



First Presbyterian Church

Watertown, NY + www.watertownfirstpres.org

Palm Sunday

April 10, 2022 + 10:00 a.m.



*When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked,
“Who is this?”*

The crowds answered,

“This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee.”

- Matthew 21:10-11

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church!

This is the day the Lord has made, we will rejoice and be glad in it! Whether you are visiting First Presbyterian Church for the first time, or are a longtime member or friend, your presence today is a blessing to our community!

Three very important commitments guide our lives together at First Presbyterian Church: *worship*, *mission* and *discipleship*. In worship we commune with God and with one another, sing and pray, and measure our lives according to God's Word. Through mission, both local and international, we live out Jesus' call to 'feed my sheep' and serve the least.' In study, prayer, and community, we develop as life-long disciples of Jesus, working for a more peaceful and just world.

Following worship, please stick around for fellowship time. Enjoy a cup of coffee. Spend time in the sanctuary in prayer. Introduce yourself to me and your fellow worshippers. We're glad you're here!

Pastor Andrew
(410) 916-1673 + andrew.long1085@gmail.com

If you are new here, please fill out the card in the pew and place it in the offering plate, so that we can get to know you better.

Hearing help is available during all worship services - please see an usher for assistance.

Sunday School will not be held this Sunday or next Sunday. Sunday School will resume on Sunday, April 24th for children through middle school.

Nursery Care is available for children to age 4 during all worship Services. You can find the nursery in the education wing of the building. A restroom and quiet room can be found in the narthex.

If you are in need of prayer, please see our Pastor before or after worship, or write your prayer requests in the green book at the front of the sanctuary (by the flags).

A Word About Today's Service from Pastor Andrew

It is a custom in many church traditions to read the Passion Narrative of Jesus on Sunday. The Passion Narrative is a 'patchwork' of passages taken from the four gospels, narrating the final days of our Savior's life on earth. In the church where I grew up, the Passion Narrative was produced like a stage drama, with different congregants 'playing' the parts of Pilate, the disciples, and the Pharisees and Sadducees; the whole congregation would read in unison the parts of the story where the crowd shouts, "Crucify him!" It was always very impactful, as we literally entered into the narrative of our salvation.

Over the years, I've come to learn that God's people learn about, listen to, and experience God in many different ways. To honor the various ways we commune with God, I wrote this service as a way to honor the traditions of Palm Sunday while also making room for new practices and moments of reflection. Instead of simply reading the Passion Narrative today, we will act it out in word, song, prose, and prayer. This service takes us from palms to passion, with a brief look at the triumph of Easter, before leading us solemnly into Holy Week. And we'll see, as we do each Sunday, the breadth of talent and gifts that God has blessed us with in this congregation.

I pray that today's worship experience enriches you and our community as we go with Jesus to the cross and the empty tomb!



Gathering



Gathering Music

Were You There When They Crucified My Lord?
 Hosanna, Loud Hosanna
 Ah, Holy Jesus, How Hast Thou Offended?
 Christ, We Do All Adore Thee

A.L. Page
 John Carter
 Dale Wood
 Théodore Dubois

Chiming The Hour of Worship

Pastor's Greeting *and* Words of Welcome



Palms



Reading Matthew 21:1-11

***Processional Hymn (see insert)** “The Palms”

***Opening Prayer**

Anthem “What Wondrous Love Is This”
 FPC Bell Choir

arr. Dobrinski



A New Commandment



Reading John 13:1-5, 31b-35

Organ Voluntary

Pièce héroïque

César Franck

Prayer *from Guerillas of Grace*, by Ted Loder

Praise be to you, O lord for life

and for my intense desire to live;

praise be to you for the mystery of love

and for my intense desire to be a lover;

praise be to you for this day

and for another chance to live and love.

Thank you, Lord,
**for friends who stake their claim in my heart,
for enemies who disturb my soul and bump my ego,
for tuba players,
and story tellers,
and trapeze troupes.**

Thank you, Lord,
**or singers of songs,
for teachers of songs,
who help me sing along the way,
and for listeners.**

Thank you, Lord,
for those who attempt beauty
rather than curse ugliness,
for those who take stands rather than take polls,
for those who risk being right
rather than pandering to be liked,
for those who do something
rather than talking about everything.

