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# PALM/PASSION SUNDAY

9:00 am

April 14, 2019



Our Mission Statement

Called to love God and one another, First Presbyterian Church responds to God’s grace by following Christ with ministries of hospitality, worship, faith development, service and generosity.

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church

We’re glad you’re here with us today. We fondly refer to this community of Christ-followers as “First Pres,” and you being here is one of God’s blessings for our fellowship. If you wonder what we’re up to at First Pres, it’s actually pretty simple. In fact, we use a short phrase to remind ourselves of our shared purpose: “Above all, love.” Drawn from a New Testament text (1 Peter 4:8-11), those brief words challenge us to focus everything we do on loving God and loving every single person we encounter. So every day we’re learning how to do just that, as God’s Spirit keeps working in our lives.

By the way, we can’t take credit for this idea. It goes as far back as Jesus. He was once asked to sum up what it looks like to really be alive; what we should aim for in our lives if we want to live as fully as we can. His answer? Love God with every fiber of your being, and love the people around you. So whether we meet you in worship, or in the hallway, or in one of our many activities—or just run into you around town— we hope that you will feel the deep love of God welcoming and embracing you. We really are glad that you’re here.

Use these moments prior to the Prelude to greet one another briefly. At the ringing of the chimes, please seek the presence of God in stillness and quiet. Please silence cell phones. The asterisk (\*) invites you to stand as you are able.

Prelude	He Never Said a Mumblin’ Word <i>African-American Spiritual</i>
Choral Introit	Hosanna to the Son of David <i>Gregorian Chant</i>
*Call to Worship	Luke 19:28-35
Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! <b>Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!</b> Let us worship the Lord!	
*Hymn #196	All Glory, Laud and Honor <i>Valet Will Ich Dir Geben</i>
*Prayer of Confession	
<b>God of heaven and earth, we give you thanks for sending us Jesus Christ in your name. Even though we say we’re following him, we have to admit that in times of trial we too often deny him. Forgive us and heal us, O God. Open the gates of your forgiveness and restore us in your love. Help us put our faith not in the powers of this world, but only in the Prince of Peace. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.</b>	
*Assurance of Pardon	
*Response	Meineke
<b>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.</b>	
*Passing of the Peace	
Children’s Message and Scripture Reading	Luke 19:29-40
<i>After the message, children can return to their families for worship or meet their teachers in the back of the Sanctuary to go to Sunday School.</i>	

Response (#197, verse 1)

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna  
*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.

Ministry Updates

Scripture

Luke 19:41-44 (New Testament, p. 83)

Anthem

God So Loved the World  
*John Stainer (1840-1901)*

Prayers of the People and 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.

Offertory

The Holy City  
*Stephen Adams (1841–1913)*

\*Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.  
Praise him all creatures here below.  
Praise him above ye heavenly host.  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Old 100th

\*Hymn #197, Verses 2 & 3

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna  
*Ellacombe*

Scripture

Luke 19:45-48 (New Testament, p. 83)  
This is the Word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“A Gathering Storm”

Rev. Steve Clark

\*Hymn #198

Ride On! Ride On in Majesty!  
*St. Drostan*

\*Blessing

\*Choral Response

Hear My Prayer, O God  
*Hal. H. Hopson*

Please remain standing for the Choral Response

Postlude

Hornpipe from *Water Music*  
*G. F. Handel (1685–1759)*

Leading us in worship

are Greg Stovell, Pastor; Steve Clark, Associate Pastor;  
Caroline Cupp, Associate Pastor; Sara Pantazes, Director of Christian Education;  
Sándor Kádár, Director of Music; Kira Boros, Children’s Choir Associate;  
Michael Spaziani, bass soloist; Evan Roberts, trumpet;  
Chamber Choir; Chancel Choir

WORSHIP NOTES

*He Never Said a Mumblin’ Word* is an American spiritual folk song. The song narrates the crucifixion of Christ, detailing how he was nailed to the cross, “whooped up the hill,” speared in the side, hung his head and died, all the while keeping a dignified silence. Like all traditional music, the lyrics vary from version to version, but maintain the same story.

**Sir John Stainer** was an English composer and organist whose music — though not much performed today — was very popular during his lifetime. His work as choir director and organist set standards for Anglican church music that are still influential. *God So Loved the World* is from his most famous work, *The Crucifixion: A Meditation on the Sacred Passion of the Holy Redeemer*, an oratorio composed in 1887.

God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son,  
that who so believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world;  
but that the world through him might be saved.

The Holy City is a Victorian ballad dating from 1892, with music by English composer and singer **Michael Maybrick**, writing under the pseudonym **Stephen Adams**, and text by **Frederic Weatherly**. Its sheet music sales made it one of the most commercially successful songs in the UK and United States around the beginning of the 20th century.

Last night I lay asleeping,  
There came a dream so fair;  
I stood in old Jerusalem,  
Beside the Temple there;  
I heard the children singing,  
And ever as they sang,  
Me thought the voice of Angels  
From Heav’n in answer rang,  
Me thought the voice of Angels  
From Heav’n in answer rang,

Jerusalem, Jerusalem,  
Lift up your gates and sing  
Hosanna in the highest,  
Hosanna to your King!

