

GATHERING

*I rise, O God, awakened by your Word, to live another day. Lead me in your path. Show me the steps to take toward greater faith. Hold me in your care as I move through this Holy Week where the shadows deepen even in the daylight.
Hosanna! Save me now, dear God! In Jesus' name, Amen.*

WORDS OF WELCOME

PRELUDE

Ride On, King Jesus

M. Hogan

Ride on, King Jesus, ride on. No man can ahinder thee. I was but young when I begun. No man can ahinder thee. But now my race is almost done. No man can ahinder thee. Ride on, King Jesus, ride on, the conquerin' King. King Jesus rides on a milk white horse. No man can ahinder thee. The ribber of Jordan he did cross. No man can ahinder thee. He's the King, and the Lord of all. He's the first and the last. He's the Lord of Lords. Jesus is the Prince of peace. Ride on, King Jesus, ride on. Ride on, Jesus!

* **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Awake to the day of triumph for our Savior!

Give thanks for this day that leads to the cross!

Come with your branches, hosannas, and songs! Fill the air with welcome to the Lord!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

* **HYMN 196**

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

CONFESSION AND PARDON

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, sure of your faithfulness even in your dying, comforted by your compassion toward your people in every age, we beg your mercy for our imperfect gratitude. We have looked to you for paltry favors, when you have given everything. We have withheld from your people and our neighbors, the care and tending they deserve. We have rejected the cornerstone you sent to build a people of righteousness even here, today. Forgive our failings. Heal what we have broken, nurture what we have neglected, and lead us to your vision, so that we may know the peace of wholeness in you. Now, O Lord, transform us as we continue our confession in silence.

KYRIE (Hymn 551)

Lord, Have Mercy

LAND OF REST

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy upon us.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Friends, Believe the Good News of the Gospel.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Psalms 118:19-29 (NRSV)

This is the Word of the Lord.

OT pg. 565

Thanks be to God.

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES (11 A.M.)

Sarah Whitfield

(Afterward, children in kindergarten through 2nd grade are dismissed to Kids-4-God.)

* **HYMN 197**

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

ELLACOMBE

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 21:1-11 (NRSV)

This is the Word of the Lord.

NT pg. 23

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Palm Sunday

Rev. Mark Hults

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

RESPONDING

* **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

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; on 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.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Sanctus

C. Gounod

Dr. Christopher Pfund, tenor

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts. Heaven and earth are full of thy glory. Hosanna in the highest.

* **DOXOLOGY**

Hymn 606

*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.*

* **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.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION (8:30 A.M.)

(Gluten-Free Bread)

SENDING

* **HYMN 221**

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

PASSION CHORALE

* **BENEDICTION**

* **POSTLUDE**

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

J. Brahms

TODAY IN WORSHIP

WORSHIP LEADERS: Jonathon Haney, Mark Hults, Fred Lundy, Sarah Whitfield

ACOLYTE: Linden Greer

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC & ORGANIST: Mitch Rorick

COLLABORATIVE PIANIST: Anait Piloyan

CHANCEL CHOIR

CHAPEL USHER: Margaret Lingg; **SANCTUARY USHERS:** Roger Bachmann, Paul Bennett, Matthew Morse, Carol Turner

A/V TEAM: Kaylee Bleeker, Frank Counts, Kimberly de Fretes, Jack Harling

THE EASTER OFFERING this week and next week will go to St. Francis House, whose mission is still to create new futures for those most in need in our community. After many years of serving people experiencing homelessness, St. Francis House has made the difficult decision to close several programs due to economic conditions and decreased funding. However, the Transitional Housing Program at Arbor House will remain open, where they will continue supporting women and families with children as they work toward permanent housing, stability, and brighter futures. *"We are incredibly grateful to the volunteers, donors, partners, and community members who have supported St. Francis House over the years. Your compassion has helped thousands of women, children, and families find safety, meals, support, and hope. We remain hopeful about what lies ahead and are actively exploring opportunities for the future."* Use the Easter Offering envelope in the pew or mail a check to the church. Please write 'Easter Offering' on the memo line. Thank you for your continued generosity.

TODAY IS PALM/PASSION SUNDAY. The prelude through offertory focus on Palm Sunday, and the sending hymn and postlude point towards the passion, the suffering and crucifixion of Jesus Christ. The prelude, "Ride On, King Jesus," is an African American spiritual that is fitting for Palm Sunday as a commemoration of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem. The gathering hymn, "All Glory, Laud, and Honor," hymn of the day, "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna," and offertory, "Sanctus," feature the word "Hosanna." This word, or shout of joy and triumph, imitates the acclamations of people as Jesus entered Jerusalem on a donkey. We are grateful to Dr. Christopher Pfund for singing with the Chancel Choir on "Sanctus" by Charles Gounod. Dr. Pfund is Associate Professor of Music at the University of Florida, teaching voice and serving as voice area coordinator.

