

# First Presbyterian Church

February 25, 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 25, 2024 • Second Sunday in Lent

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

**Prelude**

**Welcome**

**\*Call to Worship** *(from Isaiah 40)*

Have you not known? Have you not heard?

***The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth.***

Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted;

***but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength.***

They shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary,

***They shall walk and not faint.***

**\*Hymn 395**

*Blessed Jesus, at Your Word*

**\*Call to Confession**

**\*Litany of Confession**

Holy God, you see us as we are and know our inmost thoughts. We confess that we are unworthy of your gracious care. We forget that all life comes from you, and that to you all life returns.

***Lord, have mercy on us.*** *(silence)*

We have not always sought or done your will. We have not lived as your grateful children, nor loved as Christ loved us.

***Lord, have mercy on us.*** *(silence)*

We have consumed more than we need without regard for those who have nothing.

We have misused the earth's resources.

***Lord, have mercy on us.*** *(silence)*

Lord, in your mercy, forgive us, heal us, and make us whole.

***Restore to us the joy of your salvation, that we might be your faithful followers; in the name of Jesus 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.***

**First Scripture Reading**

Psalm 139:1-12, 17-18

**Anthem**

*New Life*

Hobby

**Second Scripture Reading**

Romans 8:31-39

**Sermon**

*Soup's On:  
Comfort Food*

Sharon Youngs

**Musical Reflection**

**\*Affirmation of Faith** [from PC(USA)'s A Brief Statement of Faith]

***In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one Triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. In a broken and fearful world, the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.***

**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 43**

*On Eagle's Wings*

**\*Charge and Blessing**

**\*Sung Response**

*Irish Blessing*

(inside back cover of hymnal)

**Postlude**

❧                      ❧                      ❧

*The flowers today are given by John Drake and Patty Barlow  
to the glory of God and in memory of Patty's parents.*

❧                      ❧                      ❧

## **Announcements**

—Thank you to Jim Tonne for serving as our liturgist this morning.

—Today our organist/pianist Peggy Hinkle concludes her month-long series of postludes that were arranged by British African composer Samuel Coleridge-Taylor. She has played them in recognition of Black History Month.

—Today, in conjunction with the sermon series “Soup’s On,” we are gathering for the first of a three-week series of soup lunches after worship. The meal today is catered by Panera Bread. Next week: potluck!

—Our monthly Conversation on Loss meets in the parlor after lunch. Topic: comfort during grief. The group is for anyone experiencing loss of any kind.

—Join Sharon for Coffee Chat tomorrow, 9:30 a.m., in room 6. Sharon will have the coffee; you bring whatever is on your mind. You can also join via Zoom (link is in the most recent eNews).

—Our special Lenten series on the book *Space for God: Study and Practice of Spirituality and Practice*, written by Don Postema and led by Sharon, continues this Wednesday evening, Feb. 28, at 6:00 p.m. We are meeting in hybrid fashion (in person and via Zoom). Check this week’s eNews for the Zoom link. Let Sharon or Madison know if you need a book.

***First Presbyterian Church—A PC(USA) Congregation***

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

❖ On Instagram @firstpresbyterianchurchor ❖

Sharon Youngs, Pastor    Anna Thomas, Director of Music

Peggy Hinkle, Organist    Madison Green, Office Manager

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