

Serving Today

LITURGIST: Virginia Wooten - Chapel
Richard Meyer - Sanctuary
SOUND: Gary Hallen
TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES: Russ Pearson

THE CHANCEL FLOWERS ARE DEDICATED
TO THE GLORY OF GOD

First Presbyterian Church

Kingsport, Tennessee

*Seeking to see the face of Christ...
Striving to be the hands of Christ*



Palm Sunday
March 24, 2023
8:45 & 11:00 a.m.

GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

BELLS OF GOD'S PRESENCE

WELCOME

MINUTE FOR FAITH ~ Stations of the Cross

Cheryl Rice

PRELUDE "Processional of the Redeemer" with "All Glory, