

OFFERTORY Amen Arr. Jester Haiston

Scott Beasley, Baritone

Amen. Sing it over. See the little baby, amen, wrapped in a manger, amen, on Christmas morning, amen, amen, amen.

See Him in the temple, amen, talkin' with the elders, amen, who marveled at His wisdom amen, amen, amen.

Amen. See Him at the Jordan, amen, where John was baptizin', amen, and savin' all sinners, amen, amen, amen.

See Him at the seaside, amen, talkin' to the fishermen, amen, and makin' them disciples, amen, amen, amen.

Marchin in Jerusalem, amen, over palm branches, amen, in pomp and splendor, amen, amen, amen.

See Him in the garden, amen, prayin' to His Father, amen, in deepest sorrow, amen, amen, amen.

Led before Pilate, amen, then they crucified Him, amen, but He rose on Easter, amen. Hallelujah, amen!

He died to save us, amen.

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

***CLOSING HYMN** O Jesus, I Have Promised 724

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE Little Prelude and Fugue in G Minor Johann S. Bach

**Please stand if you are able.*

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN....

The congregational retreat at Montreat is April 26-28, 2024! This retreat is a great opportunity to deepen your faith, connect with other members of the congregation, and enjoy the beautiful scenery in western North Carolina. Our Speaker will be Dr. Elizabeth Arnold. **Deadline to sign up is March 24.** Please see the newsletter for more details.

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 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 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 | Lauren Nunn
Director of Parent's Day Out /
Childcare Coordinator |
| The Rev. Dr. Meredith Loftis
Associate Pastor | Sandra Robinson
Administrative Assistant |
| Dr. Andy Morgan
Director of Family Faith Formation | Victor Lenoir
Custodian |
| Mark Pace
Organist/Choirmaster | Katrin Smith
Kitchen Manager |
| Mary Wilson
Adult Ministry Coordinator | Paul Seguna
Sound Engineer |
| Katie Norrell
Director of Communications | |
| Jane Holland
Director of Finance/Facilities | |
| Laura Harmon
Church Administrator | |

WORSHIP MUSIC NOTES

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| A New Commandment
Wild and Lone the Prophet's Voice
Tune: Toulon | One License #33941
One License #00306 | Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said
Tune: Bourbon
O Jesus, I Have Promised
Tune: Angel's Story |
| Gloria Patri
Tune: Gloria Patri
Son of God, Whose Heart Is Peace
Tune: Tama Ngakau Marie | 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

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

MARCH 17, 2024

Connect With Us



www.fpcknox.org

620 State Street
Knoxville, TN 37902

THE PREPARATION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

PRELUDE *A New Commandment* David Blackwell

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

This is the day that the Lord has made;

Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

*CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalm 51

Have mercy on us, O God,
according to your steadfast love;

**According to your abundant mercy,
blot out our transgressions.**

You desire truth in our deepest selves,
so teach our hearts wisdom.

**Let us hear your joy and gladness;
let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.**

Create in us clean hearts, O God;
put new and right spirits within us.

**Sustain in us willing spirits and
restore us to the joy of your salvation.**

Let us worship God!

***OPENING HYMN** *Wild and Lone the Prophet's Voice* 163

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you,
And I will remove from your body the heart of stone
and give you hearts of flesh. (Ezekiel 36:26)

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

Yet even now, says the Lord,
return to me with all your heart,
with fasting, and weeping, and with mourning. (Joel 2:12)

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

I will give you a heart with which to understand that I am the Lord.
You shall be my people and I will be your God,
for you shall return to me with your whole heart. (Jeremiah 24:7)

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

Oh, that today you would listen to God's voice:
"Harden not your hearts." (Psalm 95:7-8)

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

(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

***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 Amye Cole

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

ANTHEM *I Will Lift Up Mine Eyes* Leo Sowerby

*I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, From whence cometh my help?
My help cometh from the Lord who made heaven and earth.
He will not suffer thy foot to be moved:
He that keepeth thee will not slumber.
Behold, He that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep.
The Lord is thy keeper. The Lord is thy shade upon thy right hand.
The sun shall not smite thee by day nor the moon by night.*

