



FARRAGUT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

JULY 16, 2023
11:00 A.M.

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost



~The Gathering~

Prelude

O Herre Gott, dein Gottlich Wort
Tami Newsom, organ

Walther

Greeting

Jessica Lewis

Call to Worship

Let us offer our praise to God, for we come to learn God's ways:

O God, your word is a lamp to our feet, a light to our path;
we lift our hearts to you

as we seek to worship, adore, and follow you.

Come, let us worship and praise God.

Hymn #454

Blessed Jesus, at Your Word

Liebster Jesu

**Blessed Jesus, at Your word we are gathered all to hear You;
Let our hearts and souls be stirred now to seek and love and fear You;
By Your teachings true and holy, drawn from earth to love You solely.**

**All our knowledge, sense, and sight lie in deepest darkness shrouded,
Till Your Spirit breaks our night with beams of truth unclouded;
You alone to God can win us, You must work all good within us.**

**Glorious Lord, Yourself impart! Light of light, from God proceeding,
Open now our ears and heart, help us by Your Spirit's pleading;
Hear the cry that we are raising; hear, and bless our prayers and praising.**

Prayer of Confession

**O God, we are quick to say, “We didn’t know.” “We didn’t mean to.”
“We didn’t expect that to happen.”
But we have not tended the soil of our lives.
We let it stay shallow and rocky by not learning from the experience of others.
We let it be riddled with thorns by succumbing to our own prejudices.**

**Life-giving God, help us to tend our soil. Open us to being challenged,
enable us to learn, so that your word will take root and bear good fruit in our
lives.**

(please continue in silent prayer)

Kyrie Eleison #574

Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us

Johnson

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us.

7
Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

From "The Worshipbook" 1972 ~ arr. David N. Johnson, 1972
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Declaration of Forgiveness

Gloria (unison; Tune: Dix)

Kocher

**For Thy Church, that evermore Lifteth holy hands above,
Offering up on every shore Her pure sacrifice of love.
Lord of all, to Thee we raise This our hymn of grateful praise.**

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The Peace

The Peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

~The Word~

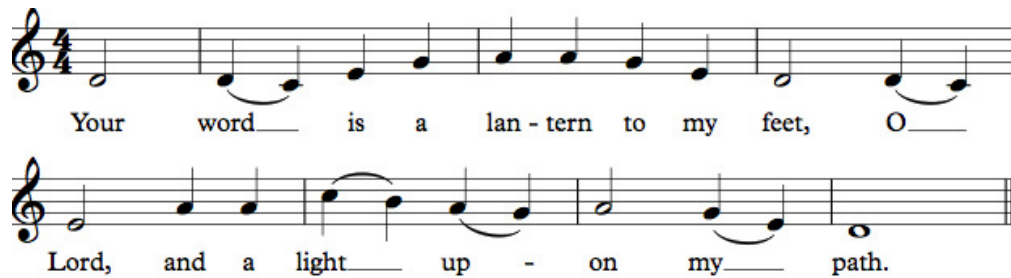
Prayer for Illumination

Scott McKinney

**God of life, by the power of your Spirit come to us now. Plow our hearts with your
living Word until we who are broken become fertile with your love, for we long to
bear fruit in a world that is wasting. We pray in the name of Jesus, whose charge
we bear. Amen.**

First Scripture Reading: Psalm 119:105-112

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.



Your word is a lantern to my feet and a light upon my path.
I have sworn and am determined to keep your righteous judgments. **(R)**

I am deeply troubled; preserve my life, O Lord, according to your word.
Accept, O Lord, the willing tribute of my lips, and teach me your judgments. **(R)**

My life is always in my hand, yet I do not forget your law.
The wicked have set a trap for me, but I have not strayed from your commandments. **(R)**

Your decrees are my inheritance for ever; truly, they are the joy of my heart.
I have applied my heart to fulfill your statutes for ever and to the end. **(R)**

Second Scripture Reading: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

Jessica Lewis

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

“The Main Character”

Jessica Lewis

~The Response~

The 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.

Hymn #391

Take My Life

Hendon

**Take my life, and let it be consecrated, Lord, to Thee.
Take my moments and my days; Let them flow in ceaseless praise,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.**

**Take my hands, and let them move at the impulse of Thy love.
Take my feet, and let them be swift and beautiful for Thee,
Swift and beautiful for Thee.**

**Take my voice, and let me sing, always, only, for my King.
Take my lips, and let them be filled with messages from Thee,
Filled with messages from Thee.**

**Take my silver and my gold, not a mite would I with-hold;
Take my intellect, and use every power as Thou shalt choose,
Every power as Thou shalt choose.**

~continued on next page~

**Take my will, and make it Thine; it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is Thine own; It shall be Thy royal throne,
It shall be Thy royal throne.**

**Take my love; my Lord, I pour at Thy feet its treasure store.
Take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for Thee,
Ever, only, all for Thee.**

Text: Frances Ridley Havergal, 1874, Music: H.A. César Malan, 1827,
The Presbyterian Hymnal: Hymns, Psalms, and Spiritual Songs © 1990 Westminster/John Knox Press.

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 #339

Be Thou My Vision

Slane

**Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
Nought be all else to me, save that Thou art-
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.**

**Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise,
Thou mine inheritance, now and always:
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart,
Great God of heaven, my treasure Thou art.**

**Be Thou my wisdom, and Thou my true word;
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.**

Text: Ancient Irish poem, Trans. Mary E. Byrne, 1905, Vers. Eleanor Hull, 1912; alt.
Music: Irish ballad, Harm. David Evans, 1927, harmonization from the *Revised Church Hymnary 1927*. Used by permission of Oxford University Press.
The Presbyterian Hymnal: Hymns, Psalms, and Spiritual Songs © 1990 Westminster/John Knox Press.

