

bliss begin, by weary saints foretold, when right shall triumph over wrong, and truth shall be extolled. The King shall come when morning dawns and light and beauty brings; Hail, Christ the Lord! Thy people pray, come quickly, King of kings. Not, as of old, a little child, to bear and fight, and die, but crowned like the sun that lights the morning sky.

***CLOSING HYMN** *Lo, He Comes With Clouds Descending* 348

***POSTLUDE** *Church Sonata No. 4 in D* Wolfgang Mozart
String Quartet and Organ

**Please stand if you are able.*

STRING QUARTET

Euclides Andrade, violin, Rachel Patton McCord, violin,
Kathryn Gawne, viola, and Ildar Khuziakhmetov, cello

ADULT CHOIR

Scott Beasley, Pat Chambers, Ryan Ford, Steve Fox, Susan Fox,
Holli Eckert, Joan Holladay, LeAnne Johnson, Brenda Maupin,
Jean Mayer, Ed Miller, Bill Myers, Tracy Pace, Jennifer Shilling,
Katrin Smith, Kathy Talent, Don Townsend, Eric White,
Linda Williams, Carrie Wright

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

MacKenna Cook
Crucifer

Nick Riordan
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....

Tuesday, December 13th at 6:30 pm – Blue Christmas: Service of Healing and Wholeness in the chapel. This is a somber Christmas service honoring members of the congregation who are experiencing grief or who have lost loved ones.

Tickets for **"Behold the Lamb of God"** will be placed on the table inside the office door and may be picked up after the morning service or between 9 am and 2 pm Monday through Wednesday.

Saturday, December 17th at 3 pm – Children's Ministry Christmas Party. Join us after the Christmas Pageant rehearsal in the Fellowship Hall for Snacks, Santa, and Crafts! Contact Diana Curtis for more information at diana.curtis11@gmail.com.

Saturday, December 17th at 3:30 pm – Youth Christmas Party will be held at the McAdoo's home. Contact Robyn McAdoo at robymcadoo@hotmail.com for more information.

Sunday, December 18th at 5 pm – Christmas Pageant

Monday, December 19th at noon is the deadline for Christmas flower memorials/honorariums. Contact Sandra at Sandra@fpcknox.org.

First Presbyterian Church
FOR CHRIST IN THE HEART OF KNOXVILLE 

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 11, 2022

11 A.M. SERVICE

Connect With Us



www.fpcknox.org

620 State Street
Knoxville, TN 37902

THE PREPARATION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

PRELUDE *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming* Arr. Kevin Hildebrand
String Quartet and Organ

WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

***LIGHTING THE CANDLES OF ADVENT** *from Isaiah 35*
Fred and Susan Brackney

The prophet Isaiah declares that when God comes among us,
the deaf shall hear, the blind shall see,
and the tongue of the speechless shall sing for joy.
We light this candle as a sign of our hope
that God's love in Christ brings healing to us,
and to the whole world.

As we witness to the power of healing love,
in ourselves and in others –

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

***OPENING HYMN** *O Come, O Come Emmanuel (verse 1, 5 & 7)* 88

SPECIAL TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

THE BIDDING PRAYER

Beloved in Christ, as we await the great festival of Christmas, let us prepare ourselves so that we may be shown its true meaning. Let us hear in Holy Scripture how the prophets of Israel foretold that God would visit and redeem the waiting people. Let us rejoice, in our carols and hymns, that the good purpose of God is being mightily fulfilled. Let us celebrate the promise that our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, will bring all peoples and all things into the glory of God's eternal kingdom. The blind receive their sight, and the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, and the poor have the gospel preached to them. But first, let us pray for the world that God so loves, for those who have not heard the good news of God, or who do not believe it; for those who walk in darkness and the shadow of death; and for the Church in this place and everywhere, that it may in pure joy lift up the light of the love of God. These prayers and praises let us humbly offer to God, in the words that Christ himself taught us.

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.**

ADVENT LESSONS AND CAROLS

FIRST LESSON Isaiah 40:1-5

To God's people in exile in a faraway land, the prophet Isaiah announces good news: God is returning and bringing the exiles home.

