

church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN *In Christ There Is No East or West* 317
One License #84249

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE *Chorale Prelude* Max Drischner

*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> | Harris Eddins
<i>Crucifer</i> |
| Jane Holland
<i>Director of Finance/Facilities</i> | Parson Campen
<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

2ND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANAY
JANUARY 15, 2023

Connect With Us



www.fpcknox.org

620 State Street
Knoxville, TN 37902

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN....

We are in need of 2 or 3 additional group leaders for this session of **First Fellowship**. As a group leader, your primary task is to organize the first get together and keep track of who in the group is organizing the next gathering. While it is always great to host a group at your home, participants can also organize a gathering at a local restaurant or something like a picnic in a park in the warmer weather. Please email Zee Troutman at zeefoto616@icloud.com or text/call 865-789-7062 to fill one of the necessary leader roles.

Presbytery-wide Bible study "Studies in Genesis" started January 8th. The Bible study is both in-person at area churches and on Zoom and takes place at the following dates below on Sundays from 3 - 4:30 pm. Led by Rev. Dr. Wendy Neff.

- Live in-person teaching schedule:
- January 22 - Northminster Presbyterian (Chattanooga)
- January 29 - First Presbyterian (Lenoir City)
- February 5 - Mars Hill Presbyterian (Athens)
- February 12 - Farragut Presbyterian (Knoxville)

The Genesis Bible Study is also available on the Presbytery's Zoom site in Meeting Room "A" and can be entered by going to www.presbyteryeasttn.org/Zoom. The page password is: prepass

Once you're in the Presbytery meeting room area, click to enter Meeting Room A. Please join us for this wonderful study!

"What's Your Story" series begins February 1st. This is a great way to get to know other FPC members and hear stories about their lives and their faith. This series will meet for three weeks starting February 1st.

THE PREPARATION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

PRELUDE *Deep River* Arr. Lloyd Larson
Adult Handbells

WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Baptized to begin lives of faith,
**we would witness to all you do
in our communities, in our midst, in our world.**

Baptized to serve,
**we would speak up for the voiceless,
we would bring justice to those who have none.**

Baptized to speak,
**we would heal, and not hurt;
we would bless, and not curse.**

Baptized to do what is right,
**we would not play favorites,
but treat each as your Beloved.
Let us worship God!**

***OPENING HYMN** *God Is Here!* 409
OneLicense #16925

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Merciful God,
In baptism you promise forgiveness and new life,
making us part of the body of Christ.
We confess that we remain preoccupied with ourselves,
separated from one another.
We cling to destructive habits, hold grudges,
and show reluctance to welcome one another.
We allow the past to hold us captive.**

**In your loving-kindness, have mercy on us,
and free us from sin.
Fulfill the promises of our baptism
so that we may rise to new life,
and live together in grace...**
(silent confession)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***MUSICAL RESPONSE** *Glory to God* 583
**Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest! Glory to
God, glory to God, alleluia, alleluia!**

PASSING OF THE PEACE

***MUSICAL RESPONSE** *Alleluia!* 587
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

FIRST SCRIPTURE Isaiah 49:1-7 Brent Trentham
Listen to me, O coastlands, pay attention, you peoples from far away!
The LORD called me before I was born, while I was in my mother's
womb he named me. ² He made my mouth like a sharp sword, in the
shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow, in his
quiver he hid me away. ³ And he said to me, "You are my servant, Israel,
in whom I will be glorified." ⁴ But I said, "I have labored in vain, I have
spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my cause is with the
LORD, and my reward with my God." ⁵ And now the LORD says, who
formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him,
and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am honored in the sight
of the LORD, and my God has become my strength— ⁶ he says, "It is too
light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of
Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to
the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth." ⁷ Thus
says the LORD, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply
despised, abhorred by the nations, the slave of rulers, "Kings shall see
and stand up, princes, and they shall prostrate themselves, because of
the LORD, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."

ANTHEM *Behold the Lamb of God* George F. Handel
Behold the Lamb of God that takest away the sin of the world.

SPECIAL TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON John 1:29-42
The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is
the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! ³⁰ This is he of
whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he
was before me.' ³¹ I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with
water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel." ³² And John
testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it
remained on him. ³³ I myself did not know him, but the one who sent
me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit
descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' ³⁴ And
I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God." ³⁵ The
next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, ³⁶ and as he
watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!"
³⁷ The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. ³⁸ When
Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you
looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means

Teacher), "where are you staying?" ³⁹ He said to them, "Come and
see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained
with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon.
⁴⁰ One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was
Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. ⁴¹ He first found his brother Simon
and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated
Anointed). ⁴² He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and
said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called
Cephas" (which is translated Peter).

SERMON Rev. Meredith Loftis

THE RESPONSE OF GOD'S PEOPLE

***HYMN OF RESPONSE** *Down Galilee's Slow Roadways* 164
Use alternate tune Wie Lieblich Ist Der Maien #170 OneLicense #10106

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER Rev. Mark R. Curtis
**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 *These Are They Who Follow the Lamb* John Goss
*These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever He goeth. These
were redeemed from among men, being the first-fruits unto God and to
the Lamb. And in their mouth was found no guile, for they are without
fault before the throne of God.*

***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**