

**GATHERING**

*Almighty God, we pray for Your blessing on the church in this place. Here may the faithful find salvation, and the careless be awakened. Here may the doubting find faith, and the anxious be encouraged. Here may the tempted find help, and the sorrowful find comfort. Here may the weary find rest, and the strong be renewed. Here may the aged find consolation, and the young be inspired; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.*

**WORDS OF WELCOME**

**PRELUDE** (8:30 A.M.)                      Prelude from Cello Suite No. 5                      J.S. Bach  
*Graham Gunther, viola*

**PRELUDE** (11 A.M.)                      Fanfare for Easter                      S. Tucker

**SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM** (11 A.M.)                      Marilyn Lorraine Samaha  
Barrett Michael Everton Samaha

\* **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Let us worship God, our light and our salvation.

**The Lord is the stronghold of our lives.**

We desire to live in God's house and to seek God in His holy temple.

**We have come with shouts of joy, to sing and to make music to the Lord.**

Let us worship God in spirit and in truth.

**Teach us Your ways and make straight our paths in this hour of worship and always.**

\* **HYMN 236**                      The Strife Is O'er                      VICTORY

**CONFESSION AND PARDON**

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

**O Lord, it will not be mere strength of will that finally shatters these shackles and sets me free. It will be instead a function of the degree to which You have become my greatest treasure and delight. Only such an increase of adoration for You, Jesus, will slowly order my passions aright, till I hardly have space in my heart to desire these lesser things. Lord, help me to be like this, to be this person who recognizes before You, and You only, have I sinned. Convict me, forgive me, crucify the sin in me, and help me to repent and sin no more. Now, O Lord, transform us as we continue our confession in silence.**

**DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

Friends, Believe the Good News of the Gospel.

**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

\* **ACT OF PRAISE**                      Gloria Patri                      Hymn 581

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.*

**THE WORD**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**NEW TESTAMENT READING**

Romans 8:35-39 (NRSV)

This is the Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

NT pg. 158

**ANTHEM**

**We Are One in the Spirit**

P. Scholtes

*We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord, and we pray that all unity will one day be restored: and they'll know we are Christians by our love. We will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand, and together we'll spread the news that God is in our land. All praise to the Father, from whom all things come, and all praise to Christ Jesus, God's only Son, and all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one.*

**TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES (11 A.M.)**

Sarah Whitfield

*(Afterward, children in kindergarten through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade are dismissed to Kids-4-God.)*

**NEW TESTAMENT READING**

Philippians 2:1-5; 13 (NRSV)

This is the Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

NT pg. 197

**SERMON**

What is -or- are your favorite thing(s)  
about being a Christian  
AND How does it affect who you are?

Kate Lundy  
Emerson 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 (8:30 A.M.)**

**He Shall Feed His Flock  
from Messiah**

G.F. Handel

*Nina Gunther, soprano*

*He shall feed His flock like a shepherd: and He shall gather the lambs with His arm, and carry them in His bosom, and gently lead those that are with young. Come unto Him, all ye that labour, come unto Him, that are heavy laden, and He will give you rest. Take His yoke upon you, and learn of Him; for He is meek and lowly of heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.*

**OFFERTORY (11 A.M.)**

**Fantasy on Hyfrydol**

H. Hopson

\* **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

* <b>HYMN 188</b>	Jesus Loves Me!	JESUS LOVES ME
* <b>BENEDICTION</b>		
* <b>POSTLUDE</b>	Come, Christians, Join to Sing	MADRID

## TODAY IN WORSHIP

**WORSHIP LEADERS:** Norah Barat, Alex Conerly, Zack Conerly, Emerson Hults, Mark Hults, Fred Lundy, Kate Lundy, Dania Moreno, Elisa Neale-Tobener, Sarah Whitfield

**ELDER ON DUTY:** Elisa Neale-Tobener

**ACOLYTE:** Yadarah LeGuerre

**DIRECTOR OF MUSIC & ORGANIST:** Mitch Rorick

**ENSEMBLES:** Carol Ringers, Jubilate Ringers, Youth Choir

**CONDUCTORS:** Dr. Wendy Gunter, Andrew Netardus

**CHAPEL USHER:** Jeanne Thomas; **SANCTUARY USHERS:** Maralyn Foote, Perry Foote, Louis Motz, Mary Lou Schubert

**A/V TEAM:** Kim de Fretes, Jelvi Fika, John Rayl, Geoff Spiegel

**THE FLOWERS IN WORSHIP** are given to the glory of God and in memory of Bruce D. FitzGerald from the FitzGerald family.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO MICHAEL & REEVES SAMAHA** on the baptism of their children, Lorraine and Barrett, in 11 a.m. worship today. Many family members are celebrating with them this morning.