**Lord, grant me grace, then,
and a portion of your spirit
that I may so live
as to give others cause
to be thankful for me,
thankful because I have not forgotten
how to hope,
how to laugh,
how to say, "I'm sorry,"
how to forgive,
how to bind up wounds,**

**how to dream,
how to cry,
how to pray,
how to love when it is hard.
and how to dare when it is dangerous.**

Love us, Lord,
that praise may flow more easily from us than wants,
thanks more readily than complaints.

Praise be to you, Lord, for life;
praise be to you for another chance to live. Amen.



The Last Supper



Reading Mark 14:12-16, 22-26

Anthem *For Everyone Born* arr. Tom Trenney

*For everyone born, a place at the table,
for everyone born, clean water and bread,
a shelter; a space, a safe place for growing,
for everyone born, a star overhead,
and God will delight when we are creators
of justice and joy, compassion and peace:
yes, God will delight when we are creators
of justice, justice and joy!*

*For woman and man, a place at the table,
revising the roles, deciding the share,
with wisdom and grace, dividing the power,
for woman and man, a system that's fair,
and God will delight when we are creators
of justice and joy, compassion and peace:
yes, God will delight when we are creators
of justice, justice and joy!*

*For young and for old, a place at the table,
a voice to be heard, a part in the song,
the hands of a child in hands that are wrinkled,
for young and for old, the right to belong,
and God will delight when we are creators
of justice and joy, compassion and peace:
yes, God will delight when we are creators
of justice, justice and joy!*

*For just and unjust, a place at the table,
abuser, abused, with need to forgive,
in anger, in hurt, a mindset of mercy,
for just and unjust, a new way to live,
and God will delight when we are creators
of justice and joy, compassion and peace:
yes, God will delight when we are creators
of justice, justice and joy!*

*For everyone born, a place at the table,
to live without fear, and simply to be,
to work, to speak out, to witness and worship,
for everyone born, the right to be free,
and God will delight when we are creators
of justice and joy, compassion and peace:
yes, God will delight when we are creators
of justice, justice and joy!*

Prayer

Let us pray...God, our help and strength you have satisfied our hunger with the Eucharistic food of Christ's body and blood. Strengthen our faith, that through the death and resurrection of your Son we may be led to salvation, for he is Lord now and forever. Amen.



Abandonment



Reading Mark 14:26, 32-42

Special Music *How Deep The Father's Love For Us*
Dave and Angela Elmer, soloists

Towend

*How deep the Father's love for us
How vast beyond all measure
That He should give His only Son
To make a wretch His treasure
How great the pain of searing loss
The Father turns His face away
As wounds which mar the Chosen One
Bring many sons to glory
Behold the man upon a cross
My sin upon His shoulders
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice
Call out among the scoffers
It was my sin that held Him there
Until it was accomplished
His dying breath has brought me life
I know that it is finished
I will not boast in anything
No gifts, no power, no wisdom
But I will boast in Jesus Christ
His death and resurrection
Why should I gain from His reward?
I cannot give an answer
But this I know with all my heart
His wounds have paid my ransom*

Prayer by Ruth Harvey, Iona Community

Let us pray... **Sweet Jesus, forgive us when we have been betrayers—when we have colluded with the powers of evil to hurt others, to harm the ones we care about.**

Sweet Jesus, loving Christ, cradle us when we have been betrayed—rock us in your soft arms—arms that have known hurt beyond our imagining.

Hold us secure to your bosom, caressing the pain and the fear, the guilt and the anger until it lifts like a gentle cloud from our souls and we can breathe once more. Amen.



