

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Breaking and Sharing of the Bread
Pouring and Sharing of the Cup

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND 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.

*CLOSING HYMN *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates* 93

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE *Sleepers, Wake! A Voice is Calling* Johann S. Bach

*Please stand if you are able.

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
<i>Senior Pastor</i> | Lauren Nunn
<i>Director of Parent's Day Out /
Childcare Coordinator</i> |
| The Rev. Meredith Loftis
<i>Associate Pastor</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> | Jack Bryan
<i>Crucifer</i> |
| Jane Holland
<i>Director of Finance/Facilities</i> | Campbell Long
<i>Bible Bearer</i> |
| Laura Harmon
<i>Church Administrator</i> | |

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

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

NOVEMBER 27, 2022

11 A.M. SERVICE

Connect With Us



www.fpcknox.org

620 State Street
Knoxville, TN 37902

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN....

The Advent Devotional will be sent out daily via the church email. If you cannot receive email, please pick up a printed copy at one of the entrances to the sanctuary today.

On Wednesday, November 30th, we will be celebrating the **Hanging of the Greens**. In preparation, the flower guild asks that you bring evergreen cuttings (yew, cedar, white pine, holly, boxwood etc.) to the church by 9 a.m. Wednesday morning to be additions to garlands and wreaths. We will begin the evening with dinner at 5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall followed by decorating the church for Advent, including the Chrismon Tree, in the sanctuary at 6:30 p.m. This is an inter-generational event that will include music, stories, and fun!

The Knoxville Christmas Parade is Friday, December 2nd. The Small and Mighty Youth Group will be meeting in the fellowship hall at 6 p.m. to have dinner and watch the parade. Please contact Diana Curtis at diana.curtis11@gmail.com for more details.

First Presbyterian has reserved a block of seats to see "**Behold the Lamb of God**" at Tennessee Theater for \$25 / ticket on Wednesday, Dec 14 at 7:00pm. There are a few seats available, so please reserve today by calling the church office at 546-2531.

THE PREPARATION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

PRELUDE *Sleepers, Wake! A Voice is Calling* Paul Manz

WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

***LIGHTING THE CANDLES OF ADVENT** *from Isaiah 2*
Meredith & Grayson
Becky & Tom Loftis

The prophet Isaiah declares that in days to come
God will judge between the nations, and arbitrate for many peoples.

We light this candle because we refuse to let go of Isaiah's hope:
that swords will be beaten into plowshares,
and spears into pruning hooks,
and that nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war any more.

**Risen Christ, Light of the world,
Shine in our lives and shine among us now.**

***OPENING HYMN** O Come, O Come, Emmanuel 88
(verse 1, sung by choir; verses 6 & 7, sung by all)

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of grace, ever faithful to your promises:
The earth rejoices in hope of our Savior's coming,
and longs for the day of his return in glory.
Prepare our hearts to receive him when he comes.
Cleanse us from all that leads us to turn away from him,
when we trust instead in ourselves
to make our future good.
Forgive us for turning our backs on the needy,
through whom he comes to us day by day.
Empower us by your Spirit
to prepare ourselves for Christ's return
by doing the work to which he has commissioned us,
until your reign is revealed
in all its fullness and power....**
(a moment for silent confession)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***MUSICAL RESPONSE** *Wait for the Lord* 90
One License #00172
**Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.
Wait for the Lord; be strong; take heart! (3x)**

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

***MUSICAL RESPONSE** *While We Are Waiting Come* 92
**While we are waiting, come; while we are waiting, come.
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.**

THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON *Romans 13:11-14* David Dennis
Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for
you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we
became believers; ¹² the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay
aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³ let us live
honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in
debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴ Instead,
put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to
gratify its desires.

ANTHEM *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* Hal. H. Hopson
Julie Belanger Roy, Violin
*Come, Thou long expected Jesus, born to set Thy people free; from our fears
and sins release us, Let us find our rest in Thee. Israel's strength and
consolation, hope of all the earth Thou art; dear desire of every nation, joy of
every longing heart. By Thine own eternal Spirit, rule in all our hearts alone;
by Thine all sufficient merit, Raise us to Thy glorious throne.*

SPECIAL TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON *Matthew 24:36-44*
"But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of
heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³⁷ For as the days of Noah
were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸ For as in those days
before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in
marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, ³⁹ and they knew nothing
until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming
of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰ Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and
one will be left. ⁴¹ Two women will be grinding meal together; one will
be taken and one will be left. ⁴² Keep awake therefore, for you do not
know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³ But understand this: if the
owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was
coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house
be broken into. ⁴⁴ Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man
is coming at an unexpected hour.

SERMON "Unexpected" Rev. Mark R. Curtis

THE RESPONSE OF GOD'S PEOPLE

***HYMN OF RESPONSE** *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silent* 347

RECEPTION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY *Veni Jesu, Amour Mi* Luigi Cherubini
Translation of Latin text: Come to me, O Jesus my love.

***DOXOLOGY** *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.**

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We were not there when you created the world, O God,
though you knew us even then...

Therefore, with all who have watched for your coming,
with the faithful of all the ages,
with all the company of heaven,
we praise your holy name, singing,

SANCTUS 552

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

Lord of light and darkness, send your Spirit upon us.

**We who have so much to do
seek quiet spaces to hear your voice.**

We who are anxious over many things
look forward to your coming.

**We who are blessed in so many ways long for your joy.
We whose hearts are heavy seek your presence.**

**We are your people, walking in darkness,
yet seeking the light.**

To you we say,

"Come, Lord Jesus!"

Come to us in this bread and in this wine,

**And send us out to be your servants to the world.
Alleluia! Come, Lord Jesus! Amen.**