



# *First Church*

OF NEW KNOXVILLE

Rooted in Christ, Growing Together, Serving the World

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First Church recognizes Jesus Christ  
as the head of the Church and as Savior and Lord.

We are a community of faith who engage Biblical truth  
to provide an environment where people mature  
as disciples of Christ.

***November 22, 2020***

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**Assisting in Worship Today**  
Keith Leffel, Worship Leader  
Sharon Chaney & Kay Nolte  
Musicians  
Praise & Worship Team  
Sharon Colson, Scripture  
Maria Lammers, Children's Chat

## ***If you are a Guest or Visitor today, we are glad you're here!***

- **The Restrooms** are in the basement at the East end of the church and inside the main glass doors of the ministry building next door.
- **The Nursery for Young Children** is OPEN!
- **Large Print bulletins** are available at the back of the sanctuary near the info center.
- **Hearing Assistance Devices** – Please see the sound system technician on the South wall if you would like to use one.
- **WiFi Connection is available** for those who wish to use their device to connect to the Bible app or take notes. Connect via “FirstChurchWifi Guest”
- **Our Worship Service** is broadcast each Sunday on T-102 FM at 10:15a
- **Facebook Live** - We continue streaming our service live via our Facebook page “firstchurchnk” at 9:00 am on Sundays.
- **Visit our Website** at [www.firstchurchnk.org](http://www.firstchurchnk.org) for a link to our YouTube page.
- **The \* invites those who are able, to rise.**

## ***Welcome to Worship at First Church***

### **Prelude**

**\*Call to Worship** from Psalm 118:1-7, 22-29

One: *<sup>1</sup> Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;  
his love endures forever.*

*<sup>2</sup> Let Israel say:  
“His love endures forever.”*

*<sup>3</sup> Let the house of Aaron say:  
“His love endures forever.”*

*<sup>4</sup> Let those who fear the Lord say:  
“His love endures forever.”*

*<sup>5</sup> When hard pressed, I cried to the Lord;  
he brought me into a spacious place.*

**All:** *<sup>6</sup> The Lord is with me; I will not be afraid.  
What can mere mortals do to me?*

*<sup>7</sup> The Lord is with me; he is my helper.  
I look in triumph on my enemies.*

One: <sup>22</sup> *The stone the builders rejected  
has become the cornerstone;*  
<sup>23</sup> *the Lord has done this,  
and it is marvelous in our eyes.*  
<sup>24</sup> *The Lord has done it this very day;  
let us rejoice today and be glad.*  
<sup>25</sup> *Lord, save us!*  
*Lord, grant us success!*  
<sup>26</sup> *Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.*  
*From the house of the Lord we bless you.*  
<sup>27</sup> *The Lord is God,*  
*and he has made his light shine on us.*  
*With boughs in hand, join in the festal procession  
up to the horns of the altar.*  
All: <sup>28</sup> ***You are my God, and I will praise you;***  
***you are my God, and I will exalt you.***  
<sup>29</sup> ***Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;***  
***his love endures forever.***

**\*Hymn No. 563 – Count Your Blessings**

**Children's Chat**

**Sharing our Praises & Concerns**

**\*Praise Song – Holy Spirit**

**There's nothing worth more that will ever come close.  
No thing can compare; You're our living hope.  
Your Presence.**

**I've tasted and seen of the sweetest of loves,  
Where my heart becomes free and my shame is undone,  
In Your Presence, Lord.**

**Holy Spirit, You are welcome here;  
Come flood this place and fill the atmosphere;  
Your glory, God, is what our hearts long for,  
To be overcome by Your Presence, Lord.  
(repeat)**

**Let us become more aware of Your Presence;  
Let us experience the glory of Your goodness.**

(repeat 2x)

**Holy Spirit, You are welcome here;  
Come flood this place and fill the atmosphere;  
Your glory, God, is what our hearts long for,  
To be overcome by Your Presence, Lord.**

CCLI Song # 6087919, Bryan Torwalt | Katie Torwalt, CCLI License # 2403283

## **Prayer & The Lord's Prayer [using debts and debtors]**

### **Scripture Readings – 1 Chronicles 16:7-36**

*<sup>7</sup> That day David first appointed Asaph and his associates to give praise to the Lord in this manner:*

*<sup>8</sup> Give praise to the Lord, proclaim his name;  
make known among the nations what he has done.*

*<sup>9</sup> Sing to him, sing praise to him;  
tell of all his wonderful acts.*

*<sup>10</sup> Glory in his holy name;  
let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.*

