

Palm Sunday  
March 24, 2024 10:30 a.m. Worship



---

---

*Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others  
spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields.*

**Mark 11:8-10**

---

---

## **First Presbyterian Church**

Mailing address: P.O. Box 2729; San Bernardino, California 92406

**909.882.3308**

[www.fpcsb.net](http://www.fpcsb.net)

**COMMISSIONED PASTOR:** DR. WENDY L. LAMB

**MINISTRY OF PASTORAL SUPPORT:** REV. DR. STEPHEN W. SMITH

**MINISTRY OF VISITATION:** LAURIE STAFFORD

**MINISTRY OF MUSIC:** CURTISS ALLEN, JR., DIRECTOR OF MUSIC;

WILLIAM ZEITLER, ORGANIST;

AMY GANO, BELLS

**PASTOR EMERITUS:** REV. JAMES C. HUFFSTUTLER

## Welcome to Worship at First Presbyterian Church

This service is being livestreamed and can be viewed on our YouTube channel in real time or as a recording. **Large-print copies of this order of service**, as well as **audio enhancement devices** are available **from the ushers**.

### We gather on Sunday for 3 reasons:

- **To seek God**- whom we find in sacred text and sacrament, in music and in song, in prayer, in the beauty of this space, in the stillness where we can hear our hearts. We offer God our thanks and praise, our lament and longing, and our resources. We let go of burdens and receive grace and forgiveness. We see the One our hearts love.
- **To practice Community** – rejoice w/those who rejoice, weep w/those who weep. To break bread with those whom we love and those whom we need to love more fully. We practice things our culture does not emphasize: resting, forgiving, sharing. Jesus asked us to love one another as he loved us, and we cannot do so without practice.
- **To listen for our Call**- often an invitation to go out and be or do or remember. God is speaking all the time: through conscience, nature, friends, and certainly scripture. We gather to listen for that Call and to recommit ourselves to discipleship.

Information on our common life can be found on our website [www.fpcsb.net](http://www.fpcsb.net), along with sermons and newsletters. You can participate in our work by supporting us financially with a one-time or sustaining donation.

Children are **welcome** in worship. Younger children may go to the Nursery at any time.

**OUR NEXT COMMUNION will be Thursday, March 28<sup>th</sup>.**

# Morning Worship<sup>†</sup>

## REFLECTION BEFORE THE SERVICE

In our oldest stories, we are reminded that this was a question of profound concern for our ancestors. When we rely deeply on other lives, there is urgency to protect them. Our ancestors, who had so few material possessions, devoted a great deal of attention to this question, while we who are drowning in possessions scarcely give it a thought. The cultural landscape may have changed, but the conundrum has not—the need to resolve the inescapable tension between honoring life around us and taking it in order to live is part of being human.

Robin Wall Kimmerer, *Braiding Sweetgrass*

## WE GATHER on the PLAZA

**\*REVEALING of the DOVE**

**\*PRAYER of DEDICATION**

**\*CALL to WORSHIP** (*Based on Psalm 118*)

Let us give thanks to God;

⊗ **whose steadfast love endures forever!**

Open to us the gates of righteousness,

⊗ **that we may enter and give thanks to our God!**

This is the day the Lord has made;

⊗ **Let us rejoice and be glad!**

*We process in together, using all 3 doors, singing the Sanctus*

**\*SANCTUS**

*James C. Huffstutler*

⊗ **Holy, holy, Lord Almighty, God of power and might.**

Heaven and earth are full of your glory,

Glory in the highest!

Blessed! Blessed!

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

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna, hosanna,

hosanna in the highest.

