

First Presbyterian Church



512 Third Street SW

Rochester, Minnesota 55902

Phone 282-1618

Service for the Lord's Day
March 20, 2016
Palm Sunday

8:30 and 11 a.m.

Welcome to worship this morning.

- First Presbyterian Church welcomes families with young children. Staffed nursery care is available during worship. Audio from the worship service can be heard in the library (adjacent to the sanctuary) and social hall.
- If you are visiting because of medical treatment at Mayo Clinic we offer our prayers for healing.
- Our activities and programs are open to all, member and friend alike.
- We invite you to join us for coffee and fellowship in the social hall following the 8:30 service and in the atrium following the 11:00 service.

** As a courtesy to others, please silence cell phones. **

Gathering

Prelude

Let Happy Hosannas Ring!
Alleluia Ringers

Tammy Waldrop

*Our worship begins with the prelude. Let the power of the music speak to you of God's glory;
let its quietness tell you of God's peace; let its beauty lift your hearts in prayer.*

Greeting and Welcome

Please sign the Opportunity for Friendship Register and pass it to the person next to you.

Minute for One Great Hour of Sharing

(8:30) Eileen Hay, (11:00) LaDonna Fay

Minute for Forums@First

Casey Clements

Opening Prayer

Call to Worship

Psalm 118

(8:30) Jane Hallman
(11:00) Mary Huie

"Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord.

This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it.

I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.

The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it."

Let us worship God!

◆ **Hymn 197**

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

ELLACOMBE

You are invited to raise and wave your palm branch during the opening hymn (please remain in your pew), then again when prompted* during the Call to Reconciliation, and finally during the closing hymn and benediction as the spirit moves you. Please feel free to take your palm branch home with you as a reminder of this important day.

◆ Please stand if you are able.

Call to Reconciliation with God (please be seated)

Today Christ enters Jerusalem. There he will suffer betrayal. He will be arrested. He will be beaten. He will be crucified, dead and buried. He will be raised. Let us go with him, united with him in his suffering, that we may share his risen life.

Please join in this unison prayer of preparation for reconciliation:

Saving God, as we come together to begin this holy week, we raise our palm branches* in solidarity with our Savior and Lord. Grant that we who wave our palms to welcome Jesus may follow him as he leads the way into life, into darkness, even into death, trusting Jesus to lead us always to life ...

** raise palms*

Silent Confession

Kyrie



Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have__ mer - cy. Lord, have__ mer - cy on us.

Unison Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you. The lips that sing “Hosanna!” are the same that shout “Crucify!” The hands that wave palm branches are the same that prepare your cross. Forgive us, God of grace. Look upon us with mercy—our lives are in your hands. Save us, by your steadfast love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Words of Life

from Philippians 2

Hear the good news: “Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave ... and became obedient to the point of death – even death on a cross.”

God’s abiding love is given to us in Jesus Christ. His obedience has the power to free us from whatever sin enslaves us. Embracing Him, we let go of all separation from God.

◆ **Gloria Patri**



Glo - ry be to the Fath - er, Glo - ry be to the Son,

Glo - ry be to the Ho - ly Ghost, God, the three - in -

one! As it was in the be - gin - ning, is

now and ev - er shall be, world with-out end,

world with - out end. A - - men.

