



*indicates standing, if able.
This service is being recorded by video and audio means.

~ We Gather ~



Welcome

Mason Warren

Prelude

Blessed Be the Name of the Lord
Music Ensemble

*Call to Worship

Calling all seekers, all dreamers, all believers...

Calling all glass-half-full optimists and lighthouse keepers...

Calling all star-chasers and bedtime prayer speakers...

**Bring your questions, your hope, your faith and your fear into this space.
God is here.**

*Opening Songs

For the Beauty of the Earth
and
Alleluia

(see music and lyrics on next page)

For the Beauty of the Earth

1. For the beau-ty of the earth, For the glo-ry of the skies,
 2. For the won-der of each hour Of the day and of the night,
 3. For the joy of ear and eye, For the heart and mind's de-light,
 4. For the joy of hu-man love, Broth-er, sis-ter, par-ent, child,

For the love which from our birth O-ver and a-round us lies,
 Hill and vale, and tree and flower, Sun and moon, and stars of light,
 For the mys-tic har-mo-ny Link-ing sense to sound and sight,
 Friends on earth, and friends a-bove, For all gen-tle thoughts and mild,

Refrain

Lord of all, to Thee we raise This our hymn of grate-ful praise.

5. 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.

Text: Foliott Sandford Pierpoint, 1864. Music: Conrad Kocher, 1838. Abr. William Henry Monk, 1861. Harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906. *The Presbyterian Hymnal: Hymns, Psalms, and Spiritual Songs* © 1990 Westminster/John Knox Press. Public domain.



VERSE

G G⁷ C E⁷/B Am

1. Al - le - lu - ia, _____ al - le - lu - ia, _____ al - le -
 2. I will praise Him, _____ al - le - lu - ia, _____ I will
 3. What a friend we _____ have in Je - sus, _____ all our
 4. Je - sus loves me. _____ Al - le - lu - ia! _____ Je - sus
 5. How I love You, _____ bless - ed Sav - ior! _____ How I

3 D D⁷ G G⁷

-lu - ia, _____ al - le - lu - ia, _____ al - le - lu - ia, _____ al - le -
 praise Him, _____ a - le - lu - ia, _____ I will praise Him, _____ a - le -
 sins and _____ griefs to bear. _____ What a priv' - lege _____ to _____
 loves me. _____ Al - le - lu - ia! _____ Je - sus loves me. _____ Al - le -
 love You, _____ bless - ed Sav - ior! _____ How I love You, _____ bless - ed

6 C E⁷/B Am D D⁷ G

-lu - ia, _____ al - le - lu - ia, _____ al - le - lu - ia.
 -lu - ia, _____ I will praise Him, _____ a - le - lu - ia.
 car - ry _____ ev - 'ry - thing to _____ God in pray'r. _____
 -lu - ia! _____ Je - sus loves me. _____ Al - le - lu - ia!
 Sav - ior! _____ How I love You, _____ bless - ed Sav - ior!

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*Prayer of Confession

**God of starlight,
 we know that faith isn't a vending machine.
 Good news can't be bought or manufactured.
 It does not arrive with a push of a button.
 Instead, in this noisy world, we have to look for you in our midst.
 We have to walk toward you, just as the Magi did.
 We have to believe that love really can change the world.
 We have to seek the stars beyond the city lights.
 Forgive us for forgetting that.
 Forgive us for seeking you with only part of our hearts.
 We long to be more like the Magi; may we walk your way every single day.**

(please continue in silent prayer)

*Declaration of Forgiveness

*The Peace

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

~We Proclaim~

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Readings: Isaiah 60:1-6
Matthew 2:1-12

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

“Searching...”

Mason Warren

~The Response~

Affirmation of Faith - written by Rev. Sarah Speed | sanctifiedart.org

**We believe that faith is active, found on long walks, and in long talks,
in future days, and down memory lane.
We believe that those who seek will find,
although it may not be what they expected.
We believe that God finds us first.
We believe that God drops breadcrumbs along our way in the shape of people,
invitations, and even starlight.
We believe that being a seeker—of God, of justice, of community—is a holy thing.
So we strive to live with an open spirit, with soft hearts, and with room to grow.
May it be so. This we believe. Amen.**

Musical Reflection

We'll Walk in the Light
Musical Ensemble

Charles Wesley
arr. Andre Thomas

We'll walk in the light beautiful light
Come where the dewdrops of mercy are bright
Shine all around us by day and by night
Jesus the light of the world

