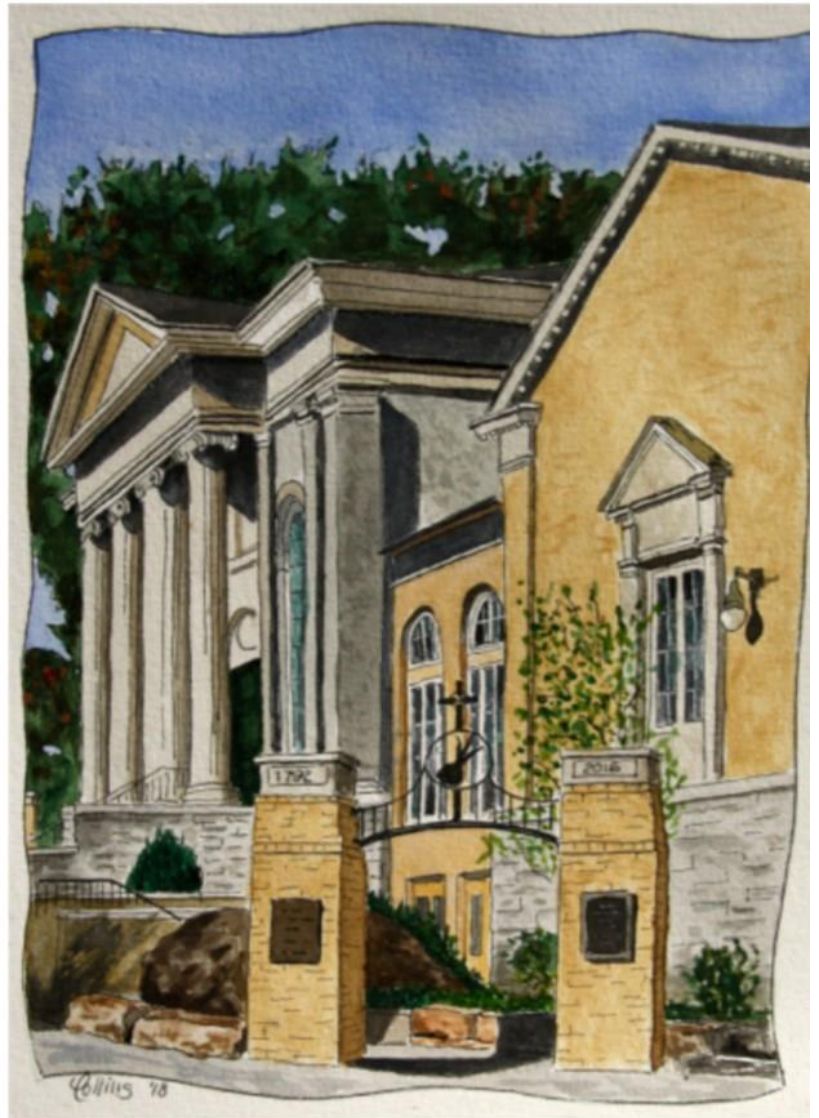


*“For Christ in the Heart of
Knoxville,” the First Presbyterian
Church seeks*

- *to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ*
- *to nurture those within its influence*
- *to serve spiritual and human needs*



First Presbyterian Church
FOR CHRIST IN THE HEART OF KNOXVILLE 

LEADERS IN WORSHIP

The Rev. Mark R. Curtis, Senior Pastor
The Rev. Meredith Loftis, Associate Pastor
Mr. Mark Pace, Organist/Choirmaster

ORDER OF WORSHIP
SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 22, 2022

✦ THE PREPARATION OF GOD'S PEOPLE ✦

PRELUDE

Prelude in Classic Style

Gordon Young

WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

† CALL TO WORSHIP

The Lord be with you!

And also with you!

Let us worship the creator who gives us life.

**Let us worship the Risen Christ
who lives and walks among us.**

Let us worship the Spirit, holy and free,
who surprises and empowers us.

**Let us worship God, who offers us new life,
abundant life, and eternal life.**

† OPENING HYMN 2

Come, Thou Almighty King

Italian Hymn

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Mighty and merciful God,

**you have called us to be your people
and claimed us for the service of Jesus Christ.**

We confess that we have not lived up to our calling.

**We have been timid and frightened disciples,
forgetful of your presence**

and the strength of your Spirit among us.

O God, forgive our foolish and sinful ways.

As you have chosen us

**and claimed us in our baptism,
strengthen us anew**

to choose Christ's way in this world.