Charge and Benediction

Congregational Response #369 *I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me*

I'm Gonna Live

**I'm gonna live so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna live so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!**

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Postlude

Gelobet seist du, Jesu Christ

Patrick

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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@fpcn.org

*Joining Our Family of
Faith
in Prayer:
A Sabbatical Journey*

For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light. — Ephesians 5:8

Kate Bowler says that “in this digital age of exhaustion and distraction, the ability to be present-minded has become a rare and valuable commodity.” **Our sabbatical journey** as a family of faith offers us one way to be present-minded.

Join us the last few weeks of this journey by adding your name to the list posted on the whiteboard before or after worship or by calling the church office. A guide featuring daily readings from the Psalms is available at: <https://tinyurl.com/Sabbatical-Prayer-Guide>.

ATTENTION FPC YOUTH: Help **feed the homeless at Volunteer Ministry Center** on Tuesday, July 18th. Contact Mason Warren if you can help. Transportation from the church will be provided.

Youth can also participate in the **Small & Mighty youth group** on July 24th as they go **tubing down the Little River in Townsend** starting from The Smoky Mountain River Rat Tubing Outpost. Contact masonwarren@fpcn.org for more information.



Growing Families Lake and Pool Party! – Saturday, July 22 at 3:00 p.m. Come for an afternoon of fun and fellowship on the water at Clay and Denise Griffin’s home at 8908 Kelsey Lane. We will be grilling hamburgers and hotdogs and providing beverages. Please bring an appetizer, side, or dessert to share. Bring life jackets if you have them for the little ones (we only have a few for the under 50lb. crowd). Contact Denise Griffin for more information.

FPC outing to the TN Smokies v/s Mississippi Braves - Saturday, July 22 at 7:00 pm:

A reminder for those signed up to attend that the **stadium is now cash-free**, so parking, refreshments, and souvenirs must be paid for by credit/debit card. Contact Leigh Ann Neely with questions.



The congregation is invited to join Presbyterian Women in **collecting school supplies for special area teachers** (art, music, physical ed, special ed, etc.) in Cocke and Sevier Counties. **Items most needed:** tissues, pencils, crayons, colored pencils, glue sticks, scissors, printer paper, ziplock bags, hand sanitizer, markers, construction paper, bottled glue, skin-toned crayons, blank paper or sketch books, rulers. You can place your donations in the designated basket in the narthex. If you have any questions, please contact Debbie Long.

Sunset Gap needs your help! Sunset Gap’s refrigeration truck needs a new \$55,000 engine. Without refrigeration they can only pick up non-perishable food. Careful maintenance and periodic repairs kept their truck running until last winter, when it broke down. They are asking for donations on a GoFundMe page to help reach this important goal, so they can continue to feed hungry families. If you would like to contribute, please go to: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/fix-our-truck-to-feed-our-families>

It's Back to School time at Sunset Gap. Sign-up is available both at the church and online. Be sure to add your phone number when signing up in case we need to contact you. Please do not gift wrap. Items are due back July 30 for delivery that week. Be sure to attach a tag with the child's name (or grade and gender for the online sign-up) and the tag number on it. Any questions, contact Debbie Long.



This is the link and QR code to the online 2023 Sunset Gap School Supplies sign-up:

<https://tinyurl.com/SunsetGapBackToSchool2023>. If you scroll down to the bottom of the online sign-up page you will see the supplies needed for each grade.



2024 Trip to Egypt:

Hal and Jeanie Oakley are leading an all-inclusive trip to Egypt on April 1-12, 2024. The trip includes visiting Cairo, Alexandria, a 5-day Nile Cruise, and the Pyramids. Total cost, including airfare is \$5275. If you would like to extend your trip through April 17, the group will continue on to Jordan (Amman, Mt. Nebo, Petra), the Dead Sea, and Israel (Jerusalem-3 days). Total cost of trip with extension to Jordan and

Israel is \$7275. If you are interested in either option, please contact Hal Oakley (256.658.5252) or Jeanie Oakley (256.468.4501) for more information.

This Week at FPC

Sun, Jul 16	9:00 a.m. Casual and 11:00 a.m. Traditional Service		
	9:00	a.m.	KidZone's "Creativity Rocks!"/Room A
	10:00	a.m.	Growing Families Small Group/Fellowship Hall
Mon, Jul 17	5:00	p.m.	Church Life Committee/Room A
Tues, Jul 18	10:30	a.m.	Feed the Homeless/Volunteer Ministry Center
Fri, Jul 21	10:00	a.m.	Chair Yoga/Narthex
	7:00	p.m.	Gentle Yoga Class/Narthex
Sat, Jul 22	3:00	p.m.	Party at the Lake /The Griffin's Home
	7:00	p.m.	Smokies Baseball Game /Kodak, TN

Sunday School 10:00 a.m.

Class	Room	Topic
Adult Bible Study	Outside or in the Parlor in bad weather	This class discusses the Lectionary text from the sermon, and still meets under the trees in good weather and in the parlor in bad weather.
Monday Connection/Pastor Matt's Class	Library	Monday Connection class and Pastor Matt's class are studying the book, "In the Footsteps of the Savior: Following Jesus Through the Holy Land" by Max Lucado.
Youth	Summer break	The youth Sunday School class is on summer break and will resume in August



FARRAGUT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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To praise God, welcome all, serve others, grow in faith, and make disciples of Jesus Christ.