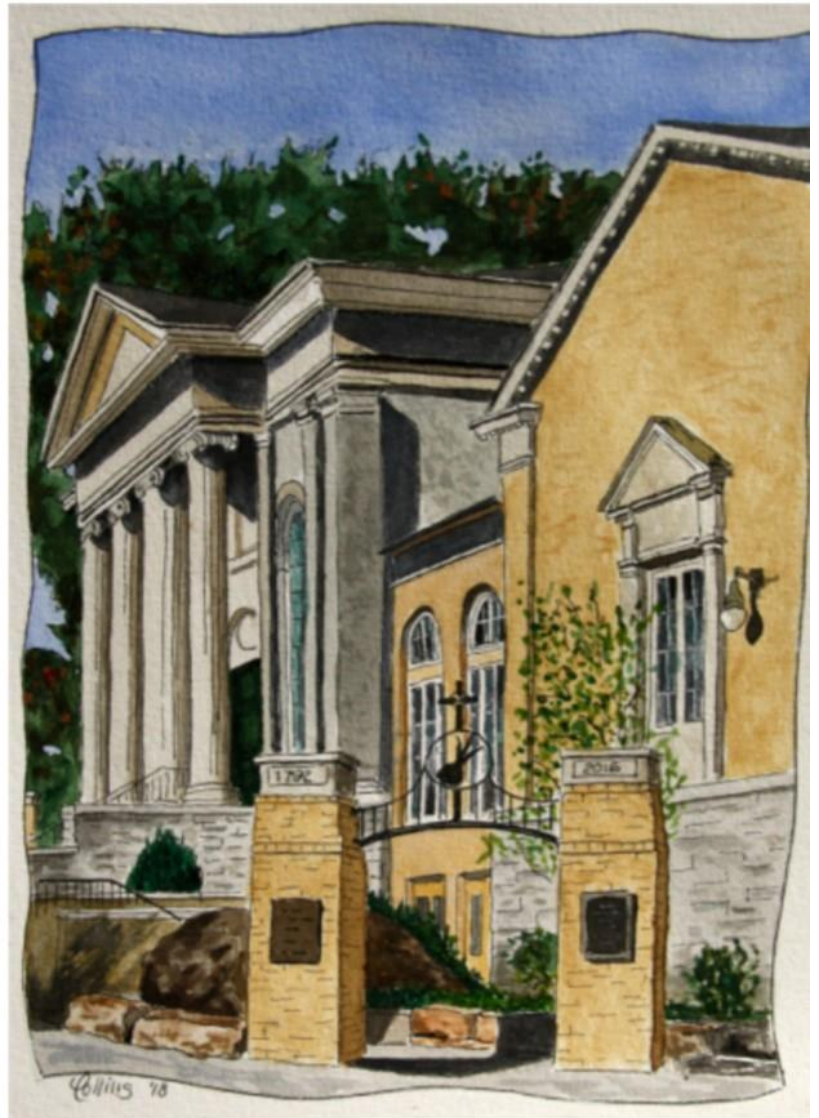


*“For Christ in the Heart of
Knoxville,” the First Presbyterian
Church seeks*

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



First Presbyterian Church 
FOR CHRIST IN THE HEART OF KNOXVILLE

LEADERS IN WORSHIP

The Rev. Mark R. Curtis, Senior Pastor
The Rev. Meredith Loftis, Associate Pastor
Mr. Mark Pace, Organist/Choirmaster

ORDER OF WORSHIP
SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
MAY 29, 2022
✦ **THE PREPARATION OF GOD'S PEOPLE** ✦

PRELUDE

Chorale Prelude

Healey Willan

WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 47; 93, Hebrews 4

Clap your hands, all you peoples;

shout to God with loud songs of joy.

**For the LORD, the Most High, is awesome,
a great king over all the earth.**

The LORD is king, he is robed in majesty;

the LORD is robed, he is girded with strength.

He has established the world; it shall never be moved.

Since, then, we have a great high priest

who has passed through the heavens,

Jesus, the Son of God,

let us hold fast to our confession.

Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness,

so that we may receive mercy

and find grace to find help in time of need.

† OPENING HYMN 258

A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing!

Deo Gracias

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, you have raised Jesus from death to life and crowned him Lord of all. We confess that we have not bowed before him or acknowledged his rule in our lives. We have gone along with the ways of the world and failed to give him glory. Forgive us and raise us from sin, that we may be your faithful people, obeying the commands of our Lord Jesus Christ, who rules the world and is head of the church, his body. Amen.

(a moment for silent confession)

† ASSURANCE OF PARDON

† MUSICAL RESPONSE 248

Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna! (vs. 1)

Hymn to Joy

Christ is risen! Shout Hosanna! Celebrate this day of days! Christ is risen! Hush in wonder: all creation is amazed. In the desert all-surrounding, see, a spreading tree has grown. Healing leaves of grace abounding bring a taste of love unknown.

† PASSING OF THE PEACE

† MUSICAL RESPONSE 250

In the Bulb There Is a Flower (vs. 1)

Promise

In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree; in cocoons, a hidden promise: butterflies will soon be free! In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be, unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

✦ THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD ✦

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

Acts 1:1-11

Bill Myers

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning² until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen.³ After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.⁴ While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem but to wait there for the promise of the Father. “This,” he said, “is what you have heard from me;⁵ for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”⁶ So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?”⁷ He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority.⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”⁹ When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight.¹⁰ While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them.¹¹ They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

SPECIAL TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

ANTHEM

God Be In My Head

Henry Walford Davies

God be in my head, and in my understanding; God be in mine eyes, and in my looking; God be in my mouth, and in my speaking; God be in my heart, and in my thinking; God be at mine end, and at my departing.