The season of Lent is a 40-day period of prayer and self-examination in preparation for the resurrection of Jesus Christ at Easter. The forty days are like the flood of Genesis, Moses' sojourn at Mount Sinai, Elijah's journey to Mount Horeb, and Jesus' time of testing in the wilderness. This Lent we've added a bowl of sand to represent Jesus' testing, and our own testing, in the wilderness.

Thank you for joining us in worship today. We pray that you experience Christ's presence in our midst and that His presence will sustain you in the week ahead. Visitors are welcome to participate in the worship and the work of First Presbyterian Church. If you feel a call to commit your life to Jesus Christ and His Church, please speak to the pastor or an elder after worship.

Let Us Remember in Prayer and Correspondence: Marilyn Ast, Leon & Jayne Fox, and Jed Keesling. Our men and women in the services: Ashley Dace, Matt Gowdy, Brian Hill, Faith Thompson, and Dan Williams; and first responders: Nick Gonzalez and Paul Samala.

EASTER LILIES



Deadline TODAY: On Easter morning our sanctuary will be decorated with lilies. Flowers are available to purchase in honor or in memory of a family member or loved one. The lilies are \$17 each and can be ordered by filling out the form below to place in the offering plate or mail it to the church office by Sunday, March 29. The flowers will be available to take home after 11 a.m. Easter worship.

In Loving Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

Given By: _____

All Glory, Laud, and Honor 196

Refrain

All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to thee, Re-deem-er, King,

to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho-san-nas ring!

1 Thou art the King of Is - ra - el, thou Da - vid's roy - al Son,
 2 The peo - ple of the He - brews with palms be - fore thee went;
 3 To thee, be - fore thy pas - sion, they sang their hymns of praise;
 4 Thou didst ac - cept their prais - es; ac - cept the prayers we bring,

who in the Lord's name com - est, the King and bless - ed One.
 our praise and prayers and an - thems be - fore thee we pre - sent.
 to thee, now high ex - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.
 who in all good de - light - est, thou good and gra - cious King!

These stanzas for Palm Sunday have been selected and translated from a much longer Latin poem written by a bishop who was the leading theologian in Charlemagne's court. They are sung to a 17th-century German chorale, as adapted for these words in the mid-19th century.

197 Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

1 Ho - san - na, loud ho - san - na, the lit - tle chil - dren sang;
 2 From Ol - i - vet they fol - lowed 'mid an ex - ult - ant crowd,
 3 "Ho - san - na in the high - est!" That an - cient song we sing,

through pil - lared court and tem - ple the joy - ful an - them rang,
 the vic - tor palm branch wav - ing, and chant - ing clear and loud;
 for Christ is our Re - deem - er; the Lord of heaven, our King.

To Je - sus, who had blessed them, close fold - ed to his breast,
 the Lord of earth and heav - en rode on in low - ly state,
 O may we ev - er praise him with heart and life and voice,

the chil - dren sang their prais - es, the sim - plest and the best.
 nor scorned that lit - tle chil - dren should on his bid - ding wait.
 and in his bliss - ful pres - ence e - ter - nal - ly re - joice.

The opening two stanzas narrate the first Palm Sunday in the past tense, but the third stanza shifts to the present tense to emphasize what current singers do and believe. The repeated elements in this anonymous German tune suggest the repetitive patterns in a crowd's chant.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Psalm 118:19-29 (NRSV)

¹⁹Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord. ²⁰This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it. ²¹I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation. ²²The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. ²³This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. ²⁴This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. ²⁵Save us, we beseech you, O Lord! O Lord, we beseech you, give us success! ²⁶Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. We bless you from the house of the Lord. ²⁷The Lord is God, and he has given us light. Bind the festal procession with branches, up to the horns of the altar. ²⁸You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God, I will extol you. ²⁹O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 21:1-11 (NRSV)

¹ When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, ² saying to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. ³ If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately." ⁴ This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying, ⁵ "Tell the daughter of Zion, Look, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey."

⁶ The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; ⁷ they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. ⁸ A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹ The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!" ¹⁰ When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, "Who is this?" ¹¹ The crowds were saying, "This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee."