**TODAY'S WORSHIP CONNECTS WITH 1) THE EASTER SEASON AND 2) YOUTH SUNDAY.** Due to a scheduling conflict, Youth Sunday was changed to today. We are excited that the music highlights the Youth Sunday focus, as well as the original Easter focus.

We are in the seven week (50 day) Season of Easter that begins with the Sunday of the Resurrection and concludes with Pentecost Sunday. The gathering hymn, "The Strife Is O'er," is from the JESUS CHRIST: RESURRECTION section of the *Glory to God* Hymnal. The hymn tune is VICTORY, and the hymn text is a reminder that we have victory through Jesus Christ, who overcome death. Our prelude, "Fanfare for Easter," is based on the hymn tune VICTORY, as well as the second movement of Camille Saint-Saens famous *Symphony No. 3 in C minor, op. 78* ("The Organ Symphony"). The offertory, "Fantasy on Hyfrydol," and postlude, "Come, Christians, Join to Sing," are arrangements of two hymns in our hymnal (#366 and #267). These two hymns are fitting for the Easter Season.

The Youth Sunday sermon draws from Romans 8:35-39 and Philippians 2:1-5, 13. Our anthem, "We Are One in the Spirit," connects with Philippians 2:4. The sending hymn, "Jesus Loves Me!" fits with Romans 8:35-39.

We are thankful to our youth, as well as two adult handbell ensembles (Carol Ringers and Jubilate Ringers) for leading us in worship today.

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**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.

# The Strife Is O'er 236

*Refrain (before stanza 1 and after stanza 4)*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

1 The strife is o'er, the bat - tle done; the vic - to -  
 2 The powers of death have done their worst, but Christ their  
 3 The three sad days are quick - ly sped; Christ ris - es  
 4 Lord, by the stripes which wound - ed thee, from death's dread

ry of life is won; the song of tri - umph  
 le - gions hath dis - persed: let shouts of ho - ly  
 glo - rious from the dead: all glo - ry to our  
 sting thy ser - vants free, that we may live, and

has be - gun.  
 joy out - burst. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 ris - en Head!  
 sing to thee:

The Latin text from which this hymn has been translated may well be older than its earliest printing in a 17th-century collection published in Cologne. It is set to an adaptation of a portion of the Gloria Patri section from a 16th-century choral version of the Magnificat.

**NEW TESTAMENT READING**

Romans 8:35-39 (NRSV)

<sup>35</sup> Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

<sup>36</sup> As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered."

<sup>37</sup> No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. <sup>38</sup> For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, <sup>39</sup> nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**NEW TESTAMENT READING**

Philippians 2:1-5; 13 (NRSV)

<sup>1</sup> If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, <sup>2</sup> make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. <sup>3</sup> Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. <sup>4</sup> Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. <sup>5</sup> Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

<sup>13</sup> for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure..

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

# 188

## Jesus Loves Me!

1 Je - sus loves me! This I know, for the Bi - ble tells me so.  
 2 Je - sus loves me! This I know, as he loved so long a - go,

Lit - tle ones to him be-long. They are weak, but he is strong.  
 tak - ing chil-dren on his knee, say - ing, "Let them come to me."

*Refrain*

Yes, Je - sus loves me! Yes, Je - sus loves me!

Yes, Je - sus loves me! The Bi - ble tells me so.

Few songs of faith have supported people from cradle to grave like this one. The great theologian Karl Barth said that its opening two lines were a summary of all that he had learned. The composer formed the refrain from those lines when creating this universally used tune.

