



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN  
Church of Nashville

3RD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY  
*January 22, 2023*  
*8:30 & 11:00 a.m.*



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To know Christ, to make Him known and to exhibit His love through worship, education and service.

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## WORDS OF PREPARATION

“Oh, the boundless mercy of God! How he delights to  
take up a great sinner and make him a great saint!”

~ Harry Ironside

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

†VOLUNTARY

*Dearest Jesus, We are Here*  
Gerald Near

WELCOME

†INTROIT

*O Lord, Open Thou Our Lips*  
Richard Webster

O Lord, open thou our lips and our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Dr. Sandra Randleman

Pastor: Praise the Lord.

**All: The Lord's name be praised.**

Pastor: Great God, you have been generous and marvelously kind.

**All: Give us such wonder, love, and gratitude that we may sing praises to you and joyfully honor your name through Jesus Christ, our Lord.**

Pastor: O magnify the Lord with me.

**All: Let us exalt God's name together!**

\*†OPENING HYMN 645

*Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above*  
MIT FREUDEN ZART

\*PRAYER OF ADORATION

Bill Akin (8:30)  
David Wiley (11:00)

FIRST LESSON | Isaiah 9:1-4 (page 573)

<sup>1</sup> But there will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations. <sup>2</sup> The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone. <sup>3</sup> You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as they are glad when they divide the spoil. <sup>4</sup> For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

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CALL TO CONFESSION

Dr. Stuart Gordon

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Holy Father, you see us as we are and know our inmost thoughts. We confess that we are unworthy of your gracious care. We forget that all life comes from you and that to you all life returns. We have not sought to do your will with our whole hearts. We have not lived as grateful children, nor lived as Christ loves us. Apart from you, we are nothing. Only your grace can sustain us. Lord, in your mercy, forgive us, heal us, and make us whole. Set us free from our sin and restore us to the joy of your salvation now and evermore. Amen.**

*A moment for silent confession.*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

\*RESPONSE OF GRATITUDE 581

*Glory Be to the Father*  
GLORIA PATRI

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen, amen.**

\*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.**

*Whether you are a longtime member or a guest, please mark your presence by signing the friendship pad and greet those seated near you as you pass it along.*

‡BLESSING OF THE YOUNG DISCIPLES

*‡ During the services, PreK and Kindergarten children (ages 4–6) are invited to join Young Children & Worship.*

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM (11:00)

PRESENTATION OF CHILD

Tracy and John Burch III are presenting their son, John Roland Burch IV, for baptism.  
John Burch, Jr., Assisting Elder

BAPTISMAL QUESTIONS

\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

THE BAPTISM

## SCRIPTURE READING | Acts 9:1-19 (page 917)

<sup>1</sup> But Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest <sup>2</sup> and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any belonging to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. <sup>3</sup> Now as he went on his way, he approached Damascus, and suddenly a light from heaven shone around him. <sup>4</sup> And falling to the ground, he heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?" <sup>5</sup> And he said, "Who are you, Lord?" And he said, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. <sup>6</sup> But rise and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." <sup>7</sup> The men who were traveling with him stood speechless, hearing the voice but seeing no one. <sup>8</sup> Saul rose from the ground, and although his eyes were opened, he saw nothing. So they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. <sup>9</sup> And for three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank. <sup>10</sup> Now there was a disciple at Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." And he said, "Here I am, Lord." <sup>11</sup> And the Lord said to him, "Rise and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul, for behold, he is praying, <sup>12</sup> and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." <sup>13</sup> But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints at Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup> And here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call on your name." <sup>15</sup> But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is a chosen instrument of mine to carry my name before the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel. <sup>16</sup> For I will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." <sup>17</sup> So Ananias departed and entered the house. And laying his hands on him he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus who appeared to you on the road by which you came has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." <sup>18</sup> And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and he regained his sight. Then he rose and was baptized; <sup>19</sup> and taking food, he was strengthened. For some days he was with the disciples at Damascus.