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded 221

1 O sa - cred head, now wound-ed, with grief and shame weighed down;
 2 What thou, my Lord, hast suf - fered was all for sin - ners' gain:
 3 What lan-guage shall I bor - row to thank thee, dear-est friend,

now scorn-ful-ly sur - round - ed with thorns, thine on - ly crown;
 mine, mine was the trans - gres - sion, but thine the dead-ly pain.
 for this thy dy - ing sor - row, thy pit - y with-out end?

O sa - cred head, what glo - ry, what bliss till now was thine!
 Lo, here I fall, my Sav - ior! 'Tis I de - serve thy place;
 O make me thine for - ev - er; and should I faint-ing be,

Yet, though de - spised and gor - y, I joy to call thee mine.
 look on me with thy fa - vor, and grant to me thy grace.
 Lord, let me nev - er, nev - er out - live my love to thee.

This poignant hymn originated in a series of Holy Week meditations focused on the parts of Christ's crucified body: feet, knees, hands, side, breast, heart, face. First joined to secular words, this chorale melody has appeared with this text since the mid-17th century.



Palms & Psalms

Gather in Gordon Hall today for intergenerational fellowship as we begin Holy Week together. Crafts and fellowship opportunities include making a palm cross and praying through the psalms. Come after 8:30 a.m. worship in the chapel OR after 11 a.m. worship in the sanctuary. RSVP to Evelyn Lewis at citytr122@gmail.com.



Remember Our Mission Partners During Lent

In this Lenten season, please consider those in need in our community. We have a wire cart at each of the main entrances to the sanctuary for food donations to Gainesville Community Ministry's food pantry. Dried goods like grains, potatoes, and rice are always helpful, as are canned vegetables and fruits. Thank you for your generosity.



Senior Saints

Do you like conundrums or mysteries? If so, our next gathering is for you! Please join us on Friday, April 10 at 12:30 p.m. in Gordon Hall for lunch from Sweet Berries (\$10/person). Our speaker will be a local author and writer of mysteries, Tammy Euliano, MD. Her own story is fascinating; she is a physician who helped develop a full-scale human patient simulator and, while not yet retired, writes mystery stories! Please RSVP by replying to: 1stpcseniorsaints@gmail.com. Come for food, fellowship & fun!



Earth Care Sunday

On Sunday, April 12, come to Gordon Hall from 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. to three experts update us on marine plastic pollution, on freshwater/springs quality in N. FL., and on the campaign that saved and restored McCarty Woods on the UF campus. Don't forget: after worship we will all join in for a covered dish/potluck/pitch-in lunch in Gordon Hall. PW provides the spiral ham and fried chicken. Congregational sides and desserts to serve 6-8 each can be brought to the kitchen as early as 9:00 a.m. where there are facilities to keep everything either warm or cold as needed. RSVP to chocolateloverspwcircle@gmail.com.

Pick-up a calendar page from the ushers or click the link in the weekly email for all this week's ministry events. Children's worship guides are available at all entrances.

<h1>Holy Week</h1>			
Palm Sunday March 29	Maundy Thursday April 2	Good Friday April 3	Easter Sunday April 5
<i>Matthew 21:1-11</i> 8:30 a.m. Chapel *11 a.m. Sanctuary	<i>John 13:1-17, 31b-36</i> 6:30 p.m. Sanctuary Holy Communion	<i>The Seven Last Words of Christ</i> 6:30 p.m. Sanctuary	<i>Matthew 28:1-10</i> 8:30 and *11 a.m. in the Sanctuary Holy Communion Prelude at 8:20 & 10:50 a.m.
<p>*Nursery is available and starts 15 minutes before 11 a.m. Sunday worship. Worshiping at home? The services will be streamed on the church YouTube channel.</p>			

Online Contributions



Visit our website, www.1stpc.org, to make an online donation. Click the GIVE button at the top of the page. You can contribute to the General Budget or use the drop-down menu, change to Other, and specify the designated ministry in the memo section. Text contributions, bill pay through your bank, and electronic funds transfers are also options. Contact Trudy Bonerba.



T-Coil installed in the sanctuary, and Hearing Assist devices available in the Narthex.

Tune in to Cox Channel 11 now from 9-10 a.m. for our televised broadcast **cc** or MyTV 28.2 for over the air broadcasts

Current Worship video, audio, and archives at 1stpc.org

Ministries & Staff

At **First Presbyterian Preschool**, children are fully prepared for school in a caring, Christian environment. Classes are offered 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday-Friday. Early Childhood Accredited.

