

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN....

Calling all Presbyterian women! You are invited to the annual Spring Banquet of FPC Presbyterian Women on Tuesday, May 14, in the Fellowship Hall, whether you belong to a church circle or not. Please join this festive and delicious event, when the Rev. Dr. Meredith Loftis will present the Bible lesson, Life Membership Awards are bestowed, beloved deceased friends are honored, and fellowship abounds. Real Good Kitchen will cater the gluten-free dinner of Lemon White Wine Chicken, fresh vegetables, and desserts. The dinner will be at 6 p.m., with payment due by May 6; your payment is your registration. Cost of the meal is \$20. You can pay the church online in the Presbyterian Women category (please note "Spring Banquet" in the text box). Or, you can mail a check to the church, made out to First Presbyterian Church with "Spring Banquet" in the memo line.

First Presbyterian Church will host a recital presented by The University of Tennessee's Graduate Teaching Assistants' String Quartet on Thursday, May 9th at 7:30 PM in the sanctuary. It is free and open to the public. The Quartet consists of students from the College of Music that teach their respective instruments to other collegiate-level string players, on top of their regular course studies. Combined, members of the GTA Quartet have studied and performed music across 3 continents and in 4 different states, including residencies in Bulgaria, California, New York, Switzerland, Tennessee, Venezuela, and West Virginia.

Check out new youth events at First Presbyterian Church! Our community is dedicated to providing engaging opportunities for our young members to grow in their faith and build lasting relationships with their peers. Please contact Kallee at (865) 387-4748 or kallee@purvisbuilders.com if you can chaperone events or if you would like your teen to get connected.

- May 19, Presbytery of East TN Small & Mighty Youth Group movie night at Farragut
- May 30, Virginia Creeper Trail bike ride, weather permitting
- June 9-15, High school students to Montreat
- June 18, Presbytery of East TN Small & Mighty Youth Group to Dollywood Splash Country
- June & July, John Knox Camps

Please join us for our last 2 Worshipful Wednesdays of the school year (May 8th & 15th). Meet us for dinner at 5:30 pm followed by the programs at 6:30 pm in the James Park room ("Always On" class) and Heritage Room A (Matthew 25 class).

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

WORSHIP MUSIC NOTES

Come, Christians, Join to Sing
All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!
Tune: Coronation
Alleluia
Tune: Alleluia 7
Thine Is the Glory
Tune: Judas Maccabeus

One License #CGB90
One License #28786

Pacem
Blest Be the Tie That Binds
Tune: Dennis
Hark, I Hear the Harps Eternal
In Christ There Is No East or West
Tune: Mc Kee

One License #256196

One License #50-5050
One License #84249

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

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 5, 2024

Connect With Us



www.fpcknox.org

620 State Street
Knoxville, TN 37902

THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

PRELUDE *Come, Christians Join to Sing* Arr. D. Linda McKechnie
Adult 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 98*

O sing to the Lord a new song, who has done marvelous deeds,
whose right hand and holy arm have brought salvation.

**Let the sea roar, and all that fills it,
the world and those who live in it.**

Let the rivers clap their hands and the mountains sing for joy;
for the Lord comes to rule the earth.

**Sing to the Lord a new song.
Come, let us worship God!**

***OPENING HYMN** *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!* 263

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Gracious God, you have called us your servants and you
have called us your friends. But too often we fail to hear
your words and listen instead to other voices. We hear
the cries of those who tell us that we are inadequate or do
not measure up. We feel the demands of doing more,
producing more, and trying to be more than we can.**

**Forgive us when we are distracted and forget who you
have called us to be. Forgive us when busyness and anxiety
rob us of our joy. Help us to remember, O God, that we
are your beloved children. Give us ears to hear the one
voice that matters, and restore to us the joy of our
salvation, for we ask in Jesus' name...**

(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 Acts 10:34-44 Rob Jones

³⁴ Then Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵ but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶ You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷ That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸ how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹ We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰ but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹ not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴² He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³ All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name." ⁴⁴ While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word.

ANTHEM *Pacem* Lee Dengler

Rachel Patton McCord, Violin

Translation of Latin text: Grant us Peace, and peace on earth, good will to all.

SPECIAL TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES Dr. Andy Morgan

SECOND SCRIPTURE John 15:9-17

⁹ As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰ If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹ I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. ¹² "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³ No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. ¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵ I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from

my Father. ¹⁶ You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. ¹⁷ I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON "A Little Help From My Friends" Rev. Mark R Curtis

THE RESPONSE OF GOD'S PEOPLE

***HYMN OF RESPONSE** *Blest Be the Tie That Binds* 306

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 *Hark, I Hear the Harps Eternal* Neil Harmon

*Hark, I hear the harps eternal. Ringing on the farther shore,
As I near those swollen waters with their deep and solemn roar.
Hallelujah, praise the Lamb! Hallelujah, glory to the great I AM!
And my soul, tho' stained with sorrow, fading as the light of day,
Passes swiftly o'er those waters, to the city far away.
Souls have crossed before me, saintly, to that land of perfect rest.
And I hear them singing faintly. In the mansions of the blest.*

***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.**

RECOGNITION OF OUR GRADUATES (see insert)

THE SENDING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

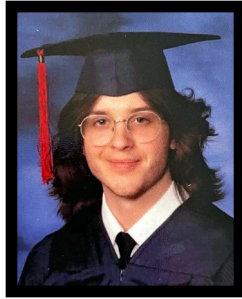
***CLOSING HYMN** *In Christ There Is No East or West* 317

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

***POSTLUDE** *Tocatta in B Minor* Eugène Gigout

**Please stand if you are able.*

2024 Graduates



Christian Candino is graduating from South Doyle High School. He will be attending East Tennessee State University, where he will major in Media and Communications.



Carter McAdoo graduated in December from Maryville College with a Bachelor's in Graphic Design and a minor in Marketing. He has started a position with Cirrus Aircraft in their Marketing department. He also runs a business, Marble City Creative, doing drone photography for the construction industry.



JP, or Jerry Philip, Pennoyer is graduating from Concord Christian School. He will attend Tennessee Tech in the fall.



Jack Ragsdale graduated from Lincoln Memorial University DeBusk College of Osteopathic Medicine and will continue his training as a resident in pediatrics at East Tennessee State University. He will be moving to Johnson City with his wife Haley and son Lucas.

RECOGNITION OF OUR GRADUATES

INTRODUCTION OF GRADUATES

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

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

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

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

As we each remember the waters of our baptism,

We affirm that we are one in Christ,

Remembering our baptismal promise,

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.**

Remembering our baptismal promise,

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



Congratulations

Class of 2024!

