

Our guest organist today is Joy Fournier. Joy is the former Organist/Choirmaster of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Oak Ridge, and First Presbyterian Church, Greeneville, TN. She received her bachelor's and master's degrees in sacred music and organ performance at The University of Tennessee, studying with John Brock.

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 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

The Rev. Meredith Loftis
Associate Pastor

Mark Pace
Organist/Choirmaster

Mary Wilson
Adult Ministry Coordinator

Katie Norrell
Director of Communications

Jane Holland
Director of Finance/Facilities

Laura Harmon
Church Administrator

Lauren Nunn
Director of Parent's Day Out /
Childcare Coordinator

Sandra Robinson
Administrative Assistant

Victor Lenoir
Custodian

Paul Seguna
Sound Engineer

J. P. Pennoyer
Crucifer

Noah Jones
Bible Bearer

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).

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN....

For 230 years, First Presbyterian Church has been living out its story of faith and discipleship for Christ in the heart of Knoxville. Because of the hard work, dedication, and sacrifice of the saints who have gone before, we continue the good work of Christ by loving God and

neighbor. It is on the shoulders of these saints, and on the strong foundations they built, that we now stand, as we gaze into God's great future. Answering God's call to continue our story, we offer who we are and what we have to equip the next generation of disciples to do God's work in and through our church.

Our Stewardship scripture this year, as we celebrate our 230th church anniversary, is Psalm 145:3-4:

"The Lord is great and so worthy of praise! God's greatness can't be grasped. One generation will praise your works to the next one, proclaiming your mighty acts."

Yarn Circle meets in the parlor at 12:30 p.m. on October 13th. Bring your current project or start a new one. Contact Jane Holland at jane@fpcknox.org with questions.

Trunk or Treat will be held on October 26th from 5:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. There will be bounce houses, face paint, a pizza dinner, and of course, trunk or treat! You will also have the opportunity to meet Smoky! Contact the church office at 546-2531 for more details.

230th Anniversary Celebration is Sunday, October 30th.



First Presbyterian Church
FOR CHRIST IN THE HEART OF KNOXVILLE

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

OCTOBER 9, 2022

11 A.M. SERVICE

Connect With Us



www.fpcknox.org

620 State Street
Knoxville, TN 37902

THE PREPARATION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

PRELUDE *Andante and Variations in D Major* Felix Mendelssohn

WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

***CALL TO WORSHIP** *from Jeremiah 29*

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

"plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.

"Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you.

"When you search for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart."

Let us worship, God!

***OPENING HYMN** *Let Us Build a House (vv. 1, 2, 3 & 5)* 301
One License #00004

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God of shalom,

we have built up walls to protect ourselves from our enemies, but those walls also shut us off from receiving your love. Break down those walls.

Help us to see that the way to your heart is through the reconciliation of our own hearts with our enemies.

Bless them and us,

that we may come to grow in love for each other and for you, through Jesus Christ...

(a moment for silent confession)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***MUSICAL RESPONSE** *Hear the Good News of Salvation (v. 1)* 441
One License #118619

Hear the good news of salvation:

Jesus died to show God's love.

Such great kindness! Such great mercy!

Come to us from heaven above.

Jesus Christ, how much I love you!

Jesus Christ, you save from sin!

How I love you! Look upon me.

Love me still and cleanse within.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

***MUSICAL RESPONSE** *This Is My Song (v. 3)*

340

One License #56640

This is my prayer, O Lord of all earth's kingdoms:

Thy kingdom come; on earth thy will be done.

Let Christ be lifted up till all shall serve him,

And hearts united learn to live as one.

So hear my prayer, O God of all the nations:

Myself I give thee; let thy will be done.

THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

FOCUS ON OUR STEWARDSHIP

Stacy Davis

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON *Psalms 137* Louis Becker

By the rivers of Babylon—there we sat down and there we wept when we remembered Zion. ²On the willows there we hung up our harps.

³For there our captors asked us for songs, and our tormentors asked for mirth, saying, "Sing us one of the songs of Zion!" ⁴How could we sing the Lord's song in a foreign land? ⁵If I forget you, O Jerusalem, let my right hand wither! ⁶Let my tongue cling to the roof of my mouth, if I do not remember you, if I do not set Jerusalem above my highest joy.

⁷Remember, O Lord, against the Edomites the day of Jerusalem's fall, how they said, "Tear it down! Tear it down! Down to its foundations!"

⁸O daughter Babylon, you devastator! Happy shall they be who pay you back what you have done to us! ⁹Happy shall they be who take your little ones and dash them against the rock!

ANTHEM *What God Ordains is Always Good* Johann Pachelbel

What God ordains is always good! His will abideth holy. As He directs my life for me, I follow meek and lowly. My God indeed in ev'ry need doth well know how to shield me; to Him, then, I will yield me. What God ordains is always good! He is my Friend and Father; He suffers naught to do me harm, though many storms may gather. Now I may know both joy and woe, someday I shall see clearly that He hath loved me dearly. What God ordains is always good! This truth remains unshaken. Though sorrow, need, or death be mine, I shall not be forsaken. I fear no harm, for with His arm he shall embrace and shield me; So to my God I yield me.

SPECIAL TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON *Jeremiah 29:1, 4-10*

These are the words of the letter that the prophet Jeremiah sent from Jerusalem to the remaining elders among the exiles, and to the priests, the prophets, and all the people, whom Nebuchadnezzar had taken into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon.... ⁴Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, to all the exiles whom I have sent into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: ⁵Build houses and live in them; plant gardens and

eat what they produce. ⁶Take wives and have sons and daughters; take wives for your sons, and give your daughters in marriage, that they may bear sons and daughters; multiply there, and do not decrease. ⁷But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare. ⁸For thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Do not let the prophets and the diviners who are among you deceive you, and do not listen to the dreams that they dream, ⁹for it is a lie that they are prophesying to you in my name; I did not send them, says the Lord. ¹⁰For thus says the Lord: Only when Babylon's seventy years are completed will I visit you, and I will fulfill to you my promise and bring you back to this place.

SERMON "Keep Calm" Rev. Mark R. Curtis

THE RESPONSE OF GOD'S PEOPLE

***HYMN OF RESPONSE** *We Come to You For Healing, Lord* 796
(vv. 1, 2, & 5)

One License #03119

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 *Andante in A Major from Sonata III* Felix Mendelssohn

***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.

***CLOSING HYMN** *Lead On, O King Eternal!* 269

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

***POSTLUDE** *Allegro Moderato in C Major* Felix Mendelssohn

**Please stand if you are able.*