Betrayal and Arrest



Reading Luke 22:47-53

*Hymn #314 "What Wondrous Love Is This?" sts. 1-3



Passion



Reading Matthew 26:57, 27:1-2, 11-14

Hymn "Within Our Darkest Night"

The musical score is written in G major, 3/4 time, with a tempo of 63. It consists of three staves of music. The first staff begins with a piano (*p*) dynamic and features chords B, Em, and D. The lyrics are: "With - in our dark-est night, you kin - dle the fire that nev - er dies a -". The second staff starts with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic, followed by a forte (*f*) and then piano (*p*) dynamic. Chords include G, C, G, D, G, Em, C, and Am. The lyrics are: "way, nev - er dies a - way. With - in our dark - est night, you kin - dle the". The third staff continues with piano (*pp*) dynamics and chords B, Em, Am, B, Em, Am, and B. It concludes with a *fine* marking. The lyrics are: "fire that nev - er dies a - way, nev - er dies a - way. With - in our dark - est".

Reading Matthew 27:24-26

Hymn "Within Our Darkest Night"

Reading John 19:16-22

Hymn "Within Our Darkest Night"

Musical score for the hymn "Within Our Darkest Night". The score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). The tempo is marked as quarter note = 63. The score consists of three staves of music. The first staff begins with a piano (*p*) dynamic and features a melodic line with lyrics: "With - in our dark-est night, you kin - dle the fire that nev - er dies a -". The second staff continues the melody with lyrics: "way, nev - er dies a - way. With - in our dark-est night, you kin - dle the". The third staff concludes the piece with lyrics: "fire that nev - er dies a - way, nev - er dies a - way. With - in our dark - est". The score includes various dynamics such as *mf*, *f*, *pp*, and *fine*, along with chord symbols (B, Em, C, G, D, Am) and a fermata over the final chord.

Reading John 19:23-30

Hymn "Within Our Darkest Night"

A time of silence is kept

...I simply argue that the cross be raised again at the centre of the market place as well as on the steeple of the church. I am recovering the claim that Jesus was not crucified in a cathedral between two candles, but on a cross between two thieves; on the town garbage heap; at a crossroad so cosmopolitan that they had to write his title in Hebrew and in Latin and in Greek (or shall we say English, Xhosa and in Afrikaans?) at the kind of place where cynics talk smut, and thieves curse, and soldiers gamble.

Because that is where he died. And that is what he died about...

– George MacLeod



Honor to the Lamb



Reading Colossians 1:15-20 and Revelation 7:9-17

Organ and Piano Voluntary “Shout to the Lord”
Zschech and Raney

*Shout to the Lord all the earth, let us sing;
Power and majesty, praise to the King.
Mountains bow down and seas will roar
at the sound of your name.*

*I sing for joy for the work of your hands
forever I'll worship, forever I'll stand;
Nothing compares to the promise I have in you.*

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Blessing the 40 Day/ 40 Can Collection

***Closing Hymn #45** “Crown Him With Many Crowns”

All: sts. 1, 2, 4

Choir: st. 3



Holy Week Begins



Benediction

From Hosanna to Horror, the Only Road to Easter by Ann Weems

Balloons maybe.
If Jesus were coming here,
maybe we'd line up on either side of his parade
route,
and wave balloons as he passed.
Back and forth ... a multitude of colors,
and we'd probably shout Yeah! instead of
Hosanna,
and we'd hold up homemade posters saying,
“Welcome, Jesus!”
and as he passed by ... probably in one of those
bubble-top cars

because the FBI would not want to be left out of this one ...
On the other hand maybe he'd refuse and ride
that
donkey after all
or maybe even walk down the middle of the road
with
balloons bobbing
as he walked, he'd wave to us and bless us.
And we'd follow, and follow, and follow.
What a celebration! What a Festival of Faith that
would be!
And when the parade passed by, we'd finally go
home,
and look forward to the celebration next Sunday.

But what about Holy Week?
The days lengthen
the pear tree flowers white outside my kitchen
window
In the mysterious Lenten mix of lament and hope
the
taunting, blood-splattered
face of war screams into our lives,
and we are tempted to despair.

The TV bleeds and explodes
and the unspeakably obscene inhumanity of war
blares into our ears and our hearts -
and we turn and run.

