

First Presbyterian Church

July 23, 2023 • 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.)

July 23, 2023 • Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Prelude

Welcome

***Call to Worship** *(adapted from Psalm 104)*

O Lord, how manifold are your works! In wisdom you have made them all.

These all look to you to give them their food in due season.

Let us sing to the Lord as long as we live!

Let us sing praise to our God with our whole being!

***Hymn 25**

O Lord, Our God, How Excellent

***Call to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession**

(a moment for silent confession)

Creating God, in the beginning you made all things and saw that they were very good. Yet, we confess our inability to see the good in everything your hands have molded. We label some people as ugly and laugh at others who are differently abled. We run roughshod through earth's resources as if there were no consequences. Have mercy on us, we pray. Fill us with an urgent desire to be your partners in renewing creation, so that your shalom might become reality; in Jesus' name. Amen.

***Assurance of Forgiveness**

***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**

***Help us accept each other as Christ accepted us;
teach us as sister, brother, each person to embrace.
Be present, Lord, among us and bring us to believe
we are ourselves accepted, and meant to love and live.***

Children are invited to go to the fellowship hall for an activity.

Anthem

All God's Critters Got a Place in the Choir

Scripture Reading

Genesis 1:1-5

Song of Creation #1

Hymn 30

*O God, in a Mysterious Way
(verses 1 and 2)*

Song of Creation # 2

Hymn 26

*Earth and All Stars
(verse 1)*

Song of Creation #3

Call to Prayer

*God, be the love to search and keep me;
God, be the prayer to move my voice;
God, be the strength to now uphold me:
O Christ, surround me;
O Christ, surround me.*

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.

Mission Moment

Song of Creation #4

***Hymn 15**

*All Creatures of Our God and King
(verses 1 and 6)*

***Charge and Blessing**

***Sung Response**

Irish Blessing

(inside back cover of hymnal)

Postlude

✎ ✎ ✎

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

✎ ✎ ✎

Announcements

—Thank you to our worship leaders this morning: Robin Graham, liturgist, and Beth Noelle, pianist.

—Our monthly Conversation on Loss gathers in the parlor today at 11:50 a.m. for a potluck lunch and discussion of the book, *The Top Five Regrets of the Dying*, by Bronnie Ware. You are invited, whether or not you have a dish to share. There's always plenty!

—The Ecumenical Storehouse is hosting a free community concert and fundraising party this Saturday, July 29, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., at the Historic Grove Theater. Music will be by Wendel Werner and The Strange Relationship Band. Doors open at 6:00 p.m. Refreshments, silent auction, and more!

—We continue our month-long special offering for a charity named RIP Medical Debt. The program focuses on the elimination of personal medical debt. Each dollar received is converted into \$100 of purchased medical debt relief. The Presbytery of East Tennessee (PET) has set a total goal of \$25,000 for its congregations to meet in 2023. As of July 20, we have received an amazing \$7280, and we're still not done! Make your check payable to FPCOR (with "RIP Medical Debt" on the memo line) or donate online using the QR code on this page. Thank you for your generosity!

—Next Sunday, July 30, our Fifth Sunday event will be an ice cream social and a presentation by Gene and Rosalyn McKeown-Ice on their tandem bicycle cross-country adventures.

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 Devin Earhart, Technical Assistant

Madison Hinkle, Office Manager

*Thank you for your continued support of the ministries of FPC.
You can mail your regular financial contribution to FPC (P.O. Box above)
or give online using the QR code to the right or via the link on fpcor.org.*

