

First Presbyterian Church

July 30, 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 30, 2023 • Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Prelude

Welcome

***Call to Worship** *(from hymn 401)*

Here in this place, the new light is streaming; now is the darkness vanished away;

***See in this space our fears and our dreamings
brought here to you in the light of this day.***

Gather us in, the lost and forsaken; gather us in, the blind and the lame;

Call to us now and we shall awaken; we shall arise at the sound of our name.

***Hymn 54**

Make a Joyful Noise to God!

***Call to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession**

(a moment for silent confession)

God of endless possibilities, we confess that we are quick to worry and point fingers. We find it easier to see scarcity instead of abundance, and problems instead of opportunities. As a result, we miss moments you place before us to become more like the people you call us to be. Forgive us, we pray. Open our eyes to the presence of your grace in our daily encounters, that we might in turn live lives of compassion, generosity, and joy; in the name of Jesus. 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

Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love

Scripture Reading

Luke 19:1-10

Sermon

*Picture This:
The Place of Most Potential*

Sharon Youngs

Musical Reflection

***Affirmation of Faith** *The Apostles' Creed (traditional)*

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

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

***Hymn 450**

Be Thou My Vision

***Charge and Blessing**

***Sung Response**

Irish Blessing

(inside back cover of hymnal)

Postlude

☞ ☞ ☞

*The flowers today are given by Phyllis and Lewis Phillips to the glory of God
and in memory of Richard Reed Sr. and Debra Reed Phillips.*

☞ ☞ ☞

Announcements

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

—All are invited to gather in the fellowship hall following worship to enjoy an ice cream social and presentation by Gene and Rosalyn McKeown-Ice on their cross-country adventures via their tandem bicycle earlier this year.

—Today we conclude our month-long special offering for 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. Our goal was \$5000; to date, we have received an amazing \$9355! Thank you! To contribute, make your check payable to FPCOR (“RIP Medical Debt” on the memo line) or donate online using the QR code on this page.

—**Coffee Chat** is in person tomorrow, July 31, 9:30 a.m., in room 6 of the Sanctuary building. You can also join in via Zoom (see the weekly eNews for the link). Sharon will have coffee ready. Bring whatever topic is on your mind.

—We have Sundays in August that are still available on the **2023 flower calendar**. All you need to do is (1) sign up for a Sunday in memory or in honor of someone; (2) submit the dedication information on a slip of paper located next to the calendar on the fellowship hall door; and (3) remit a check for \$35 payable to FPC (please note “flower” on the memo line).



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 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.*

