

but we proclaim Christ crucified; (1 Cor. 1:22-23)

God has put all things under the Lordship of Jesus Christ and has made Christ Head of the Church, which is his body. (Book of Order, G-1.0100)

Jesus said, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me."

For those who want to save their life will lose it, **and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. (Mark 8:34-36)**

For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. (1 Cor. 1:18)

***CLOSING HYMN** *When I Survey the Wonderful Cross* 223

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

Look at your hands, see the touch and the tenderness, **God's own for the world.**

Look at your feet, see the path and the direction, **God's own for the world.**

Look at your heart, see the fire and the love, **God's own for the world.**

Look at the cross, see God's Son and our Savior, **God's own for the world.**

This is God's world, **We will serve God in it.**

May God bless you, may God keep you always, and lead your lives with love.

Amen.

POSTLUDE *Chaconne in G Minor* Couperin/Bonnet

**Please stand if you are able.*

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN....

We are excited to announce that the congregational retreat at Montreat is April 26-28, 2024! This retreat is a great opportunity to deepen your faith, connect with other members of the congregation, and take a break from the stresses of everyday life. Our Speaker will be Dr. Elizabeth Arnold. **Deadline to sign up is March 24.** Please see the newsletter for more details.

An annual meeting of the congregation of First Presbyterian Church is hereby called to be held on Sunday, March 3, 2024, immediately following the 11:00 a.m. worship service. Annual Reports will be distributed, the budget will be reviewed, and a report by the McMurry Oversight Committee will be heard. Names of the Corporate Officers and the 2024 Officer Nominating Committee will be presented for approval. Changes to the terms of call for the Pastors will be presented for approval by the congregation. Called by the order of Session on February 20, 2024.

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
<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> | Caleb Davis
<i>Crucifer</i> |
| Jane Holland
<i>Director of Finance/Facilities</i> | Micah Davis
<i>Bible Bearer</i> |

WORSHIP MUSIC NOTES

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------|---|----------------------|
| <i>God of Grace and God of Mercy</i>
Tune: CWM Rhonda | One License #277864 | <i>In the Cross of Christ I Glory</i>
Tune: Rathbun | |
| <i>Gloria Patri</i>
Tune: Gloria Patri | | <i>Ah, Holy Jesus</i> | One License #50-3480 |
| <i>Son of God, Whose Heart Is Peace</i>
Tune: Tama Ngakau Marie | One License #46246 | <i>When I Survey the Wonderful Cross</i>
Tune: Hamburg | |
| | | <i>Chaconne in G Minor</i> | One License # 210843 |

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 OF LENT

FEBRUARY 25, 2024

Connect With Us



www.fpcknox.org

620 State Street
Knoxville, TN 37902

THE PREPARATION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

PRELUDE *When I Survey* David Schelat

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

This is the day that the Lord has made;

Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

*CALL TO WORSHIP

The journey of Lent—

is a journey inward, to examine our hearts.

The journey of faith—

is a journey of trust, following God's promises.

The journey of life—

**is a journey outward,
spending our lives for the sake of love.**

***OPENING HYMN** *God of Grace and God of Mercy* 307

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O Christ,
out of your fullness we have all received grace upon grace.

**You are our eternal hope;
you are patient and full of mercy;
you are generous to all who call upon you.
Save us, Lord.**

O Christ, fountain of life and holiness,
you have taken away our sins.

**On the cross you were wounded for our transgressions
and were bruised for our iniquities.
Save us, Lord.**

O Christ, obedient unto death,
**source of all comfort,
our life and our resurrection,
our peace and reconciliation:
Save us, Lord.**

O Christ, Savior of all who trust you,
hope of all who die for you,
and joy of all the saints:

Save us, Lord...

(a moment for silent confession)

Jesus, Lamb of God,
have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins,
have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer of the world,
grant us your peace.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***MUSICAL RESPONSE** *Gloria Patri* 581

**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** *Son of God, Whose Heart Is Peace (vv. 1 & 3)* 425

**Son of God, whose heart is peace, Son of God, most holy, to your
presence we have come; give us now your love.
Warm our hearts to love you, Lord, you who died to save us;
gather us within your arms, Jesus on this day.**

THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON Isaiah 58:6-9 Jennifer Jones

⁶ Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? ⁷ Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? ⁸ Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard. ⁹ Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

ANTHEM *Turn Thy Face From My Sins* Thomas Attwood

Turn thy face from my sins, and put out all my misdeeds. Make me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from thy presence, and take not thy Holy Spirit from me.

SPECIAL TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES Dr. Andy Morgan

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON Mark 8:27-36

²⁷ Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" ²⁸ And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." ²⁹ He asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Messiah." ³⁰ And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him. ³¹ Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³² He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³ But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you

are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." ³⁴ He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵ For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. ³⁶ For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life?"

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON "Speak Up, But Be Quiet" Rev. Mark R. Curtis

THE RESPONSE OF GOD'S PEOPLE

***HYMN OF RESPONSE** *In the Cross of Christ I Glory* 213

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER Dr. Andy Morgan

**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 *Ah, Holy Jesus* Donald McCullough

Ah, holy Jesus, how have you offended that mortal judgment has on you descended? By foes derided, by your own rejected, O most afflicted. Who was the guilty? Who brought this upon you? It is my treason, Lord, that has undone you. 'Twas I, Lord Jesus, I it was denied you. I crucified you. For me, dear Jesus, was your incarnation, your mortal sorrow, and your life's oblation; your death of anguish and your bitter passion. For my salvation. Therefore, dear Jesus, since I cannot pay you, I do adore you and will ever pray you, think on your pity and your love unswerving, not my deserving.

***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.**

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

May I never boast of anything
except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ,
by which the world has been crucified to me,
and I to the world. (*Galatians 6:14*)

Some demand signs and others desire wisdom,