

First Presbyterian Church

March 31, 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 31, 2024 • *Easter Sunday*

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

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen, indeed!

The grave is empty and the darkness is gone.

Life has triumphed over death forever.

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

***Hymn 232**

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

***Call to Confession**

***Litany of Confession and Forgiveness**

Loving God, we confess that at times we do not share in the joy of resurrection, because we are entangled in the worries of the world.

We do not always live in the spirit of new life, because we are in the grip of doubt and anxiety.

It is more comfortable to point fingers than to reach out with open hands.

It is easier to walk by those in need than to welcome them.

Forgive us, O God.

Have mercy, we pray. *(a moment for silent confession)*

Hear the good news of this Easter morning: Our lives have been transformed by God's grace through the risen Christ.

Once we were no people; now we are God's people, forgiven and freed.

Let us live in the joy of abundant life.

Let us live as Easter people, this day and every day.

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

Time with Children

***The Peace of Christ and Flowering of the Cross**

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.

(You are invited to come forward and place your flowers on the cross.)

***Sung Response**

***In our end is our beginning; in our time infinity;
In our doubt there is believing; in our life, eternity.
In our death, a resurrection; at the last a victory,
Unrevealed until its season something God alone can see.***

Anthem *That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright* Hopson

Scripture Mark 16:1-8

Sermon *You Write the Ending* Sharon Youngs

***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 851; sing twice*)

***Come bring your burdens to God; come, bring your burdens to God;
come, bring your burdens to God, for Jesus will never say no.***

Prayers of the People with The Lord's Prayer (*ecumenical*)

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 248** *Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!*

***Charge and Blessing**

***Sung Response** *"Hallelujah" Chorus* Handel

Postlude

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*The flowers today are given by Jason and Cathy Goodman
to the glory of God and celebration of our risen Lord.*

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Welcome to First Presbyterian Church!

*No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.
We hope you feel the love that is present and our joy in having you with us.
If you'd like to know more about First Presbyterian Church, let's talk!
Please speak with Sharon or any of the ushers after the service.*

—Assisting in worship today:

Liturgist: Julia Cantrell
Musicians: Jon Burt (trumpet), Don Spong (trumpet)
 Alex Cantrell (French horn), Zach Slimp (trombone)

—Today we receive the **One Great Hour of Sharing** special offering. OGHS is a long-standing ecumenical effort aimed at raising the funds necessary to provide relief and reconstruction for communities in the aftermath of disaster. Your gift helps support projects in more than 100 countries. Please make checks payable to FPC with "OGHS" on the memo line, or use the QR code below to contribute online.

—All children and parents are invited to the egg hunt in the soccer field immediately after worship. Refreshments are available in the fellowship hall.

—The **church office will be closed tomorrow, Apr. 1.**

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 ❖

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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or give online using the QR code to the right or via the link on fpcor.org.*

