

First Presbyterian Church

February 4, 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 4, 2024 • Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

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

Prelude

Welcome

***Call to Worship** *(from Psalm 147)*

How good it is to sing praises to God;
for God is gracious, and a song of praise is fitting.
Great is God, and abundant in power.
God's understanding is beyond measure.
God's delight is not in the speed of the runner,
but in those who hope in God's steadfast love.
Let us worship God.

***Hymn 327**

From All That Dwell Below the Skies

***Call to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession**

(a moment for silent confession)

God of great and God of small, you are the creator of all that is, and everything you make is precious in your sight. Yet, we confess that we sometimes doubt your power to make difficult things better. Suffering continues unabated. Disease runs rampant. Loved ones die. We believe, Lord, but help our unbelief. Remind us, once again, of your steadfast love and faithfulness, so that we might deepen our trust in you; in Jesus' name. 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** *The Steadfast Love of the Lord* (hymn 59, refrain)
***The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases;
God's mercies never come to an end.
They are new every morning, new every morning;
Great is your faithfulness, O Lord, great is your faithfulness.***

First Scripture Reading Psalm 147:1-11

Anthem *The Mind of Christ* arr. Scott

Second Scripture Reading Mark 1:29-39

Sermon *Does God Heal Everyone?* Sharon Youngs

Hymn 807 *When We Must Bear Persistent Pain*

***Affirmation of Faith** (*adapted by members of FPCOR*)

***We believe in God, the Father Almighty, and in Jesus Christ, His Son, our Lord,
and in the Holy Spirit. We seek to know God's will, to walk in God's ways, and to
proclaim the Gospel to all people, by our lives as well as by our words. We work
and pray for the progress of knowledge, the promotion of justice, the reign of
peace, and the realization of human unity in our time. And we look with faith for
the triumph of righteousness in our community and in our world. Amen.***

Call to Prayer (hymn 695, refrain)

***Change my heart, O God; make it ever true.
Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.***

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.***

Moment for Mission

***Hymn 822** *When We Are Living*

***Charge and Blessing**

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

Postlude

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*The flowers today are given by Peggy and Dan Terpstra to the glory of God
and in celebration of God's glorious creation.*

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Announcements

—Thank you to Robin Graham for serving as our liturgist this morning.

—Today we are receiving the annual **Blanket Offering**, which supports Church World Service in its efforts to help people around the world recover from disasters and get a fresh start. If you write a check, please put “Blanket Sunday” on the memo line. You can also give electronically by using the QR code below.

—Beginning today and continuing through 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.

—This Thursday, Feb. 8, is our Welcome Table dinner, 5:00 to 6:00 p.m., in the fellowship hall. All are invited!

—**Next Sunday is Scout Sunday.** Members of Troop 42B and 42G, for which First Presbyterian Church is the charter organization, will be with us and assist in worship leadership. Afterward, the scouts will host a luncheon in the fellowship hall (donations are appreciated).

LOOKING AHEAD

Feb. 14: Ash Wednesday soup supper and Communion service

—Beginning Feb. 21, Sharon will lead a five-week Lenten study of Don Postma's Space for God: Study and Practice of Spirituality and Prayer. We will read, think about, and talk about prayer—and do some praying, as well. Note: 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.

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](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.

