

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We welcome and thank these guest Celebration Musicians for their contributions in worship today:

Tatiana Karpova (violin)
Ellyn Stuart (violin)
Ellen Ferdon (viola)
Jill Fung (cello)
Jeffrey Ferdon (bass)

There is no Pew Prep this week. Worship bags are available in the Narthex. Pew Prep resumes on April 27.

Restoring the Chancel: At the close of our Good Friday service on April 18, we will strip the chancel and drape it in black. Once again this year, our children (ages K-12th grade) are invited to help us restore the chancel at the beginning of the Flowered Cross service at 9:30 AM on Easter morning, Sunday, April 20. Children who would like to participate are invited to a brief rehearsal following worship today.

April is Vacation Bible School (VBS) Registration month! VBS is June 9-12, 9am-noon. We hope you will join us as we Journey with Moses and Miriam. VBS is FREE and advance registration is required by April 30. A link to the registration form can be found at the top of the website and printed copies are in the Narthex and the church office. Forms may be returned to the church office.

On Tuesday, April 22, at 11:45 AM in Davis Hall, our Lunch Bunch guest will be Alex Porter, well known in this area for his knowledge of local history and for his work on historic buildings. In a time here in Cabarrus County in which we see a lot of the *old being torn down to make room for the new, Alex is passionate about saving structures from the past. As he says, "Once these buildings are gone, they are gone forever, and we have already lost too many of them." Come and find out about the hopes and plans Alex and the Historic Cabarrus Association have for rescuing some of our treasures from the past.* All guests are welcome at the Lunch Bunch. Reservations can be made for our lunch prepared by our chef, Margaret, by calling the Church Reservation line at 704-788-2100, option 7 by 3:00 PM on Thursday, April 17th.

The office will be closed on Easter Monday, April 21.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

LATER TODAY

12:00 PM
3:00 PM
4:30PM
5:30PM
6:00PM

Restoring the Chancel Practice (Sanctuary)
Circle 5 (Library Conference Room)
Combined Youth (Davis Hall)
Youth Dinner (Davis Hall)

Monday, April 14

9:00 AM
11:00 AM

First Kids Preschool (Will Young Bldg)
Circle 4 (off campus)

Tuesday, April 15

9:00 AM
6:00 PM
7:00 PM
7:00 PM
7:00 PM

First Kids Preschool (Will Young Bldg)
Cub Scouts (Davis Hall)
Al Anon (Commons)
Boy Scouts (Will Young Senior High Room)
PW CT (Library Conference Room)

Wednesday, April 16

9:00 AM
10:30 AM
10:30 AM
2:00 PM
6:30 PM

First Kids Preschool (Will Young Bldg)
Bible Study (Library Conference Room)
Habitat for Humanity Luncheon (Davis Hall)
Staff Meeting (Fellowship House Sunroom)
Worship & Music (Journey Classroom)

Thursday, April 17

9:00 AM
6:00 PM
6:30 PM
7:30 PM

First Kids Preschool (Will Young Bldg)
Girl Scouts (2nd & 3rd flrs Ed Bldg)
Maundy Thursday Dinner & Worship (Davis Hall)
Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

Friday, April 18

7:00 PM

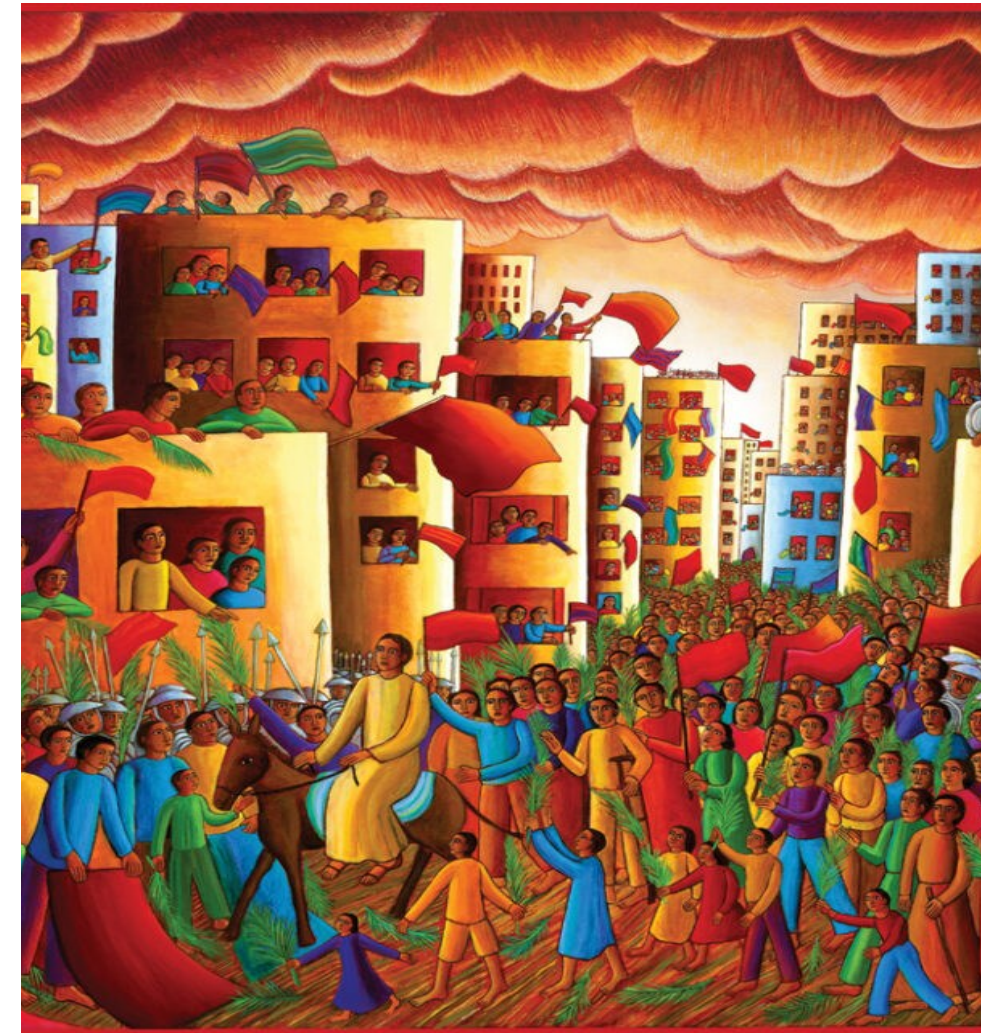
Good Friday Tenebrae Service (Sanctuary)

Sunday, April 20

7:00 AM
9:30 AM
10:00 AM
11:00 AM

Sunrise Service (Memorial Garden)
Flowered Cross Service (Sanctuary)
Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
Worship (in person and live streamed)

Palm Sunday



**First Presbyterian Church
70 Union Street North
Concord, North Carolina**

Sunday, April 13, 2025



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
CONCORD

www.firstpresconcord.org

(704) 788-2100



SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

As the music plays, you are invited to pause, reflect, and pray silently as we prepare for worship.

Hosanna, King, Blessed are you, our king, who comes in the name of the Lord!
Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!

Even if our voices were silenced, creation itself would rise up to praise you!
Hosanna in the Highest! Amen.
~NarrativeLectionary.org

PRELUDE

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please sign the Friendship Pad found on the center aisle of each pew and pass it to your neighbor.

