

*Serving Today*

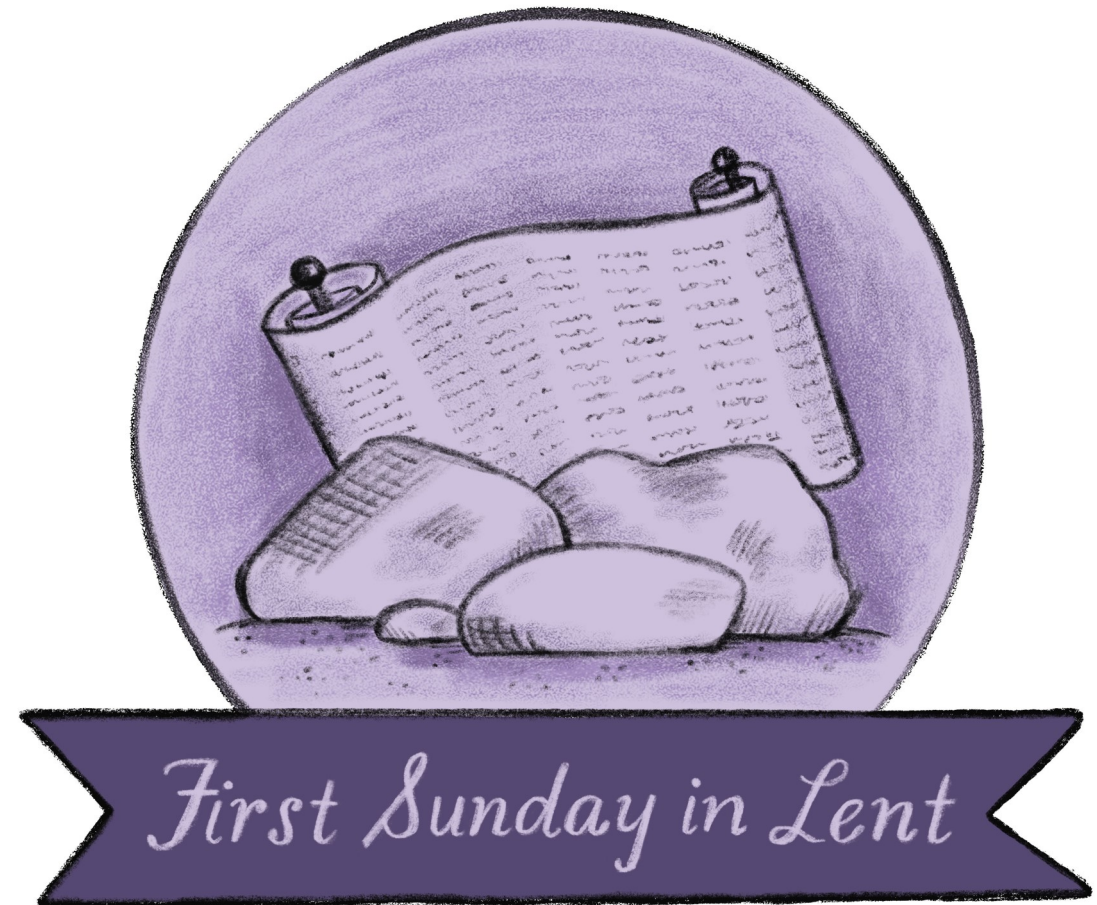
LITURGISTS: Virginia Wooten - Chapel  
Larry Maston - Sanctuary  
SOUND: Andrew Hagan  
TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES: Russ Pearson

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THE CHANCEL FLOWERS ARE DEDICATED  
TO THE GLORY OF GOD  
and are presented by Barbara Foust  
in loving memory of her husband Jack Foust.  
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# First Presbyterian Church

Kingsport, Tennessee

*Seeking to see the face of Christ...  
Striving to be the hands of Christ*



*Service of the Lord's Day*  
February 26, 2023  
8:45 & 11:00 a.m.

## GATHERING AS GOD’S PEOPLE

BELLS OF GOD’S PRESENCE

WELCOME AND NEWS OF THE CHURCH AND COMMUNITY  
MINUTE FOR MISSION ~ Meals on Wheels

PRELUDE “Have Thine Own Way, Lord”

INTROIT “Jesus Christ, You Are Here Among Us” John Bell  
Children of FPC, hand chimes

*Jesus Christ, Jesus Christ, you are here among us.  
Thank you for every sign showing that you love us.*

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: One step on the path; we are returning home, and drawing closer to God,

People: **We are coming back home, seeing the errors that we've made,  
and seeking the God who awaits us.**

Leader: We are turning toward home, knowing more about ourselves.

People: **We are making our way home, trusting in God's embrace,  
and ready for the welcome that only God provides.**

\*HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 23 “God, You Spin the Whirling Planets”

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God, you delight to shape the world in beauty and harmony. You invite us to participate, to be good stewards of creation. We grow in wisdom as our experience unfolds; we learn from difficult situations. Yet we also know our well-intended efforts have led to unintended consequences. Too often we give in to temptation that disrupts the joyous order of the universe. We cannot undo all our mistakes, but we can turn once more to the living presence of Jesus and find new ways to live and love each other and the earth.**

*(silent prayer)*

KYRIE “Seek Ye First”

*Lord, have mercy upon my soul; Christ, have mercy on me;  
forgive my sins, and make me whole; Lord, forgive, and restore me.*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Even as Adam and Eve faced the consequences of their sin, God prepared a way for them still to be connected to his presence. So it is with us: in Christ’s life, ministry, death and resurrection, we are made able to persist, upright and strong, for our sins are forgiven.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

\*SUNG RESPONSE “The Gift of Love”

*Our Father, hear the praise we sing; now to your Son our lives we bring;  
Come, Holy Ghost, our hearts inspire; fill all our deeds with holy fire.*

\*PEACE OF CHRIST

## HEARING GOD’S WORD

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Genesis 3: 1-7*

NEW TESTAMENT READING *Romans 7: 14-25*

SERMON “Something Has Happened...to us ALL” Mike Shelton

## RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

\*HYMN OF RESPONSE NO. 423 “Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God” (from Psalm 51)

\*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.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

OFFERING OURSELVES TO GOD

(8:45) “Spirit of the Living God”

*Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.  
Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.*

*Spirit of the living God, move within my soul. Holy Spirit, breath of God, heal and make me whole.  
Take me; use me; come, invade me; make my life an offering, wholly unto Thee.*

(11:00) “If You Search with All Your Heart” C. Courtney

*When you seek Me, you shall find Me if you search with all your heart... For I know the plans I have for you:  
plans of welfare, not of evil. For I know the plans I have for you: plans of hope and a future.  
I will bring you out of bondage to the land I have prepared. I will bring you out of bondage.  
I will bring you home to Me...*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**As we enter Lent, we become aware of the distractions in our daily lives. Wake us up, Jesus!  
Keep us mindful of what you gave us in your living and in your dying. Let us give in gratitude,  
for we have received far more than we could ever deserve. Amen.**

## THE SENDING

\*HYMN OF DEDICATION NO. 418 “Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling”

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*CONCLUDING PRAISE

8:45 “Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”  
11:00 “Little Prelude and Fugue in G minor”

arr. John Carter  
J. S. Bach

*\*Those who are able please stand*