*<sup>11</sup> Look to the Lord and his strength;  
seek his face always.*

*<sup>12</sup> Remember the wonders he has done,  
his miracles, and the judgments he pronounced,*

*<sup>13</sup> you his servants, the descendants of Israel,  
his chosen ones, the children of Jacob.*

*<sup>14</sup> He is the Lord our God;  
his judgments are in all the earth.*

*<sup>15</sup> He remembers his covenant forever,  
the promise he made, for a thousand generations,*

*<sup>16</sup> the covenant he made with Abraham,  
the oath he swore to Isaac.*

*<sup>17</sup> He confirmed it to Jacob as a decree,  
to Israel as an everlasting covenant:*

*<sup>18</sup> "To you I will give the land of Canaan  
as the portion you will inherit."*

*<sup>19</sup> When they were but few in number,  
few indeed, and strangers in it,*

<sup>20</sup> they wandered from nation to nation,  
from one kingdom to another.

<sup>21</sup> He allowed no one to oppress them;  
for their sake he rebuked kings:

<sup>22</sup> "Do not touch my anointed ones;  
do my prophets no harm."

<sup>23</sup> Sing to the Lord, all the earth;  
proclaim his salvation day after day.

<sup>24</sup> Declare his glory among the nations,  
his marvelous deeds among all peoples.

<sup>25</sup> For great is the Lord and most worthy of praise;  
he is to be feared above all gods.

<sup>26</sup> For all the gods of the nations are idols,  
but the Lord made the heavens.

<sup>27</sup> Splendor and majesty are before him;  
strength and joy are in his dwelling place.

<sup>28</sup> Ascribe to the Lord, all you families of nations,  
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

<sup>29</sup> Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name;  
bring an offering and come before him.

Worship the Lord in the splendor of his holiness.

<sup>30</sup> Tremble before him, all the earth!  
The world is firmly established; it cannot be moved.

<sup>31</sup> Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad;  
let them say among the nations, "The Lord reigns!"

<sup>32</sup> Let the sea resound, and all that is in it;  
let the fields be jubilant, and everything in them!

<sup>33</sup> Let the trees of the forest sing,  
let them sing for joy before the Lord,  
for he comes to judge the earth.

<sup>34</sup> Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;  
his love endures forever.

<sup>35</sup> Cry out, "Save us, God our Savior;  
gather us and deliver us from the nations,  
that we may give thanks to your holy name,  
and glory in your praise."

<sup>36</sup> Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel,  
from everlasting to everlasting.

Then all the people said "Amen" and "Praise the Lord."

**Message – Give Thanks to the Lord**

**\*Praise Song – The Goodness of God**

**I love You, Lord.  
Oh, Your mercy never fails me.  
All my days  
I've been held in Your hands.  
From the moment that I wake up  
Until I lay my head,  
I will sing of the goodness of God.**

**All my life You have been faithful.  
All my life You have been so, so good.  
With every breath that I am able  
I will sing of the goodness of God.**

**I love Your voice.  
You have led me through the fire.  
In darkest night,  
You are close like no other.  
I've known You as a father,  
I've known You as a friend.  
I have lived in the goodness of God.**

**All my life You have been faithful.  
All my life You have been so, so good.  
With every breath that I am able  
I will sing of the goodness of God.**

**Your goodness is running after,  
It's running after me.  
Your goodness is running after,  
It's running after me.  
With my life laid down,  
I'm surrendered now;  
I give You everything.  
Your goodness is running after,  
It's running after me.**

**I will sing of the goodness of God.  
All my life You have been faithful.  
All my life You have been so, so good.  
With every breath that I am able  
I will sing of the goodness of God.**

CCLI Song # 7117726

Ben Fielding | Brian Johnson | Ed Cash | Jason Ingram | Jenn Johnson CCLI License # 2403283

**\*Dismissal & Postlude** – Free, Amen

## Welcome to Worship

**We are glad you are here!** - Whether you are joining us in person or choose to continue worshipping with us by the radio broadcast or Facebook Live we are glad to have you joining us. Each person, family, and situation is unique. Some people are ready to come back to church, while others may feel more comfortable worshipping from home for a while longer. Both options are perfectly valid. You need to decide what is right for you and your family, and First Church will do everything we can to minister to you either way. We are a family. We must respect and honor each other's decisions. We are all in this together.