And then me thought my dream  
was chang’d  
The streets no longer rang,  
Hush’d were the glad Hosannas  
The little children sang,  
The sun grew dark with mystery,  
The morn was the chill,  
As the shadow of a cross arose  
Upon a lonely hill,  
As the shadow of a cross arose  
Upon a lonely hill.

Jerusalem, Jerusalem,  
Hark! How the Angels sing  
Hosanna in the Highest!  
Hosanna to your King!

And once again the scene was  
chang’d,  
New earth there seem’d to be!  
I saw the holy city  
Beside the tideless sea;  
The light of God was on its street,  
The gates were open wide;  
And all who would might enter,  
And no one was denied,  
No need of moon or stars by night,  
Nor sun to shine by day;  
It was the new Jerusalem,  
That would not pass away!  
It was the new Jerusalem,  
That would not pass away.

Jerusalem, Jerusalem,  
Sing for the night o’er,  
Hosanna in the highest!  
Hosanna for evermore!

FIRST PRES MATTERS

**Serving today** as ushers and greeters are Jim and Marilyn Serum, Doug and Beth Congdon-Martin, Stu and Suzy Levy, and Hal and Carol Wingerd at 9:00 a.m. and Amanda Blevins, Elizabeth Hess, Darlene Ross and Dennis Westhafer at 10:42 a.m. Our coffee and flower deacons are Sandi Hambleton and Cynthia Menan. Our nursery volunteers are Mary Angelozzi, Sarah Burke, Paige Conley, and Maurisa Warren. Rick Burke is running video production.

**In Memoriam** - Linda W. Hulbert, Member of First Presbyterian Church from February 28, 2000 - April 8, 2019.

**Our sympathy and prayers** are with Matt Hulbert and family, in the death of his wife, Linda; and with Doug and Martha Sherman and family in the death of Doug’s mother.

**The Chancel Flowers** are given by Barry and Sandi Hambleton, in honor of Brian Knox and Ella Elizabeth Hambleton; by Charlie and Kathie Myhre, in loving memory of Ruth D. Zale; and by the Plank family, in loving memory of Bob Plank.

**Easter Goodies** - Looking for some goodies to fill your child’s Easter basket or to give as small Easter gifts? Check out the red baskets in Fellowship Hall; everything is free!

**Jesus Wept** - Jesus grieved and expressed compassion. People experience loss, illness, marital difficulties, job loss, spiritual crisis, loneliness, and many other stresses and challenges. For a variety of reasons they do not request or receive the level of care they really need. Sometimes Christians may be angry at God and feel forsaken. But suffering alone is not God’s intention for us. Jesus has promised rest to all who are weary and burdened. Stephen Ministry training offers a vision into the power and comfort of Christ’s ever-present love. Please continue to pray for the trainees and leaders as they participate in 50 hours of classes designed to enhance spiritual caregiving. If you would like to know more about Stephen Ministry, please contact Rev. Caroline Cupp or Rev. Steve Clark (610-696-0554) or Mary Pellack (610-570-0886).

**Here Come The Muffins** - Mark your calendars for Muffin Mania on Sunday, April 21 – Easter Day! We would love to send these delicious treats home with everyone who attends church in celebration of Christ’s resurrection! Please consider making these love-filled muffins a part of your Easter dinner...what an incredible conversation piece to share with your dinner guests about how you are helping to support #RiseAgainstHunger. We look forward to seeing you all on the sidewalk (weather permitting) on Easter Sunday with muffins galore!

**An Invitation to Pray for Christian Education** - Do you know what Christian Education is? TODAY at 11:45 a.m. in Room 217 (note change of location), a prayer session will be held that will focus on Christian Education, specifically related to the people being served, leaders, specific programs, and identified needs and visions. We already have had two Spirit-filled prayer sessions, and no doubt this one will be also. Come and join us.

**Love Offering** - In recognition of Brian Claeys’ ministry at First Pres, Session has approved a Love Offering to be received throughout the month of April. Brian has served as Director of Communications and most recently as Music Assistant, and will be completing his service to the church on May 1. If you would like to contribute to a Love Offering, please send your gift made payable to First Presbyterian Church and write ‘Love Offering - Brian’ in the Memo line. Thank you for your support.

**Easter Flower Cross** - Again this year, we will continue the tradition of the Easter Flower Cross placed in front of the church. Bring a flower or two with you that morning to place in the cross.

**Easter Sunrise Service** - We are blessed that our sunrise service will be held at The Barn at Spring Brook Farm (360 Locust Grove Rd, West Chester) at 6:30 a.m. It is a joy to partner with an organization that serves children who have physical and intellectual disabilities, allowing them to grow in leadership and confidence as they learn about nature and how to work with animals. To learn more about the work of the Barn, visit [www.springbrook-farm.org](http://www.springbrook-farm.org).

**Today is the Deadline for Easter Flowers** - In the pew racks you’ll find envelopes you can use to support the lilies and other spring flowers that will bring our Sanctuary to life on Easter Day. You can place the envelope in the offering plate with a gift of \$12 by today; be sure to complete the envelope with your name and the name of your loved ones. You can also make your gift online at [www.firstpreswc.com/easterflowers](http://www.firstpreswc.com/easterflowers) (please note “paid online” on the envelope). Thank you from the Worship Committee!

**Tread Lightly For Lent** – The Christian Faith & Issues class has shared a Lenten calendar with the congregation, listing actions you can take during Lent to be mindful of how you live and move on our planet. Holy Week’s action: Read Psalm 31. As we think about Christ’s journey this Holy Week, may we recognize that while it is easy to be overwhelmed with climate injustice, we do not travel alone. May we pray, as Jesus taught us, trusting that God hears us.

**Parent Autism Support Group** - The PASG is a monthly meeting of parents, married or single, who have a child/adolescent with a diagnosis of ASD. The purpose of the group is to provide support and understanding while recognizing the shared struggles that parents face while raising a child with ASD. Various therapeutic topics will be addressed throughout the meetings. However, the underlying focus is for parents to realize they are not alone in their journey. The common bond of raising a child with ASD is at the heart of the shared time together. The group is open to the community and led by clinical psychologist and new church member Dr. Tom DeGeorge. It will begin meeting on the 4th Sunday of the month (starting April 28) from 6:00-7:30 p.m. To register, visit [www.firstpreswc.com/autism-support-group](http://www.firstpreswc.com/autism-support-group) or contact Pastor Caroline at [ccupp@firstpreswc.com](mailto:ccupp@firstpreswc.com)

**No Bridge Dinner this Week** - but plan to join us on April 24, for the final Bridge dinner of the season, a cookout!

**April Food Item: Peanut Butter** - West Chester Food Cupboard is in need of peanut butter of all kinds for our neighbors who are experiencing hunger. We’ll be collecting peanut butter throughout the month of April; bring your donation to Fellowship Hall.

**New Members Class (“Connections”) In June** - If you’re interested in becoming a member of First Pres, or just learning more about what God is up to here at the corner of Miner and Darlington, join us in the Chapel 11:45 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, June 2. Lunch is included, and childcare can be provided if needed. Contact Pastor Steve Clark ([sclark@firstpreswc.com](mailto:sclark@firstpreswc.com)) if interested in joining the gathering, or if you have questions.

**Christian Faith & Issues Class (CFI)** meets on Sundays at 10:30 a.m. in Room 209, for discussion of issues about equality, social justice, human rights and governance on the local, national and world levels, and how we can respond from our Christian faith perspective. This Sunday, April 14, we wrap-up our 6-week Lenten Study entitled *Faithful Citizenship*, with the final lesson called “Church & Family as Schools of Civic Virtue.” Class will not be held on Easter Sunday, and on Sunday April 28, we will hold our monthly Current Events class; please bring your fresh news items of joys and concerns. For more information, please contact Dan Campbell at [campbelldt@verizon.net](mailto:campbelldt@verizon.net).

**First Pres Travelers** - On “The Road to Pittsburgh” we will visit Harley-Davidson Motorcycle Factory, Flight 93 Memorial, Que Creek Mine Rescue Site, tour the City of Pittsburgh, Duquesne Incline, and Frank Lloyd Wright’s designed homes, Fallingwater and Kentuck Knob, on June 6-7th. For a flyer and/or more information, contact Thom & Irene Clapper ([psuthom@verizon](mailto:psuthom@verizon) or 610-436-5667).

**Job Opening** - Our long-time Bridge Dinner Coordinator, Jen Rosenberg, is moving on to other things after this Bridge season, so we’re looking for someone to fill that position. The Coordinator will oversee our weekly dinner program, with responsibilities to assist with planning and preparation of meals, recruit and coordinate volunteers, and build awareness and enthusiasm for the program. This is a paid part-time position, requiring 12 hours per week September through April. Send application and resumé to Pastor Steve Clark ([sclark@firstpreswc.com](mailto:sclark@firstpreswc.com)).

**PW’s Local Mission Project** - PW is supporting the Domestic Violence Center of Chester County (DVCCC) throughout the month of April by collecting baby items needed by families seeking refuge in their shelter. Please consider giving bottles, shoulder-strapped front carriers, pacifiers, onesies, dye-free laundry detergent, and twin-sized blankets and sheets. They also are in need of clothing for boys (kids sizes 2-10), and could use gift cards (\$25) to Rite-Aid, Walmart, and Giant. All donated items must be new. Gift cards can be given to Nancy Ohms ([nmohms@verizon.net](mailto:nmohms@verizon.net)) or Jeff Somers, Director of Operations. Please add your donations to the cart in Fellowship Hall, and feel free to reach out to Nancy with any questions. Thank you for your support.

## Contemporary Worship

Herron Lounge  
Sanctuary  
Chapel



# THANK YOU!

Thanks to all the wonderful folks who participated in  
**Senior Week & Operation Easter Basket!**