MINUTE FOR MISSION

One Great Hour of Sharing

INTROIT *Hosanna to the Son of David* Michael Praetorius/Jacque Yost
(Sanctuary Choir and Strings)

Hosanna to the Son of David; blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Yea. Hosanna in the highest.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord.
People: **Hosanna in the highest!**

***PROCLAMATION OF THE ENTRANCE INTO JERUSALEM** Luke 19:28-40

***HYMN 197** *Hosanna, Loud Hosanna* ELLACOMBE

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

On this day of palms and pageantry, Jesus weeps. Forgive us, O God, for all we have done to break your heart. We have grown comfortable with violent words and complacent about violent actions against your children. In your gracious mercy, forgive us. Show us again the way of peace as we seek to honor you and follow your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen. [*Time for silent confession follows.*]

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel.
People: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!**

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

lay reader, Jane Spainhour

FIRST LESSON

Psalms 118:19-23 pew bible, page 565

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND LESSON Luke 19: 41-44 pew bible, page 83

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Rev. Ellen Crawford True

MOMENT FOR SILENT REFLECTION

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

ANTHEM *O Love That Will Not Let Me Go* Ralph Manuel/Jacque Yost
(Sanctuary Choir, Strings, Piano)

O Love that will not let me go, I rest my weary soul in Thee; I give Thee back the life I owe, that in Thine ocean depths its flow may richer, fuller be. O Light that followest all my way, I yield my flickering torch to Thee; my heart restores its borrowed ray, that in Thy sunshine's glow its day may brighter, fairer be. O Joy that seekest me through pain, I cannot close my heart to Thee; I trace the rainbow through the rain, and feel the promise is not vain that morn shall tearless be. O Cross that liftest up my head, I dare ask to hide from Thee; I lay in dust life's glory dead, and from the ground that blossoms red Life that shall endless be. O Love.

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** The Apostles' Creed

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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP AND CALL TO OFFERING

ANTHEM *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross* Gilbert Martin/Jacque Yost
(Sanctuary Choir, Strings, Pia

When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Price of Glory died, my richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride. Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast save in the death of Christ my God! All the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to His blood. See, from His hands, His feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down! Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown? 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. Amen!

***DOXOLOGY 608** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* Hopson

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all people here below; praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune God, whom we adore.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Take all that we offer, Lord, for the work of your church in your world, in the name of your Son who gives his life to save us. Amen.

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

***HYMN 213** *In the Cross of Christ I Glory* RATHBUN

*BENEDICTION

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE** *Peace I Leave with You* Walter Pelz
(Sanctuary Choir)

Peace, peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth give I unto you; my peace I give to you.

POSTLUDE

**Those who are able, please stand.*
CCLI License #11219393

Worship Notes: Cover Artwork: John August Swanson, "Entry into the City," from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. **The Apostles' Creed:** "Although not written by the apostles, the Apostles' Creed reflects the theological formulations of the first century church...In a time when most Christians were illiterate, oral repetition of the Apostles' Creed, along with the Lord's Prayer and the Ten Commandments, helped preserve and transmit the faith of the [church]...By the eighth century, the creed had attained its current form." --from the preface to the Apostles' Creed in the PC(USA) *Book of Confessions*.

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church! We are so glad you are here. You are invited to join us for study, service, education, and fellowship in addition to worship. If you have questions or would like to learn more about this community, please speak with one of the pastors following worship.

Sanctuary Safety—In our ongoing efforts to care for all who work, play, and worship on our campus, we are being intentional about access to buildings throughout the week and on Sundays. All sanctuary doors are locked after worship begins on Sunday mornings, with the exception of the main doors leading to the narthex. Worshipers are free to exit by any of the doors at any time. To re-enter, please come through the doors to the narthex.

Children are always welcome here. We have a wonderful nursery and childcare for infants through preschool each Sunday in the Will Young Building. Worship bags for young children are available in the narthex near the front doors. Please speak with an usher for assistance. In order to comply with our Child Protection policy, we ask that a parent/caregiver accompany children under 12 to the sanctuary restroom.

Offering our Talents, Time, and Treasure: In response to the Good News of God's saving love in Jesus Christ, we are invited to give of ourselves and our resources. If you are seeking ways to share your time and your talents, please speak to one of the pastors. Financial contributions may be placed in the offering plate, or by scanning the QR code on the card in the pew rack, or by texting 704-288-7459.

Large Print Hymnals, printed copies of the sermon, and a hearing assistance system are available. We have an AED Machine in the Narthex. Please speak to an usher for assistance with any of these items.