---

<sup>†</sup> The symbols you will see in this order of worship mean:

**\* Stand if you are able**

**⊗ The congregation will read.**

## WELCOME & GREETING

*Please read all that is printed in this bulletin, and join us for Holy Week observances and Easter joy!*

**\*HYMN 197**

***Hosanna, Loud Hosanna***

ELLACOMBE

**SCRIPTURE: Mark 11:1-11**

*New Testament, pg. 47*

**ANTHEM**

***The Palms***

*J. Faure*

O'er all the way green palms and blossoms gay Are strewn this day, in festal preparation. When Jesus comes to wipe our tears away, E'en now the throng to welcome Him prepare; *Join all and sing, His name declare, Let ev'ry voice resound with acclamation: Hosanna! Praise to the Lord! Bless Him who cometh to bring us salvation!* His word goes forth, and people by its might Once more regain freedom from degradation. Humanity doth give to each his right, While those in darkness are restored to light. *Join all and sing ...* Sing and rejoice, O blest Jerusalem, Of all thy sons sing the emancipation, Through boundless love the Christ of Bethlehem Brings faith and hope to thee forevermore. *Join all and sing ...*

**TIME with the CHILDREN**

***Our children are invited to bring their Fat Fish with them at the Time with the Children.***

*[Children are always welcome in worship.*

*Infants through pre-Kindergarten may go to the Nursery as necessary.]*

**THE OFFERING of OUR TITHES and GIFTS**

***One Great Hour of Sharing***

*(We offer our gifts as a response to God's Word, to be part of God's purposes in the world. Please add your tithes and gifts to the basket.)*

**OFFERTORY**

**THE PASSION NARRATIVE**

*from Mark 14 and 15 pg. 51*

**Sung Refrain 544: *(Sing through twice)***

**<sup>1</sup>Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's holy name.**

**Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life.**

---

<sup>1</sup> © 1991 Ateliers et Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent. All rights reserved. Used by permission of ONELICENSE #A706254.

**Sung Refrain 527:** (*Sing through twice*)

**<sup>2</sup>Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and never be hungry  
Eat this bread, drink this cup; trust in me and you will not thirst.**

**Sung Refrain 204<sup>3</sup>:** (*Sing through twice*)

**Stay with me, remain here with me,  
watch and pray, watch and pray.  
Stay with me, remain here with me,  
watch and pray, watch and pray.**

**Sung Refrain:** (*Sing through three times*)

**<sup>4</sup>Stay with us, O Lord Jesus Christ, night will soon fall.  
Then stay with us, O Lord Jesus Christ, light in our darkness.**  
(*Strong guys carry the wooden cross up and place it on the steps of the  
chancel.*)

**Sung Refrain 227:** (*Sing through three times*)

**<sup>5</sup>Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom.  
Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom.**

**HYMN 221**

***O Sacred Head, Now Wounded***

PASSION CHORALE

**MORNING PRAYER and OUR 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.**

**\*HYMN 470**

***There Is a Longing*<sup>6</sup>  
(*Verses 1 and 4*)**

*Anne Quigley*

---

<sup>2</sup> Words by Robert Batastini and the Taizé Community. Music by Jacques Berthier. ©1984 Ateliers et Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent. All rights reserved. Used by permission of ONELICENSE #A706254.

<sup>3</sup> ©1984 Ateliers et Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent. All rights reserved. Used by permission of ONELICENSE #A706254.

<sup>4</sup> ©1991 Ateliers de Presses de Taizé. GIA Publications, Inc., agent. All rights reserved. Used by permission of ONELICENSE #A706254.

<sup>5</sup> © 1981 Ateliers et Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent. All rights reserved. Used by permission of ONELICENSE #A706254.

<sup>6</sup> Text and Music © 1992 Anne Quigley, published by OCP. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission of ONELICENSE #A706254.

## **\*BENEDICTION**

### **RESPONSE**

*Paul Sjolund*

Jesus our only Joy be Thou, As Thou our prize wilt be; In Thee be all our glory now, And through eternity.