Give us your Holy Spirit and all the gifts of grace

needed to fulfill our common calling;

for we ask in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior...

(a moment for silent confession)

† ASSURANCE OF PARDON

† MUSICAL RESPONSE 248

Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna! (vs. 1)

Hymn to Joy

Christ is risen! Shout Hosanna! Celebrate this day of days! Christ is risen! Hush in wonder: all creation is amazed. In the desert all-surrounding, see, a spreading tree has grown. Healing leaves of grace abounding bring a taste of love unknown.

† PASSING OF THE PEACE

† **MUSICAL RESPONSE** 250

In the Bulb There Is a Flower (vs. 1)

Promise

In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree; in cocoons, a hidden promise: butterflies will soon be free! In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be, unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

✦ **THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD** ✦

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalms 67

Rachel Patton McCord

- ¹ May God be gracious to us and bless us
and make his face to shine upon us, *Selah*
² that your way may be known upon earth,
your saving power among all nations.
³ Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.
⁴ Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for you judge the peoples with equity
and guide the nations upon earth. *Selah*
⁵ Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.
⁶ The earth has yielded its increase;
God, our God, has blessed us.
⁷ May God continue to bless us;
let all the ends of the earth revere him.

SPECIAL TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

ANTHEM

See What Love

Felix Mendelssohn

See what love hath the Father bestowed on us, in His goodness; that we should be called God's own children.

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 14:1-3, 15-20, 25-27

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. ²In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also...¹⁵ If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you. ¹⁸I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you...²⁵ I have said these things to you while I am still with you. ²⁶But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. ²⁷Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.”

SERMON

“Secondhand”

Rev. Mark R. Curtis

✦ **THE RESPONSE OF GOD'S PEOPLE** ✦

† **HYMN OF RESPONSE** 688 *Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart* (vs. 1, 3, 4, 5)

Morecambe

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 when they are passed or you are invited to mail in your tithes and offerings to the church office or give online at www.fpcknox.org/donate.

OFFERTORY

O For a Closer Walk With God

Charles Stanford

*O for a closer walk with God, a calm and heavenly frame, a light to shine upon the road that leads me to the Lamb!
Return, O holy Dove, return, sweet messenger of rest! I hate the sins that made Thee mourn and drove Thee from my breast. So shall my walk be close with God, calm and serene my frame;
so purer light shall mark the road that leads me to the Lamb.*

† 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.

RECOGNITION OF OUR GRADUATES

Introduction of Graduates

Leader: The Lord says, "I know the plans I have for you,

**People: Plans to prosper you and not to harm you,
plans to give you hope and a future.**

Leader: Call upon me, come and pray to me,
and I will listen to you.

**People: Seek me and find me, seek me with all your heart
and I will be found by you."**

Leader: As we each remember the waters of our baptism,

People: We affirm that we are one in Christ,

Leader: Remembering our baptismal promise,

**People: We affirm that you are ours, you belong to us.
We have nurtured you and we now send you
out into the world to serve God through love.**

Leader: Remembering our baptismal promise,

**People: We go with you by the power of the Holy Spirit,
in prayer and full support,
never forgetting that you belong to us.**

Prayer for the Graduates

† SENDING HYMN 547

Go, My Children, with My Blessing

Ar Hyd Y Nos

† CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Toccata on Amazing Grace

J. Christopher Pardini

† - Please stand if you are able.

HYMNS FOR MAY 22

† OPENING HYMN 2

Come, Thou Almighty King

Italian Hymn

1. Come, thou almighty King,
Help us thy name to sing;
Help us to praise:
Father, all glorious,
O'er all victorious,
Come, and reign over us,
Ancient of Days.
2. Come, thou incarnate Word,
Merciful, mighty Lord,
Our prayer attend.
Come, and thy people bless,
And give thy word success;
Spirit of holiness,
On us descend.
3. Come, holy Comforter,
Thy sacred witness bear
In this glad hour.
Thou who almighty art,
Now rule in every heart,
And ne'er from us depart,
Spirit of power.
4. To thee, great One in Three,
Eternal praises be,
Hence evermore!
Thy sovereign majesty
May we in glory see,
And to eternity
Love and adore.

