

Serving Today

GREETERS & USHERS:	Gerry Morie - Fellowship Center
LITURGISTS:	Mark Davis - Chapel
	Martha Pendley - Fellowship Center
SOUND:	Gary Hallen
TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES:	Russ Pearson
FLOWER DELIVERY:	Nancy Knisley

THE CHANCEL FLOWERS ARE DEDICATED
TO THE GLORY OF GOD
in honor of Mitch and Greta Robinette's grandchildren.
Gemma, Palmer, Kelton, Elijah, and Hudson.

First Presbyterian Church

Kingsport, Tennessee

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



Fifth Sunday of Lent
March 17, 2024
8:45 & 11:00 a.m.

GATHERING AS GOD’S PEOPLE

BELLS OF GOD’S PRESENCE
WELCOME

PRELUDE “Be Thou My Vision” (an Irish hymn) arr. Gary Lanier
Carolyn McPherson, guest pianist ; John Alan Smith, cello

*CALL TO WORSHIP
Leader: The road to the cross may be steep, but journey on.
People: **We may lose our way.**
Leader: The path may be rocky; there may be twists and turns.
People: **We will follow closely and be vigilant.**
Leader: There is danger and risk but there will be an ending.
People: **We will stay focused, trusting as you go.**

*HYMN OF PRAISE No. 816 “If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee”

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION
Merciful God, you have surrounded us with good and invited us to partake. Instead of being grateful, we long for what we do not have. We fail to discipline our desires and instead indulge them. We want maturity without growing pains, character without effort, courage without testing, wisdom without difficulty. Lord, forgive our foolish ways. Grant us a longing for your presence and a burning passion for your truth. May we seek to know your heart, and to delight in your ways and thoughts which are higher than ours.
(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: God's mercy is from everlasting to everlasting. Believe the good news in Jesus Christ: our sins are forgiven and we are made new creatures.
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 FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

NEW TESTAMENT READING Philippians 2:1-11

GOSPEL READING Luke 9: 51-62

SERMON “Jesus Was Intense” Mike Shelton

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

*HYMN OF RESPONSE No. 2165 “Cry of My Heart”
(Leader(s): Refrain - then **All** repeat; solo verses, then **All** on **Refrain**)

*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) “We Lift Our Voices” (1 Cor.29:14; Romans 12:1)
We lift our voices; we lift our hands; we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering.
Lord, use our voices; Lord, use our hands; Lord, use our lives; they are yours: we are an offering.
All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you.
We lift our voices; we lift our hands; we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering.
Lord, use our voices; Lord, use our hands; Lord, use our lives; they are yours: we are an offering.
Every good work, all fruit we bear, flows from your grace as we abide in you; we trust in you.
We lift our voices; we lift our hands; we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering; we are an offering.
(11:00) “My God, I Feel Forsaken” L. Dengler
John Alan Smith, cello

PRAYER OF DEDICATION
We give our gifts in thanksgiving for all that we have been given. Help us give with hearts and minds open to the possibilities of what we can do to heal this broken world. Let our love travel where we do not, making pathways of peace where there are none. In Christ our Lord!

THE SENDING

*HYMN OF DEDICATION No. 726 “The Summons”

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CONCLUDING PRAISE “Praise the Lord! Ye Heavens, Adore Him” arr. Don Phillips

*Those who are able please stand