

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

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** *Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks* 240

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE** *Allegro Vivace Assai From Sonata 1* Felix Mendelssohn

**Please stand if you are able.*

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN....

Tuesday, April 25, from 7 - 8:30pm, Justice Knox will hold their annual Nehemiah Action Assembly, a public assembly to present concrete proposals for change to public officials. This year they'll address issues of public transportation and homelessness and they will get reports related to ongoing work on gun violence and education in the Knoxville community. Free childcare will be available at First Presbyterian from 6 - 9. You must RSVP for childcare by emailing justiceknox@thedartcenter.org.

On Wednesday, April 26th, the youth group is going to an Escape Room! Reservations need to be made with Kallee Pittenger at 865-387-4748. Other upcoming activities are bowling and a party night at the church retreat at Montreat.

Please join us for the annual Presbyterian Women May Dinner on Tuesday, May 9th at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. We look forward to celebrating another year of PW by presenting Life Memberships, a necrology honoring members who have passed, and our final Bible study lesson of the year. We hope to see you there! The dinner is \$15 per attendee. Your payment serves as your RSVP and is due by Monday, May 1st. Unfortunately, we are unable to offer an option for payment the day of the event. Payments may be made on the Church Website with the memo "PW May Dinner" or by check, given to the church office or Phyllis Driver.

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

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

J.P. Pennoyer
Crucifer

Parson Campen
Bible Bearer

WORSHIP MUSIC NOTES

Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks One License #70406
Alleluia One License #91445

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

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 23, 2023

Connect With Us



www.fpcknox.org

620 State Street
Knoxville, TN 37902

THE PREPARATION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

PRELUDE *Because He Lives* Arr. Jack Schrader
Katrin Smith, Mezzo-Soprano

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

O Lord, open my lips,

And my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed!

Why do you seek the living among the dead?

He is not here; he is risen, just as he said!

Alleluia! Let us worship and praise the Living Christ!

***OPENING HYMN** *Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!* 248

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Living God, we confess that we look for the living among the dead. You speak to us through your living Word, but we refuse to listen. You feed us with the bread of life, but we hunger for other things. Forgive us; give us new life! Lead us to repent and remember the promise of our baptism: the life that death cannot destroy; through Jesus Christ our Lord... *(a moment for silent confession)*

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***MUSICAL RESPONSE** *Alleluia* 586
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. (2x)

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

***MUSICAL RESPONSE** *Thine Is the Glory (v. 2)* 238
Lo! Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;
lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom.
Let the church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,
for the Lord now liveth; death hath lost its sting.
Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son;
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.

THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19 Craig Wrisberg
I love the LORD, because he has heard my voice and my supplications. ² Because he inclined his ear to me, therefore I will

call on him as long as I live. ³ The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me; I suffered distress and anguish. ⁴ Then I called on the name of the LORD: "O LORD, I pray, save my life!" ¹² What shall I return to the LORD for all his bounty to me? ¹³ I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD, ¹⁴ I will pay my vows to the LORD in the presence of all his people. ¹⁵ Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his faithful ones. ¹⁶ O LORD, I am your servant; I am your servant, the child of your serving girl. You have loosed my bonds. ¹⁷ I will offer to you a thanksgiving sacrifice and call on the name of the LORD. ¹⁸ I will pay my vows to the LORD in the presence of all his people, ¹⁹ in the courts of the house of the LORD, in your midst, O Jerusalem. Praise the LORD!

ANTHEM *Come Let Us With Our Lord Arise* Robert J. Powell
Come, let us with our Lord arise our Lord, who made both earth and skies; who died to save the world he made, and rose triumphant from the dead; he rose, the Prince of life and peace, and stamped the day forever his. This is the day the Lord has made, that all may see his love displayed, may feel his resurrection's power, and rise again, to fall no more, in perfect righteousness renewed, and filled with all the life of God. Then let us render him his own, with solemn prayer approach his throne, with meekness hear the gospel word, with thanks his dying love record, our joyful hearts and voices raise, and fill his courts with songs of praise.

SPECIAL TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON Luke 24:13-35

Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴ and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵ While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, ¹⁶ but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷ And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸ Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" ¹⁹ He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰ and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. ²¹ But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. ²² Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, ²³ and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. ²⁴ Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him." ²⁵ Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all

that the prophets have declared! ²⁶ Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" ²⁷ Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures. ²⁸ As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. ²⁹ But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰ When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. ³¹ Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. ³² They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" ³³ That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. ³⁴ They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" ³⁵ Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

SERMON "Hoped" Rev. Mark R. Curtis

THE RESPONSE OF GOD'S PEOPLE

***HYMN OF RESPONSE** *Abide with Me* 836

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER Rev. Meredith Loftis
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 *For the Bread Which Thou Has Broken* William B. Roberts
For the bread which thou hast broken, for the wine which thou hast poured, for the words which thou hast spoken, now we give thee thanks, O Lord. By this pledge that thou dost love us, by the gift of peace restored, by thy call to heaven above us, hallow all our lives, O Lord. In thy service, Lord, defend us, in our hearts keep watch and ward, in the world where thou dost send us, let thy kingdom come, O Lord.

***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.