◆ **Passing of the Peace**

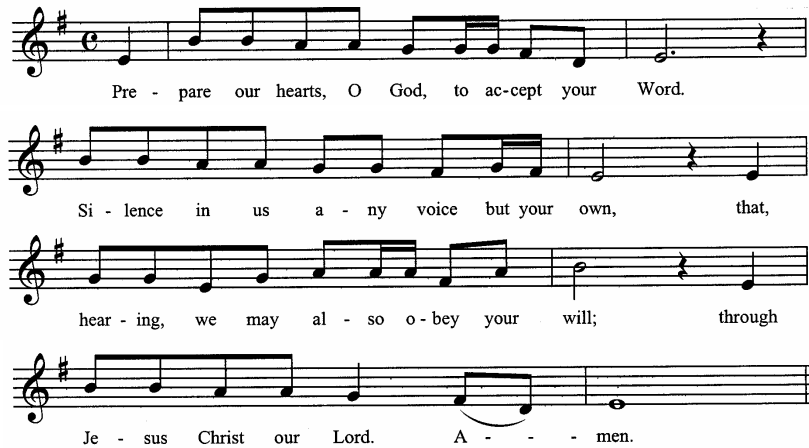
The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Let us share a sign of the peace of Christ with one another!

The Word

Prayer for Illumination



Pre - pare our hearts, O God, to ac-cept your Word.

Si - lence in us a - ny voice but your own, that,

hear - ing, we may al - so o - bey your will; through

Je - sus Christ our Lord. A - - - men.

Reading from the Psalms

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

Anthem (8:30)

Advent Motet
Chancel Choir

Gustav Schreck

Elizabeth Woolner, soprano; Barbara Depman, alto; Michael Cutrer, tenor; Robert Jacobson, bass

Lord Hosanna the Son of David, Blest he that comes in the name of the Lord, Lord Hosanna in the highest!

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(11:00)

Hosanna to the Son of David!
Cherub Choir; Katie Kruger, director

Michael Bedford

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna to the Son of David!
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna, sanna Jesus comes.
Riding on a donkey through the city streets,
Jesus smiles and waves to everyone he meets.
See palm branches waving as the people say,
"Blest is he who comes on this triumphant day!"
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Time for All Our Young Worshippers

Hymn 487 (stanza 1)

These Treasured Children

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

These treasured children present now are bound to us by sacred vow:
with love, we make a heartfelt claim to welcome them in Jesus' name.

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Pass Prayer Cards to the aisle. An usher will collect them.

Children through third grade may go to room E206 for Kids' Zone or are welcome to stay with their parents in worship. Children above third grade should stay in worship.

Reading from the Gospel

Luke 19:28-40

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message

Steadfast Love

Rev. Jay Rowland

** A Moment for Reflection **

Our Response

◆ **Hymn 200**

A Cheering, Chanting, Dizzy Crowd

CHRISTIAN LOVE

◆ **Affirmation of Faith**

from Philippians 2

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 that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer (using 'debts' and 'debtors')

Offertory

(8:30) Festival Sanctus John Leavitt
Chancel Choir

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts, 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.

(11:00) Hosanna, Loud Hosanna Michael Burkhardt

- ◆ **Offertory Response 708** (stanza 1) We Give Thee but Thine Own SCHUMANN
We give Thee but thine own, whate'er the gift may be;
All that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from Thee.

- ◆ **Unison Prayer of Dedication**
Faithful God, your Son Jesus reveals what it means to be a servant leader who trusts you fully. His steadfast obedience to your will cost him dearly. Yet through his amazing self-sacrifice, you bring healing, hope, and peace. During this week, help us to reflect your great love in Christ. Let our words and actions point to your grace. We present our lives and our offerings in praise of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sending

- ◆ **Hymn 198** Ride On! Ride On in Majesty! ST. DROSTANE

- ◆ **Benediction**

- ◆ **Benediction Response**



Postlude Processional William Mathias

Those who wish may be seated for the postlude. Our music is offered to the glory of God; if you want to express your appreciation, a spoken "Amen" or "Praise God" is appropriate.

Some of the service music was written by Lee J Afdahl.



We invite you to share in our Holy Week activities.

Services of Worship

- March 24 Maundy Thursday service of worship and communion at 7 p.m.
- March 25 Ecumenical Good Friday service at noon at First Presbyterian Church
- March 27 Easter Sunday services of worship at 8, 9:30, and 11 a.m.

Child care is provided at all services.

