

First Presbyterian Church

February 12, 2023 • 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.)

February 12, 2023 • *Sixth Sunday after Epiphany*
Scout Sunday

**Please stand, in body or in spirit. Text printed in bold italics to be read in unison.*

Prelude

Welcome

***Call to Worship** *(from Psalm 15)*

Let us worship God.

Who may dwell on God's holy hill?

Those who do what is right and speak the truth from their heart;

Those who honor their neighbors and seek the well-being of their friends;

Those who fear God and stand firm in their faith.

Those who do these things shall never be moved.

***Hymn 63**

The Lord Is God

***Call to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession**

(a moment for silent confession)

Holy God, you call us to love our enemies. Yet we confess that we often find it difficult to even pray for those with whom we disagree, especially if they have hurt us. We put our needs in front of theirs and delight when bad things happen to them. Forgive us, we pray. Teach us to turn away from what is wrong and pursue what is right, that we might live with generosity and compassion toward all; in Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

***Assurance of Forgiveness**

***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** *(hymn 306, first verse)*

Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love.

The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.

Time with Children

God of love and grace, thank you for all of the gifts that children bring to your world. Thank you for their wide-eyed wonder, their questions, and their laughter. Help us to nurture their lives in ways that draw them closer to you, and in so doing, find that our own faith is deepened. Amen.

(Children are welcome to return to their seats or join the activity in the fellowship hall.)

Anthem

For Where Love Is There Is God

Scripture Reading

Matthew 5:38-48

Sermon

*Christian Primer 101:
Be Perfect — in the Perfect Way*

Sharon Youngs

Musical Reflection

*Affirmation of Faith

We believe that what God says to us and does for us centers in Jesus Christ as he is remembered, known, and expected. In Christ God's Word of acceptance takes flesh: by grace through faith we are set right with God, not because of anything we have done, but because of what Christ has done. In Christ God's Word of demand is lived out: to love God and neighbor as he did is what God requires of us. We affirm that God is at work, especially in events and movements that free people by the gospel and advance justice, compassion, and peace. Amen.

Call to Prayer *(hymn 688, first verse)*

***Spirit of God, descend upon my heart; wean it from earth;
through all its pulses move; stoop to my weakness,
mighty as thou art, and make me love thee as I ought to love.***

Prayers of the People with The Lord's Prayer *(ecumenical)*

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.

*Hymn 203

Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love

*Charge and Blessing

*Sung Response

Irish Blessing

(inside back cover of hymnal)

Postlude

☞ ☞ ☞

*The flowers today are given by Barbara Reeve and Paul Akers
to the glory of God and in memory of Jane and Lawrence Akers.*

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Announcements

- Thank you to Scouts BSA Troop 42G and 42B for their worship leadership this morning.
- You are invited to a Scouts-hosted lunch in the fellowship hall following worship. The meal is free, but donations toward the Troop's activities this year will be appreciated.
- The final session of the presbytery-wide Bible study on the Book of Genesis is today from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m. You can join the study in person at Farragut Presbyterian Church or participate from your home via Zoom at presbyteryeasttn.org/zoom (password: prespass).
- Next Sunday, FPCOR will host Drew Crain, professor of biology at Maryville College, who will speak on topics in his 2019 book *Science & Christianity: Past, Present, and Future*. He will be the third lecturer in the "Science & Theology Lecture Series," which is cosponsored by our congregation and First United Methodist Church. The lecture will be held from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. in FPCOR's fellowship hall.
- Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA)** is helping with earthquake relief and recovery in Turkey and Syria. To make a much-needed monetary gift, you can donate directly to PDA through pcusa.org, give online to FPC (designate your gift for PDA DR999999), or write a check to FPC (put PDA DR999999 on the memo line) and we will see that it gets to PDA.

Looking ahead:

Feb. 22 is Ash Wednesday. Activities that day: drive-by imposition of ashes from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.; soup supper at 5:45 p.m., and hymn sing/Communion/imposition of ashes in the sanctuary at 6:30 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church—A PC(USA) Congregation

P.O. Box 6106 ❖ Oak Ridge, TN 37831 ❖ (865) 483-1318

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

❖ On Instagram [@firstpresbyterianchurchor](https://www.instagram.com/firstpresbyterianchurchor) ❖

Sharon Youngs, Pastor Anna Thomas, Director of Music

Peggy Hinkle, Organist Devin Earhart, Technical Assistant

Madison Hinkle, Office Manager

*Thank you for your continued support of the ministries of FPC.
You can mail your regular financial contribution to FPC (P.O. Box above)
or give online using the QR code to the right or via the link on fpcor.org.*

