



First Presbyterian Church
FOR CHRIST IN THE HEART OF KNOXVILLE 

“For Christ in the Heart of Knoxville,” the First Presbyterian Church seeks

- *to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ*
- *to nurture those within its influence*
- *to serve spiritual and human needs*

LEADERS IN WORSHIP

The Rev. Mark R. Curtis, Senior Pastor
The Rev. Meredith Loftis, Associate Pastor
Mr. Mark Pace, Organist/Choirmaster
Mr. Alex McGavic, Children and Youth Ministries Coordinator
Harry Pennoyer, Crucifer
Eleanor Efurd, Bible Bearer

ORDER OF WORSHIP
THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD
JANUARY 9, 2022
✧ **THE PREPARATION OF GOD'S PEOPLE** ✧

PRELUDE

How Bright Appears the Morning Star

Max Drischner

WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

† CALL TO WORSHIP

from Isaiah 60, Psalm 80, II Corinthians 4 & John 12

Leader: Arise, shine; for your light has come,

People: And the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

Leader: Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine,
that we may be saved.

**People: For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness,"
who has shone in our hearts to give the light
of the knowledge of the glory of God
in the face of Jesus Christ.**

Leader: Jesus said: I am the light of the world.

**People: Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness
but will have the light of life.**

† OPENING HYMN 152

What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright

Puer Nobis Nascitur

1. What star is this, with beams so bright,
more lovely than the noonday light?
'Tis sent to announce a newborn king,
glad tidings of our God to bring.

3. While outward signs the star displays,
an inward light the Lord conveys
and urges them, with tender might,
to seek the giver of the light.

2. 'Tis now fulfilled what God decreed,
"From Jacob shall a star proceed;"
and lo! the eastern sages stand
to read in heaven the Lord's command.

4. O Jesus, while the star of grace
impels us on to seek your face,
let not our slothful hearts refuse
the guidance of your light to use.

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of glory, you sent Jesus among us as the light of the world, to reveal your love for all people. We confess that we have seen the light of his star and still not sought your presence. Grant us the wisdom to search for you, to seek you, and in seeking, to find you. Give us faith to embrace you as the source of our lives, the hope of our world, and the light in our darkness. In your mercy, forgive us and change us, O God, so that we may show forth your glory shining in the face of Jesus Christ... *(a moment for silent confession)*

† ASSURANCE OF PARDON

† MUSICAL RESPONSE 583

Glory to God

Gloria

Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest! Glory to God, glory to God, alleluia, alleluia!

† PASSING OF THE PEACE

† MUSICAL RESPONSE 587

Alleluia!

Celtic Alleluia

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

✠ THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD ✠

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 2:1-12 (*see insert*)

Zee Troutman

SPECIAL TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

Isaiah 60:1-6

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. ²For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. ³Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. ⁴Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. ⁵Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. ⁶A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

SERMON

“Light for the Journey”

Rev. Mark R. Curtis

✠ THE RESPONSE OF GOD'S PEOPLE ✠

† HYMN OF RESPONSE 401

Here in This Place (*see insert*)

Gather Us In

RECEPTION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

You may place your offering in the offering plates on the side aisles or you are invited to mail in your tithes and offerings to the church office or give online at www.fpcknox.org/donate.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

How Bright Appears the Morning Star

Johann Kuhnau

How bright appears the Morning Star, with mercy beaming from afar; the host of heaven rejoices. O Righteous Branch, O Jesse's Rod, the Son of Man and Son of God, we too will lift our voices: Jesus, Jesus, holy, holy, yet most lowly, come, draw near us; great Emmanuel, come and bear us. Rejoice, O heav'ns, and earth, reply; with praise, all people, fill the sky for this, His incarnation. Incarnate God, put forth Your pow'r; ride on, ride on, great Conqueror, till all know Your salvation. Amen, amen! Alleluia, alleluia! Praise be given evermore by earth and heaven.

† DOXOLOGY 606 *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.

...And so, with all your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

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.**

You have called us, O God, to new places and new hopes.

The old will dream dreams, and the young will see visions.

Throughout the ages, you have asked your people
to put their trust in you,

and to follow you to unseen and unlikely destinations.

And you have surprised us with blessings beyond all that we dare to ask or imagine.

You have called us together as the body of Christ, and individually members of it.

Teach us, O God, to honor our diversity, to celebrate our unity,

and to support each other on our journey together.

Pour out your Spirit upon us, O God, and upon these gifts of bread and wine.

Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,

that we might be the body of Christ for the world.

Strengthen us by your Spirit, and make us worthy of your call;

make us faithful in your service through our service to the world.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

all glory and honor are yours, eternal God, now and forever. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

BREAKING AND SHARING OF THE BREAD

POURING AND SHARING OF THE CUP

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION *The Morning Star* Hagen/Pfohl
Morning Star thy cheering light, can dispel the gloom of night. Light divine, come and shine, Come and shine Light divine on this darksome heart of mine. Joyful beam thy light we see. Willing we follow Thee. Fairest Star, near and far. Near and far, Fairest Star, Christ as God, we Thee adore. Therefore, Oh! Thou light divine, come without delay and shine! Jesus come, make Thy home, Jesus come make Thy home in my heart, Lord Jesus come.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (UNISON)

God of new beginnings, begin again with us. Open our hearts to hope and open our eyes to new directions. Set before us this day the way of Christ, and set within us your Holy Spirit. Enable us to go forth with confidence certain that amidst the constancy of change, your love remains forever and your hope upholds us always, for we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, who is the same yesterday, today, and forever. Amen.

† SENDING HYMN 744 *Arise, Your Light Is Come!* Festal Song

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| <p>1. Arise, your light is come!
The Spirit's call obey;
Show forth the glory of your God,
Which shines on you today.</p> <p>2. Arise, your light is come!
Fling wide the prison door;
Proclaim the captives' liberty,
Good tidings to the poor.</p> | <p>3. Arise, your light is come!
All you in sorrow born,
Bind up the broken-hearted ones
And comfort those who mourn.</p> <p>4. Arise, your light is come!
The mountains burst in song!
Rise up like eagles on the wing;
God's power will make us strong.</p> |
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† CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *We Three Kings* Arr. Paul Manz

† - Please stand if you are able.

WORSHIP FOR JANUARY 9, 2022

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 2:1-12

Zee Troutman

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ² asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.” ³ When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴ and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵ They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: ⁶ ‘And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.’”

⁷ Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸ Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.” ⁹ When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹ On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹² And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

† HYMN OF RESPONSE 401

Here in This Place

Gather Us In

1. Here in this place the new light is streaming;
Now is the darkness vanished away;
See in this space our fears
And our dreamings
Brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken;
Gather us in, the blind and the lame;
Call to us now, and we shall awaken;
We shall arise at the sound of our name.
2. We are the young; our lives are a mystery.
We are the old who yearn for your face.
We have been sung throughout all of history,
Called to be light to the whole human race.
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty;
Gather us in, the proud and the strong;
Give us a heart, so meek and so lowly;
Give us the courage to enter the song.
3. Here we will take the wine and the water;
Here we will take the bread of new birth.
Here you shall call your sons
And your daughters,
Call us anew to be salt for the earth.
Give us to drink the wine of compassion;
Give us to eat the bread that is you;
Nourish us well, and teach us to fashion
Lives that are holy and hearts that are true.
4. Not in the dark of buildings confining,
Not in some heaven, light years away:
Here in this place the new light is shining;
Now is the kingdom, and now is the day.
Gather us in and hold us forever;
Gather us in and make us your own;
Gather us in, all peoples together,
Fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

MEMORIAL GIFTS
Received by the church
October 26 – December 30, 2021

MEMORIAL FUND:

<u>MEMORIAL FUND:</u>	FROM
Katherine Dudley Garner (Daughter of Libba Wall)	Flower Guild
John "Jack" Erdody (brother of Jean Mayer)	Bill & Ginny Morrow
.....	Ely & Phyllis Driver
Betty GoogeBill & Ginny Morrow
.....	John & Celeste Whaley
.....	Pat & Jane Armstrong
.....	.Debbie Christiansen
.....	.Mr. and Mrs. Gaines S. Pittenger
Mary Lou Butler	Al & Joanne Schuetz
.....	Judith Cagle
.....	John & Celeste Whaley
.....	Pat & Jane Armstrong
.....	.Gary & Paulette Anderson
.....	Ron & Jean Mayer
.....	.Debbie Christiansen
.....	Barbara Johnston
.....	.Lanny & Ann Payne
.....	.Mary Stuart Neely
.....	.Carey Christian
.....	.Mr. and Mrs. Gaines S. Pittenger
.....	Fred & Susan Brackney

PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE:

Kay Karry	William E. Karry
Tornado Victims	Dr. & Mrs. Jay Mounger
Kennett Hobbs	Connie Steele
Robert L. Goebel	Bob Goebel

FLOWER FUND:

Katherine Dudley GarnerBill & Ginny Morrow
Mary Lou Butler	Bill & Ginny Morrow
.....	.Len and Becky Dwarshius

MUSIC FUND:

John "Jack" Erdody (brother of Jean Mayer)	John & Celeste Whaley
.....	.Gary & Paulette Anderson
Barbara BrownJim Brown
Mary Lou ButlerGlen & Nancy Castle

