

Postlude

Congregational Meeting

Greeters	Susan Espiritu, Brett Miller
Ushers	Tony Tuk, Brett Miller
Liturgist	Meghan Tidwell
Music	Bob Eubanks, Nancy Wells, George Hill, FCPC Choral Ensemble
Preacher	Rev. Dr. James McTyre

Announcements

Please stay for the Congregational Meeting immediately after worship.

GriefShare facilitator informational meeting: Thursday, August 17th at 6:00 in the Library
Light dinner will be served. GriefShare is a support program for adults who are grieving the death of a loved one. We provide the structured GriefShare program at FCPC in the chapel basement on Tuesdays from 1:00-2:30 for 13 sessions during the Fall and Spring. Facilitators are not expected to be trained counselors but to provide support during the structured program. If you are interested in learning more about the role of GriefShare facilitation, please contact Susan Espiritu, Dana Lamb, or Louise Collier and all are welcome to attend our information meeting on August 17th at 6:00 in the library. Enter from the Sanctuary side entrance.

Still need a photo for the Directory? Pictures will be taken after church TODAY in the Greeting Room with Susan Espiritu!

Rev. Dr. James McTyre is the Transitional General Presbyter and the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of East Tennessee. James served as the Pastor of Lake Hills Presbyterian Church in South Knoxville for 26 years and has served as the Stated Clerk of our Presbytery for 15 years. We are honored to welcome James to our pulpit today.

Blessing of the Backpacks, Sunday August 6th. Are you a student or an educator? Elementary School, Middle or High School, College, Tech School, Grad School; ALL students and educators are invited to bring their backpack, satchel, computer bag... whatever you carry to work or school for a blessing next Sunday during worship!

Need the Zoom Room? What's that? Under the resources tab on our website there is an option for Zoom in the dropdown. This is password protected so that only members of the church may access it. If you need the password please email or call the office. The Zoom Room is a great way for committees and groups to meet virtually without having to schedule a zoom meeting on your own account. If you need to use the Zoom Room for a meeting of any sort please schedule it with the office so that we can add it to the church calendar. This feature can only be used by one group at a time so please check the church calendar before scheduling your next virtual meeting.



FOUNTAIN CITY
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
1923-2023

July 30, 2023

Prelude

Word of Welcome

Meghan Tidwell

Centennial Moment – Blessing of the Backpacks

Don Grogan

Introit *This Is The Day That The Lord Has Made*

Call to Worship (based on Psalm 105)

Meghan Tidwell

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord; call on his name;

All: make known his deeds among the peoples.

Leader: Sing to him, sing praises to him;

All: tell of all his wonderful works.

Leader: Glory in his holy name;

All: let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

*Hymn #682 *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah, Pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but Thou art mighty, Hold me with Thy pow'ful hand.
Bread of heaven, Bread of heaven, Feed me till I want no more;
Feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain, whence the healing stream doth flow.
Let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through;
Strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer, Be thou still my strength and shield,
Be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan, Bid my anxious fears subside;
Bear me through the swelling current, Land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs of praises, songs of praises, I will ever give to Thee;
I will ever give to Thee.

Ritual of Friendship

Meghan Tidwell

Members and Guests – Please sign and pass the friendship register located on the center aisle under the pew in front

Call to Confession

Meghan Tidwell

Leader: The kingdom of heaven is for all of us, but we come to this space full of our own burdens. Let us confess our sins before our Triune God.

Prayer of Confession

Meghan Tidwell

All: Holy God, we try to keep you close to us, but in the process, we push our neighbors away. We have been distracted in a distracting world and withheld love from each other and from you. Have mercy on us, O God. In your compassion, cleanse and release us from our sin. Create in us a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within us. Amen.

(Time for Silent Confession)

Assurance of Forgiveness and Peace

Meghan Tidwell

Leader: Who is to condemn? It is Christ who died and who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who intercedes for us. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.

****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.*

****Passing the Peace***

Meghan Tidwell

Leader: As God has poured out the grace of forgiveness and love and peace through Christ, let us also share that grace among ourselves. The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you!

