

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN....

Welcome missionaries **Jeff and Christi Boyd**, who are based in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

The Small & Mighty Youth Group will be going to Soaky Mountain Water Park on August 27th. Please RSVP to Kallee at 865-387-4748 or kallee@purvisbuilders.com.

The annual Presbytery PreTeen Retreat at John Knox Center is September 15-16. This retreat for 4th and 5th graders starts with Friday evening after supper and ends after Saturday lunch. Registrations of \$40 per person (student or adult) are due August 31st. There will be a day-only registration option. For more information, contact Mark Lampley at (865) 522-9804 or MLampley@sequoyahchurch.org.

2023 Fall Softball Season is here! Wear your purple and support our co-ed softball team, the Fightin' Turnips on Tuesday evenings at Caswell Park near Parkridge neighborhood and Old North Knoxville. Fields are located at 620 Winona St, 37917. This season, all games are played on Tuesday evenings. Can't wait to see you there!

- Game 3, August 22nd – 6 pm
- Game 4, August 29th – 8 pm
- Game 5, September 5th – 7 pm

If you would like to join the Turnips, attend their games, or have some questions, please get in touch with Preston Smith at prestonsmith07@gmail.com.

Ilia Steinschneider will present a violin recital on Saturday, September 2, at 5:00 pm, in the sanctuary. Mr. Steinschneider has performed in worldwide and is a core section violinist with the Knoxville Symphony Orchestra. Mr. Steinschneider will be joined by a couple of his students as well as internationally recognized soloist & collaborative pianist, Dr. Emi Kagawa.

New Membership Inquirer's gathering will be held on September 17th at 9:45 am in the Session Room on the first floor of the church office. This class is a great opportunity for those who are interested in learning more about our church and what it means to be a member, as well as how to connect and serve at First Presbyterian. During the class, Pastor Mark Curtis, along with other ministry leaders, will be leading the discussion and answering any questions you may have. If you are interested in attending, please email him at mcurtis@fpcknox.org for more information. We want to emphasize that membership is not mandatory, but it is a way to become more involved in the church and to connect with other members. There will be an opportunity to join the church after the class, but there is no obligation to do so.

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 to 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>	Mary Virginia Bohner <i>Crucifer</i>
Jane Holland <i>Director of Finance/Facilities</i>	Noah Jones <i>Bible Bearer</i>

WORSHIP MUSIC NOTES

Trumpet Tune on "Aurelia" From All That Dwell Below the Skies Tune: Lasst Uns Erfreuen	One License # 101024	Amazing Grace Tune: Amazing Grace Onward Ye Peoples Great Is Thy Faithfulness Tune: Faithfulness	One License # 1.0938
Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me Tune: Glory to God Come! Live in the Light! Tune: We Are Called	One License # VT429	Toccata in Seven	One License # 101430

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

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

AUGUST 20, 2023

Connect With Us



www.fpcknox.org

620 State Street
Knoxville, TN 37902

THE PREPARATION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

PRELUDE Trumpet Tune on "Aurelia" Arr. Michael Helman

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MOMENT FOR MISSION Jeff Boyd

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (from Romans 10)

This I remember, and therefore I have hope:

**The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases;
God's mercies never come to an end.**

They are new every morning

Great is thy faithfulness! Let us worship God!

***OPENING HYMN** From All That Dwell Below the Skies 327

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, Creator of all the earth, we confess that we have not always lived as you would have us live. You have shown us the way to love, but we have chosen too often the path of uncaring. You have called us to the ministry of reconciliation, yet often we find ourselves tempted to turn away from others. You have challenged us to generous hospitality, but many times we would rather keep to ourselves. Enter our lives, O God, once again. Release us from the bonds of self-centeredness, and help us to live as faithful people... (a moment for silent confession)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***MUSICAL RESPONSE** Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me 582

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me, and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen. World without end, without end. Amen. World without end, without end. Amen. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

***MUSICAL RESPONSE** Come! Live in the Light! (v. 3) 749

Sing! Sing a new song! Sing of that great day when all will be one! God will reign, and we'll walk with each other as sisters and brothers united in love. We are called to act with justice; we are called to love tenderly; we are called to serve one another, to walk humbly with God.

THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON Isaiah 56:1, 6-8 John Whaley

¹ Thus says the LORD:

Maintain justice, and do what is right,
for soon my salvation will come,
and my deliverance be revealed.

⁶ And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD,
to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD,
and to be his servants,
all who keep the sabbath, and do not profane it,
and hold fast my covenant—

⁷ these I will bring to my holy mountain,
and make them joyful in my house of prayer;
their burnt offerings and their sacrifices
will be accepted on my altar;
for my house shall be called a house of prayer
for all peoples.

⁸ Thus says the Lord GOD,
who gathers the outcasts of Israel,
I will gather others to them
besides those already gathered.

ANTHEM Grant Us Thy Peace Felix Mendelssohn
Grant us thy peace, almighty Lord, thou source of every blessing! We cannot keep Thy saving word, unless Thy peace possessing, Thy peace O give by which we live.

SPECIAL TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES Dr. Andy Morgan

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON Matthew 15:21-28

²¹ Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon.

²² Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." ²³ But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." ²⁴ He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." ²⁵ But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." ²⁶ He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." ²⁷ She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." ²⁸ Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.

SERMON "Crossing the Line" Rev. Mark R. Curtis

THE RESPONSE OF GOD'S PEOPLE

***HYMN OF RESPONSE** Amazing Grace 649

RECEPTION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM Onward Ye Peoples Jean Sibelius
Onward, ye peoples, strive for the Light. The Light that the Lord hath given us for our guide. Who through murk and darkness of night hath led us in safety unto our reward. See how the fiery pillar is gleaming lighting our steps when dark is the way. And the Light of the World, it cleaveth the gloomy blackness of night. That else would engulf us see how the cloudy pillar to shield us, safe when the sun would blister us. Then forward, where faith revealeth the way for God is our guide and He will never fail. Fires are gleaming voices are singing forth from Mount Neboh's heaven-storming height. Salem, hark, they call us upward and on, to our Father's home. Salem on the horizon urging us on to God and our home and the heavenly choir doth ring from Mount Neboh piercing the blue like a living light. Salem!

***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 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.

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

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Toccata in Seven John Rutter

**Please stand if you are able.*