- Masks are required in the State of Ohio in indoor public spaces. They are available at the entrances. Exemptions are made for children under ten years of age and people with medical conditions that prevent them from wearing a mask.
- All surfaces in the church will be disinfected and cleaned weekly.
- Everyone will be encouraged to follow social distancing practices.
- Families should sit together and keep distance from others.
- Hand sanitizer is available at the entrances

**The Nursery is Open.** Thank you to all the volunteers who care for our children during the worship service. It really is a vital ministry for our church family. We are taking the following changes and safety precautions to help ensure the health of our children and volunteers.

- When you drop off your child, please check in with the nursery volunteer. We will be keeping track of attendance and parental contact information on an iPad app.

- Please take off shoes and leave them on the bookshelf at the door.
- Please either wash your child's hands in the bathroom before dropping them off or use the hand sanitizer available in the nursery.
- Nursery volunteers will wear face coverings while interacting with children. Children are not required to wear face coverings.
- All toys, tables, and chairs will be sanitized each week.
- Please do not bring your child to the nursery if they have had a fever in the last 24 hours.

### Announcements

**The Rose on the Altar** is in honor of John & Norma Schroer who will celebrate 65 years of marriage on November 26. *Happy Anniversary!*

**The Flowers on the Altar** are in honor of Mable Meckstroth's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. *Happy Birthday Mable!*

**Congratulations to Shannon Roediger & Sherwin Parmar** who were united in Christian marriage here at First Church on Saturday, November 21. Shannon is the daughter of Dave & Anita Roediger. Sherwin is the son of Rev. Dr. Newton Parmar and Priti Parmar.

**Our Daily Bread Booklets** for December – February are available at the entrances and the info center in the sanctuary. If you would like one mailed to you, please call the church office.

**Today's Offering is for the Mercy Unlimited Jail Ministry.** The Deacons will be at the doors after service today to receive your offering. You may also take advantage of online giving or by mailing your gift to the church.

**Thanksgiving Eve Service Announcement** - Dear Church, in lieu of an evening service, I will post a Thanksgiving message on the First Church Facebook and YouTube pages on Wednesday, November 25 at 7 pm. I encourage you to watch it with your family and reflect on all we have to be thankful for this year. God is good all the time, even in the middle of a pandemic! *In Christ, Pastor Joel*





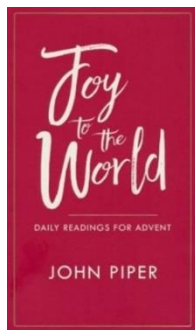
**We are excited to introduce Miss Holly Smith as our new Choir Director!** You may remember seeing her play the flute here as a guest musician in the past. On Wednesday evening she was able to meet with various members of the choir and bell choir. You will be seeing more of her around First Church in the coming weeks as she gets to know everyone. She shared a few words of introduction with us:

*“Originally from Upstate New York, I moved to Ohio in 2012 to attend Grad School. This is my seventh year of teaching Elementary School Music at New Bremen Local Schools. I earned my Bachelor's Degree in Music Education from Hartwick College (NY) where I specialized in Instrumental Conducting and Flute Performance; completed my Master of Music Degree in Music Education from Bowling Green State University (OH) where I specialized in Elementary General Music; and received an Endorsement in Gifted and Talented Education from Muskingum University (OH). I accepted Christ as my Savior when I was 7 years old and am abundantly blessed to have been sharing the love of Christ with others through music since 1999.” Cheers, Holly.*

**Advent begins on November 29** - Advent is a time of anticipation. Looking forward to Christmas day when we celebrate the birth of our Savior and Lord Jesus Christ.

Let's join together and prepare our hearts during this important time of year by reading *Joy to the World* together as a church. It is a short book by John Piper with Scripture readings and a devotional thought for each day, beginning December 1 and leading all the way through Christmas Day. During Advent, Pastor Joel will preach from selected scripture passages featured in the devotional.

Free copies are available at the info center or in the office to take home. You can also give them away to family and friends. We have plenty! If you would like a devotional, but are unable to come to the church, please contact the church office and we will mail you a copy.



**Advent is for the Whole Family** - On the first Sunday in Advent our Sunday school children will receive a Christmas Box. The box will have a kid friendly Advent devotional, fun family Christmas activities, and all the supplies needed to throw Jesus a birthday party as a family! Our hope is that these help you and your family celebrate the birth of our Savior during the Advent season.