Pastor: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON

**Amazing Grace**

Dr. Ryan Moore

OFFERTORY

*Be Still, for the Presence of the Lord*  
David J. Evans; arr. Richard Shephard

Be still, for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One, is here; come, bow before him now, with reverence and fear. In him no sin is found, we stand on holy ground; be still, for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One, is here. Be still, for the glory of the Lord is shining all around; he burns with holy fire, with splendour he is crowned. How awesome is the sight, our radiant King of light! Be still, for the glory of the Lord is shining all around. Be still, for the power of the Lord is moving in this place; he comes to cleanse and heal, to minister his grace. No work too hard for him, in faith receive from him; be still, for the power of the Lord is moving in this place.

*As you reflect on the Lord's goodness, you can make an offering by dropping your gift in the offering plate, texting "GIVE" to 707-475-3005, or donating online at [fpcnashville.org](http://fpcnashville.org).*

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PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Dr. John Musgrave

**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.**

\*CLOSING HYMN 649

*Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound*  
AMAZING GRACE

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

*A Blessing (A Traditional Irish Blessing)*  
James Chepponis

May the road rise up to meet you, may the wind be always at your back. May the sun shine warm upon your face the rains fall soft on your fields. And until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of his hand.

\*CLOSING VOLUNTARY

*Vivace from Concerto in G Major, BWV 592*  
Johann Sebastian Bach

\* *Those who are able, please stand.*

† *Latecomers may be seated.*

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PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

Ryan Moore, PhD – *Pastor*

Stuart Gordon, DMin – *Sr. Associate Pastor for Christian Formation & Witness*

John Musgrave, DMin – *Parish Associate*

Sandra Randleman, DMin – *Associate Pastor for Congregational Care & Missions*

Raphael Bundage, DMA – *Director of Music*

Peter Rogahn, DMA – *Organist and Assistant Director of Music*

Rhonda Swanson, MM – *Assistant Organist*

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

Flowers in the chancel are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Peter L. Nelson by his family.

MUSIC NOTES

*Dearest Jesus, We are Here* – Gerald Near Aureale Editions, ChoraleWorks Set II © 1995 Birnamwood Publications (ASCAP), a division of MorningStar Music Publishers, Inc., St. Louis, MO OneLicense.net License #A-714895.

*Preces and Suffrages in the Mixolydian Mode*, © 2001 Richard Webster, published by Advent Press, Used by permission.

*Be Still, for the Presence of the Lord* – CCLI Song # 120824 © 1986 Thankyou Music For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License # 1121456

*A Blessing* – James Chepponis © 2008 Birnamwood Publications (ASCAP), a division of MorningStar Music Publishers. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License A-#714895.

COVER IMAGE

*The Conversion on the Way to Damascus*, by Caravaggio 1601; Oil on canvas; Santa Maria del Popolo, Rome.

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## NEWS & EVENTS

### **Grief Support Group | Sundays | 3:00–4:30 p.m. | January 22 – February 12**

FPC will offer a grief support group on Sunday afternoons, 3:00–4:30 p.m., January 22 through February 12. The grief support group will focus on understanding the stages and feelings of grief, as well as how prayer can help us in seeking the comfort of God during the very difficult time of grieving the losses of life. The psalms of lament in the Bible will provide a model for our study of prayer. For more information, contact Dr. Sandra Randleman ([srandleman@fpcnashville.org](mailto:srandleman@fpcnashville.org) or 615-298-9502).

### **History, Politics & Religion | January 31 | 6:00–7:00 p.m. | Gathering Place**

You're invited on Tuesday, January 31, 6:00 to 7:00 p.m., to a conversation between two elders of our church who are longtime friends, fellow fans of the St. Louis Cardinals, and members of different political parties: Wearen Hughes and Wally Dietz. Stuart Gordon will moderate the discussion about how their work and faith inform their politics. Participants may offer their own questions and responses. The hour will conclude with intercessory prayers for the nation. It's the first monthly installment of History, Politics, and Religion, a year-long effort to improve our ability to engage differences and our witness as Christian citizens. If you would like to take part, contact Stuart ([sgordon@fpcnashville.org](mailto:sgordon@fpcnashville.org) or 615-298-9554).