*The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil; He shall preserve thy soul.
The Lord shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in
From this time forth, and forever more. Amen*

SPECIAL TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON John 12:20-33

²⁰ Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were
some Greeks. ²¹ They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in
Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." ²² Philip went and
told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. ²³ Jesus
answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be
glorified. ²⁴ Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the
earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much
fruit. ²⁵ Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life
in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶ Whoever serves me must
follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever
serves me, the Father will honor. ²⁷ Now my soul is troubled. And what
should I say—"Father, save me from this hour"? No, it is for this reason
that I have come to this hour. ²⁸ Father, glorify your name." Then a
voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again."
²⁹ The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was
thunder. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." ³⁰ Jesus answered,
"This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. ³¹ Now is the
judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out.
³² And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to
myself." ³³ He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON Rev. Dr. Meredith Loftis

THE RESPONSE OF GOD'S PEOPLE

***HYMN OF RESPONSE** *Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said* 718

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER Rev. Mark 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

2024 FPC Spring Mission Opportunities

Join us for a **Great Day of Service** on Saturday, April 6th from 9am-12pm! Multiple churches centered in Downtown Knoxville are joining together to serve our neighbors in need and show our love for the community. We will offer three projects, but there will be over 15 projects offered by all the downtown churches! Visit <https://greatdayofservice.org/> to view all projects and to register. There will be a kickoff breakfast at 8:30am at Church Street United Methodist Church. Contact Meredith with questions at meredith@fpcknox.org.

First Presbyterian Church Projects:

- Pack Care Packages for Downtown Frontline and Support Workers in the Fellowship Hall. Bring individually wrapped snacks to donate.
- Provide gardening help at BattleField Farm and help provide fresh produce for East Knoxville
- Painting and other projects at the Family Promise Day Center

We invite you to join us for the Habitat for Humanity build on April 27th! We have a few spaces left available and would greatly appreciate your participation. We kindly request those who will not be attending the congregational retreat to consider taking part in this meaningful event by signing up for these remaining volunteer opportunities. To secure your spot, please access the sign-up link provided in the Thursday newsletter or reach out to Craig Wrisberg at caw@utk.edu. Your participation will make a big difference, and we appreciate your support!

HOLY WEEK

Sun, March 24 Palm Sunday, 11 a.m.

Thurs, March 28 Maundy Thursday Dinner and Service

Dinner begins at 5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The service will start at 6:30 p.m.

Fri, March 29 Stations of the Cross, 5:30 p.m.

“Stations of the Cross” service will be held in Market Square (approximately 55 minutes). This service brings the Christian family of all denominations together. All are welcome.

Sun, March 31 Easter Sunday

7:00 a.m. Sunrise Service on the Turnip Patch Deck
 8 - 10:30 a.m. Light refreshments served
 9:45 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
 10:30 a.m. Flowering of the Cross
 10:45 a.m. Prelude - *Musical selections for trumpet, timpani, and organ, featuring guest artists*
 11:00 a.m. Worship Service in Sanctuary and by Livestream

The Easter Egg Hunt is immediately following the 11 a.m. service in the church graveyard.

EASTER FLOWERS

Much as we look forward to Spring and its beautiful burst of nature's color, as Christians we celebrate Christ's resurrection. Your generous donations continue to support the ministry of our devoted flower guild. We will joyfully celebrate the Holy Easter season with seasonal displays beginning with Easter Sunrise. If you would like to make a donation to the flower guild in memory or honor of a loved one, a dedication gift of \$20.00 per name is suggested. Please indicate if your gift request is a memorial or an honorarium gift, the name for the dedication, and how you would like the "given by" to be noted. You may email your flower forms to laura@fpcknox.org (please only list one name per line) or you can submit your Easter flower dedications online. Under the "Quick Links" button on the website, there is a menu item for Easter Flowers. You can pay in our online giving portal in the "Easter Flowers" category or by dropping a check in the offering plate or church office. Please be sure to designate "Easter Flowers" in the memo line. All submissions must be received by noon on March 18th. Thank you for supporting the flower guild!

In Memory Of

In Honor Of

Given By

