

First Presbyterian Church

February 18, 2024 • 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.)

February 18, 2024 • First Sunday in Lent

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

Prelude

Welcome

***Call to Worship**

Lent calls us to journey, this and every day, following Jesus wherever he leads us.

Lent calls us to journey to the place deep inside of us.

Lent calls us to worship and prayer, to a deeper connection with our God.

Lent calls us to faithful living, to trust the One who gives us life.

Lent calls us to journey with God.

Let us walk with God, who walks with us, this and every day.

***Hymn 166**

Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days

***Call to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession**

(a moment for silent confession)

Loving God, in this holy place, we know how weak is our discipleship. We can spend hours entertaining ourselves, but only give you fleeting moments of our time. We can talk endlessly on our phones, but fall silent when it comes to sharing our fears, our worries, our hopes with you. We seek quick fixes for our problems, rather than seeking your vision and future for our lives. Forgive us for our lack of trust, for our faithless living, for closing our ears to the call of Jesus. Forgive us, so we may lay aside all that keeps us from you, so we may take up the life you offer to us, through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. 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.***

Anthem

Sweet Hour of Prayer

Scripture Reading

Psalm 25:1-10

Sermon

Going Deeper

Susan Reisinger

Musical Reflection

***Affirmation of Faith** *(20th-century South African creed)*

Jesus taught us to speak of hope as the coming of God's kingdom. We believe that God is at work in our world turning hopeless and evil situations into good. We believe that goodness and justice will triumph in the end, and that tyranny and oppression cannot last forever. One day all tears will be wiped away; the lamb will lie down with the lion, and justice will roll down like a mighty stream. True peace and true reconciliation are not only desired, they are assured and guaranteed in Christ. This is our faith. This is our hope.

Call to Prayer

(hymn 471)

***O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer.
When I call, answer me.
O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer.
Come and listen to me.***

Prayers of the People with The Lord's Prayer

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 470**

There Is a Longing in Our Hearts

***Charge and Blessing**

***Sung Response**

Irish Blessing

(inside back cover of hymnal)

Postlude

☞ ☞ ☞

The flowers today are given by Ed and Mimi Tilley to the glory of God.

☞ ☞ ☞

Announcements

—Our thanks to Susan Reisinger, who is preaching today while Sharon is away, and to Dale Hadden, who is our liturgist.

—Through the month of February, the **postludes** that conclude the worship services will be spirituals arranged by British African composer Samuel Coleridge-Taylor in honor of Black History Month.

—Beginning this Wednesday, Sharon will lead a **five-week study of Don Postma’s book, *Space for God: Study and Practice of Spirituality and Prayer***. The study will run from 6:00 to 7:15 p.m. in room 6. Choir rehearsal will move from 6:30 to 7:00 p.m. We have 8 copies of the book on loan; it is also available on Amazon.

—Next Sunday, Feb. 25, Sharon will begin a **three-week Lenten sermon series**, “Soup’s On.” On each of those three Sundays, we’ll be serving soup in the fellowship hall after worship. Look for more details in the upcoming weekly eNews!

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.

