

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Oak Ridge, Tennessee
A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
December 19, 2023 • Service of Memory and Hope

Gathering music

At any time this evening during the music or silence, you are invited to light one or more candles on the Communion Table in memory of someone not present, or for someone else—perhaps yourself—for whom this season is difficult.

Welcome

***Call to Worship and Lighting of the Advent Candles**

We gather to worship the One whose name is Compassion.

We gather to worship the One who brings comfort and peace.

We gather to worship the One who counts and collects our tears.

We gather to worship the One who speaks to us in silence and calms our spirit.

God's love shines in the darkness and the darkness will never put it out. With each candle we light, we illumine the darkness with the light of God's presence.

We gather knowing the presence of God's Spirit is here with us.

We gather to worship, to sing, to remember, and to give thanks.

***Hymn 82**

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Scripture Readings

Psalm 139 (selected verses)
Isaiah 40:25-31

Meditation

Memory

Musical Reflection

In the Bleak Midwinter

Scripture Reading

Romans 8 (selected verses)

Meditation

Hope

Musical Reflection

Still, Still, Still

Pastoral Prayer

***Hymn 140**

Once in Royal David's City

Benediction

Postlude

Announcements

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.*

—Thank you to our guest singer, Anne Branche.

—You are invited to the fellowship hall following the service this evening for refreshments and conversation.

—This Sunday, Christmas Eve, we will have our regular morning worship at 10:30 a.m., and our candlelight and Communion service at 7:00 p.m.

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 Green, 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.*