CAROL *Great Creator* Karen Marroli
One License #50-0068

Great Creator, ever speaking, teach us you are weaving still, painting heaven in its newness, sculpting earth with finest skill. What has come before will vanish as the night fades into morn, bringing daylight into darkness: heaven and earth will be reborn. Great Creator, ever listening to our prayers and to our plight, write in us your new creation, when our weeping turns to sight. Let us see the daylight dawning, when the wolf lies with the lamb, when all people join their voices, singing of the Great I AM. Jerusalem, our happy home, when shall we come to thee. Great Creator, every moving over wind and over wave, let our restless hearts find comfort in the call to love and save. Great Creator, as we wait here for the glorious rebirth, use our hearts and hands in service; sculpt your kingdom here on earth.

SECOND LESSON Jeremiah 23:5-6

The prophet Jeremiah offers hope for a righteous branch in the line of David, a just King who is yet to come.

CAROL *A Shoot Shall Come Forth* Richard Horn
One License #48583

A shoot shall come forth out of Jesse, and a bud shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of life shall be with him, the spirit of wisdom and truth. Then the lamb shall lie down with the leopard, and the lion eat straw with the ox, for the hand of a Child shall lead them to the peaceful kingdom of God. From out of the wells of salvation will he draw us the water of life; His waist shall be girdled with justice, the heart of his heart shall be Love. He'll come from the end of his heaven, and the earth shall be torn from its place; our lives shall be filled with his radiance as floodwaters cover the sea.

THIRD LESSON Luke 1:26-34

The angel Gabriel announces to the virgin Mary that she will give birth to a ruler whose reign shall never end.

CAROL *There is No Rose* Hal H. Hopson
One License #215070

There is no rose of such virtue as is the rose that bare Jesu; Alleluia. For in this rose contained was heaven and earth in little space, Res miranda. By that rose we may well see there be one God in persons three, Pares forma. Then leave we all this worldly mirth, and follow we this joyful birth,

Transeamus, Pares forma, Alleluia.

FOURTH LESSON Luke 1:34-38
Mary speaks to the angel Gabriel.

OFFERTORY CAROL *The Angel Gabriel From Heaven Came* Manz/Ohnesorge
One License #100815

The angel Gabriel from heaven came His wings as drifted snow his eyes as flame "All hail" said he "thou lowly maiden Mary, most highly favored lady," Gloria! "For know a blessed mother thou shalt be, All generations laud and honor thee, Thy Son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold Most highly favored lady," Gloria! Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head "To me be as it pleaseth God," she said, "My soul shall laud and magnify his holy name." Most highly favored lady. Gloria! Of her, Emanuel, the Christ was born In Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn and Christian folk throughout the world will ever say: "Most highly favored lady," Gloria!

***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.**

FIFTH LESSON Luke 1:39-45
Mary Visits Elizabeth.

CAROL *Ave Maria* Philip Stopford
Translation of Latin text: *Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women, and blessed, Jesus. Hail Mary! Mother of God, Pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death.*

SIXTH LESSON Luke 1:46-55
Mary's Song of Praise

CAROL *Ave Maria* Franz Biebl
One License #98606

SEVENTH LESSON John 1:1-15
John the Baptist proclaims the coming of Jesus, who is anointed by his Father to bring the good news of the Gospel.

CAROL *The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns* Alistair Coleman
One License # 8144

The King shall come when morning dawns and light triumphant breaks; when beauty gilds the eastern hills and life to joy awakes. Not, as of old, a little child, to bear, and fight, and die, but crowned with glory like the sun that lights the morning sky. The King shall come when morning dawns and earth's dark night is past; O haste the rising of that morn, the day that e'er shall last; and let the endless

During the Christmas season your generous donations have served to support the flower ministry of our devoted flower guild. We are mindful of the difficulties of this year and our hope is to lift the spirits of the congregation and the community with displays inside the sanctuary and around the church grounds. Many have been separated from loved ones and we hope you might perhaps honor a special family member or donate in memory of someone. We would love to create arrangements with them in mind. **The**

deadline for inclusion in this year's Christmas flower bulletin is NOON, Monday, December 19, 2022. When filling out the form, please enter one name per line. Suggested donation is \$20.00 per name. You may also email your form to Sandra at sandra@fpcknox.org or pay online by going to our website www.fpcknox.org and clicking "Give" and then clicking on "Online Giving." Be sure to fill in "Christmas Flowers" in the "Flower Fund" category.

In Memory Of

In Honor Of

Given By

