

Serving Today

GUEST ORGANIST: Robert Holbrook
LITURGISTS: Cheryl Rice - Chapel
Russ Pearson - Sanctuary
SOUND: Olin Babb
TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES: Russ Pearson
FLOWER DELIVERY: Kathy Stoots

THE CHANCEL FLOWERS ARE DEDICATED
TO THE GLORY OF GOD
and presented by Louise Piazza
in loving memory of Cathy Piazza Liley.

First Presbyterian Church
Kingsport, Tennessee

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



Communion Sunday
September 10, 2023
8:45 & 11:00 a.m.

GATHERING AS GOD’S PEOPLE

BELLS OF GOD’S PRESENCE

WELCOME

(PRELUDE 8:45)

Robert Holbrook, guest organist

GATHERING MUSIC (11:00)

No. 2284

“Joy in the Morning”

No. 2282

“I’ll Praise the Lord” (“I’ll Fly Away”)

M. Davis

This glad morning with the rising sun, I’ll praise the Lord! Gathered in this holy place as one, I’ll praise the Lord! I’ll praise the Lord in glory, I’ll praise the Lord! As I rise, heaven’s glory fills my eyes; I’ll praise the Lord!

Cast aside the sorrows of this earth, come, bless the Lord! Rise with Jesus in the second birth! Come, bless the Lord! I’ll praise the Lord in glory, I’ll praise the Lord! I will sing Hallelujah to my King! I’ll praise the Lord!

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Whatever kind of a week you have had, Jesus faced everything that you experienced and more.

People: **We put on the mind of Christ which enables us to erect crosses in his name.**

Leader: Whatever suffering you’ve endured, the cross of Christ weans us from always expecting to get our own way.

People: **We put on the mind of Christ, which enables us to do his will.**

Leader: Forsake the ladder of worldly living and the tyranny of living only for your own sake.

People: **We put on the mind of Christ and forever walk in God's ways.**

*HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 611

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God, you comfort and encourage us. Your goodness and kindness go beyond our understanding. Your grace is richer and deeper than we can comprehend. Despite your gracious love, we seek to go our own way and to trust our own resources. We choose our plans over your will. Our pride and self-centeredness lead us astray. We are flawed, broken people in need of mercy. Forgive us for the times we have failed you. Cleanse our hearts and renew our minds for your kingdom’s sake. Empower us to be Jesus’ disciples. In his name, we pray. *(silent prayer)*

KYRIE

“Let Us Break Bread Together”

Lord, have mercy upon me, hear my prayer; Christ, have mercy upon me, hear my prayer; When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun, O lord, have mercy on me.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Jesus said, “Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened for you.” God hears our prayers and communicates back. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Let us live in peace.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

*SUNG RESPONSE

“Give Thanks”

Give thanks with a grateful heart; give thanks to the Holy One; give thanks, because we’re given Jesus Christ, the Son. And now, let the weak say, “We are strong”; let the poor say, “We are rich, because of what the Lord has done for us!” Give thanks. Give thanks.

*PEACE OF CHRIST

HEARING GOD’S WORD

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

NEW TESTAMENT READING

James 1:2-4

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 11: 25-30

SERMON

“Manage Your Stress Before it Manages You”

Mike Shelton

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

*HYMN OF RESPONSE NO. 519 “You Are My Strength When I Am Weak” (*You Are My All in All*)

MINUTE FOR MISSION (11:00) ~ Congregational Fellowship & Nurture Committee

Richard Meyer

MORNING PRAYER AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

MUSICAL MEDITATION

PRAYER

Robert Holbrook

OFFERING OURSELVES TO GOD

(8:45)

“I Come with Joy”

We’ve broken bread and shared the wine, forgiven, loved, and free; inspired to love and serve our Lord in all things faithfully, in all things faithfully.

Put on the robe of righteousness, fit for the kingdom feast; God’s grace has woven us as one, the greatest and the least, the greatest and the least.

Together met, together bound by all that God has done, We’ll go with joy, to give the world the love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

(11:00)

“Is He Worthy?”

A. Peterson/B. Shive

Do you feel the world is broken?... We do. Do you feel the shadows deepen?... We do. But do you know that all the dark won’t stop the light from getting through?... We do. Do you wish that you could see it all made new?... We do.

Is all creation groaning?... It is. Is a new creation coming?... It is.

Is the glory of the Lord to be the light within our midst?... It is.

Is it good that we remind ourselves of this?... It is.

Is anyone worthy? Is anyone whole? Is anyone able to break the seal and open the scroll?

The Lion of Judah, Who conquered the grave, He is David’s Root and the Lamb who died to ransom the slave.

Is He worthy? Is He worthy of all blessing and honor and glory? Is He worthy of this?... He is.

Does the Father truly love us?... He does. Does the Spirit move among us?... He does.

And does Jesus, our Messiah, hold forever those He loves?... He does.

Does our God intend to dwell again with us?... He does.

Is anyone worthy? Is anyone whole? Is anyone able to break the seal and open the scroll?

The Lion of Judah, Who conquered the grave, He is David’s Root and the Lamb who died to ransom the slave.

From every people and tribe, every nation and tongue, He has made us a kingdom and priests to God to reign with the Son. Is He worthy? Is He worthy of all blessing and honor and glory? Is He worthy of this?... He is.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

O God, you are our healing and our strength. Accept these offerings, as signs of our thanks, as testimonies to our love for you and our desire to serve you. Multiply these gifts, so that your healing purposes be manifest throughout the world. Amen.

THE SENDING

*HYMN OF DEDICATION NO. 2202

“Come Away with Me”

*CHARGE AND BENECTION

*CONCLUDING PRAISE

*Those who are able please stand