† HYMN OF RESPONSE 688 *Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart* (vs. 1, 3, 4 ,5)

Morecambe

1. Spirit of God, descend upon my heart;
Wean it from earth; through all its pulses move;
Stoop to my weakness, mighty as thou art,
And make me love thee as I ought to love.
2. I ask no dream, no prophet ecstasies,
No sudden rending of the veil of clay,
No angel visitant, no opening skies;
But take the dimness of my soul away.
3. Hast thou not bid us love thee, God and King;
All, all thine own, soul, heart, and strength, and mind?
I see thy cross; there teach my heart to cling.
O let me seek thee, and O let me find!
4. Teach me to feel that thou art always nigh.
Teach me the struggles of the soul to bear,
To check the rising doubt, the rebel sigh.
Teach me the patience of unanswered prayer.
5. Teach me to love thee as thine angels love,
One holy passion filling all my frame;
The baptism of the heaven-descended Dove,
My heart an altar, and thy love the flame.

† SENDING HYMN 547

Go, My Children, with My Blessing

Ar Hyd Y Nos

1. "Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone.
Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own.
In my love's baptismal river I have made you mine forever.
Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own."
2. "Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
Here you heard my dear Son's story; here you touched him, saw his glory.
Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure."
3. "Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me.
Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free.
Here my Spirit's power filled you; here my tender comfort stilled you.
Go, my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free."

Congratulations to our 2022 Graduates!

“FOR I KNOW THE PLANS I HAVE FOR YOU,” DECLARES THE LORD, “PLANS TO PROSPER YOU AND NOT TO HARM YOU, PLANS TO GIVE YOU HOPE AND A FUTURE.” - Jeremiah 29:11



Abby Bible

Abby Bible is graduating from Clinton High School. She will be entering the College of Nursing at the University of Tennessee in the fall.



Claudia Bible

Claudia Bible is graduating from the University of Tennessee with a Bachelor of Science in Civil and Environmental Engineering. She is currently an intern at CEC in Knoxville. She will be pursuing a Master of Science in Environmental Engineering at UTK in the fall.



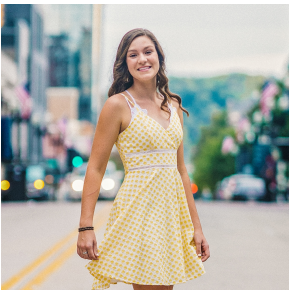
Wyatt Brace

Wyatt Brace is graduating from West High School and attending the University of Tennessee. He plans on studying history or political science and will also be playing on the One Knox SC professional soccer team.



Harrison Candino

Harrison Candino is graduating from South Doyle High School. He will be attending the University of Tennessee Knoxville, majoring in Geology and Environmental Science.



Anne Eddins

Anne Eddins is graduating from West High School as an IB Certificate graduate. She is attending the University of Tennessee and majoring in Environmental & Soil Sciences with an emphasis in soil.



Campbell Ella

Campbell Ella is the granddaughter of Juan and Anita Lovin and is graduating from Bearden High School. She will be attending James Madison University in the fall with a major in Musical Theater and minor in Humanitarian Affairs.





James Lee

James Lee is graduating magna cum laude from the University of Tennessee with a Master's degree in Materials Science and Engineering from the Tickle College of Engineering. He has accepted an engineering position with Lockheed Martin in Orlando.



Austin Maryanski

Austin Maryanski is graduating from the University of Tennessee Knoxville with Bachelor's degrees in both Computer Science and Mathematics. He will be relocating to Nashville, TN upon graduation where he will start his career as a Systems Engineer for DMC, Inc.



Darwin Nunn

Darwin Nunn is graduating from Purdue University with a Bachelor's Degree in Social Studies in Secondary Schools with minors in Government Civics and History. He will be working at Climb Lafayette in Indiana as a manager/youth rec coordinator where he will be developing a new youth climbing program.



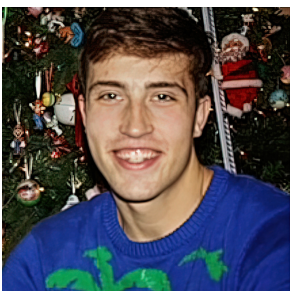
Ethan Payne

Ethan Payne is graduating from Bearden High School. He will be attending the University of Tennessee this fall, pursuing a degree in Supply Chain Management in the Haslam College of Business.



Harry Pennoyer

After winning the district championship in basketball, Harry Pennoyer graduates from Concord Christian School this May and will attend Pellissippi State Community College in the fall.



Joel Smith

Joel Smith is graduating from the University of Tennessee Knoxville with a Bachelor's degree in Kinesiology. Joel will be continuing his education in the fall at Lincoln Memorial University in the Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine program.

