



~The Gathering~

Greeting

Rev. Matt Nieman

Prelude

Old 120th
Tami Newsom, organ

Thorne

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Call to Worship

In the beginning, God created the world, and God blessed it:

“It is good.”

In the beginning, God created light, and God blessed it:

“It is good.”

In the beginning, God created life, and God blessed it:

“It is good.”

Since the beginning, God has not stopped creating,
calling us closer to all that is good.

Hymn #288

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

Ellacombe

**I sing the mighty power of God that made the mountains rise;
That spread the flowing seas abroad and built the lofty skies.**

**I sing the wisdom that ordained the sun to rule the day;
The moon shines full at God’s command, and all the stars obey.**

**I sing the goodness of the Lord that filled the earth with food;
God formed the creatures with a word and then pronounced them good.**

**Lord, how Thy wonders are displayed, where-e’er I turn my eyes;
If I survey the ground I tread, or gaze upon the skies!**

**There’s not a plant or flower below but makes Thy glories known;
And clouds arise, and tempests blow, by order from Thy throne;
While all that borrows life from Thee is ever in Thy care,
And everywhere that we can be, Thou, God art present there.**

Text: Isaac Watts, 1715; alt. Music: *Gesangbuch der Herzogl. Wirtembergischen Katholischen Hofkapelle*, 1784; alt. 1868.
The Presbyterian Hymnal: Hymns, Psalms, and Spiritual Songs © 1990 Westminster/John Knox Press. Public domain.

Prayer of Confession

God whose spirit moved over the waters, you have washed us in your mercy, claimed us as your own, bound us in community, and called us to lives of baptismal grace. Forgive us, O God, for we have not lived as if we were your baptized people. We stumble over opportunities for forgiveness. We prioritize our own selfish interests. We are slow to disrupt the status quo, even when it means ignoring our neighbors' suffering. Forgive us, O God, and by your forgiveness, lead us back to your waters of transformation.

(please continue in silent prayer)

Declaration of Forgiveness

The Peace

The Peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

~The Word~

Prayer for Illumination

Saving God, source of our calling, your Word is full of power and glory. Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us so we may receive your grace and live as your beloved children; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

First Scripture Reading: Mark 1:4-11

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Psalm 29

Dr. Angela Batey, psalmist

Colin Mawby

***Refrain:* May the Lord bless his people, bless his people with peace.**

Ascribe to the Lord, you powers of heaven, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

Ascribe to the Lord the honor due to his name; worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness. *Refrain*

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders; the Lord is upon the mighty waters. The voice of the Lord is mighty in operation; the voice of the Lord is a glorious voice. *Refrain*

The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees; the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon; He makes Lebanon skip like a calf and Sirion like a young wild ox. *Refrain*

The voice of the Lord splits the flash of lightning; the voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; The Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh. *Refrain*

The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare; In his temple all cry, 'Glory!' *Refrain*

The Lord sits enthroned above the water flood; the Lord sits enthroned as king for evermore. The Lord shall give strength to his people; the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace. *Refrain*

From *New Psalms for Common Worship*, Editor/Arranger Colin Mawby, Publisher: Kevin Mayhew
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Second Scripture Reading: Acts 19:1-7

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

~The Response~

Affirmation of Faith (Adapted from the *Confession of 1967*, 9.1)

God's sovereign love is a mystery beyond the reach of the human mind. Human thought ascribes to God superlatives of power, wisdom, and goodness. But God reveals divine love in Jesus Christ by showing power in the form of a servant, wisdom in the folly of the cross, and goodness in receiving sinful men and women. The power of God's love in Christ to transform the world discloses that the Redeemer is the Lord and Creator who made all things to serve the purpose of God's love.

The Anthem

Like a Dove

John Purifoy

Dr. Angela Batey, soprano ~ Tami Newsom, piano

Behold the Lamb of God, who takes our sins away.
 "After me will come a man whose sandals I'm not worthy even to untie."
 And then Jesus came, when from the water He arose, behold the heavens opened up,
 He saw the hand of God descending from on high.

Like a dove, the Spirit came to Him. Like a dove, it then remained with Him.
 From above a voice cried, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I'm well pleased."

Prepare ye the way, the way of the Lord. And ev'ry valley shall be filled,
 each mountain and each hill will be brought low.

The crooked shall be straight, the rough ways be made smooth.
 He on whom you see the Spirit descend, this shall be the Son of God.

Like a dove, the Spirit comes to us. Like a dove, it then remains with us.
 From above a voice cries, "This is my beloved child with whom I'm well pleased."

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Call for the Offering

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
 Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
 Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our
 debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
 For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

~The Sending~

Hymn #375 GTG

Shall We Gather at the River

Hanson Place

**Shall we gather at the river, where bright angel feet have trod,
 with its crystal tide forever flowing by the throne of God?**

**Refrain: Yes, we'll gather at the river, the beautiful, the beautiful river;
 gather with the saints at the river that flows by the throne of God.**

~continued next page~

**On the margin of the river, washing up its silver spray,
we will walk and worship ever, all the happy golden day. Refrain**

**Ere we reach the shining river, lay we every burden down;
grace our spirits will deliver, and provide a robe and crown. Refrain**

**Soon we'll reach the shining river; soon our pilgrimage will cease;
soon our happy hearts will quiver with the melody of peace. Refrain**

Text and Music: Robert Lowry, 1864 © 2013 *Glory to God Presbyterian Hymnal*,
Westminster/John Knox Press, 100 Witherspoon Street, Louisville KY 40202. Public domain.

Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Christum wir sollen loben schon
Tami Newsom, organ

Bach

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If you would like the church office to record your attendance today, you can:

- scan this QR Code and click on the generated google doc link or
- go to <https://tinyurl.com/record-FPC-attendance> or
- email the office at office@fpctn.org

Continuing through the month of January, **FPC worship will be online** (no indoor, in-person worship) due to the continuing rise in coronavirus cases in our region.

If the weather allows, **outdoor worship** will be held at 11:00 a.m.



The area Presbyterian Churches in partnership with Edward Jones will be constructing a **Habitat for Humanity** home in Knoxville beginning on March 20, 2021. Habitat of Knoxville needs volunteers from the area churches to help in the construction of this home along with the volunteers from Edward Jones. Work will be done on Saturdays beginning March 20, 2021. You can work whatever number of days or time your schedule allows. **There will be a pre-construction Zoom meeting on January 14 from 2:00-3:00 pm for anyone interested.** If you are interested in volunteering your time to this worthwhile project, you are asked to contact either Buck Jones (buck@utk.edu) or Wayne Walls

(wwalls97@aol.com) so they can turn in your name to Habitat and pass on the link to the January 14th Zoom meeting.

Candles for the Homeless



Baby, it's cold outside! *A Place at The Table*, a homeless ministry in Knoxville, serves the homeless community each Monday night, no matter what the weather. In the winter months they particularly need pillar and tapered candles, slightly used will do. Why do they need candles? The homeless use them for light on these dark nights and they also use them for heat. That's right — heat. Those with tarp tents burn the candles close to them for the heat from the flame.

If you have some candles to donate, please contact Rev. Patricia Ramsden at p.ramsden3011@comcast.net.



Here is hoping 2021 is a better year! We look forward to when we are able to begin in-person gatherings again with friends, family, and church folk.

Our guest families have been sheltering in place since March, though there have been several families that found housing, and several new ones entered the program. Hopefully, we will soon be able to be with our families. Oh, how we have missed that interaction. Our dates for this year are:

January 24-31
August 29-September 5
December 19-26

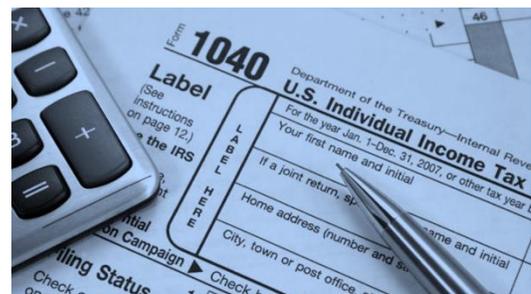
Look for the signup for drop-off meals and gas/grocery cards in January. Please keep the people who are homeless or about to be homeless in your prayers, and thank you again for your volunteer efforts and donations this past year.

For more information about Family Promise, contact bethloyless@hotmail.com, or 865-657-9644.

Tax Reminders

Don't file your 2020 tax return before receiving your FPC 2020 year-end giving statement, so you have IRS-compliant documentation of any gifts of cash or checks to FPC that were \$250 or more.

Year-end donations statements will be mailed by Jan 30th, 2021.



This Week at FPC!

Sun, Jan 10		9:00 a.m. live stream and 11:00 a.m. outdoor worship	
Mon, Jan 11	6:00	p.m.	Youth Groups/Fellowship Hall
	10:00	a.m.	Chair Yoga/Zoom
	11:00	a.m.	Lectio Divina/Zoom
Tues, Jan 12	7:00	p.m.	Christian Education Committee/Zoom
	10:00	a.m.	PW Circle #2/Zoom
Wed, Jan 13	7:00	p.m.	Boy Scouts #444/FH, Rm A, Narthex
	10:00	a.m.	PW Circle #3/Zoom
Thurs, Jan 14	6:00	p.m.	Worship & Music Committee/Zoom
	6:30	p.m.	Cub Scouts/FH, Room A, Narthex
Fri, Jan 15	7:00	p.m.	Thursday Night Bible Study/Zoom
	7:00	p.m.	Gentle Yoga Class/Zoom



Sunday School at 10:05 a.m.

Class	Room	Topic
Pastor Matt's Class	Zoom	Please join Pastor Matt for a time of Bible study and prayer at 10 a.m. via Zoom. Please consult his Saturday email for the links to the Zoom gathering.
Adult Bible Study Class	Zoom	We use <i>The Present Word</i> . Our winter lesson book looks at God's call throughout the New Testament as a way to explore our own calls. The three units focus on Jesus' heritage (Matthew), Jesus' call (other Gospels), and faithful women (a mix of Gospels and Epistles). Within the overall theme, each lesson stands alone, and we'd love to have you join us any week you're able.
Monday Connection	Zoom/ and Parlor	This class is studying <i>A New Reformation</i> , by author Rob Fuquay. This book will introduce you to the life of Martin Luther and two important themes of the Reformation he sparked: the centrality of Scripture and the power of God's grace.
Youth	Zoom	Students in this class embark on a journey to explore the <i>Gospel According to Disney</i> . This week we will be watching Disney Pixar Shorts, <i>Laluna</i> and <i>Day and Night</i> .