

and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.  
**Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition,  
 Jesus was crucified,  
 suffering the depths of human pain  
 and giving his life for the sins of the world.**  
**God raised this Jesus from the dead,  
 vindicating his sinless life,  
 breaking the power of sin and evil,  
 delivering us from death to life eternal.**

**THE SENDING OF GOD'S PEOPLE**

**\*CLOSING HYMN** *Great Is Thy Faithfulness* 39

**\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

**\*POSTLUDE** *Toccata in B Minor* Eugène Gigout

*\*Please stand if you are able.*

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

**The flowers in the sanctuary** are given to the glory of God and in honor of Connie Steele's 96th birthday by her family and Robert Goebel.

**In an effort to support our community members in need, we are excited to announce a donation drive for personal care items.** Over the next few weeks, we will be collecting essential items such as disposable razors, shaving cream, deodorant (men's and women's), diapers (sizes 3-6), toothpaste, floss, and toothbrushes. These items will be donated to our FISH pantry and Bridge Refugee families. Your contributions can make a significant impact on those who rely on these necessities. Please consider donating and placing your supplies in the designated basket located in the Commons. Thank you for your generosity and support in helping those in our community and local missions partners.

**Join UKirk in their fundraiser to support campus ministry through the month of April! Help them reach their goal of 2,024 donations of at least \$10 to celebrate the graduating class of 2024. Every donation counts!** UKirk is the "home away from home" and a ministry to the campus that welcomes all students. They provide an on campus church where college students feel comfortable and can worship and serve. It is a place where everyone belongs and students know they are loved by God and their community. UKirk has loved and cared for many of our college students, and we want to make sure this ministry continues to thrive. Donate at [ukirk@ukirkutk.org/donate](mailto:ukirk@ukirkutk.org/donate).

**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 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**

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

**WORSHIP MUSIC NOTES**

<i>Jesus Shall Reign</i> Source and Sovereign, Rock and Cloud Tune: Aberystwyth	One License #CGB437	<i>Thine Is the Glory</i> Tune: Judas Maccabeus <i>My Shepherd Will Supply My Need</i> Tune: Resignation
<i>Alleluia</i> Tune: Alleluia 7		<i>Great Is Thy Faithfulness</i> Tune: Faithfulness

**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

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**APRIL 21, 2024**

Connect With Us



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

620 State Street  
 Knoxville, TN 37902

## THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

**PRELUDE** *Jesus Shall Reign* Arr. Cynthia Dobrinski  
Joyful Noise Handbell Choir

### 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 23 & John 10

The Lord Jesus Christ is our shepherd.  
**He knows us, and we belong to him.**

Our Good Shepherd has led us to this place.  
**He leads us beside still waters; he restores our soul.**

Even though we walk through dark valleys,  
even though we are fearful and in need of comfort,  
**Our cup overflows with God's goodness and mercy;  
we shall dwell in the house of the Lord  
our whole lives long.**

**\*OPENING HYMN** *Source and Sovereign, Rock and Cloud* 11

### \*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Almighty God, you sent Jesus to be our Good Shepherd – to gather us together; to seek us when we are lost, and to guide us into green pastures. Yet we have wandered from his fold and have turned away from the bread of life and the living water. Forgive us for seeking out our own places and means of provision, and for rejecting the gifts of the Good Shepherd. Help us by your Spirit to trust ourselves into his hands, knowing that we will be safely guided and abundantly fed, to your honor and glory forever...**

*(a moment for silent confession)*

### \*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

**\*MUSICAL RESPONSE** *Alleluia* 586  
*Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia (3x)*

### \*PASSING OF THE PEACE

**\*MUSICAL RESPONSE** *Thine Is the Glory (v. 2)* 238  
*Lo! Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;  
lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom.  
Let the church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,  
for the Lord now liveth; death has lost its sting.  
Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son;  
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.*

## THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

**FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON** John 10:1-10 John Whaley

<sup>1</sup>“Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. <sup>2</sup>The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. <sup>3</sup>The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. <sup>4</sup>When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. <sup>5</sup>They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” <sup>6</sup>Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. <sup>7</sup>So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. <sup>8</sup>All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. <sup>9</sup>I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. <sup>10</sup>The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

**ANTHEM** *Loving Shepherd* Bach/Schweizer  
Jane Conway, violin

*Loving shepherd, comfort and guide us, Keep us in thy tender care.  
And in thy mercy stay beside us, Safely thy lambs now gather,  
Bring us in faith together, And thy pastures now prepare.*

*And when I walk with darkness around me,  
Thou art near and I will fear no ill.  
So with thy love and kindness surround me, goodness and mercy bringing,  
From living water springing, Lord of Love grant me thy comfort still.*

### SPECIAL TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

**SECOND SCRIPTURE** Psalm 23

<sup>1</sup> **The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want. <sup>2</sup> He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; <sup>3</sup> he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake. <sup>4</sup> Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff—they comfort me. <sup>5</sup> You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. <sup>6</sup> Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD my whole life long.**

This is the Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON** “The Valleys” Rev. Mark R. Curtis

## THE RESPONSE OF GOD'S PEOPLE

**\*HYMN OF RESPONSE** *My Shepherd Will Supply My Need* 803

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER** Mary Wilson

**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** *Praise the Lord Who Reigns Above* Michael Larkin

*Praise the LORD who reigns above and keeps His courts below.  
Praise the holy God of love, and all His greatness show.  
Praise God for His noble deeds, praise Him for His matchless power.  
God from whom all good proceeds, all creation sing,  
Let earth and heaven adore.  
Celebrate our mighty God with harp and psaltery,  
timbrels soft and cymbals loud in God's high praise agree.  
Praise God, every tuneful string, all the reach of heavenly art.  
All the powers of music Earth and heaven adore,  
all creation sing the music of the heart.  
God, in whom all move and live, let every creature sing,  
glory to their Maker give, and homage to our King.  
Hallowed be His name beneath, as in heav'n, on earth adored.  
Praise the LORD in every breath, let all things praise the LORD!*

**\*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** from a Brief Statement of Faith

**We trust in Jesus Christ,  
fully human, fully God.  
Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:  
preaching good news to the poor  
and release to the captives,  
teaching by word and deed  
and blessing the children,  
healing the sick  
and binding up the brokenhearted,  
eating with outcasts,  
forgiving sinners,**