### **Things Happening at First Church**

- *Safety Plan Update* - First Church held an informational meeting to discuss the proposed Safety Plan on Sunday, October 4. Thank you to everyone who participated, asked questions, and gave constructive feedback. Consistory discussed the plan at the October meeting, and plans to approve a modified version of the plan based on feedback at the December meeting. If you would like to be involved with the Safety Team, please contact Pastor Joel or the church office.
- *Sound System Update* – we are looking at options to upgrade and replace the sound board and other equipment in the sanctuary. We have put our current equipment to the test this year with the addition of the Praise Team and Facebook Live broadcast. In the last two weeks several different vendors have brought in various options for us to try out. If and when it is time to make a purchase, a quote will be presented to Consistory and then the Congregation for approval. Money for the purchases will come from the Building Improvement and Technology Fund, which was created a few years ago for purchases of this nature.
- *Painting Project Update* - Over the next few months, the Trustees plan to organize volunteers to help patch walls and paint in the church. There is a lot of work that can be done ourselves if we have the right group of people to help. If you're interested in helping, please contact one of the Trustees or leave a message at the church office.

## **Dates to Remember**

- Sunday, November 29 – Start of Advent & Communion
- Sunday, December 13 – Children’s Christmas Program (this will be our church service that morning)
- Friday, December 18 – Bloodmobile in the Ministry Center
- Thursday, December 24 – Christmas Eve Candlelight Service  
7:30 pm

**The Giving Tree this year supports Elizabeth’s New Life Center Women’s Center in Sidney.** The center is a pro-life, non-profit pregnancy resource center that helps women to navigate unexpected pregnancies. The consultants at the center encourage each mother to choose life for her child, providing her with assistance in her spiritual, material, educational, and medical needs. These material needs include baby clothes, diapers, wipes, bottles, and many other essential infant care items. We ask that your family share the joy of Christmas by donating an item listed on the Giving Tree ornament of your choice or wish list provided. The items do not need to be gift-wrapped; they are used to help those in need throughout the year. Please return your donated items to the heritage room or ministry center by December 28, 2020. The tags will also be available on our website.

**Online Giving through “My First Church”** – My First Church provides you with 24/7 access to online giving and your giving history. Create a secure log in through the link on our website. Creating an account allows you to submit changes to your personal information, view your giving history, set up online giving (one time or recurring, view the church directory and download the Church Life Mobile App. How do I sign up? Go to our website [www.firstchurchnk.org](http://www.firstchurchnk.org) & click on “Online Giving”. You can also give as a guest without creating an account.

## Weekly Prayer List

**Bulletin Prayer List** – Our prayer is new each Sunday. Names will stay in the bulletin for one week only. Each week we will start over with a new list. You may call the office with a name, drop your request in the offering plate or submit it via our website via the “contact us” link. We hope this will keep the weekly list current and focused. Please remember we are bound by privacy laws and cannot post personal or medical information so names only.

**Prayer List for the Week of November 22** –Larry Henschen, Crystal Miller, Lynda Katterheinrich, Gloria Schroer, Judy & Jerry Hoelscher, all those who are affected by Covid-19 and Operation Christmas Child.



Weekly Scripture  
Reading

Topic of the Week: Thankfulness

*Psalm 100*  
*Psalm 30*  
*Psalm 92*  
*Psalm 34*  
*Psalm 103*

First Church of NK - November 23-27

## This Week at First Church – November 22 -29

### **TODAY**

- 8:00 am Men's Prayer Group - Min. Ctr. Youth Room  
9:00 am Worship Service  
10:15 am Sunday School for 4 y.o. to Grade 6  
10:15 am Confirmation – Min. Ctr. Youth Room / Conf. Room  
10:15 am Adult Bible Study Class on Prophecy – Min. Ctr. Big Rm.

### **WED.**

- 7:00 pm Pastor Joel will post a Thanksgiving video message on the church's Facebook and YouTube pages.

### **THURS.**

#### **Happy Thanksgiving**

### **NEXT SUN.**

#### **First Sunday of Advent & Communion**

- 8:00 am Men's Prayer Group - Min. Ctr. Youth Room  
9:00 am Worship Service  
10:15 am Sunday School for 4 y.o. to Grade 6  
10:15 am Confirmation – Min. Ctr. Youth Room / Conf. Room  
10:15 am Adult Bible Study Class on Prophecy – Min. Ctr. Big Rm.

### **Facts & Figures from last week - Attendance: 108**

#### **Total Sunday Morning Collection - \$830.00**

*Carl Lanham, Nations of Coaches - \$580.00*

*Pledges & General Fund Gifts - \$200.00*

*OCC Shoebox Gifts - \$50.00*

Sunday School Offering - \$22.54

Online Giving for the week– \$1,335.00

# Notes & Doodles