idolatries in church and culture,
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,**

ELDERS AND DEACONS CLASS OF 2026

Elders

Laura Barton
Sarah Dugger
Bill Myers
Chuck Morris
Ginny Morrow
Pam Teague

Deacons

Sarah Henderson
Jan Houser
Tom Moorman
Luke Sowards
Will Warren
Shanna Veilleux
Jane Armstrong (Class of 2024)
Don Cassell (Class of 2025)

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?

