

First Presbyterian Church

November 28, 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.)
November 28, 2021 • First Sunday of Advent

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

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship and Lighting of the Advent Wreath Candle

Awake! Rejoice! Prepare to meet your God!

Christ is coming: Open the door, sweep the path, prepare the way!

Today we light the candle of hope. Though the world seems dark and cold,
we know that the light of the Christ child is coming.

***We await the coming of the Prince of Peace,
who will reign with compassion and justice.***

Hymn 93

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

*Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates; behold the King of glory waits;
The King of kings is drawing near; the Savior of the world is here.*

*Fling wide the portals of your heart; make it a temple, set apart
From earthly use for heaven's employ, adorned with prayer and love and joy.*

*Redeemer, come! I open wide my heart to thee; here, Lord, abide.
Let me thy inner presence feel; thy grace and love in me reveal.*

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

God of hope, you are coming in power to bring all nations under your rule. Yet we confess that we are not ready for your return. We continue to leave untended the needs of others, to hurry past those in pain, to live in fear as though there were no grace. Forgive us, we pray. Lead us in your truth, that we might reflect your light; In the name of the coming Christ 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

He Came Down

(Glory to God, 137)

*He came down that we may have hope; he came down that we may have hope;
He came down that we may have hope; hallelujah forevermore.*

Time with the Children

Scripture Reading

Luke 21:25-36

Sermon

*A Season of Surprises:
Surprise Ending*

Anthem

The King Shall Come

arr. Johnson

*The King shall come when morning dawns and light triumphant breaks.
When beauty gilds the eastern hills and life to joy awakes.*

*Not as of old a little child, to bear and fight and die,
But crowned with glory like the sun that lights the morning sky.*

*The King shall come when morning dawns and light and beauty brings.
Hail, Christ the Lord! Thy people pray; Come quickly, King of kings!*

Eucharist

Invitation to the Table

Great 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.

Eternal God, holy and mighty ... of every time and place, we join our voices in unending praise:

***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.***

We give you thanks for Jesus, who lived among us Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Lord of light and darkness ... all glory and honor are yours, Holy 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

Communion

Prayer after Communion

***Holy One, we thank you for feeding us at this table. May the nourishment we have
received strengthen us in every way, so that we may be faithful in our response to
your love, now and always. Amen.***

Hymn 104

O Lord, How Shall I Meet You (verses 1 and 3)

*O Lord, how shall I meet you, how welcome you aright?
Your people long to greet you, my hope, my heart's delight!
O kindle, Lord most holy, a lamp within my breast,
To do in spirit lowly all that may please you best.*

*You come, O Lord, with gladness, in mercy and goodwill,
To bring an end to sadness and bid our fears be still.
In patient expectation we live for that great day
When your renewed creation your glory shall display.*

Charge and Blessing

Sung Response

People, Look East

(Glory to God, 105)

*People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year.
Make your house fair as you are able; trim the hearth and set the table.
People, look east and sing today: Love, the Lord, is on the way.*

Postlude



The poinsettias at the front of the sanctuary for the season have been given in part by Pat Clark who wishes to dedicate them today to the glory of God and in memory of her husband Wayne.



Announcements

—Thank you to Herb Krause for serving as our liturgist.

—The Session has called a meeting of the congregation Immediately following worship today for the purpose of electing elders to the class of 2024. The Nominating Committee will present the following names: Patty Barlow, Sherrie Fairchild-Keyes, Camille Graves, and Don Spong. The meeting will be held in person and via Zoom. Here is a link to join the meeting remotely:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83389940025?pwd=c0daTG13Nm8wQ25kRmU5OW83Um45UT09>

Passcode: 876622

—**Daily devotionals and family packets available in Advent:**

- Beginning today, check your email inbox each day for an installment of daily Advent devotionals by members of FPC. If you would like printed copies, please let Adrienne know (483-1318).
- Advent packets with devotionals and other activities for families to do at home will be available after worship each Sunday, beginning today. We can also deliver them to you. Just let Lee Robinson know (809-1593).

—**Looking ahead:**

- **Dec. 4: All-church workday**, beginning at 9:30 a.m. Lunch provided.
- **Dec. 5: Hunger Fund offering**
- **Dec. 9: Welcome Table**, 5:30 to 6:00 p.m.
- **Dec. 14: Service of Memory and Hope**, with music by John Purifoy, Steve Boyce, and Anna Thomas, and reflection by Emily Anderson, pastor of New Providence Presbyterian Church (Maryville).

Weekly gatherings

(See weekly emails for details.)

Sundays:

9:00 a.m. classes Early Birds; Rise 'n' Shine;
Let's Talk About It

11:30 a.m. Post-worship fellowship

Tuesdays:

12:15 p.m. Centering prayer

Wednesdays:

5:30 p.m. Midweek Bible study

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

Church office open 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday

Sharon Youngs, Pastor Anna Thomas, Director of Music

Peggy Hinkle, Organist Devin Earhart, Technical Assistant

Lee Robinson, Children & Youth Coordinator

Adrienne Walker, Office Manager

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

