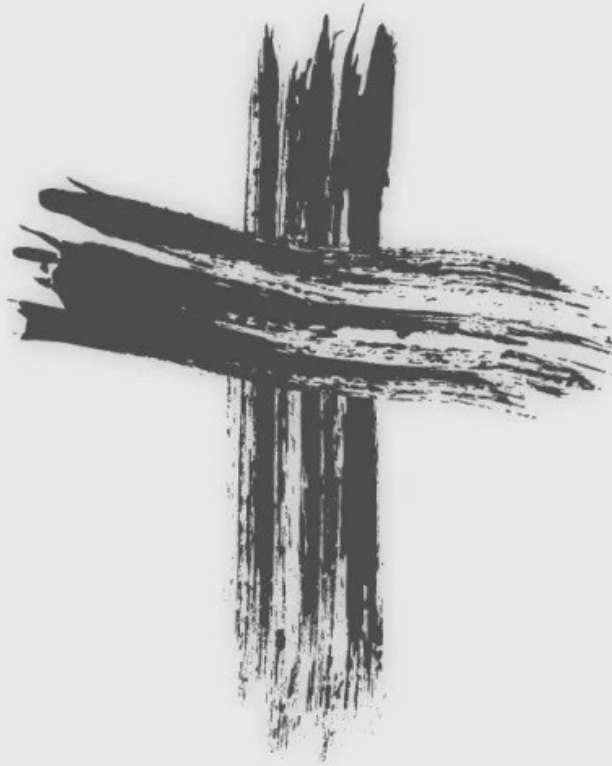


First Presbyterian Church

February 14, 2024 • 10:30 a.m.



A S H W E D N E S D A Y

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.)

February 14, 2024 • Ash Wednesday

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

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship

We come to worship God as the Lenten season begins,
aware of our failings and our frailty.

We come seeking God's mercy, acknowledging our mortality.

We come to worship God, knowing that God meets us here, however we are.

We come in penitence and in hope.

Let us worship God, who claims us and redeems us.

Psalm 25

Purifoy

(Cantor) I lift my soul to God, my trust is in God's name.

Let not my foes that seek my blood still triumph in my shame.

Sin and the powers of hell persuade me to despair.

Lord, make me know the covenant well, that I may 'scale the snare.

(All) From the first dawning light, 'til the dark evening rise,
for thy salvation, Lord, I wait with ever-longing eyes.

Remember all thy grace and lead me in thy truth,
forgive the sins of riper days, and follies of my youth.

(All) The Lord is just and kind, the meek shall learn God's ways,
And every humble sinner find the methods of God's grace.

For God's own goodness sake, God saves my soul from shame.

God pardons, though my guilt be great, through my Redeemer's name.

Reading

Endurance

Anthem

Create in Me (Psalm 51)

Sherman

Invitation to the Observance of the Lenten Discipline

Prayer of Confession

(a moment for silent confession)

God of mercy, you have graced our lives with a love lavish beyond measure. Our response has hardly been as generous. We are timid in love and reserved in affection. We squelch our impulses to recklessly show our love for others. And our love for you, far from being wholehearted, is undermined by fickle enthusiasms and devious desires. Have mercy on us, we pray. Through your loving Spirit, empower us to love as you have loved us; in the name of Christ we pray. Amen.

Assurance of Grace

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

We Are Forgiven

(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.

The Eucharist

Invitation to the Table

Great Prayer

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Holy One, in this dry and weary land ... even dry bones in the valley of death stand to
sing your 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 and praise for Jesus ... Do this in remembrance of me.

When we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Now pour out your Holy Spirit ... all glory is yours, O God, now and always. ***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

*(As you come forward for Communion, you are invited to receive the
imposition of ashes as a sign of penitence for your sin.)*

Prayer after Communion

Gracious God, thank you for feeding us at your Table. As we enter this season of Lent, encourage us with your presence, and sustain us with your Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Psalm 32

(Choir) How blest are they whose trespass has freely been forgiven,
whose sin is wholly covered before the sight of heaven.
Bless them to whom Jehovah will not impute their sin,
who has a guileless spirit, whose heart is true within.

(Cantor) While I kept guilty silence my strength was spent with grief,
thy hand was heavy upon me, my soul found no relief.
But when I owned my trespass, my sin hid not from thee,
when I confessed transgression, then thou forgavest me.

(All) So let the godly seek thee in times when thou art near,
no whelming flood shall reach them nor cause their hearts to fear.
In thee, O Lord, I hide me, thou savest me from ill,
and songs of thy salvation my heart with rapture thrill.

(Cantor) I with grace shall teach thee the way that thou shalt go,
and with mine eyes upon thee, my counsel make thee know.
But be ye not unruly, or slow to understand.
With thankfulness be willing to heed my wise command.

(All) How blest are they whose trespass has freely been forgiven,
whose sin is wholly covered before the sight of heaven.
Bless them to whom Jehovah will not impute their sin,
who has a guileless spirit, whose heart is true within.

Charge and Blessing*Postlude****Announcements**

—Thank you to Carolyn Dipboye for serving as our liturgist this evening and to our guest singer, Steve Boyce.

LOOKING AHEAD

—Beginning Feb. 21, Sharon will lead **a five-week study of Don Postma's book, *Space for God: Study and Practice of Spirituality and Prayer***. To accommodate those in the choir, the book study will run from 6:00 to 7:15 p.m. (in room 6). Choir rehearsal will move from a 6:30 p.m. to a 7:00 p.m. start. We have 8 copies of the book on loan; it is also available on Amazon.

First Presbyterian Church—A PC(USA) Congregation

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❖ fpcor.org ❖ on Facebook at First Presbyterian Church, Oak Ridge, TN

❖ On Instagram @firstpresbyterianchurch ❖

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.

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