Preschool Director

LISA HERSHKOWITZ - preschool@1stpc.org

Our **Children and Youth Ministries** provide a multi-generational approach of Christian example as the church family comes alongside parents to lead children to become fully devoted disciples of Jesus Christ.

Nursery Care during worship for children 6 weeks through pre-kindergarten. **Contact:** Victoria Bernard - toraleighb@gmail.com

Kindergarten through 2nd grade children are excused from worship for **Kids-4-God** to spend time growing their faith on Sundays during the school year. **Contact:** Evelyn Lewis - citytr122@gmail.com

LOGOS is a mid-week ministry during the school year with worship arts, Bible time, recreation, and family dinner for students age 3 through high school. **Contact:** Bev Vloedman dvloedman@aol.com

Youth Connection meets for fellowship and food with Bible study and mentoring for students in grades 6-12. (see YA&FM contact)

Our **College Ministry** seeks to launch students into a life of pursuing Christ, trusting in Him, and growing with others. Join us for Sunday worship & lunch and Tuesday Bible study at 7 p.m. Bring a friend!

Director of College Ministry

JONATHAN HANEY - college@1stpc.org

Young Adult & Family Ministry (YA&FM) is for marrieds and singles, with or without kids, in grad school or in vocation. We gather for Bible Studies and to get to know each other better and would love the chance to do life with you.

Director of Young Adult & Family Ministry

FRED LUNDY - youngadult@1stpc.org

With choirs for ages three and above, our **Music Ministry** welcomes everyone to sing or ring and to dedicate their music to God. Our concert season includes Concerts for a Cause, which support local and global mission partners.

Director of Music and Organist

MITCH RORICK - music@1stpc.org

Additional Staff

Senior Pastor

REV. MARK HULTS - pastor@1stpc.org

Business Manager

TRUDY BONERBA - business@1stpc.org

Operations and Administrative Associate

LAURA MONTGOMERY - assistant@1stpc.org

Communications Specialist

JENNY CHAMBERLAIN - communications@1stpc.org

Event Sexton and Music Clerk

ANDREW NETARDUS - events@1stpc.org

Property Coordinator

JOHN RAYL - png.1stpc@gmail.com

Head Sexton

TONY COGDILL

Sexton

MARGARET HILL

Glorify God
Make Disciples of Jesus Christ
Meet Human Needs



Weekly Calendar

Sunday, March 29, 2026

Palm Sunday

- 8:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion - Iona Chapel
- 9:30 a.m. Palms & Psalms - Gordon Hall
- 9:30 a.m. Chancel Choir - Sanctuary
- 9:30 a.m. Gordon Hoover: Romans 4 - Serendipity R. - Library
- 9:45 a.m. Multiply Class: Matthew 27:45-49 - Fred L. - Room 201
- 10:45 a.m. Nursery Care - Room 204
- 11:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary
- 11:20 p.m. Kids-4-God - Room 217
- 12:00 p.m. Palms & Psalms - Gordon Hall
- 12:00 p.m. College Café - Serving Room

Monday, March 30, 2026

Tuesday, March 31, 2026

- 10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting - Parlor
- 6:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting - Parlor
- 7:00 p.m. Trajectory College Bible Study - Gordon Hall

Wednesday, April 1, 2026

- 1:30 p.m. Chocolate Lovers PW Bible Study - Parlor
Questions? Contact Betsy Berry - betsypwberry@gmail.com
NO LOGOS - Holy Week Break

Thursday, April 2, 2026

- 10:00 a.m. Preschool Easter Egg Hunt - North Courtyard
- 6:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday Worship and Holy Communion - Sanctuary
- 8:00 p.m. Brass Rehearsal - Sanctuary

Friday, April 3, 2026

Preschool Closed

- 5:30 p.m. Good Friday Ensemble Rehearsal
- 6:30 p.m. Good Friday Worship - Sanctuary

Saturday, April 4, 2026

- 9:45 a.m. Alleluia Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary
- 10:00 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt - Gordon Hall

Sunday, April 5, 2026

Easter Sunday

- 7:30 a.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- 8:30 a.m. Easter Worship and Holy Communion - Sanctuary
- 9:30 a.m. Chancel Choir Easter Breakfast - Gordon Hall
- 10:25 a.m. Nursery Care - Rm 204
- 10:30 a.m. Alleluia Choir Rehearsal
- 11:00 a.m. Easter Worship and Holy Communion - Sanctuary

Monday, April 6, 2026

Church Office Closed