

**\*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**

*The Lord Is God*

63

One License #96898

**\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

**\*POSTLUDE**

*Concerto in G Minor*

Karl Heinrich Graun

*\*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 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*

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*

Bikyeombe Kisubi  
*Crucifer*

Eleanor Efurud  
*Bible Bearer*

**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

**FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**  
**SEPTEMBER 18, 2022**  
**11 A.M. SERVICE**

Connect With Us



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

620 State Street  
Knoxville, TN 37902

**WHAT'S HAPPENING AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN....**

**A Season of Peace** PCUSA devotional this week focuses on the intersection of poverty and racism. You may sign up for free daily devotionals at [pcusa.org/subscribeSOP](http://pcusa.org/subscribeSOP).

**Middle School Pool Party** today from 1-3 p.m. at the Buchanan house, 109 Saint Andrews Dr. Pizza will be provided. Please RSVP to Emily Smith at [memilysmith@gmail.com](mailto:memilysmith@gmail.com) or Sarah Buchanan at [sarahbuchanan1@yahoo.com](mailto:sarahbuchanan1@yahoo.com). Both are able to give rides after church so that parents can pick up at 3pm. Just send a suit and change of clothes!

**Fighting Turnips Softball Game** at 7 and 9 p.m. on September 20. Contact Preston Smith at [prestonsmith07@gmail.com](mailto:prestonsmith07@gmail.com).

**Missionary Jeff Boyd** from the Congo will speak during the Sunday School hour and in Worship September 25.

**Congo Mission Network Conference** is September 29 - Oct 1. Register online by following the link in the newsletter.

## THE PREPARATION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

**PRELUDE** *Trumpet Tune in D Major* Milan Crepp

### WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** *from 1 Timothy 2*

This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior,  
**that we lead a quiet and peaceable life  
in all godliness and dignity.**

For there is one God,  
**who desires everyone to be saved and  
to come to the knowledge of the truth.**

There is also one mediator between God and humankind,  
**Christ Jesus, himself human,  
who gave himself a ransom for all.  
Let us worship God!**

**\*OPENING HYMN** *The Mighty God with Power Speaks* 13  
One License #89379

### \*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Lord of all,  
you have entrusted us with much treasure,  
and commissioned us to use it wisely and diligently,  
for the sake of your kingdom.  
But we have shown ourselves unfaithful,  
even with small things you have entrusted to us.**

**Forgive our carelessness with your treasures.  
Stir us up by your Spirit to offer back to you  
all that you have so richly bestowed upon us.  
Keep us mindful  
that all that we have, and all that we are,  
comes from you and belongs to you,  
through the redeeming work of Jesus Christ our Lord...**  
*(a moment for silent confession)*

**\*MUSICAL RESPONSE** *Glory Be to the Father* 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** *May the God of Hope Go With Us* 765

One License #65250

**May the God of hope go with us every day, filling all our lives  
with love and joy and peace. May the God of justice speed us  
on our way, bringing light and hope to every land and race.  
Praying, let us work for peace; singing, share our joy with all;  
working for a world that's new, faithful when we hear  
Christ's call.**

## THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

**FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON** *Psalm 79:1-9* Bill Myers

O God, the nations have come into your inheritance; they have defiled your holy temple; they have laid Jerusalem in ruins. <sup>2</sup>They have given the bodies of your servants to the birds of the air for food, the flesh of your faithful to the wild animals of the earth. <sup>3</sup>They have poured out their blood like water all around Jerusalem, and there was no one to bury them. <sup>4</sup>We have become a taunt to our neighbors, mocked and derided by those around us. <sup>5</sup>How long, O Lord? Will you be angry forever? Will your jealous wrath burn like fire? <sup>6</sup>Pour out your anger on the nations that do not know you, and on the kingdoms that do not call on your name. <sup>7</sup>For they have devoured Jacob and laid waste his habitation. <sup>8</sup>Do not remember against us the iniquities of our ancestors; let your compassion come speedily to meet us, for we are brought very low. <sup>9</sup>Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of your name; deliver us, and forgive our sins, for your name's sake.