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Call to Give

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.**

~We Go Out Into the World~

*Song

Always Seeking

Regent Square

As the wise men scanned the hea - vens There they saw Christ's
 When they reached King Her - od's pal - ace Ask - ing where to
 Flee - ing from the wrath of Her - od Jos - eph led his
 Seek - ing signs or seek - ing pow - er Seek - ing safe - ty,

na - tal star Then be - gan the long pro - ces - sion Seek - ing him in
 find the child Her - od schemed in all his mal - ice This new king him -
 fam - i - ly seek - ing home Day by day and hour by ho - ur Safe - ty there as
 We press on toward

coun - try far Al - ways seek - ing, mov - ing on - ward Fol - low - ing where God may lead
 self to find ref - u - gees the un - known

"From Generation to Generation" Hymn – Text by Anna Strickland. Music: Henry Thomas Smart (1866)
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*Charge and Benediction



Special thanks to our Music Ensemble:
 Dr. Khyle Wooten, piano ~ Tim Mashue, bass guitar



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



From Generation to Generation... reminds us of the ways our lives, histories, actions, and stories are interconnected and woven together. The work of God is always unfolding—in and through us. We hope you have enjoyed this Advent study. May you remember that you belong—to a story etched into the wrinkles of time, to generations that have come before and will come after, to a love that won't let you go. If you would like a special e-reader version of this year's Advent devotional, go to: <https://online.flippingbook.com/view/261712895/>

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FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION

We Keep Seeking

Epiphany

a blessing for the seekers

Blessed are you who turn your face up to the sky,
who open your arms to feel the wind,
who notice all the things that we should notice.

Blessed are you who are fluent in wonder
and familiar with awe.

Blessed are you who, even now, dream dreams,
who have not lost hope,
who swear the glass is still half-full.

Blessed are you who plant trees
and sing the harmony,

who tell the children how this world can be magic.

Blessed are you who walk and seek
and turn over every stone,
pointing out all the corners and colors
that God lives in.

Blessed are you.
Amen.

Poem by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed
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Special thanks to Carol Kraft, Gayle Williams, and Bert, Heather, and Molly Robinson for volunteering to cook and serve the hungry at Volunteer Ministry Center in December. The next **VMC LUNCHEON** to help feed the homeless is on Tuesday, January 17,

2023. The coordinator will be Jean Peretz. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex if you are interested in volunteering. If you have any questions, please contact Jean at 865-966-3835 or Peretz@tennessee.edu.



EVENING ROCKERS will meet on Thursday, January 5th at 6pm at The Chop House on Kingston Pike for fun, food, and fellowship for those age 50+. Sign-up in the narthex or contact Irene Rice.



PRAYERS FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY:

Bob Bell, Candice Blake, Patricia Dail, Kathi Damelio, Chuck Foriska, Sandi Keagy, Sandy Latimer, Gloria Lay, Bron Lewis, Mike and Janet Murphy, Tami Newsom, Larry Roberts, Nancy Signer, Steve Tinder, Helen Weaver, George White

If you donated towards **POINSETTIAS** this holiday in memory or honor of a loved one, please take them home with you today. We appreciate your help in beautifying the sanctuary in celebration of the nativity of the Lord. *Thank you!*

This Week at FPC

Sun, Jan 01	10:00 a.m. Sunday Worship		
Mon, Jan 02	*****	****	CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED/ NEW YEAR
	3:00	p.m.	Stephen Ministry Leaders/Library
Tues, Jan 03	6:30	p.m.	Early-Onset Dementia Caregivers Support/Rm A
	7:00	p.m.	Outreach Committee/Library
Wed, Jan 04	2:00	p.m.	Grief Support Group/Library
	6:00	p.m.	Worship & Music Committee/Library
	7:30	p.m.	Chancel Choir/Sanctuary
Thur, Jan 05	6:00	p.m.	Evening Rockers/The Chop House
	6:30	p.m.	Cub Scouts/Fellowship Hall
	7:00	p.m.	Thursday Night Bible Study/Zoom
Fri, Jan 06	10:00	a.m.	Chair Yoga/Narthex
	11:30	a.m.	The Friday Book Club/Room A
	7:00	p.m.	Gentle Yoga Class/Fellowship Hall

Sunday School 10:00 a.m. (No Sunday School on 01/01/23)

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	Zoom and Room A	This group is discussing the book <i>Everything Happens for a Reason: And Other Lies I've Loved</i> , an autobiography by Kate Bowler who is facing cancer and the prospect of her own mortality.
Pastor Matt's Class	Library	Meets in the library on Sunday mornings at 10am for religious study with Pastor Matt.
Youth	Room 10	The youth Sunday School class meets to "DIVE IN to the Old Testament!" Each week throughout the 2023 school year, youth explore a specific book of the Old Testament utilizing videos and discussion.

Farragut Presbyterian Church

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Praising God - Serving Others - Growing in Faith

