



FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH



Palm Sunday
Sunday, April 2, 2023
10:30 A.M.

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Zech. 9:9; Ps. 118:26

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!

Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!

Lo, your king comes to you;

triumphant and victorious is he,

humble and riding on a donkey,

on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest!

*OPENING PRAYER

We praise you, O God, for your redemption of the world through Jesus Christ, who entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph and was proclaimed Messiah and king by those who spread garments and branches along his way. Let these branches be signs of his victory, and grant that we who carry them may follow him in the way of the cross, that, dying and rising with him we may enter your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN 196 *All Glory, Laud, and Honor* VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

May God be with you in worship here.

May God be with you in worship there.

Children may depart the sanctuary with their teacher for Worship & Wonder. They will return to the sanctuary before communion.

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

Joel 2:12-13

In this season, God calls us back home. We are invited to open our hearts and return to the way of love. For God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love. Trusting in this grace, let us confess our sin.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Triumphant God, we join the crowds of the ages in shouting your praises. While our lips give you glory, our lives seldom reflect your purposes. We sing easily of your greatness, but living faithfully is often beyond us. We hear of your salvation, yet sin is still close and real, daily leading us away from you. Have mercy on us. Ride into our hearts with healing grace. Forgive what we have done and direct who we shall be. Lord, save us. Hosanna!

Silence is kept for personal reflection and prayer.

SUNG RESPONSE (Hymn 577)

The choir will sing once through, with the congregation joining on the second time.

The Greek phrase "Kyrie Eleison" means "Lord, have mercy."

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the Kyrie Eleison response. The first staff is in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. It contains two phrases: "Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son." and "Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son." The second staff is in the same key and time, containing two phrases: "Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son." and "Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son." The second phrase in the second staff has a triplet of eighth notes over the final "e - le - i - son." The lyrics are written below the notes.

POURING OF THE BAPTISMAL WATER

Remember your baptism and be thankful!

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

He who rode into Jerusalem, struggled on the cross, and was sealed in a tomb is risen from the dead! Jesus Christ has defeated sin forever. This is good news!

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.

*GLORIA PATRI

GREATOREX

*Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.*

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Since we have been reconciled to God, let us also be reconciled to one another.
The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**

*SUNG RESPONSE (Hymn 197)

ELLACOMBE

*Hosanna, loud hosanna, the little children sang;
Through pillared court and temple the joyful anthem rang.
To Jesus, who had blessed them, close folded to his breast,
The children sang their praises, the simplest and the best.*

*From Olivet they followed 'mid an exultant crowd,
The victor palm branch waving, and chanting clear and loud;
The Lord of earth and heaven rode on in lowly state,
Nor scorned that little children should on his bidding wait.*

*"Hosanna in the highest!" That ancient song we sing,
For Christ is our Redeemer; the Lord of heaven, our King.
O may we ever praise him with heart and life and voice,
And in his blissful presence eternally rejoice.*

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Let your Word, O God, break open our hearts this day through the power of the Holy Spirit, that we may enter into the coming Holy Week with the same mind that was in Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 An ancient song of God's covenant people. **Amen.**

CHORAL PSALM (Psalm 24:7-10) *Lift Up Your Heads* William Mathias

Matthew 21:1-11 The Gospel of the Lord. **May Jesus Christ be praised.**

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Phil. 2:5-11

Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess to the glory of God: Jesus Christ is Lord! Amen.

THE EUCHARIST

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

MUSIC FOR THE OFFERING

O Love

Elaine Hagenburg

*SUNG RESPONSE (Hymn 223)

HAMBURG

*Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.*

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise...

...who forever sing to the glory of your name:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest!

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD & THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

All who seek God are invited to the table, regardless of church affiliation or any other condition or identity. You may take communion by taking a small piece of bread and dipping it in the cup.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God, our help and strength, you have satisfied our hunger with this holy food. Strengthen our faith as we begin the journey of this week, that through the death and resurrection of your Son we may be led to salvation, for he is Lord now and forever. Amen.

THE SENDING

*HYMN 264

At the Name of Jesus

KING'S WESTON

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

**Rise in body or spirit*



LEADING OUR WORSHIP TODAY

Preacher: *Rev. Matt Curry*

Liturgist: *Ashley Hicks*

Communion Servers: *Deanna & Lloyd Wehrung*

Holy Week Schedule



Maundy Thursday | 6:00pm in Fellowship Hall

We will gather around tables to remember the night of Jesus' arrest, when he shared a meal with his disciples. Supper will be served as part of this service.



Good Friday Tenebrae Service | 6:00pm in the Sanctuary

As we enter into the story of Jesus' passion, candles will be extinguished and the darkness will grow. Special music will be offered by the choir and soloists Tevin Vincent and Nadia Wilkes.



The Great Vigil of Easter | 6:00pm in the Prayer Garden

As the sun goes down on Holy Saturday, our Easter celebration begins! We will gather around a fire to hear the stories of our faith, remember our baptisms, and share the Lord's Supper. Bring a chair and dress for the weather.



Easter Sunday | 10:30am in the Sanctuary

Following breakfast in Fellowship Hall, we will celebrate the Resurrection of the Lord with special music and communion.

The Life of the Church

Our Annual Easter Egg Hunt is this afternoon at 2:00pm. We will have egg hunts for younger and older kids, the bounce house, craft activities, and more! Kids of all ages are welcome to bring a lawn chair and enjoy some springtime fellowship.

Easter Breakfast for the whole congregation will be served by our Men's Bible Class next week from 9:00-10:15 in Fellowship Hall. Help us get an idea of how many to expect by contacting the church office or commenting on the post in our Facebook group.

The One Great Hour of Sharing offering will be taken on Easter Sunday. Your gifts will support the Presbyterian Hunger Program, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, and the Self-Development of People program. Please plan to give generously!

Hearing Assistance Devices are available. Please see an usher if you would like to use one.



First Presbyterian Church is an inclusive
community of faith called to proclaim
the good news of the love of Jesus Christ for all people,
and to join God in the building of a
just, peaceful, and compassionate world.



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Tyler Simpson, Organist
Sasha O'Bryan, Office Manager & Pastoral Assistant
Gabriel Lovelace, Staff Accountant
Dylan Schroader, Custodian
Emmy Voyles, Nursery Care Provider