Prayer of Illumination

Meghan Tidwell

Leader: Eternal God, you have made us in your image. Let our hearts, minds and spirits be turned to you in this time so that the Holy Spirit may bring us closer to the Word. Amen.

Psalm Reading Psalm 23

Meghan Tidwell

Anthem Leaning On The Everlasting Arms

What a fellowship, what a joy divine, Leaning on the everlasting arms;
What a blessedness, what a peace is mine, Leaning on the everlasting arms.
Leaning, leaning, Safe and secure from all alarms;
Leaning, leaning, Leaning on the everlasting arms.

Oh, how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way, Leaning on the everlasting arms;
Oh, how bright the path grows from day to day, Leaning on the everlasting arms.
Leaning, leaning, Safe and secure from all alarms;
Leaning, leaning, Leaning on the everlasting arms.

What have I to dread, what have I to fear, Leaning on the everlasting arms;
I have blessed peace with my Lord so near, Leaning on the everlasting arms.
Leaning, leaning, Safe and secure from all alarms;
Leaning, leaning, Leaning on the everlasting arms.
I'm leaning on Jesus! Yes, I am leaning on the everlasting arms!

New Testament Reading Acts 2:42-47

Rev. Dr. James McTyre

Sermon Those First Church People

Rev. Dr. James McTyre

****Affirmation of Faith (from The Confession of Belhar)***

Meghan Tidwell

All: We believe:

- that God has entrusted the church with the message of reconciliation in and through Jesus Christ;
- that the church is called to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world, that the church is called blessed because it is a peacemaker, that the church is witness both by word and by deed to the new heaven and the new earth in which righteousness dwells;
- that God's life-giving Word and Spirit has conquered the powers of sin and death, and therefore also of irreconciliation and hatred, bitterness and enmity, that God's life-giving Word and Spirit will enable the church to live in a new obedience which can open new possibilities of life for society and the world.

****Hymn #617 Near To The Heart Of God***

There is a place of quiet rest, Near to the heart of God;
A place where sin cannot molest, Near to the heart of God.

Refrain:

O Jesus, blest Redeemer, Sent from the heart of God;
Hold us, who wait before Thee, Near to the heart of God.

There is a place of comfort sweet, Near to the heart of God;
A place where we our Savior meet, Near to the heart of God.[Refrain]

There is a place of full release, Near to the heart of God;
A place where all is joy and peace, Near to the heart of God.[Refrain]

Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

Meghan Tidwell

All: 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

Call for Offering

Meghan Tidwell

Leader: The one who sows a small number of seeds will also reap a small crop, and the one who sows a generous amount of seeds will also reap a generous crop. Let us share our offering to God in support of the kingdom of heaven.

Offertory

****Doxology***

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise Him all creatures here below
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts
Praise Father Son and Holy Ghost**

****Prayer of Dedication***

Meghan Tidwell

All: Gracious God, we offer our gifts to you. Be it time, talent or treasure, we lift ourselves to you. We pray that you continue to make all things new, including ourselves, so that we might share ourselves with others. Amen.

****Hymn #737 Like A River Glorious***

Like a river glorious is God's perfect peace, over all victorious in its bright increase:
perfect, yet it floweth fuller every day; perfect, yet it growth deeper all the way.
Stayed upon Jehovah, Hearts are fully blest, Finding, as He promised, Perfect peace and rest.

Hidden in the hollow of his blessed hand, Never foe can follow, never traitor stand.
Not a surge of worry, Not a shade of care, Not a blast of hurry Touch the Spirit there.
Stayed upon Jehovah, Hearts are fully blest, Finding, as He promised, Perfect peace and rest.

Every joy or trial falleth from above, Traced upon our dial by the Sun of Love.
We may trust Him fully all for us to do; They who trust Him wholly find Him wholly true.
Stayed upon Jehovah, Hearts are fully blest, Finding, as He promised, Perfect peace and rest.

****Charge and Benediction***

Meghan Tidwell

Leader: May we continue this day knowing that God has created this place for us; God created every one of us; And God loves each of us. So go out into the world and carry this love with you every place you go. "The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace." Amen

****Congregational Benediction***

**Make us one, Lord, make us one;
Holy Spirit, make us one.
Let your love flow so the world will know
we are one in you**