### **POSTLUDE**

*Improvisation*

**GREETERS: Bonnie Ainsworth, Linda McCarl**

**USHERS: Brad Smith, *Lead Usher***

**Mark Adelson, Chris Thomas, *Security Ushers***

**SOUND ENGINEERS: Dan Direen, Brent Nord**

**LIVESTREAM ENGINEER: James Welte**

**CAMERA OPERATORS: Kevin Lamb, Lynn Usher**

### **Our guest Choir Director today is Paula Sanchez.**

Ms. Sanchez received her Bachelor of Music degree from the University of the Pacific Conservatory of Music and did her postgraduate work in music education at California State University, Long Beach. During her thirty six years as a public school music teacher in Los Angeles, Orange, and Santa Clara counties, she has instructed and conducted bands, choirs and orchestras at all grade levels. While in the Bay Area, she was the music director for several community musical theater groups in addition to playing reed instruments in countless pit orchestras. An avid traveler, Ms. Sanchez has visited several countries spanning five continents. She recently visited Morocco but is most proud of having walked the last 100 km of the Camino France leading to Santiago de Compostela, Spain. When not traveling, Ms. Sanchez enjoys hanging out at her house in Orange County with her two dogs and two cats. She continues her commitment to being a lifelong musician by playing bass clarinet in the Irvine Valley Wind Symphony and clarinet in the Redlands Community Orchestra.

**REMEMBER IN PRAYER THIS WEEK**

**Dwight Murray, Charlene Peterson, Robert Saenz**

**Elders: Lily Bolaños, Margaret Doane, Jon Horstmann**

**Deacons: Joanna Nord, Mindy Rueda, Steve Smith**

**This Weeks' Celebrations**

**Mar 24 Randy French**

**Linda Saenz**

**Mar 26 Marianna Fowles**

**Mar 27 Noé Falconi**

**Mar 29 Reyna Jones**

**Stephanie Ross**

***One Great Hour of Sharing.*** The great challenge and privilege of our faith is that we are called to be repairers of the breach and to live in solidarity with our siblings in Christ, wherever they might be. When you give to the One Great Hour of Sharing, you help restore hope, provide food to the hungry and accompany the poor and oppressed. This Lent, you can provide safety, sustenance and hope to our most vulnerable siblings in Christ. Remember, when we all do a little, it adds up to a lot.

***We will receive the One Great Hour of Sharing offering today.***

***Maundy Thursday Service, March 28, 5:30 p.m.*** Before the joy of Easter, we must accompany Christ through Maundy Thursday. We invite you to come with us as we celebrate the Lord's Supper and welcome the mystery of the cross.

***Butterfly Cookies Needed to celebrate resurrection and new life during Coffee Hour on Easter Sunday.*** Please bring yours to the kitchen before Worship on March 31st. Thank you for your help!

***Saturday Morning, March 30th, you're invited help the Worship Committee prepare our sanctuary for Easter morning.*** Bring your garden's most beautiful flowers, blooming branches, and greenery. (If you bring them in buckets of water, they will stay fresh until arranged!) Bring pruning shears and garden gloves if you would like to help make arrangements. We will gather at **9:00 a.m.** Come join us, whether you have flowers to bring or not, in our tradition of beauty and creativity, as we prepare for Easter!

***More News and announcements are available*** in your Friday *Keeping in Touch* emails. If you are not receiving these, and you would like to, contact Mimi in the church office.

## *Music Box*

When the Romans conquered a region, they were relatively benign — as ruthless conquerors go — in that they would let you have your local rulers, let you practice your local religion and customs, and pretty much leave you alone as long as 1) you didn't cause Rome any trouble, and 2) you paid your taxes to Rome. In the 1st century BCE the Romans co-opted a civil war in Judea, effectively taking over the region. The Jews, however, didn't think much of any plan short of absolute complete self-rule, and so were constantly fomenting insurrection against Rome to a lesser or greater extent.

