

# First Presbyterian Church

May 9, 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.)**  
**May 9, 2021 • Sixth Sunday of Easter**

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

**Prelude**

**Welcome**

**Call to Worship**

In the beauty of this moment  
***We worship you***  
In the fellowship of your people  
***We worship you***  
In the presence of your Spirit  
***We worship you***  
In the company of all creation  
***We worship you***  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

**Hymn**

*Though I May Speak*

*(Glory to God, 693)*

*Though I may speak with bravest fire, and have the gift to all inspire,  
And have not love, my words are vain, as sounding brass, and hopeless gain.*

*Though I may give all I possess, and striving so my love profess,  
But not be given by love within, the profit soon turns strangely thin.*

*Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control; our spirits long to be made whole.  
Let inward love guide every deed; by this we worship, and are freed.*

**Prayer of Confession**

***We confess to You, O Christ, that we have not loved as we ought. We have measured others against metrics that we dare not measure ourselves. We have placed heavy burdens on others, while forgetting our own places of privilege. Forgive us, O Christ, for love ought to level the field, by bringing us down and lifting those from the margins. Forgive us, O Christ, that we receive grace and do not extend it. Call us into repentance, and lead us on right paths. In Christ's name, the name of Love, 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**

*The Steadfast Love of the Lord*

*(Glory to God, 59)*

*The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; God's mercies never come to an end.  
They are new every morning, new every morning;  
Great is your faithfulness, O Lord, great is your faithfulness.*

**Scripture Reading**

John 15:9-17

**Sermon**

*Love is Hard Work*

Susan Reisinger

**Affirmation of Faith** (*The Apostles' Creed*)

***I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.***

**Call to Prayer**

*Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks*  
(refrain, sing twice)

(Glory to God, 240)

*Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.  
Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name.*

**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**

*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*  
(verses 1 and 2)

(Glory to God, 366)

*Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heaven, to earth come down,  
Fix in us thy humble dwelling; all thy faithful mercies crown.  
Jesus, thou art all compassion; pure, unbounded love thou art;  
Visit us with thy salvation; enter every trembling heart.*

*Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit into every troubled breast;  
Let us all in thee inherit; let us find the promised rest.  
Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be;  
End of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.*

**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**

## Announcements

—Thank you to Susan Reisinger for preaching today while Sharon is away.

—Our six-week study of *Good White Racist?*, written by Kerry Connelly, will be taking a break today for Mother’s Day and will resume next Sunday, May 16 at 2:00.

—First Presbyterian Church is continuing to show our appreciation to the teachers and staff of Willow Brook Elementary School, this month with **“Mugs for May.”** Help us collect 64 coffee mugs to fill with succulents. Please bring them to the fellowship hall and place them in the provided box. If you don’t have any spare mugs at home, thrift stores are an excellent place to find some to repurpose. **Next Wednesday, May 12, is the deadline** for bringing your mugs to the church.

—We will receive the **Pentecost Offering** on Sunday, May 23. This special offering of the PC(USA) unites us in a church-wide effort to encourage, develop, and support its young people, and address the needs of at-risk children. 40% of the offering is retained by local congregations to make an impact in the lives of young people within their own community. The remaining 60% is used to support children-at-risk, youth, and young adults through ministries of the Presbyterian Mission Agency. Please make your gifts payable to FPC and put “Pentecost” on the memo line, or to give online, use the QR code below or visit [www.fpcor.org](http://www.fpcor.org) for a link.



  
*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***

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

❖ [fpcor.org](http://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*

*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](http://fpcor.org).*