

First Presbyterian Church

February 21, 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.)

February 21, 2021 • First Sunday in Lent

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

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship (based on *Psalm 25*)

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

To you, O God, I place my trust.

Make me to know your ways; teach me your paths.

Lead me in your truth, for you are the God of my salvation.

Good and upright is the Lord, who leads the humble in what is right.

All the paths of the Lord are faithfulness for those who keep God's covenant.

Hymn

God of the Sparrow

(Glory to God, 22)

(verses 1, 3, and 6)

God of the sparrow God of the whale God of the swirling stars

How does the creature say Awe How does the creature say Praise

God of the rainbow God of the cross God of the empty grave

How does the creature say Grace How does the creature say Thanks

God of the ages God near at hand God of the loving heart

How do your children say Joy How do your children say Home

Prayer of Confession

God of grace, we say we know what we believe, but our hearts are quick to forget. We marvel at the beauty of a rainbow, while disregarding it as a sign of your covenant with us. As a result, we are casual in our relationship with you, and careless in our actions toward others. Forgive us, we pray. Renew a right spirit within us, that we might demonstrate our commitment to be your people; in Jesus' name. 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

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

(Glory to God, 306)

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

The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.

Scripture Reading

Genesis 9:8-17

Sermon

The Rainbow Connection

Sharon Youngs

Musical Reflection *His Eye Is On the Sparrow* (Glory to God, 661)
(verses 1 and 3)

*Why should I feel discouraged? Why should the shadows come?
Why should my heart be lonely and long for heaven and home,
When Jesus is my portion? My constant friend is he:
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me;
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me;*

Refrain:

*I sing because I'm happy, I sing because I'm free,
For his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.*

*Whenever I am tempted, whenever clouds arise,
When song gives place to sighing, when hope within me dies,
I draw the closer to him; from care he sets me free:
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me;
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me;*

(Refrain)

Call to Prayer *Take, O Take Me as I Am* (Glory to God, 698)
(sing twice)

*Take, O take me as I am; summon out what I shall be;
Set your seal upon my heart and live in me.*

Prayers of the People - with the Lord's Prayer (traditional)

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.

Hymn *How Firm a Foundation* (Glory to God, 463)
(verses 1, 3, and 5)

*How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord, is laid for your faith in God's excellent Word!
What more can be said than to you God hath said, to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?*

*"When through the deep waters I call thee to go, the rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;
For I will be near thee, thy troubles to bless, and sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.*

*"The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose, I will not, I will not desert to its foes;
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake, I'll never, no, never, no, never forsake."*

Charge and Blessing

Sung Response *Go with Us, Lord* (Glory to God, 748)

*Go with us, Lord, and guide the way through this and every coming day,
That in your Spirit strong and true our lives may be our gift to you.*

Postlude

Announcements

—Each week the 5:30 p.m. Wednesday Bible study looks at the text for the upcoming Sunday sermon. How about making this one of your Lenten disciplines? Here’s the Zoom link for the study:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88069112142?pwd=V0tqN0dySXBDcGpRlICQ0FVbk4vQT09>

Passcode: 666241

Sermon texts for Lent

Feb. 28 -- Mark 8:31-38

Mar. 7 -- Exodus 20:1-17

Mar. 14 -- Numbers 21:4-9

Mar. 21 -- Jeremiah 31:31-34

—“**Let’s Talk About It**” meets each Sunday at 9:00 a.m. via Zoom. Next Sunday, Feb. 28, the class will be a conversation with Christian and wildlife biologist Tim Van Deelen from UW Madison. Contact Dan Terpstra at danterpstramail@gmail.com for links to podcasts to listen to beforehand and a Zoom link for the class.

—You are invited to make use of **daily Lenten devotionals** that will come to your email a week at a time. May they be a good companion on your journey through Lent.



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



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. Midweek 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 Devin Earhart, Technical Assistant

Ryan Tilley, Director of Children & Youth Ministries

Adrienne Walker, Office Manager



give online

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