



“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

Jack Bryan, Crucifer

Laura Smith, Bible Bearer

ORDER OF WORSHIP
SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT
MARCH 13, 2022
✦ **THE PREPARATION OF GOD'S PEOPLE** ✦

PRELUDE

Prelude on Deo Gracias

Healey Willan

WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: With the cross of Christ before us,

People: we sing our praise to God's eternal love.

Leader: With the cross of Christ before us,

People: we pray for God's supporting love.

Leader: With the cross of Christ before us,

People: we commit ourselves to live that love.

Leader: With the cross of Christ before us,

People: we come to worship God.

† OPENING HYMN 361

O Christ, the Great Foundation

Aurelia

1. O Christ, the great foundation
On which your people stand
To preach your true salvation
In every age and land:
Pour out your Holy Spirit
To make us strong and pure,
To keep the faith unbroken
As long as worlds endure.

2. Baptized in one confession,
One church in all the earth,
We bear our Lord's impression,
The sign of second birth:
One holy people gathered
In love beyond our own,
By grace we were invited;
By grace we make you known.

3. Where tyrants' hold is tightened,
Where strong devour weak,
Where innocents are frightened,
The righteous fear to speak,
There let your church awaking
Attack the powers of sin
And, all their ramparts breaking,
With you the victory win.

4. This is the moment glorious
When he who once was dead
Shall lead his church victorious,
Their champion and their head.
The Lord of all creation
His heavenly kingdom brings:
The final consummation,
The glory of all things.

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving God,

**You have committed yourself to us
and invited us to walk with you.**

**Yet we have resisted,
preferring to go in other ways.**

seeking other companions, presuming we know best.

**Now we find ourselves far from life,
and farther still from you.**

Help us, O God, to return.

**Have mercy on our waywardness,
stir us to accept what you have to offer,
and give us faith to grasp the hand**

you have extended to us in Jesus Christ... (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 Luke 13:31-35 Bill Myers
At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you." ³² He said to them, "Go and tell that fox for me, 'Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. ³³ Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.'
³⁴ Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! ³⁵ See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

ANTHEM *Teach Me, O Lord* Thomas Attwood
Teach me, O Lord, the way of Thy statutes; and I shall keep it unto the end.

SPECIAL TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON Philippians 4:4-14 (*see insert*)

SERMON "So Far Behind" Rev. Mark R. Curtis

✠ THE RESPONSE OF GOD'S PEOPLE ✠

† **HYMN OF RESPONSE** 630 *Fairest Lord Jesus* Crusaders' Hymn

1. Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nature, O thou of God to earth come down, Thee will I cherish, Thee will I honor, Thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown.	3. Fair is the sunshine, Fairer still the moonlight, And all the twinkling, starry host. Jesus shines brighter; Jesus shines purer, Than all the angels heaven can boast.
2. Fair are the meadows, Fairer still the woodlands, Robed in the blooming garb of spring. Jesus is fairer; Jesus is purer, Who makes the woeful heart to sing.	4. Beautiful Savior, Ruler of the nations, Son of God and Son of Man! Glory and honor, Praise, adoration, Now and forevermore be thine!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE 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

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

I Call to Thee Lord Jesus Christ

J. S. Bach

† 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.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The 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.

† SENDING HYMN 839

Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!

Assurance

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Blessed assurance: Jesus is mine!
O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood. | 2. Perfect submission, perfect delight,
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
Angels, descending, bring from above
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love.
(Refrain) |
| Refrain:
This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Savior all the day long;
This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Savior all the day long. | |
| 3. Perfect submission, all is at rest,
I in my Savior am happy and blest,
Watching and waiting, looking above,
filled with His goodness, lost in His love.
(Refrain) | |

† CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Tuba Tune in D Major Op. 15

C.S. Lang

† - Please stand if you are able.

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 has held jobs as organist and choir director at various churches where she lived. She is retired and now fills in as a substitute organist at various churches.

WORSHIP FOR MARCH 13, 2022

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

Philippians 4:4-14

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵ Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. ⁸ Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹ Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you. ¹⁰ I rejoice in the Lord greatly that now at last you have revived your concern for me; indeed, you were concerned for me, but had no opportunity to show it. ¹¹ Not that I am referring to being in need; for I have learned to be content with whatever I have. ¹² I know what it is to have little, and I know what it is to have plenty. In any and all circumstances I have learned the secret of being well-fed and of going hungry, of having plenty and of being in need. ¹³ I can do all things through him who strengthens me. ¹⁴ In any case, it was kind of you to share my distress.



ACT/DKH/Frank Schultze

EMERGENCY RESPONSE TO UKRAINE WAR

As the violence in Ukraine continues, the number of people being displaced internally and fleeing to neighboring countries increases by the day. And in the midst of the chaos, there are sibling churches and ecumenical partners who are already providing assistance with basic items for survival. Our first priority is to provide funding to these partners on the ground. While the scale of this crisis is new, receiving refugees from Ukraine and other countries in Central and Eastern Europe is not, which means we have trusted, established partners with the knowledge and expertise to carry out this important work. Our response will include both financial and technical

assistance as the network of faith communities providing humanitarian assistance grows in the months ahead.

GIVE: To support emergency relief for those fleeing Ukraine, choose one of the following giving options:

- Make checks payable to First Presbyterian Church, designate gifts for “PDA-Ukraine” in the memo line, and place in the offering plate.
- Give online at <https://www.fpcknox.org/giving> (designate PDA-Ukraine).
- To give directly to the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance fund, use the code DR000156.
- Text PDAUKR to 41444 to donate.
- Call Presbyterian Disaster Assistance at (800) 872-3283.



ACT: Urge the U.S. government to support generous aid for refugees and civilians suffering in Ukraine, and call for engaging a diplomatic solution to the conflict.

PRAY:

May we undergird our prayers with tangible resources to help. May we reach deeply, give generously, and welcome extravagantly. May we lift our voices in a strong and unified advocacy. May we all, even as we breathe in lament, breathe out mercy, hope and peace. And in this Lenten season, when we walk the way toward death and resurrection, repent our complicity in cultures of violence and renew our efforts toward justice and peace. -Rev. Dr. Laurie Kraus, Director, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance