

You breathed into us the breath of life,  
and set us in your world to love and serve you.

**When we rejected your love and ignored your wisdom,  
you did not reject us.**

You loved us still  
**and called us to return to you in obedience and in love.**  
Therefore, we praise you forever singing to the glory of your name:

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.**

Lead us, O God, by the power of your Spirit  
to live as you require:

**to do justice, to love kindness,  
and to walk humbly with you, our God.**

Keep our eyes fixed on Jesus Christ until our life here is ended,  
and all that is earthly returns to dust.

**Give us strength to serve you faithfully  
until the promised day of resurrection,  
when we will feast with you at your table in glory. Amen.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

BREAKING AND SHARING OF THE BREAD  
POURING AND SHARING OF THE CUP

**MUSIC DURING COMMUNION** Create in Me Layton James  
*Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew the spirit within me. Cast  
me not away from thy presence, and take not thy Holy Spirit from me. Re-  
store to me the joy of thy salvation, uphold me with a willing spirit. Then  
will I teach transgressors thy ways, and sinners will return to thee.*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**God of love, as in Jesus Christ you gave yourself to us,  
so may we give ourselves to you,  
living according to your holy will.  
Keep our feet firmly in the way where Christ leads us;  
make our mouths speak the truth that Christ teaches us;  
fill our bodies with the life that is Christ within us.  
In his holy name we pray. Amen.**

\*CLOSING HYMN O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High 618

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Grand Chœur Theodore Salmoé  
\*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](http://fpcknox.org), via the QR code to the right, or through  
social media.



Hearing enhancement devices and large print hymnals 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](http://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	Laura Harmon Church Administrator
The Rev. Dr. Meredith Loftis Associate Pastor	Lauren Nunn Director of Parent's Day Out / Childcare Coordinator
Dr. Andy Morgan Director of Family Faith Formation	Sandra Robinson Administrative Assistant
Mark Pace Organist/Choirmaster	Victor Lenoir Custodian
Mary Wilson Adult Ministry Coordinator	Paul Seguna Sound Engineer
Katie Norrell Director of Communications	Harris Eddins Crucifer
Jane Holland Director of Finance/Facilities	Paul Becker Bible Bearer

### WORSHIP MUSIC NOTES

<i>Sheep May Safely Graze</i> Forty Days and Forty Nights Tune: aus Der Tiefe Rufe Ich Gloria Patri Tune: Gloria Patri Son of God, Whose Heart Is Peace Tune: Tama Ngakau Marie	One License #CGB688	<i>O God, Who Gives Us Life</i> Tune: Noel O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High Tune: Deo Gracias	One License #25736
	One License #46246		

### 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 LENT**  
**FEBRUARY 18, 2024**

Connect With Us



[www.fpcknox.org](http://www.fpcknox.org)

620 State Street  
Knoxville, TN 37902

## THE PREPARATION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

**PRELUDE**      *Sheep May Safely Graze*      Arr. Sharon Elery Rogers  
Joyful Noise Handbell Choir

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

This is the day that the Lord has made;  
**Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Let us be led by the Spirit,  
**even if the path to the Promised Land  
leads straight through the desert,**  
through hunger and doubt and temptation;  
**even if we are led where we would rather not go.**  
Yet we will be led by the Spirit  
**and end our journey rejoicing in the Lord our God.**  
**Let us worship God!**

**\*OPENING HYMN**      *Forty Days and Forty Nights*      167

### \*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;  
according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

**Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,  
and cleanse me from my sin.**

For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.

**Against you, you alone, have I sinned,  
and done what is evil in your sight,  
so that you are justified in your sentence  
and blameless when you pass judgment.**

In silence, let us confess our sins to God...

*(a moment for silent confession)*

Jesus, Lamb of God,  
**have mercy on us.**

Jesus, bearer of our sins,  
**have mercy on us.**

Jesus, redeemer of the world,  
**grant us your peace.**

### \*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
and put a new and right spirit within me.

**Do not cast me away from your presence,  
and do not take your Holy Spirit from me.**

Restore to me the joy of your salvation,  
and sustain in me a willing spirit.

**The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit;**

**a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.**

O Lord, you desire truth in the inward being;

**Teach me wisdom in my secret heart.**

Friends, believe the good news:

**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

**\*MUSICAL RESPONSE**      *Gloria Patri*      581

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen. Amen.**

### \*PASSING OF THE PEACE

**\*MUSICAL RESPONSE**      *Son of God, Whose Heart Is Peace (vv. 1 & 3)*      425  
**Son of God, whose heart is peace, Son of God, most holy, to your  
presence we have come; give us now your love.  
Warm our hearts to love you, Lord, you who died to save us;  
gather us within your arms, Jesus on this day.**

## THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

**FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON**      Psalm 51:1-12, 17      Craig Wrisberg

<sup>1</sup> Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;  
according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. <sup>2</sup> Wash me  
thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. <sup>3</sup> For I know my  
transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. <sup>4</sup> Against you, you alone, have  
I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your  
sentence and blameless when you pass judgment. <sup>5</sup> Indeed, I was born  
guilty, a sinner when my mother conceived me. <sup>6</sup> You desire truth in the  
inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart. <sup>7</sup> Purge me  
with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.  
<sup>8</sup> Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.  
<sup>9</sup> Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. <sup>10</sup> Create in me  
a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. <sup>11</sup> Do not  
cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from  
me. <sup>12</sup> Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing  
spirit. <sup>17</sup> The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and  
contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**      John Vincent Stormer  
Son of Mark & Virginia Stormer

**SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON**      Mark 1:12-15

<sup>12</sup> And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. <sup>13</sup> He was  
in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild  
beasts; and the angels waited on him. <sup>14</sup> Now after John was arrested, Jesus  
came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, <sup>15</sup> and saying, "The  
time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and  
believe in the good news."

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**      "I'm the Problem. It's Me."      Rev. Mark R. Curtis

## THE RESPONSE OF GOD'S PEOPLE

**\*HYMN OF RESPONSE**      *O God, Who Gives Us Life (vv. 1 & 2)*      53

### RECEPTION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

**OFFERTORY**      *Ain't Got Time to Die*      Hall Johnson  
Eliza Eaches, Mezzo-Soprano

*Lord, I keep so busy praisin' my Jesus. Ain't got time to die.  
'Cause when I'm helpin' the sick (I'm praisin' my Jesus)  
Ain't got time to die.*

*'Cause it takes all of my time (To praise Him)  
If I don't praise Him the rocks are gonna cry out  
Glory and honor, glory and honor. Ain't got time to die.*

*Lord, I keep so busy workin' for the kingdom. Ain't got time to die.  
'Cause when I'm feedin' the poor (I'm workin' for the kingdom)  
Ain't got time to die.*

*Lord, I keep so busy servin' my Master (Keep so busy). Ain't got time to die.  
'Cause when I'm givin' my all (I'm servin' my Master)  
(I'm gonna give my all to Jesus.) Ain't got time to die.*

*Now won't you get out of my way (Oh, get out of my way)  
Ain't got time to die.  
Glory and honor, glory and honor. Ain't got time to die.*

**\*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.**

It is our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise,  
eternal God, creator and ruler of the universe.

**You are our God, and we are the creatures of your hand.**