### **Inquirers Class | February 11 | 9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.**

The next Inquirers Class will be led by Dr. Ryan Moore on Saturday, February 11, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. If you are interested in joining the class, or just learning more about membership at First Presbyterian Church, contact Sandra Randleman ([srandleman@fpcnashville.org](mailto:srandleman@fpcnashville.org) or 615-298-9502).

### **Moonlighters Big Band | February 18 | 1:00–3:00 p.m. | Enrichment Center**

First Friends invites church members and guests to come enjoy a big band performance by the Moonlighters on Saturday, February 18, 1:00–3:00 p.m. in the Enrichment Center. The Moonlighters is a 20-piece band based in Nashville, that plays the standards from an era where swing was king. If you like Dorsey, Glen Miller, Sinatra or Bobby Darin, then you will love their music. Light refreshments will be provided. There is no cost for this event, however, please register so we know how many to plan for. Register on the church website or email Sabrina ([svlahos@fpcnashville.org](mailto:svlahos@fpcnashville.org)).

### **Winter Pickleball | Wednesdays | 5:30–7:30 p.m. | January–February**

Have you tried it? You will LOVE it! Come join us on Wednesday evenings anytime between 5:30 and 7:30 p.m. in the Enrichment Center for Pickleball with friends! All ages are welcome and no experience is necessary for a good time. We will play together on Wednesday evenings through the end of February (excluding Ash Wednesday, February 22). Bring your own paddle, but if you don't have one, come anyway, we have extras. Lip Davis is the King of Pickleball and will have you enjoying yourself in no time. Please email Erika with questions at [eshapiro@fpcnashville.org](mailto:eshapiro@fpcnashville.org). We hope to see you there!

### **FPC Music Academy Registration Open**

The FPC Music Ministry is launching a program of vocal and instrumental lessons to provide the opportunity for our younger disciples and adults to explore their God-given artistic gifts. We have assembled a team of five very qualified instructors in Voice, Violin, Harp and Piano. Registration and payments will be online for twelve weekly half-hour lessons. Both beginners and more advanced students will be welcome. After a student is registered, an instructor will contact you to determine a mutually acceptable day and time for your lesson. Please note that there are a limited number of openings in this first phase of our program. Questions? Contact Daphne ([dgarey@fpcnashville.org](mailto:dgarey@fpcnashville.org) or 615-298-9517).

### **First Presbyterian Early Preschool Open Registration | January 19–27**

FPC Early Preschool Open Registration for the 2023-2024 school year has begun and will run through January 27. The Early Preschool provides care for children ages 18 months through 5 years. For more information about the preschool, please visit the church website. Contact Candyee Goode ([cgoode@fpcnashville.org](mailto:cgoode@fpcnashville.org)), if you have any questions.

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### **2023 Sanctuary Flowers for Sunday Worship**

The flowers in the Sanctuary every Sunday morning are given by church members in memory of or in honor of loved ones, or in celebration of a milestone. The donor and loved ones are acknowledged in the Sunday bulletin on the date you select. The cost of a flower dedication is \$300 for one arrangement, or \$500 for two arrangements. To provide flowers for Sunday worship, please submit the form on the church website. Contact Flower Chair Kelly McMullen (kelly\_mc@comcast.net) if you have any questions.

## **MISSIONS**

### **Children's Ministry Pajama Drive | January 9 – February 5**

Help support our annual Pajama Drive benefiting Fannie Battle Day School! Each sponsored child will receive a pair of pajamas, and this year, we are also requesting diapers. To sponsor a child, select a card from the large bulletin board near the Children's Ministry entrance. Please bring donations by Sunday, February 5. All items must be new, and extra items will be donated to the center.

