

Serving Today

LITURGISTS: Don Thompson - Chapel
Russ Pearson - Sanctuary
SOUND: Andrew Hagan
TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES: Russ Pearson
FLOWER DELIVERY: Betty Blass

THE CHANCEL FLOWERS ARE DEDICATED
TO THE GLORY OF GOD
in loving memory of Jim and Gertrude Davis
from Jamie, Tammie, Andy and Scott.

Prayer List

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY - The Congregation extends Christian Sympathy to the family of **Allen "Al" N. Dryden, Jr.**, upon his death on January 1, 2024, in Kingsport, TN.

PRAYER FAMILIES OF THE WEEK – Hannah Adams; Laura Jane Yantz; Ruth and Sarah Jane Adams; and Allen and Becca Wright.

MISSIONARIES – Eliane Menezes, Guatemala.

No Youth Group This Afternoon

Bridge, Anyone?

Bridge in January will be held each Monday at 1:00 p.m. in Room 103, on the hall that connects with the Childcare Center. All men and women bridge players are welcome. Just show up, no reservation needed. A low-key game for fellowship and fun.

Upcoming Events

January 14 & 21

Ordination/Installation of Officers

February 4

Annual Congregational Meeting

Prayer Trees

Several Prayer Trees have been placed in the Fellowship Hall for Winter. Please write any prayer concerns or blessings on the prayer cards provided and hang it on the trees. You are welcome to choose a card from the trees, pray for that concern and return it the following week. **(Volunteers are needed from 10:00-11:00 a.m. Wednesday, January 10 for Advent breakdown in the Fellowship Hall.)**

Birthdays This Week

Jan. 8: John McInturff

Jan. 11: Emily Smith, Jagger Lisa

Jan. 12: Claudia Byrd

Jan. 13: Frances Frongillo, Tommy Rice, Ashley Cooper, Amory Mott

Jan. 14: Chuck Bachelder, Emily Stevens

Rekindling Update

We will be updating the Rekindling data mid-January. If you wish to add your talents and willingness to volunteer to those who have already completed their forms please pick up a copy of the information from the Rekindling box in the foyer and **return it to the same box by 14th**. Please write **Completed** on the outside of the envelope and don't forget to include your name on the forms. Questions – contact Jane Harris (423-239-9477) or Catherine Tucker (423-782-7782).

Second Harvest for January

FPC volunteers will kick off a new year of service at Second Harvest Food Bank on **January 17**. There will only be a morning session between 10 and noon on this date. Check your calendars and let Bob Stoots know if you'd like to help (call or text 423-782-6280).

First Presbyterian Church

Kingsport, Tennessee

Seeking to see the face of Christ...

Striving to be the hands of Christ



Baptism of the Lord/ Communion Sunday

January 7, 2024

8:45 & 11:00 a.m.

GATHERING AS GOD’S PEOPLE

BELLS OF GOD’S PRESENCE

WELCOME

PRELUDE “As With Gladness Men of Old” Arr. J.K. Reeve
Jenny Dougan, pianist

*CALL TO WORSHIP
Leader: The people who sit in darkness
People: **Have seen a great light.**
Leader: Arise, let us make straight, the crooked highways;
People: **Exalt the valleys and make low the mountains**
Leader: To prepare the way of the Lord!
People: **To make ready our hearts for his appearance!**

*HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 150 “As with Gladness Men of Old”

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION
Our memories are short, God, and we need your nudges to recall your blessings. From the beginning of life to its ending, we rest in your grace, though we do not always recognize your presence. Our eyes are blind, and our calendars are too full to notice you at work. We get caught up in the worries of living and lose sight of your presence. The urgent and the necessary crowd out the joy of your salvation. Forgive us, God, for out-ward obedience and inner resistance. Let your peace ease our anxious moments, your love heal our troubled minds, and your joy kindle our memory and hope. Hear our prayer in Jesus' name...
(silent prayer)
KYRIE D. Johnson
Lord, have mercy upon us; Christ have mercy upon us; Lord, have mercy upon us.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON
Leader: The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. In Jesus Christ, the old has passed away; the new has come. From this moment on, live joyously as God's forgiven people!
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 Russ Pearson

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT READING Psalm 90:1-12

NEW TESTAMENT READING Colossians 3: 5-12

SERMON “In Search of Wisdom” Mike Shelton

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

*HYMN OF RESPONSE NO. 488 “I Was There to Hear Your Borneing Cry”

MORNING PRAYER AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION
(11:00) Communion will be served by intinction at the 11:00 a.m. service. Worshippers are invited to come forward by rows, take a piece of bread, dip it in the cup and partake. If you prefer, individual cups are available from the elder closest to the outside aisle. If you have difficulty coming to the front, an elder will be happy to serve you in your seat.
INVITATION
WORDS OF INSTITUTION
THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING
COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE
MUSICAL MEDITATION
PRAYER

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) “Mary, Did You Know?” Lowry/Green; arr, L. Larson
Tammie Davis, contralto; Mark Davis, baritone

PRAYER OF DEDICATION
God, we bear our gifts as our homage for your presence in Christ. May they be an instrument of your grace to a world in need. Remind us that your generosity far surpasses anything we might give to you, but we strive to respond to your love the best we can. Amen.
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THE SENDING

*HYMN OF SENDING NO. 686 “God of Our Life”

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CONCLUDING PRAISE “In Dulci Jubilo” Arr. M. McDonald

**Those who are able please stand*