



First Presbyterian Church
FOR CHRIST IN THE HEART OF KNOXVILLE 

“For Christ in the Heart of Knoxville,” the First Presbyterian Church seeks

- *to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ*
- *to nurture those within its influence*
- *to serve spiritual and human needs*

LEADERS IN WORSHIP

The Rev. Mark R. Curtis, Senior Pastor

The Rev. Meredith Loftis, Associate Pastor

Mr. Mark Pace, Organist/Choirmaster

Mr. Alex McGavic, Children and Youth Ministries Coordinator

Max Pittenger, Crucifer

Daniel Curtis, Bible Bearer

ORDER OF WORSHIP
PALM/PASSION SUNDAY

APRIL 10, 2022

✧ THE PREPARATION OF GOD'S PEOPLE ✧

PRELUDE

Lenten Medley
Adult Handbells

Arr. Lloyd Larson

WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Luke 19:29-40

When Jesus had come near Bethpage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives...
... the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God
joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying,

“Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord!

Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!”

Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, order your disciples to stop.” Jesus answered, “I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out.

† OPENING HYMN 196

All Glory, Laud, and Honor (vv.1-3)

Valet Will Ich Dir Geben

Refrain [Wave your palms as we sing]:

All glory, laud, and honor
to thee, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children
made sweet hosannas ring!

1. Thou art the King of Israel,
Thou David's royal Son,
Who in the Lord's name comest,
The King and blessed One. [Refrain]

2. The people of the Hebrews
With palms before thee went;
Our praise and prayers and anthems
Before thee we present. [Refrain]

3. To thee, before thy passion,
They sang their hymns of praise;
To thee, now high exalted,
Our melody we raise. [Refrain]

† PRAYER OF ADORATION

**O Lord Jesus Christ,
on this day you received the worship
of those who hailed you as their King:
Accept our praise and adoration, our worship and love;
and grant that we, who now confess you with our lips,
may never fail to serve you with our lives,
for we pray in Christ's name. Amen.**

† RESPONSE 196

All Glory, Laud, and Honor (v. 4)

Valet Will Ich Dir Geben

Refrain [Wave your palms as we sing]:

All glory, laud, and honor
to thee, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children
made sweet hosannas ring!

4. Thou didst accept their praises;
Accept the prayers we bring,
Who in all good delightest,
Thou good and gracious King! [Refrain]

† PASSING OF THE PEACE

✠ THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD ✠

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Psalm 118:19-29

Louis Becker

Open to me the gates of righteousness,
that I may enter through them
and give thanks to the LORD.
20 This is the gate of the LORD;
the righteous shall enter through it.
21 I thank you that you have answered me
and have become my salvation.
22 The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.
23 This is the LORD's doing;
it is marvelous in our eyes.
24 This is the day that the LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.
25 Save us, we beseech you, O LORD!
O LORD, we beseech you, give us success!
26 Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD.
We bless you from the house of the LORD.
27 The LORD is God,
and he has given us light.
Bind the festal procession with branches,
up to the horns of the altar.
28 You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;
you are my God, I will extol you.
29 O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever.

ANTHEM

Lift Up Your Heads

George F. Handel

*Lift up your heads, O ye gates, and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors, and the King of Glory shall come in!
Who is this King of Glory? The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle.
Lift up your heads, O ye gates, and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors, and the King of Glory shall come in!
Who is this King of Glory? The Lord of Hosts, He is the King of Glory.*

SPECIAL TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

SERMON

“A Terror-ible Week”

Rev. Mark R. Curtis

✠ THE RESPONSE OF GOD'S PEOPLE ✠

THE PASSION NARRATIVE (responsive)

Luke 22:66-23:46

When day came, the assembly of the elders of the people, both chief priests and scribes, gathered together, and they brought Jesus to their council. They said,

“If you are the Messiah, tell us.”

“If I tell you, you will not believe; and if I question you, you will not answer. But from now on the Son of Man will be seated at the right hand of the power of God.”

“Are you, then, the Son of God?”

“You say that I am.”

“What further testimony do we need?

We have heard it ourselves from his own lips!”

Then the assembly rose as a body and brought Jesus before Pilate. They began to accuse him, saying,

“We found this man perverting our nation, forbidding us to pay taxes to the emperor, and saying that he himself is the Messiah, a king.”

Then Pilate asked him, “Are you the king of the Jews?”

“You say so.”

Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds, “I find no basis for an accusation against this man.”

But they were insistent and said,

“He stirs up the people by teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee where he began even to this place.”

When Pilate heard this, he asked whether the man was a Galilean. And when he learned that he was under Herod’s jurisdiction, he sent him off to Herod, who was himself in Jerusalem at that time. When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad, for he had been wanting to see him for a long time, because he had heard about him and was hoping to see him perform some sign. He questioned him at some length, but Jesus gave him no answer. The chief priests and the scribes stood by, vehemently accusing him. Even Herod with his soldiers treated him with contempt and mocked him; then Herod put an elegant robe on him, and sent him back to Pilate. That same day Herod and Pilate became friends with each other; before this they had been enemies.

HYMN 228

Were You There? (vv. 1 & 2)

Were You There

1. Were you there when they crucified my Lord? (Were you there?)
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
O! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they crucified my Lord? (Were you there?)
2. Were you there when they nailed him to the tree? (Were you there?)
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
O! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree? (Were you there?)

Pilate then called together the chief priests, the leaders, and the people, and said to them, “You brought me this man as one who was perverting the people; and here I have examined him in your presence and have not found this man guilty of any of your charges against him. Neither has Herod, for he sent him back to us. Indeed, he has done nothing to deserve death. I will therefore have him flogged and release him.” Then they all shouted out together,

“Away with this fellow! Release Barabbas for us!”