**ANTHEM** *There is a Balm in Gilead* Arr. Gerald Near  
One License #AE140

There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole; there is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin sick soul. Sometimes I feel discouraged, and think my work's in vain, but then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again. If you can't preach like Peter, if you can't pray like Paul, just tell the love of Jesus, and that he died for all.

### SPECIAL TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

**SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON** *Luke 16:1-13*

Then Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. <sup>2</sup>So he summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.' Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. <sup>4</sup>I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.' <sup>5</sup>So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How

much do you owe my master?' <sup>6</sup>He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.' <sup>7</sup>Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?' He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.' <sup>8</sup>And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. <sup>9</sup>And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes. <sup>10</sup>Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. <sup>11</sup>If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? <sup>12</sup>And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? <sup>13</sup>No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

**SERMON** "Shrewd Accounting" Rev. Mark R. Curtis

## THE RESPONSE OF GOD'S PEOPLE

**\*HYMN OF RESPONSE** *God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending* 716  
One License #851577 and 00783

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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** *Bless, O Lord, Us Thy Servants* Martin How  
One License #113600

*Bless, O Lord, us thy servants, who minister in thy temple. Grant that  
what we sing with our lips, we may believe in our hearts, and what we  
believe in our hearts, we may show forth in our lives. Through  
Jesus Christ our Lord. 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.**

**MEMORIAL GIFTS**  
**Received by the church**  
**June 15 to August 31, 2022**

<b>MEMORIAL FUND:</b>	<b>FROM</b>
Barbara Brown .....	Jim Brown
Charlie Gabbard .....	John & Celeste Whaley
.....	Lanny & Ann Payne
.....	Carole Reeves
.....	Gaines & Anne Pittenger
.....	Buckingham Community Memorial Committee
.....	Kathryn Kinnard Freeman
.....	Bill & Ginny Morrow
.....	Craig & Sue Wrisberg
.....	Susie Humphries
.....	Ann Warwick
.....	Fred & Susan Brackney
Charlie & Louise Gabbard .....	Smalligan Giving Fund
Marilyn Zaiko .....	Bill & Ginny Morrow
.....	John & Celeste Whaley
.....	Gaines & Anne Pittenger
Patsy McClure .....	Bill & Ginny Morrow

<b>YOUTH FUND:</b>	<b>FROM</b>
Marilyn Zaiko .....	Lars & Ailsa Schuller

<b>MUSIC FUND:</b>	<b>FROM</b>
Patsy McClure .....	Bob & Diana Samples

<b>LIBRARY FUND:</b>	<b>FROM</b>
Charlie Gabbard .....	Harry and Linda Manson

**HONORARIUMS**

<b>CHILDREN'S LIBRARY FUND:</b>	<b>FROM</b>
Raymond McCord .....	Maddie Pitt
Sharon Patton McCord .....	Maddie Pitt
Marie Fox .....	Maddie Pitt
Rachel Trentham .....	Maddie Pitt
Celeste Whaley .....	Maddie Pitt
Jane Armstrong .....	Maddie Pitt
Elizabeth Henderson .....	Maddie Pitt
Sallee Reynolds .....	Maddie Pitt



*Dr. Samuel Mampunza*

Empowerment of youth in DR Congo and the U.S. and the role of the church in helping them are the focal points of the annual **Congo Mission Network Conference Sept. 29 -Oct. 1**. Speakers will include Dr. Samuel Mampunza, vice president of the Protestant University of Congo and founding dean of its Medical School. Join in! The event is at Myers Park Presbyterian Church in Charlotte, NC. You can attend virtually for free, but you must register. Visit <https://congopartners.org/> for more information and to register.



*Jeff and Christi Boyd*

As regional liaison for Central Africa, Jeff Boyd facilitates support for the relationships and programs of Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) partners in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Cameroon, and Equatorial Guinea. He also mentors PC(USA) mission personnel and resources PC(USA) congregations that want to be involved in ministry with partner churches in the region.

Besides the Congo, Christi works in Madagascar, Niger, Rwanda, and South Sudan. She accompanies global partners as they seek to remedy the marginalization of women and children in their communities and engages with Presbyterians in the US who wish to come alongside and promote those efforts.