

First Presbyterian Church

October 22, 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 22, 2023 • Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Prelude

Welcome

***Call to Worship**

How many voices have sung in this place?

How many hymns have rung out in this place?

How many tears have fallen in this place?

How many feet have stepped into this place?

How many Lord's Prayers have echoed in this place?

These walls resonate, these walls vibrate with the wonder of generations.

These walls echo with the heartbeats of ancestors and friends.

Nothing disappears without a trace in this creation.

Love and high aspiration, grief and adoration live in these walls.

The heartbeats of generations live in these walls.

Their yearning toward God lives in these walls.

Whispering to us, encouraging us, echoing in us, singing with us.

Let us worship God.

***Hymn 301**

Let Us Build a House
(verses 1 and 5)

***Invitation to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession**

(a moment for silent confession)

Reconciling God, we confess that we do not trust your abundance. We place our hope in ourselves and rely on our own efforts. We fail to believe that you provide enough for all. We abuse your good creation for our own benefit. We fear difference and do not welcome others as you have welcomed us. By your grace, forgive us; through your love, renew us; and in your Spirit, lead us, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life. 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.

Children are invited to remain in the sanctuary for the special service today.

***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.***

Scripture Reading Ephesians 5:18b-20

Reading *Worship and Story*

Hymn 488 *I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry*

Scripture Reading Colossians 3:12-16

Anthem *Be Thou My Vision* Forrest

Reading *Worship and Memory*

***Hymn 174** *Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom
(verses 1 and 3)*

Scripture Reading selected verses from Paul's letters

Reading *With Healing and Peace*

Hymn 849 *Everyone Who Longs for the Boundless Love of God*

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.

Reading *We Sing the Story*

***Hymn 462** *I Love to Tell the Story*

***Charge and Blessing**

***Sung Response** *Irish Blessing* *(inside back cover of hymnal)*

Postlude

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*The flowers today are given by Elaine Wilson and Darlene Sanders
to the glory of God and with love and affection to their friends and family.*

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Announcements

—Thank you to our worship leaders this morning: Robin Graham, liturgist; and Tina Buckles, Carol Howard, Linda Lipinski, and Tommy Reese, readers.

—The readings today, written by Susan Palo Cherwien, are in *From Glory into Glory*, published in 2009 by Morning Star Music Publishers, St. Louis, Mo.

—The first of four **listening sessions** begins today in the fellowship hall after worship. You are invited to attend today's session or one of the three dates below to share your thoughts about FPCOR—who we are and your hopes and dreams for the future. All of the gatherings are identical, and each will last no longer than an hour:

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)

—Our first ever **Celebration of the Arts is next Sunday, Oct. 29**, immediately after worship. Join us as we revel in the many artistic expressions of FPCOR members and friends!

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

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

❖ 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 FPCOR (P.O. Box above)
or give online using the QR code to the right or via the link on fpcor.org.*

