

ONLINE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

First, Fountain City, and Sequoyah Hills Presbyterian Churches

Fourth Sunday in Lent | March 22, 2020



GATHERING

WELCOME

Dr. Jay Howell, SHPC

INTROIT

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

RESIGNATION

OPPORTUNITIES FOR DISCIPLESHIP

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: This is the day the Lord has made.

People: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

HYMN #341

Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!

ASSURANCE

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! O what a foretaste of glory divine! Heir of salvation, purchase of God, Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood. This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long; This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect submission, perfect delight, Visions of rapture now burst on my sight; Angels, descending, bring from above Echoes of mercy, whispers of love. This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long; This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*in unison*)

Rev. Meredith Loftis, FPC

God of grace and abundance, in times of fear and anxiety we are quick to turn inward, thinking only of ourselves and failing to trust in your faithfulness. We succumb to the world's narrative of scarcity and despair, seeking to hoard our riches instead of caring for all around us. Neighbors across the world are falling ill and dying, desperate for relief and comfort, yet we are more concerned with how much we can store for ourselves. Forgive us, O God, for rejecting your story of abundance and seeking to save ourselves through our own broken efforts. Forgive us for not lending care and concern for those who are ill and fearful. Guide us to seek your presence in this anxious time and to serve as your agents of healing and peace in a world that is hurting.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

**What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
To bear the heavy cross for my soul, for my soul
To bear the heavy cross for my soul!**

PASSING THE PEACE

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

THE WORD

CHILDREN'S TIME

Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so. Little ones to Him belong, they are weak, but He is strong. Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Rev. Mark Lampley, SHPC

OLD TESTAMENT Psalm 116:1-7

Pew Bible, p. 564

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SOLO

He's Got the Whole World in His Hands

arr. Moses Hogan

NEW TESTAMENT 2 Corinthians 4:7-18

Pew Bible, p. 180

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Fragile Times and Firm Faith

Dr. Jeff McCrory, FPC

HYMN

Lord, Prepare Me

SANCTUARY

**Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and holy, tried and true.
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for you.**

RESPONDING

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE /THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Andy Morgan, FCPC

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.

THE OFFERING

Rev. Rachel Hamburger, SHPC

OFFERTORY

Redeeming Love

arr. Fred Bock

DOXOLOGY (*Congregation sings.*)

HAMBURG

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were a present far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

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 #210

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

ST. ANNE

**Our God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come, Our shelter from the stormy blast,
And our eternal home:**

**Before the hills in order stood, Or earth received its frame, From everlasting Thou art God, To
endless years the same.**

**A thousand ages in Thy sight Are like an evening gone; Short as the watch that ends the night
Before the rising sun.**

**Time, like an ever rolling stream, Soon bears us all away; We fly forgotten, as a dream Dies at the
opening day.**

**Our God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come, Be Thou our guard while life shall
last, And our eternal home.**

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Christ, the Life of All the Living

Flor Peeters

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LEADING IN WORSHIP: Sequoyah Hills Mr. Andrew Skoog, Music Director; Dr. Eunsuk Jung, Organist; Sarah Beegle, Matt Huckaba, Matt Tolson, Whitney Wells, SHPC Scholarship Singers

TODAY IS A JOINT LIVESTREAM WORSHIP SERVICE between friends at First Presbyterian Church, Knoxville; Fountain City Presbyterian Church; and Sequoyah Hills Presbyterian Church. Welcome to all!

DUE TO RECENT GUIDELINES discouraging public gatherings of more than 10 people, worship leaders will be kept to a 10-person maximum.

ON SUNDAY, MARCH 29, Rev. Andy Morgan of Fountain City Presbyterian Church will be preaching.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNDAY SERVICES will be joint services with Sequoyah Hills and Fountain City Presbyterian Churches for the near future. We will let you know when we begin to have our own service.

OUR WEEKLY PLAN FOR YOU LOOKS LIKE THIS:

- **MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY 11:00 A.M. DEVOTIONAL** on Facebook Live. Please join us for announcements, songs, and Scripture. See our Facebook link on the church website: www.fpcknox.org .
- **WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE CLASS** on Facebook Live. This will begin next week. Alex McGavic is coordinating children's and youth activities. Look for emails from him.

WE URGE YOU TO CONTINUE YOUR GIVING online or through the mail. First Presbyterian has committed to pay our staff and hourly workers through the crisis. Your consistent giving will move us ahead during this crisis. Here's the online link: <http://www.fpcknox.org/give/donate/>

YOUR CRISIS TASK FORCE is working with the Session to guide us through these days. Specifically, we are working to update our video capacity such that we can embed a video service and other interactive communications on our website. We are meeting regularly via Zoom conference.

OUR BUILDING continues to be closed to all meetings. However, there will be Staff present during regular church hours.

CALL YOUR PASTORS AND ELDERS to tell us your needs. We are praying for you and calling many of you to stay in touch. Elders and others have been calling all our senior members to stay in touch.

WATCH FOR ANY UPDATES through our regular Thursday email.

FOUNTAIN CITY PRESBYTERIAN ANNOUNCEMENTS

PLEASE LIKE US ON FACEBOOK - We update our Facebook page more frequently than we are able to update our website with resources, words of encouragement, and news from Fountain City Presbyterian Church. If you haven't already liked the Fountain City Presbyterian Church Facebook page, please search for "Fountain City Presbyterian Church" in your Facebook search bar and like the page. Check often for more content.

WE ARE EXCITED AND HEARTENED by a surge of interest in helping support our senior members through calls and prayer. We have constructed a group called "The Helpers" that will be calling and checking in on our homebound members.

PLEASE CONTINUE WITH YOUR STEWARDSHIP DURING THIS TIME. The church continues to serve our members in new ways and is working nearly around the clock, please help support us as we support you by sending in your pledge via mail at: 500 Hotel Road, Knoxville, TN 37918 or by visiting our website at www.fountaincitypres.org.

SHPC ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORSHIP: Given recent CDC guidelines, we recognize they may have an impact on planned Holy Week services. The Health Task Force and church staff fully recognize the importance of Holy Week, and we are exploring all options to prepare Holy Week worship that will be spiritually formative and glorifying to God.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE: Our Visitation Ministry and Deacons are coordinating a ministry to care for our members more at risk to COVID-19, and we need more help! If you would be willing to participate in this

ministry reaching out to those who may have to self-isolate, please contact Pastor Rachel (rhamburger@sequoyahchurch.org).

- **STAY CONNECTED:** At the beginning of Lent, all households received a prayer card with another household on it to pray for during Lent. Now, in an effort to stay connected, we are asking everyone to reach out once a week via phone, text, or email to the household they received. Please contact the church office if you've misplaced your card.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT – LOVING OUR NEIGHBOR: Recognizing that in many ways the best way we can love our neighbor is to stay away from our neighbor, we are currently at work discerning a focused way we can be a blessing within our community as a church.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

- **PSALM 91:** In this difficult season, all members are encouraged to read Psalm 91 every day for the next 91 days—thanks to our Youth Ministry for this great idea! Our pastors and program staff will offer a few brief video devotionals over social media each week on this powerful statement of trust in the Lord.
- **NEW FORMATS:** Be on the lookout for more details on new groups and studies. We are preparing new formats like Zoom video conferencing or Facebook Live to help us grow in discipleship even while we are apart.

BE SURE TO CHECK OUT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE, INSTAGRAM, WEBSITE, AND WEEKLY EMAIL for the most up-to-date information!