

First Presbyterian Church

August 27, 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 27, 2023 • Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Prelude

Welcome

***Call to Worship** *(from Psalm 51)*

Listen to me, you that seek the Lord and pursue righteousness.

Lift up your eyes to the heavens and look at the earth beneath;

The heavens will vanish like smoke and the earth will wear out like a garment.

But God's salvation and deliverance will never be ended.

***Hymn 81**

Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken

***Invitation to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession**

(a moment for silent confession)

Forgiving God, we confess that we are conformed to this world instead of to you. We fail to notice the multitude of blessings you provide and the people who deliver them. We seek the easiest and least painful route, rather than what will draw us closer to you and your call for our lives. Have mercy, we pray. Open our eyes to the stirring of your Spirit in our midst, that we might be your partners in birthing your realm of righteousness; in Jesus' name we pray. 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** *(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.

Anthem*Long Ago, When Pharaoh's Daughter*

Gillette

*Long ago, when Pharaoh's daughter walked along the riverside,
 In a basket in the water was a baby, snug and dry.
 Tiny baby! Did his mother give him up so he might live?
 Love that gives to save another is a mighty love to give.*

*Christ, you offered us a blessing - what our life in you can be:
 "When a child is given welcome, then you also welcome me."
 In a world where children suffer and where all need love and care,
 Love that leads us to each other is an answer to our prayer.*

*God, you call us your own children; we're adopted! We're reborn!
 We rejoice that through adoption, human bonds are also formed.
 Bless the ones who welcome children; bless the ones who let them go.
 May each child be loved and welcomed; may each church help families grow.*

Scripture Reading

Exodus 1:8—2:10

Sermon*Holy Conspiracy*

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 372O For a World****Charge and Blessing*****Sung Response***Irish Blessing**(inside back cover of hymnal)***Postlude**

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*The flowers today are given by Shirley Sauls to the glory of God
and in memory of her husband, Bill Sauls, and her sister-in-law, Betty.*

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Announcements

- Thank you to Herb Krause for serving as our liturgist this morning.
- A reminder that the **Conversation on Loss** group will not meet today.
- Coffee Chat** is in person tomorrow, August 28, 9:30 a.m., in room 6 of the Sanctuary building (adjacent to the sanctuary). You can also join via Zoom (check the eNews for the link). Sharon will have coffee ready. Bring whatever topic is on your mind.
- There's an urgent need for a **refrigerator for Roane State students** to store their perishable food pantry groceries while they're in class until time to commute home. If you (or someone you know) have one to donate, please contact Sue Byrne (865-318-8856). Thank you!
- 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.*

