

# First Presbyterian Church

October 15, 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.)*

October 15, 2023 • Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

*\*Please stand, in body or in spirit.*

**Prelude**

**Welcome**

**\*Call to Worship**

Come, let us worship the God who sees past the surface  
of our lives to the depths of our souls.

**Before the God who knows us as we are,  
we come seeking the presence that shakes foundations.**

Come as people who claim the name of Christ, open to God and one another.

**We come as people of faith, who constantly struggle with unbelief.  
Be known to us, O God, as we open our minds to your truth in Christ. Amen.**

**\*Hymn 340**

*This Is My Song*

**\*Invitation to Confession**

**\*Prayer of Confession**

*(a moment for silent confession)*

**God of Sovereign Love, open our eyes to the desecration of your covenants with  
the earth and with the peoples of the world and our participation and complicity  
in the violations of each other. May our tongues cleave to the roofs of our  
mouths when we delight in economic success with no concern for the people  
whom success tends to exploit. Enliven a healthy caution within us. Make us  
suspicious of social castes that privilege wealth and claim divine favor. Call us  
again to a covenant of inclusion. Reveal your vision of a world where children are  
born to hope, where work serves vocation, and where righteousness and justice  
cover the earth, through Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

**\*Assurance of Forgiveness**

**\*The Peace of Christ**

Not an easy peace, not an insignificant peace, not a halfhearted peace,  
but the peace of God in Jesus Christ be with you all.

***And also with you.***

Let us share the peace of Christ with one another.

**\*Sung Response** *(from hymn 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.***

**First Scripture Reading**

Psalm 23

**Anthem**

*Sing Forth God's Glory*

Hopson

*Children are invited to go to the fellowship hall for an activity.*

**Second Scripture Reading**

Exodus 32:1-14

**Sermon**

*Imagine God*

Larry Dipboye

**Hymn 346**

*For the Healing of the Nations*

**\*Affirmation of Faith** (*adapted by members of FPCOR*)

***We affirm the truth that all people are God's people, that every child is holy, that every person is a part of God's beloved family, that God's mercy embraces everyone, and that to exclude any person from the divine family is contrary to the God we know in Christ. We covenant together that our family of faith will strive to be as open and inclusive as the liberating love we have encountered in Christ. So we journey forward into the future with joy, pledging to offer to all we meet, welcome, compassion and care. May God grant us wisdom, grace, and guidance. Amen.***

**Call to Prayer** (*hymn 184*)

***Calm to the waves. Calm to the wind.  
Jesus whispers, "Peace, be still."  
Balm to our hearts. Fears at an end.  
In stillness, hear his voice.***

**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 801**

*The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want*

**\*Charge and Blessing**

**\*Sung Response**

*Irish Blessing*

*(inside back cover of hymnal)*

**Postlude**

✎                      ✎                      ✎

*The flowers today are given by Mimi Tilley to the glory of God  
and in gratitude for Gods mercy and love.*

✎                      ✎                      ✎

## **Announcements**

—Thank you to Peggy Terpstra for serving as our liturgist this morning.

—Special thanks to our guest pianist Dr. Sophie Wang for sharing her musical gifts with us today, and to Larry Dipboye for being our guest preacher while Sharon is away.

—Sharon will be back in the office this Tuesday, Oct. 17.

—**Listening sessions** are set for the last part of this month (read more about them in this month's issue of *The Banner*). You are invited to select one of the following four dates to gather and share your thoughts about FPCOR—who we are and your hopes and dreams for the future. Each gathering will last no longer than an hour:

Oct. 22—fellowship hall, right after worship

Oct. 23—6:30 p.m., fellowship hall

Oct. 25—6:30 p.m., via Zoom

Oct. 30—9:30 a.m., room 6 (the usual Coffee Chat time)

—**Oct. 29: “Celebration of the Arts.”** Folks of all ages are invited to display their creative works of art, including photography, pottery, weaving, decorative baking, needlework, woodworking, writing, and more. Registration is required to participate. Forms are available through today. (To register online, contact Madison in the church office.) For more information, contact Patty Barlow ([lovemysolara@hotmail.com](mailto:lovemysolara@hotmail.com)), Jo Kendrick ([jokendrick10@gmail.com](mailto:jokendrick10@gmail.com)), Darlene Sanders ([dsand46@aol.com](mailto:dsand46@aol.com)), or Elaine Wilson ([edw1955@aol.com](mailto:edw1955@aol.com)).

### **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](https://www.instagram.com/firstpresbyterianchurchor) ❖

Sharon Youngs, Pastor    Anna Thomas, Director of Music

Peggy Hinkle, Organist    Madison Hinkle, Office Manager

*Thank you for your continued support of the ministries of FPCOR.  
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](http://fpcor.org).*

