

# First Presbyterian Church

July 31, 2022 • 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.)***

**July 31, 2022 • 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

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

**Prelude**

**Welcome**

**\*Call to Worship**

Sometimes our worlds turn dark, the sun is hidden behind gray clouds.

***How can we worship when the light doesn't shine?***

Do you not know? God's love was born in darkness.

God knows what it is to live in pain.

***Can we offer our pain to God, even when we are lost in the gloom?***

Offer yourselves to God always, whether in darkness or in light, God is present.

**\*Hymn 850**

*In a Deep, Unbounded Darkness*

**\*Call to Confession**

**\*Prayer of Confession**

*(a moment of silence for personal confession)*

***With hearts of sorrow, we come before you, O God, to confess what you already know— we have failed to keep your laws. Again and again, we have followed our own selfish will, rather than your holy and life-giving will for our lives. We have twisted your decrees and institutions to suit our preconceptions and interests rather than your own.***

***Forgive us, O God, and cleanse us from hidden faults, that the words of our mouths, and the meditations of all our hearts, may be acceptable to you, our Rock and our Redeemer.***

**\*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**

*We are forgiven*

*Glory to God, 447*

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

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

**Anthem**

*Inscription of Hope*

Stroope

Text is from an inscription found on cellar walls in Cologne, Germany

**Scripture Readings**

Exodus 20:18-21

Genesis 1:1-2

**Sermon**

*When We Live in Darkness*

Susan Reisinger

**Hymn 230**

*Joyful Is the Dark*

**\*Affirmation of Faith** (*The United Church of Canada*)

***We are not alone, we live in God's world. We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God. We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God. Amen.***

**Call to Prayer**

*Glory to God, 692*

***Spirit, open my heart to the joy and pain of living.  
As you love may I love, in receiving and in giving.  
Spirit open my heart.***

**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 314**

*Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness*

**\*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**



*The flowers today are given by Phyllis and Lewis Phillips  
to the glory of God and in memory of Richard Reed Sr. and Debra Reed Phillips.*



## **Announcements**

—Thank you to Kiersten Ruisard for serving as our liturgist today.

—Special thanks to our guest accompanist Teresa Gross for sharing her musical gifts with us Today, and to Susan Reisinger for preaching while Sharon is away on vacation.

—The Ice Cream Social will be in the fellowship hall after service today.

### **Looking ahead:**

August 24– Potluck dinner & hymn sing

### **Welcome to First Presbyterian Church!**

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here. We hope you feel the love that is present and our joy in having you with us. If you'd like to know more about First Presbyterian Church, let's talk! Please speak with Sharon or any of the ushers after the service.

#### ***First Presbyterian Church—A PC(USA) Congregation***

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❖ [fpcor.org](http://fpcor.org) ❖ on Facebook at First Presbyterian Church, Oak Ridge, TN

❖ On Instagram @firstpresbyterianchurchor ❖

Sharon Youngs, Pastor   Anna Thomas, Director of Music

Peggy Hinkle, Organist   Devin Earhart, Technical Assistant

Madison Hinkle, Office Manager

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