Calendar for the week of March 20 – March 27 (and beyond)

TODAY – March 20 (Palm Sunday)

We thank all who are sharing their ministries in worship today.

The **chancel flowers** are given for the Glory of God by Mary and Mike Harper in memory of Mike's mother, Josie Harper, and Mary's dad, James Bastron.

A **nursery** for infants through 2-year-olds is staffed throughout the morning. We also offer a quiet space for nursing mothers. An usher will be happy to direct you if you don't know where the nursery is located.

Education hour:

- 9:40-10:45: Nursery - preschool (2-years-old)
- 9:40-10:20: Calvin Choir for grades 2-5
- 9:40-10:20: Sunday school for age 3-grade 1
- 9:40-10:45: Sunday school/education hour for grade 6 – adult education
- 10:20-10:50: Cherub Choir for age 4-grade 1
- 10:20-11:00: Sunday school for grade 2-5

Adults:

- 9:40 a.m.: *Current Issues* in Sheldon Jackson lounge ... *Ripped from the Headlines*
- 9:40 a.m.: *Grace-based Parenting Class* in room A-101 will continue with *Building Character*. All current and future parents and grandparents are welcome.
- 9:40 a.m.: *Kerygma Bible Study* in south fireside room ... *Matthew*

Chancel Choir rehearses at 9:45 a.m.

MONDAY – March 21

Esther Circle will meet at 1 p.m. in the lounge.

WEDNESDAY – March 23

Wednesday Activities	
4:15	Alleluia Ringers (grades 2-5)
5:00	Youth Choir (grades 6-12)
5:45	Supper (suggested donation \$4/person or \$10 max/family)
6:15	Middle School youth group (grades 6-8)
6:15	Senior High youth group (grades 9-12)
6:30	Lenten Bible study " <i>The Way: Walking in the Footsteps of Jesus</i> " led by Rev. Parlette.
7:15	Joyous Praise handbells (grades 6-12)

THURSDAY – March 24 (Maundy Thursday)

Jubilate Deo rehearses at 6 p.m.

Maundy Thursday service of worship and communion at 7 p.m.

One Great Hour of Sharing will be received.

Your gifts support the Presbyterian Hunger Program, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, and the Self-Development of People. You may contribute to One Great Hour of Sharing through April.

Chancel Choir rehearses at 8 p.m.

FRIDAY – March 25 (Good Friday)

Ecumenical **Good Friday service** from noon – 1 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church.

SATURDAY – March 26

Easter Egg Event. Join us from 9:30-10:30 a.m. for FPC's annual Easter Egg Event! Please make sure kids bring their own baskets to fill with candy and prizes and bring their own hard boiled eggs to dye!

SUNDAY – March 27 (Easter)

Worship at 8, 9:30, and 11 a.m.

Easter Brunch Returns! Join us between 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. on Easter Sunday for the annual Easter Brunch! No reservations are necessary. A freewill offering will be taken for Feed My Starving Children with which the youth group will volunteer in June.

No Sunday School or choir rehearsals on Easter Sunday. Chancel Choir will sing at all services and Calvin Choir will sing at the 9:30 a.m. service,

MONDAY – March 28

The church office will be closed.

TUESDAY – March 29

Forums@First at 7 p.m. See page 6.

WEDNESDAY – March 30

All Wednesday activities will meet as usual.

THURSDAY – March 31

Deadline for church office to receive donations for Minnesota FoodShare/Channel One for this year.

For Your Information

Celebrate our Easter Garden with a donation of \$15. To contribute, put your check (note for Easter flowers) in the offering plate or mail it to the church office. After Easter services the Deacons will deliver the plants to our C.A.R.E. members.

March is **Minnesota FoodShare** month. This annual drive raises one-half the food that is distributed through Channel One during the year. Your nonperishable food donations can go in the barrel in the atrium or write a check to the church and designate it for "Channel One." Envelopes are in the pew racks.