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 24:44-53

Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.”⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures,⁴⁶ and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day⁴⁷ and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things.⁴⁹ And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.”⁵⁰ Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them.⁵¹ While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven.⁵² And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy;⁵³ and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

SERMON

Rev. Meredith Loftis

✦ THE RESPONSE OF GOD'S PEOPLE ✦

† HYMN OF RESPONSE 295

Go to the World!

Sine Nomine

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE 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

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

OFFERTORY

Processional of Joy

arr. Hal H. Hopson

† DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION 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.

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.

† SENDING HYMN 265

Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun

Duke Street

† CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

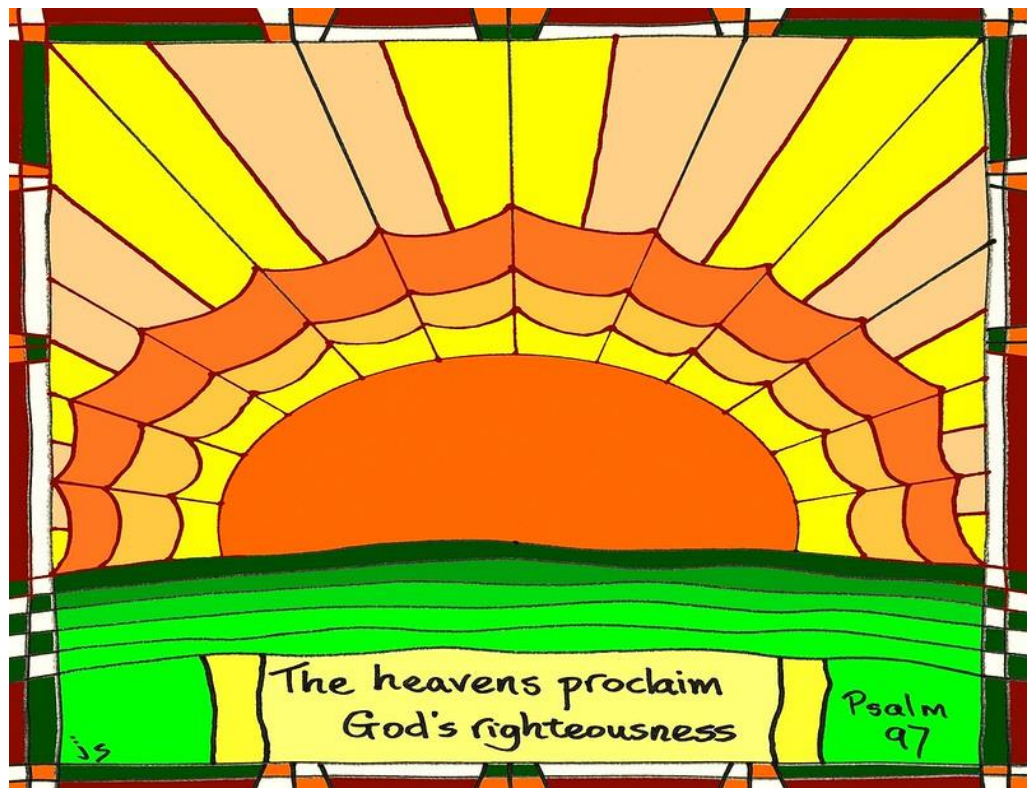
POSTLUDE

Fanfare and Processional for Organ

Douglas Wagner

We welcome Beverly Landguth as our guest organist this morning. Beverly has been playing the organ since age 12 and has degrees in music education. She has held jobs as organist and choir director at various churches where she lived. She is retired and now fills in as a substitute organist at various churches.

† - Please stand if you are able.



HYMNS FOR MAY 29

† OPENING HYMN 258

A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing!

Deo Gracias

1. A hymn of glory let us sing!
New songs throughout the world shall ring;
Christ, by a road before untrod,
Ascends unto the throne of God.
2. The holy apostolic band
Upon the Mount of Olives stand,
And with his followers they see
Their Lord ascend in majesty.
3. To all, the shining angels cry,
"Why stand and gaze upon the sky?
This is the Savior," thus they say.
"This is his glorious triumph day."
4. "You see him now, ascending high
Up to the portals of the sky.
Hereafter you shall Jesus see
Returning in great majesty."
5. O risen Christ, ascended Lord,
All praise to you let earth accord.
You are, while endless ages run,
With Father and with Spirit one.

† HYMN OF RESPONSE 295

Go to the World!

Sine Nomine

1. Go to the world! Go into all the earth.
Go preach the cross where Christ renews life's worth.
Baptizing as the sign of our rebirth.
Alleluia. Alleluia.
2. Go to the world! Go into every place.
Go live the word of God's redeeming grace.
Go seek God's presence in each time and space.
Alleluia. Alleluia.
3. Go to the world! Go struggle, bless, and pray;
The nights of tears give way to joyous day.
As servant church, you follow Christ's own way.
Alleluia. Alleluia.
4. Go to the world! Go as the ones I send,
For I am with you till the age shall end,
When all the hosts of glory cry "Amen!"
Alleluia. Alleluia.

† SENDING HYMN 265

Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun

Duke Street

1. Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
Does its successive journeys run;
His kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
Till moons shall wax and wane no more.
2. To him shall endless prayer be made,
And praises throng to crown his head;
His name, like sweet perfume, shall rise
With every morning sacrifice.
3. People and realms of every tongue
Dwell on his love with sweetest song,
And infant voices shall proclaim
Their early blessings on his name.
4. Blessings abound where'er he reigns:
The prisoners leap to loose their chains;
The weary find eternal rest,
And all who suffer want are blest.
5. Let every creature rise and bring
Honors peculiar to our King;
Angels descend with songs again,
And earth repeat the loud Amen!