### **NEW Multi-Generational & Family Mission Trip to Huntsville, Alabama | March 12–16**

FPC is planning a mission trip for Spring Break week, March 12-16. Families, couples and individuals are all invited. Children should be 10 years and older. The team will drive to Huntsville on Sunday evening. Activities include home renovations and/or clean-up projects, and potentially a morning VBS for FPC kids and the Lincoln Project School kids. Activities take place Monday through Thursday, however, there is flexibility in the schedule for those who can only attend a portion of that time. Cost is \$200 per person, which covers meals and supplies for VBS and/or construction. A block of rooms in a local hotel will be reserved for the team. Team members are responsible for hotel and transportation. You may want to stay over Thursday night to spend Friday taking in activities in the Huntsville area, such as the U.S. Space & Rocket Center. Registration deadline is February 8. For more info, contact Annette or Mike Crout (missions@fpcnashville.org or 615-289-9507).

## **ADULT EDUCATION**

### **The Bethel Bible Series Returns | Sunday, February 19 | Room L-203**

The Bethel Bible Series reveals the Bible to us as one fully-connected love story by God, from Genesis to Revelation. We are blessed to be a blessing. Come join us as we begin the Bethel Bible Series class again in 2023, during the season of Lent. The class is for anyone who wants to

- See how all of the Bible is connected – from Genesis to Revelation.
- Understand God's steadfast love and covenant promises, culminating with the greatest gift of his Son.
- Gain a richer understanding of key Bible stories and events – *you will experience many Bethel Moments during worship!*
- Learn and grow together as we take this journey, and grow closer to the One who has *blessed you to be a blessing.*

*Interested in learning more?* Join us in Classroom L-203 on February 19, as we introduce The Bethel Bible Series during the Sunday School hour. Contact: Tom Swain (tom.swain@bpsm.com), Marty Kaufman (kaufmans828@gmail.com), or Stuart Gordon (615-298-9554).

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## **SYMPATHY**

We extend our condolences to the family and friends of

Amelia Goar Trickett  
Elizabeth Taylor 'Betty' Fraser

## STEWARDSHIP 2023

### A Message from Ryan Moore

We are nearly there! Our 2023 goal of 530 pledges and \$4.1 million in giving is within reach. We need only 63 pledges and approximately \$530,000 to cross the finish line.

For over 200 years Christ has been calling the members of First Presbyterian Church to give generously as an act of worship and gratitude. Responding to that call, this historic congregation has been steadfast in reaching Nashville and the world with the gospel, engaging deeply and personally in missions of mercy people both near and far, and opening our campus as a place for all to experience the love of Christ.



Our faithful financial stewardship is one way we respond to Christ's invitation to discipleship. Our generosity funds the mission and ministry we believe brings joy and hope to those whom the Lord has called us to love in his name.

God has done and continues to do remarkable things through us and with us – things that matter in our community. Your prayers and your participation are keys to helping us advance further the cause of Christ and his kingdom.

Deep thanks for considering how you might join the work of the saints in fulfilling the task unfinished.

**You can make your pledge by placing a completed pledge card in the mail or in the offering plate. You can also make a virtual pledge by going to [fpcnashville.org/generosity](https://fpcnashville.org/generosity), or scan the QR code.**



## WELCOME

First Presbyterian Church extends a warm welcome in the name of Christ to all who worship with us today. Since 1814 First Presbyterian has sought to be faithful in service to Jesus Christ and the common good. We are rooted in the Reformed, orthodox, and evangelical traditions of the larger church. If you do not have a church home, we would love to welcome you!

Hearing Assistance App Directions: Join WiFi network. You must be connected to this network for the app to work. Network Name: FPC Guest; Password: GreenRock-81. Download the WaveCAST app. Open the app and select "First Pres Sanctuary." Plug in your headphones and adjust the volume to your preference.

Whether you are a guest or a longtime member, fill out a Connect Card to get more involved, update your contact information, or sign up for church communications. Drop your completed Connect Card in the offering plate so we can follow up!

To livestream worship or view past services, visit [youtube.com/firstpresbyterianchurchofnashville](https://youtube.com/firstpresbyterianchurchofnashville).