(This was a man who had been put in prison for an insurrection that had taken place in the city, and for murder.) Pilate, wanting to release Jesus, addressed them again; but they kept shouting,

“Crucify! Crucify him!”

A third time Pilate said to them, “Why, what evil has he done? I have found in him no ground for the sentence of death; I will therefore have him flogged and then release him.” But they kept urgently demanding with loud shouts that he should be crucified; and their voices prevailed. So Pilate gave his verdict that their demand should be granted. He released the man they asked for, the one who had been put in prison for insurrection and murder, and he handed Jesus over as they wished. As they led Jesus away, they seized a man, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming from the country, and they laid the cross on him, and made him carry it behind Jesus.

HYMN 221

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

Passion Chorale

1. O sacred head, now wounded,
With grief and shame weighed down;
Now scornfully surrounded
With thorns, thine only crown;
O sacred head, what glory,
What bliss till now was thine!
Yet, though despised and gory,
I joy to call thee mine.
2. What thou, my Lord, hast suffered
Was all for sinners' gain:
Mine, mine was the transgression,
But thine the deadly pain.
Lo, here I fall, my Savior!
'Tis I deserve thy place;
Look on me with thy favor,
And grant to me thy grace.
3. What language shall I borrow
To thank thee, dearest friend,
For this thy dying sorrow,
Thy pity without end?
O make me thine forever;
And should I fainting be,
Lord, let me never, never
Outlive my love to thee.

Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death. When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying,

"He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, God's chosen one!"

The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying,

"If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!"

There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews." One of the criminals who was hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."

"Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

HYMN 227

Jesus, Remember Me

Remember Me

Jesus, remember me when You come into Your kingdom. (Sing 4 times.)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Meredith Loftis

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.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

You may place your offering in the offering plates when they are passed or you are invited to mail in your tithes and offerings to the church office or give online at www.fpcknox.org/donate.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

My Eternal King

Jane Marshall

My God, I love Thee; not because I hope for heav'n thereby, nor yet because who love Thee not must die eternally. Thou, O my Jesus, Thou didst me upon the cross embrace; for me didst bear the nails, the nails and spear, and manifold disgrace. Why, then why, O blessed Jesus Christ, should I not love Thee well? Not for the hope of winning heav'n, or of escaping hell; not with the hope of gaining aught, not seeking a reward; but as Thyself hast loved me, O ever-loving Lord! E'en so I love Thee, and will love, and in Thy praise will sing; Solely because Thou art my God, and my Eternal King.

It was now about noon and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, while the sun's light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit."

HYMN 216

Beneath the Cross of Jesus (vv. 1 & 2)

St. Christopher

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Beneath the cross of Jesus
I fain would take my stand,
The shadow of a mighty rock
Within a weary land;
A home within the wilderness,
A rest upon the way,
From the burning of the noontide heat,
And the burden of the day. | 2. Upon the cross of Jesus
Mine eye at times can see
The very dying form of One
Who suffered there for me;
And from my stricken heart with tears
Two wonders I confess:
The wonders of redeeming love
And my unworthiness. |
|--|---|

LITANY OF CONFESSION (responsive)

Beneath the cross of Jesus, we acknowledge our unworthiness and our sin.

Like the crowd long ago, our allegiance is fickle.

**We welcome you with a show of palms one moment
only to turn our backs on you the next.**

We open our mouths to join the multitudes in praise:

"Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest!"

"Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!"

But before the cries have rung through the streets, we are shouting again:

"Crucify him! Give us Barabbas!"

"If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!"

(a moment of silence)

Beneath your cross, O Jesus, we acknowledge our unworthiness and our sin.

Like the crowd long ago, our commitment is shallow.

We proclaim you Lord of our lives today, and forget you tomorrow.

Merciful God, forgive us. As you have journeyed with us throughout our lives, so give us the courage to accompany you through this holy week. Through your sacrifice of wondrous love, remind us of your redeeming grace, so that we would in turn reflect your life in our words and in our actions.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy. Amen.

† **DECLARATION OF PARDON** 215 *What Wondrous Love*

Wondrous Love

1. What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,
what wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul!
2. When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,
when I was sinking down, sinking down,
when I was sinking down beneath God's righteous frown,
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul, for my soul,
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul!
3. To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing,
to God and to the Lamb, I will sing;
to God and to the Lamb who is the great I AM,
while millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing;
while millions join the theme, I will sing!
4. And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on;
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on;
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be,
and through eternity, I'll sing on, I'll sing on;
and through eternity, I'll sing on.

† **DEPART IN PEACE**

There is no benediction offered on Palm Sunday; the service continues on Maundy Thursday.

† - *Please stand if you are able.*

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

- Thurs, April 14** Maundy Thursday Dinner and Service, 5:30 p.m.
- Fri, April 15** Stations of the Cross, 5:30 p.m. in Market Square
- Sun, April 4th** **Easter Sunday**
7:00 a.m. Sunrise Service on the Turnip Patch Deck
9:30-10:30 a.m. Easter Brunch
9:45 Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Flowering of the Cross
10:45 a.m. Prelude
11:00 a.m. Worship Service in Sanctuary and by Livestream
12:15 Easter Egg Hunt



EASTER FLOWERS



Much as Spring bursts forth with the beauty of nature's renewal, we celebrate Christ's resurrection this Easter. If you would like to make a floral donation in memory or honor of a loved one, a dedication gift of \$20.00 per name is suggested. Please indicate if your gift request is a memorial or an honorarium gift, the name of the recipient, and how you would like the "given by" to be printed. **The deadline for your gift(s) inclusion in the insert is April 11th by NOON.**

IN MEMORY OF: _____

IN HONOR OF: _____

GIVEN BY: _____