## 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](mailto: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](mailto:toraleighb@gmail.com)

Kindergarten through 2<sup>nd</sup> 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:music@1stpc.org)

## Additional Staff

### Senior Pastor

REV. MARK HULTS - [pastor@1stpc.org](mailto:pastor@1stpc.org)

### Business Manager

TRUDY BONERBA - [business@1stpc.org](mailto:business@1stpc.org)

### Operations and Administrative Associate

LAURA MONTGOMERY - [assistant@1stpc.org](mailto:assistant@1stpc.org)

### Communications Specialist

JENNY CHAMBERLAIN - [communications@1stpc.org](mailto:communications@1stpc.org)

### Event Sexton and Music Clerk

ANDREW NETARDUS - [events@1stpc.org](mailto:events@1stpc.org)

### Property Coordinator

JOHN RAYL - [png.1stpc@gmail.com](mailto:png.1stpc@gmail.com)

### Head Sexton

TONY COGDILL

### Sexton

MARGARET HILL

Glorify God  
Make Disciples of Jesus Christ  
Meet Human Needs



## Weekly Calendar

### Sunday, April 12, 2026

- 8:00 a.m. Youth Choir Rehearsal - Chapel
- 8:30 a.m. Youth Sunday Worship & Holy Communion - Chapel
- 9:30 a.m. Presbyterian Women Earth Care Forum - Gordon Hall
- 9:30 a.m. Joyful Ringers & Carol Ringers - Sanctuary
- 9:45 a.m. Multiply Class: John 19:28-29 - Room 201
- 10:45 a.m. Nursery Care - Room 204
- 11:00 a.m. Youth Sunday Worship - Sanctuary
- 11:20 p.m. Kids-4-God - Room 217
- 12:00 p.m. Potluck Lunch - Gordon Hall

### Earth Care & Youth Sunday

### Monday, April 13, 2026

- 10:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study on James - Gordon Hall
- 6:00 a.m. Christian Education Committee

### Tuesday, April 14, 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 15, 2026

- 12:00 p.m. Executive Commission - Zoom
- 3:30 p.m. LOGOS - Enter through sanctuary doors or gate on SW 1<sup>st</sup> Ave
- 6:00 p.m. LOGOS Family Time Dinner - Gordon Hall
- 7:00 p.m. Spring Handbell Concert - The Village

### Thursday, April 16, 2026

- 5:30 p.m. Doctor Koinonia - Dr. Donald Caton
- 7:15 p.m. Chancel Choir - Choir Room

### Friday, April 17, 2026

### Saturday, April 18, 2026

### Sunday, April 19, 2026

- 8:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion - Chapel
- 9:30 a.m. Gordon Hoover Class: Romans 5 - James Knight - Lib
- 9:30 a.m. Chancel Choir - Choir Room
- 9:45 a.m. Multiply Class: Luke 23:44-46 - Room 201
- 10:00 a.m. Senior, Junior, & Cherub Choirs - Sanctuary
- 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. Fellowship Time - Gordon Hall
- 12:00 p.m. College Café
- 4:00 p.m. Gainesville Master Chorale and Buchholz HS Choir



### Monday Morning Women's Bible Study

All women of the church are invited to a Bible study on the book of James tomorrow, Monday, April 13 at 10:30 a.m. in Gordon Hall. We will meet twice a month and work through James and *How to Read the Bible* by David Platt over the next several months. Call or email Jenny Chamberlain in the church office ([communications@1stpc.org](mailto:communications@1stpc.org)) with questions.



### Doctor Koinonia

On Thursday, April 16, at 5:30 pm, *Doctor Koinonia*, our ministry support group for young physician faculty, will host our next guest speaker, Dr. Donald Caton, anesthesiologist and published historian/author, who will discuss "The significance of pain," spiritually and beyond, based on his numerous writings. For more information, contact Serendipity at [DoctorKoinonia@gmail.com](mailto:DoctorKoinonia@gmail.com).



### Concert for a Cause: Gainesville Master Chorale

Presenting *250 Years: Songs from Freedom's Heroes*, which brings to life a historical overview of the most important songs from the Revolutionary War to our day. The Gainesville Master Chorale with Dr. Will Kesling, conductor, will give a Concert for a Cause on Sunday, April 19 at 4 p.m. The Buchholz High School Choir will join the Master Chorale for several pieces. A free-will donation will be accepted for Family Promise of Gainesville.



### Hats Off to Our Graduates

We want to honor you in worship on April 26. If you are graduating from high school, please let us know your plans for after graduation. All college graduates, please let us know what your degree is in as well as your post-graduation plans. Email [communications@1stpc.org](mailto:communications@1stpc.org) or call the church office at (325) 378-1527.

*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.*


## Online Contributions



Visit our website, [www.1stpc.org](http://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  or MyTV 28.2 for over the air broadcasts

Current Worship video, audio, and archives at [1stpc.org](http://1stpc.org)