

First Presbyterian Church

March 10, 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.)

March 10, 2024 • Fourth Sunday in Lent

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

Prelude

Welcome

***Call to Worship** *(based on Isaiah 58)*

Let us worship God.

Is not this the fast that I choose:

to loose the bonds of injustice and break every yoke?

Is it not to share your bread with the hungry?

Then your light shall break forth like the dawn.

Then you shall call, and God will answer: Here I am.

***Hymn 694**

Great God of Every Blessing

***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 failed to make connections between our limitless wants and the lack of resources left for others.

Lord, have mercy on us. (silence)

We have neglected your call to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you.

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

Isaiah 58:6-9

Anthem

The Stranger's Guise

Marrolli

Second Scripture Reading

Luke 16:19-31

Sermon

*Soup's On:
Let Them Eat Cake*

Sharon Youngs

Musical Reflection

***Affirmation of Faith** (from *A Brief Statement of Faith*)

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church. 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. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Holy Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!" Amen.

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.

Moment for Mission

***Hymn 692**

Spirit, Open My Heart

***Charge and Blessing**

***Sung Response**

Irish Blessing

(inside back cover of hymnal)

Postlude

☞ ☞ ☞

*The flowers today are given by Herb & Carolyn Krause
to the glory of God and in memory of their parents.*

☞ ☞ ☞

Announcements

—Thank you to Dave Mullins for serving as our liturgist this morning.

—Today, in conjunction with the sermon series “Soup’s On,” we are gathering for the last of a three-week series of soup lunches after worship. All are welcome!

—Our Lenten series book study on *Space for God: Study and Practice of Spirituality and Prayer*, written by Don Postema and led by Sharon, will not meet this week. The next gathering will be Wednesday, Mar. 20.

—This Thursday, Mar. 14, is our Welcome Table dinner, 5:00 to 6:00 p.m., in the fellowship hall. All are invited!

—Sharon leaves in the morning to lead a CREDO conference in Little Rock, Ark. She’ll return late on Mar. 18. Our preacher next week will be our own Cathy Goodman!

LOOKING AHEAD

Mar. 23: All-church workday

Mar. 24: Palm Sunday

Mar. 24: Youth and Parents Lunch Bunch

Mar. 28: Maundy Thursday

Mar. 29: Good Friday

Mar. 31: Easter

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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