

First Presbyterian Church

April 28, 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.)

April 28, 2024 • *Fifth Sunday of Easter*

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

Prelude

Welcome

Introit

Take me to the water to be baptized.
Take me to the water to be baptized.

***Call to Worship** *(based on Psalm 22)*

From you, O God, comes our praise in the great congregation,
for dominion belongs to God, who rules over the nations.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord;
all the families of the nations shall bow with reverence to God.

***Hymn 267**

Come, Christians, Join to Sing

***Call to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession**

(moment for silent confession)

Holy and merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have been silent when we needed to have spoken up. We have continued to talk long after we should have stopped. We have run roughshod over our neighbors and your creation, rarely slowing down to see who and what is around us. Forgive us, Lord. Bring us to our senses, that we may walk in your way and bring glory to your name; in Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

***Assurance of Grace**

***The Peace of Christ**

God has received us, pardoned us, and loved us.
Let us therefore forgive one another in love.
Peace be with you.

And also with you.

Let us share the peace of Christ with one another.

***Sung Response** *(hymn 250)*

***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.***

First Scripture Reading 1 John 4:7-12

Anthem *If Ye Love Me*

Tallis

Second Scripture Reading Acts 8:26-40

Sermon *Border Crossings*

Sharon Youngs

Musical Reflection

***Affirmation of Faith** *(from the Confession of Belhar)*

We believe in the triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, who gathers, protects, and cares for the church through Word and Spirit. This, God has done since the beginning of the world and will do to the end. We believe in one holy, universal Christian church, the communion of saints called from the entire human family. We believe that Christ's work of reconciliation is made manifest in the church as the community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another. 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.

***Hymn 300**

We Are One in the Spirit

***Charge and Blessing**

***Sung Response**

Irish Blessing

(inside back cover of hymnal)

Postlude

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*The flowers today are given by the Kiwanis club of Oak Ridge to the glory of God
and with thanks for FPCOR's generosity in making meeting space available for us.*

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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.*

Announcements

—Thank you to Kiersten Ruisard for serving as our liturgist this morning.

—Our next Science & Faith Lecture takes place this afternoon, 1:30 p.m., at First United Methodist Church (FUMC). Co-sponsored by FPCOR and FUMC, today's lecture features Joseph Witt, associate professor of religious studies at the University of Tennessee, who will address "Environmental Disasters and Religious Responses: Case Studies from Appalachia and the U.S. Gulf Coast."

—What's on your mind these days? Join Sharon in person or via Zoom for Coffee Chat tomorrow morning, 9:30 a.m., in room 6 (adjacent to the sanctuary). She'll have the coffee; you provide the topic(s). Check your email tomorrow morning for the Zoom link.

—This Wednesday, May 1, 6:00 p.m., in person (room 6) and via Zoom, Sharon begins a four-session study of Desmond Tutu's *The Book of Forgiving: The Fourfold Path for Healing Ourselves and Our World*. Look for the Zoom link in the weekly eNews or call Madison. The book is available on Amazon. If you'd like for Madison to order you a copy, just let her know.

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

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

