

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, KINGSPORT, TN
Seeking to see the Face of Christ...Striving to be the Hands of Christ
Sunday, February 2, 2025 ~ 11:00 a.m.

BELLS OF GOD'S PRESENCE

WELCOME

PRELUDE

"Hymne"

(Vangelis)

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: This world is broken and cannot satisfy.

People: Come, Lord Jesus.

Leader: We face terror and darkness, sorrow and pain.

People: Come, Lord Jesus.

Leader: We long for a place where all is restored, and we hunger no more.

People: Come, Lord Jesus.

Leader: We hope for a world with no mourning, no tears.

People: Come, Lord Jesus.

*HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 805

"Come Sing to God"

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God, we confess there are times in prayer when we don't understand why we do it, because we don't understand the "whys" of life. We confess that there are some things we just cannot understand. Our hearts are filled with sorrow at the magnitude of our loss. We gather with heavy hearts. We come with pain too deep for words. We come anxious and unsure. We come doubting and angry. We come in shock and despair. And here you are, God, ever more ready to listen than we are to pray. We ask that you help us to know of your presence because it is easy for us to let go of you. And yet we know that your love never lets go of us. (silent prayer)

KYRIE

D. Johnson

Lord, have mercy upon us; Christ have mercy upon us; Lord, have mercy upon us.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: God's mercy and grace are sure. Believe the good news. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

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

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Russ Pearson

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Matthew 5: 4

OLD TESTAMENT READING

II Samuel 18: 24-33

SERMON

"Life's Inevitable Course: Sorrow"

Mike Shelton

*HYMN OF RESPONSE NO. 840

"When Peace like a River"

MORNING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Communion will be served by intinction this morning. 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

"Smoky Mountain Gospel Medley"

(arr. Dennis Allen)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Giver of life, we present these offerings to you that through their use people near and far will be touched by your Spirit of compassion, your Spirit of justice and your Spirit of hope. In the name of Jesus, who gave himself that all might have abundant life. Amen.

HYMN OF SENDING NO. 819

"Be Still, My Soul"

(Please remain seated for the final hymn and concluding praise)

CONCLUDING PRAISE

"O God Our Help in Ages Past"

(arr. Victor C. Johnson)

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

**Those who are able please stand*

SOUND:

Olin Babb

GREETERS & USHERS:

Betty Blass and Bob Stoots

FLOWER DELIVERY:

Sharon Engel

THE CHANCEL FLOWERS ARE DEDICATED TO THE GLORY OF GOD

and in loving memory of Dr. William Blass by Betty Blass.

Prayer List

PRAYER FAMILIES OF THE WEEK – Jane Andersen; Justin, Norie-Anne Watts and Delaney Young; Alyson Argabrite and Marjorie Watford.

Sermon Series

For the next few weeks, Dr. Shelton will continue his sermon series, "LESSONS FROM THE SCHOOL OF HARD KNOCKS" based on the premise that the only way most of us learn anything is the hard way...through trial and error.

All Youth Service Project

Today, 4-5pm, Fellowship Center Gym Upstairs

We will be putting together hygiene packs for our breakfast ministry guests. Feel free to bring any small toiletry items to include: shampoo, deodorant, soap, hand sanitizer, etc. We have items already but can include anything you bring.

Birthdays This Week

February 1: Julianna King

February 2: John Porter, Jenny Clemmer

February 4: Oliver Arrowsmith

February 5: Peyton Lambton

February 6: Marian Adams, Evie Heindselman, Daniel Robertson

February 7: Olivia Collins

Church Night Supper ~ February 5 ~ 5:30 p.m. ~ Fellowship Center

Meatloaf, green beans, mashed potatoes, gravy, rolls and dessert

Bible Study on the Psalms ~ Psalm 112 ~ led by Rev. Russ Pearson

The cost of dinner: \$10.00, adults; \$5.00, children under 10; family maximum of \$25.00. Fill out the pew pad on Sunday mornings, call the church office at 245-0104 or register online: www.firstpresningsport.org. Reservations due noon Tuesday.

Combined Worship, Potluck & Annual Meeting

We will have one combined worship service on **Sunday, February 16** at 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary to be followed by a potluck meal in the Fellowship Center. Our **Annual Congregational Meeting** will be held following lunch. The purpose of the meeting will be to hear a report on the budget, to hear a report from Session, a report from the pastor, and a report from the church staff. Chicken fingers will be provided for lunch. Members are asked to bring a favorite side dish or dessert. Make **reservations by Tuesday, the 11th**, by calling or e-mailing Vickie Green (245-0104 or vgreen@firstpresningsport.org) so we'll order enough chicken fingers.