Into a wall
- the same wall we visit each Lent -
trying to get around a Gate called Truth,

trying to go from Palm Sunday
straight to Easter morning,
trying to keep from going into that courtyard
where we must answer whether we know him or not,
trying to keep from going anywhere near that cross.
So give us the palms and give us a parade,
but O God, whisk us right from Palm Sunday
to that “great getting-up morning.”
Have our Easter baskets filled and waiting for us,
O God, because this year we’re tired and we’re scared
and we just want a little peace and quiet.

And so we turn and run
or we kneel and pray for mercy and for miracles
and the eyes to see this Jesus
named Emmanuel,
the eyes to see that God is with us.

Postlude *Prelude in C#-minor* Sergio Rachmaninoff

Rachmaninoff wrote the C#-minor prelude when he was only 19 years old, and it foreshadows the emotional depth of Rachmaninoff's immortal contributions to classical music. It has been said that this prelude expresses the entirety of Kubler-Ross' Stages of Grief: denial, anger, bargaining, depression, and acceptance. May it lead us with courage into a week in our walk with Jesus where horror leads to hope!

Passing the Peace of Christ

The Peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Please safely share some sign of
Christ's peace with your neighbor.

Leading in Worship Today:

Marcia Ketrick, Heather White, Katie Burgoon Long, and
William Gerot, liturgists
Sara Gleason, choir director
Carl Bingle, organ
Pastor Andrew, piano
Dave & Angela Elmer, soloists
FPC's Chancel Choir
FPC's Bell Choir

Community and Congregational Care

We Pray For...

Shirley, Kevin & Alicia, Becky, Linda, John, Tyler & Rochelle, Josh L.,
Grace, Sam & Ruth, Mary, Tom, Linda & Ken, Shane, Ed, Millie, Gerda,
Annie, Saranac Lake First Presbyterian Church, NNY Presbytery, Synod of
The Northeast, the sick, all essential workers, students & teachers, medical
professionals, all serving in the military, peace & justice, all people in
positions of power & leadership.

Happy Birthday to...

4/10 Charles Kimball
4/10 Malory Green Saki
4/11 Scott Green
4/13 Michael Green
4/14 Bunny Gorman

First Presbyterian is blessed to provide space for several
community-based ministries and programs. All are open to members of the
church and community and meet on the following days:

Al-Anon, 6:30 p.m., Tuesdays, Fellowship Hall
Special Religious Education, 6:30 p.m., Tuesdays, Chapel
Alcoholics Anonymous - First Watertown Group, 8:00 p.m.,



Holy Week Worship Schedule

MAUNDY THURSDAY, April 14th

7:30pm Tenebrae and Holy Communion

A Tenebrae is a worship service of gradually lighting and then gradually extinguishing candles as a symbol of Jesus' coming into and being taken from the world. This service will recall the events of the first Last Supper, and will include the sacrament for us to share together. The service ends in almost complete darkness as Good Friday begins.

GOOD FRIDAY, April 15th

Community Good Friday/Stations of The Cross, 9-12

Meet at St Patrick's Church at 8:45 a.m.

12:30pm The Seven Last Words of Christ

A quiet service of readings, silence, and reflection, held in FPC's Sanctuary during the time when Jesus was crucified. This service will remember Jesus' final words.

EASTER SUNDAY, April 17th

6:20 a.m. Sunrise Service at Thompson Park Pinnacle

8:30am Morning Spoken Prayer and Holy Communion

This service will be held, weather permitting, on FPC's labyrinth.

9:00am Come and Go Easter Brunch, Fellowship Hall

10:00am Morning Worship with Molto Brass and Choir

After worship - Easter Egg Hunt

A PRAYER FOR HOLY WEEK

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 into your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.



The Palm Sunday **Radio Broadcast** is a gift in honor of our choirs and music staff, who add so much beauty to our worship during this Holy Season, and throughout the year.

This service is being broadcast over radio station **WATN 1240**,
Facebook: **www.facebook.com/watertownfpc**, and
Livestreamed from our website: **www.watertownfirstpres.org**



Donations can be made by either scanning the QR code from the Venmo app or by searching for **@First_Pres_of_Watertown**.