

First Presbyterian Church

January 3, 2021 • 10:30 a.m.



Embodying Christ's inclusive love through heart, mind, and service

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Oak Ridge, Tennessee

A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

January 3, 2021 • *Epiphany of the Lord (Second Sunday of Christmas)*

(For the sake of brevity, we occasionally sing selected verses of hymns.)

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship

We gather to celebrate that no darkness can extinguish God's light.

We gather to remember that God's love will always be more powerful than death.

We gather to trust that God's peace will always be stronger than violence.

We gather to worship almighty God!

Hymn

What Star Is this, with Beams So Bright
(verses 1 and 2)

(Glory to God, 152)

*What star is this, with beams so bright, more lovely than the noonday light?
'Tis sent to announce a newborn king, glad tidings of our God to bring.*

*'Tis now fulfilled what God decreed, "From Jacob shall a star proceed";
And lo! The eastern sages stand to read in heaven the Lord's command.*

Prayer of Confession

God of glory, you sent Jesus among us as the light of the world, to reveal your love for all people. We confess that our sin and pride hide the brightness of your light. We turn away from the poor; we ignore cries for justice; we do not strive for peace. In your mercy, cleanse us of our sin, and pour out the gifts of your Spirit, that, forgiven and renewed, we may show forth your glory shining in the face of Jesus Christ; in whose name we pray. Amen.

The Peace of Christ

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Let us share the peace of Christ with one another.

Sung Response

We Are Forgiven

(Glory to God, 447)

We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 60:1-6

Sermon

Light at the End of the Tunnel

Sharon Youngs

Musical Reflection

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation to the Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Holy One, the beginning and the end ... who forever sing to the glory of your name:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory, Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

With this bread and cup we remember your Word ... Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread and Pouring of the Cup

Sharing of the Elements

Prayer after Communion

Loving and Gracious God, you have gathered us at your table, called us your beloved, and fed us from your body. Transform us to be your body in the world, so that we may serve you and our neighbors with great joy. Amen.

Hymn

Light Dawns on a Weary World

(Glory to God, 79)

Light dawns on a weary world when eyes begin to see all people's dignity.

Light dawns on a weary world: the promised day of justice comes.

Refrain:

The trees shall clap their hands; the dry lands, gush with springs;

The hills and mountain shall break forth with singing!

We shall go out in joy, and be led forth in peace,

As all the world in wonder echoes shalom.

Love grows in a weary world when hungry hearts find bread and children's dreams are fed.

Love grows in a weary world: the promised feast of plenty comes.

(Refrain)

Hope blooms in a weary world when creatures, once forlorn, find wilderness reborn.

Hope blooms in a weary world: the promised green of Eden comes.

(Refrain)

Charge and Blessing

Sung Response

Irish Blessing

*May the road rise to meet you, may the wind blow at your back,
May the sun shine warmly on your face. May the rain fall softly on your field,
And until we meet again, until we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of his hand. Amen.*

Postlude

☞ ☞ ☞
*No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, or your faith journey,
you are welcome at First Presbyterian Church.*
☞ ☞ ☞

Announcements

Thanks to our guest pianist, Wendel Werner, for sharing his musical gift with us today.

Star words—Because of COVID-19, star words for 2021 will be included in your end-of-year contribution statement that will be mailed by the end of January.

Welcome Table—Your faithful generosity continues! Thank you for your financial gifts to the Hunger fund, and for responding to the request for canned goods for our food pantry. We only lack 24 jars of grated parmesan cheese (8 oz., **not** refrigerated) and 10 cans of soup or chili for January's Welcome Table.

Weekly online gatherings

(See weekly emails or call the church office for Zoom links.)

Sundays:

9:00 a.m. classes Early Birds, Rise 'n' Shine, and
Let's Talk About It
11:00 a.m. Post-worship fellowship
11:30 a.m. Pathfinders: children's class
5:30 p.m. Faith seekers: Youth class

Mondays:

9:30 a.m. Coffee Chat with Sharon

Wednesdays:

5:30 p.m. Mid-week Bible study

Thursdays:

7:00 p.m. Brewing Questions

First Presbyterian Church—A PC(USA) Congregation

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❖ fpcor.org ❖ on Facebook at First Presbyterian Church, Oak Ridge, TN

Sharon Youngs, Pastor Anna Thomas, Director of Music Peggy Hinkle, Organist
Ryan Tilley, Director of Children & Youth Ministries Adrienne Walker, Office Manager



give online

Thank you for your continued support of the ministries of FPC. You can mail your regular financial contribution to FPC (address at left) or give online using the QR code here or via the link on fpcor.org.