

First Presbyterian Church

August 20, 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.)

August 20, 2023 • Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Prelude

Welcome

***Call to Worship** *(from Psalm 67)*

May God be gracious to us and bless us and make God's face to shine upon us,
That God's saving power may be known among all nations.
Let the peoples praise you, O God, let all the peoples praise you,
For you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth.
Let us worship almighty God!

***Hymn 31**

Let Us with a Gladsome Mind

***Call to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession**

(a moment for silent confession)

God of all people, we are keenly aware of the ways we fall short of your vision for us, as individuals and as a community. You tell us how good and pleasant it is when we dwell together in unity, yet we create division and cultivate disdain. You command us to care for one another, but we send away those who are crying out for help—if we even see them. Forgive us, we pray. Give us the grace to see the face of Christ in others, that we might honor and respect all; in Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

***Assurance of Forgiveness**

Reception of New Member

Will we, the members and friends of First Presbyterian Church, surround and support Linda with our love and care, and will we share with her the good news of the gospel as we grow together and share Christ's love with all? ***We will.***

***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** *(from 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.***

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

First Scripture Reading

Psalm 67

Anthem

Ubi Caritas

Gjeilo

Scripture Reading

Matthew 15:21-28

Sermon

A Teachable Moment

Sharon Youngs

Musical Reflection

***Affirmation of Faith** *(adapted by members of FPC)*

We believe in God, the Father Almighty, and in Jesus Christ, His Son, our Lord, and in the Holy Spirit. We seek to know God's will, to walk in God's ways, and to proclaim the Gospel to all people, by our lives as well as by our words. We work and pray for the progress of knowledge, the promotion of justice, the reign of peace, and the realization of human unity in our time. And we look with faith for the triumph of righteousness in our community and in our world. Amen.

Call to Prayer *(from hymn 62)*

***Love the Lord your God with all your heart.
Love the Lord your God with all your soul.
Love the Lord your God with all your mind.
Love the Lord your God with all that you are.***

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 79**

Light Dawns on a Weary World

***Charge and Blessing**

***Sung Response**

Irish Blessing

(inside back cover of hymnal)

Postlude

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The flowers today are given by Darlene Sanders to the glory of God and with love and affection for her mother Betty Ward, celebrating her 86th birthday on the 23rd, and granddaughter Zoey Sanders, who turns 13 on the 29th.

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Announcements

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

—Welcome to new member Linda Lipinski, who joins First Presbyterian Church by transfer of letter from Presbyterian Church of the Covenant in Sarasota, Florida.

—The pizza night for all children, youth, and their parents will be this evening from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m., in the fellowship hall.

—A reminder that the Conversation on Loss group will not meet this month.

—We have Sundays in September 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).



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.

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.*