Turn your old blue jeans into Hope! FPC youth are collecting used **denim** jeans to use at a Sole Hope shoe cutting party April 24. Sole Hope provides closed-toe shoes and the medical care to remove parasites from the feet of Ugandan children. At the party we'll cut and bundle denim "uppers" that will be shipped to shoemakers in Uganda who will add the soles and complete the shoes.

The **Spring Gathering of Presbyterian Women** of the Twin Cities Area will be held at Westminster Presbyterian Church, Austin, on April 23. PW will pay the registration, which includes lunch, for all who can attend. Please register with Peg Parsons by April 13. We will hear from our Synod representative about the Global Exchange to the Caribbean and hear about the successful integration of refugees in Austin.

Rummage Sale alert. Due to scheduling conflicts the Presbyterian Women's rummage sale has been rescheduled to April 30! This will allow you to get a little more spring cleaning done and empty some closets. You can start bringing items to the church April 18.

Among Our Church Family

We extend our congratulations to Daniel Moore, who will celebrate his 90th birthday March 21.

**SAVE THE DATE
VBS @ FPC – June 13-17**

+ + + + +

Forums@First – Tuesday, March 29, 7 p.m.

DYING IN THE AGE OF MODERN HEALTHCARE

*"For everything there is a season, and a time for everything under heaven:
a time to be born, and a time to die."
(Ecclesiastes 3:1-2)*

In the book "Works of Benjamin Franklin," Mr. Franklin wrote in 1817: "In this world nothing can be said to be certain, except death and taxes." It is in this season of Lent and Easter (as well as taxes) that we reflect on the death and glorious resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. However, we are less likely to reflect on our own mortality. Rather, we typically avoid such thoughts in our present society as being too depressing as we don't want to think about losing our loved ones, nor are we necessarily prepared or wanting to leave this earthly existence and enter into the presence of our Lord.

On Tuesday, March 29, the F.P.C. Social Concerns Committee will present the next Forums @ First at 7 p.m. here at F.P.C. Those presenting will include professionals (hospitalists, physicians, chaplains, an attorney) that will address issues and concerns of dying in the modern health care environment. For example, did you know:

- * that 85% of the elderly will "not" be able to speak for themselves at the time of their death;
- * that the cardiac arrest survival rate of someone in their 80's is 3.3%;
- * that research shows that as Americans approach death their greatest fears are of (a) potential pain; (b) the loss of dignity; and (c) the feeling of total dependence on family to care for them.

Please join us for an evening of enriching discussions and presentations as we address these and multiple other concerns we each have (e.g., how to have those conversations with family members and your health care professionals). Resources will be available to all those attending. The issues are not for just the elderly but for all ages. The presentation will allow for and encourage audience participation. Bring family, bring friends and neighbors.

"Faith In Action"
Social Concerns Committee, First Presbyterian Church

About Our Church

Rev. Thomas J. (T.J.) Parlette, Pastor
Rev. Jay P. Rowland, Associate Pastor
Lee J. Afdahl, Director of Music/Organist
Rick L. Morris, Coordinator of Youth and Christian Education
Kathleen M. Kruger, Music Assistant
Susan K. Kruger, Office Administrator
Harry E. Coleman, Facility Manager
Diane M. Johnston-Arthur, Custodian
Child Care staff: Valerie Asleson, Kelly Bock, Margie SchAAF
Security and custodial personnel: Steven Aug, Sally Evans, Sue Kruger, Tami Rinn, Eric Schwartzbauer
Office hours: Monday-Thursday (7:30 a.m.-4 p.m.); Friday (7:30 a.m.-3 p.m.); Saturday (9:30 a.m.-noon)

First Presbyterian Church; 512 SW Third Street / Rochester, MN 55902
507/282-1618; rochesterfpc@msn.com; www.fpcrochester.org

*The mission of First Presbyterian Church of Rochester
is to reflect God's love for all people by proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ.*

Member: Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)