One of those 'greater extents' occurred in 66 CE with a full scale revolt. The Roman's initial response was to let the Jews fight among themselves, and it worked, what with the Zealots of Eleaser son of Simon, John of Gischala and his private army, and a new leader named Simon bar Giora unable to come to a consensus. What Rome really wanted was to make Judea a peaceful taxpaying province once again, and future Roman emperor Titus was put in charge. The fierceness of the Jewish resistance to Rome's relatively moderate intentions made moderation impossible, so in 70 CE Titus' army waited for Passover — when the maximum number of Jews would be in Jerusalem — and laid siege to the city. The Jewish resistance was surprisingly effective — at one point Titus himself barely escaped an attack by the Jewish insurgents.

But in the end the massive Roman military was too powerful. Titus had planned on sparing the Temple, intending to convert it to Roman deities, but a nearby fire got out of control and destroyed it. The Jewish historian Josephus, an eyewitness to the siege, claimed that 1.1 million people were killed, the majority being Jewish, and that 97,000 were captured and enslaved: "The slaughter within was even more dreadful than the spectacle from without. Men and women, old and young, insurgents and priests, those who fought and those who entreated mercy, were hewn down in indiscriminate carnage... The legionaries had to clamber over heaps of dead to carry on the work of extermination." Titus reportedly refused to accept a wreath of victory, saying that the victory did not come through his own efforts but that he had merely served as "an instrument of God's wrath."

The famous last stand in Masada, in which 960 Jewish defenders chose suicide over surrender, was four years later in 74 CE.



You would think that would be the end of Jewish resistance in Judea, but it wasn't. In 115 CE, when Emperor Trajan was busy in a major campaign against the Parthian Empire, the Jews revolted once again, attacking Trajan's rear guard. Neighboring regions (e.g. Egypt) joined with the Jews, and the revolt against Rome was in danger of spiraling out of Rome's control. Once again the rebellions were ultimately crushed by the 'shock and awe' of Roman forces.

One last time the Jews revolted in 130 CE, led by Simon bar Kokhba — acclaimed to be the Messiah. Simon managed to assert Jewish independence for two years, but the Roman bulldozer once again put an end to that, and this time Emperor Hadrian had had enough. He forbade Jews from entering Jerusalem at all except (interestingly) for the festival of Tisha B'Av — an annual fast day which commemorated the destruction of the First and Second Temples. He prohibited the Torah and the Hebrew calendar, executed Jewish scholars, and in general forbade the practice of Judaism altogether. The Jewish sacred scroll was ceremonially burned on the Temple Mount. At the former Temple sanctuary he installed two statues, one of Jupiter, another of himself. And he had the maps of the region redrawn, renaming 'Judea' to 'Syria Palaestina', and 'Jerusalem' to 'Aelia Capitolina'.

Judea and Jerusalem would not be centers of Jewish religious, cultural, or political life again until modern times.      --William Zeitler



*The seal of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is a symbolic statement of the church's heritage, identity, and mission in contemporary form. Its power depends on both its simplicity and complexity, as well as its traditional and enduring qualities.*

*The basic symbols in the seal are the cross, Scripture, the dove, and flames.*

As a church of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), our congregational life is governed by the Ruling Elders of our current Session:

Mary Bolaños, Brooke Dvorak, Pat Morris, Martha Pinckney, Lily Bolaños, Margaret Doane, Jon Horstmann, Phyllis Hough, Sue Alexander, Jeanne Clark, Kathy Showman, Norm Wallis, and Clerk of Session Amy Smith

and supported by our Board of Deacons:

Rebecca Allen, Robin Edwards, Rick Rodriguez, Katie Smith, Brad Smith, Dave Thomas, Chris Wright-Thomas, Joyce Lyons, Joanna Nord, Mindy Rueda

In this time of change for our congregation, a Mission Assessment Plan will be completed by our Mission Assessment Team:

Mary Bolaños, John-Paul Fletcher, Nancy Horstmann, Marilyn Kraft, Jim Morris, Brent Nord, Irene Sandoval Suverkrup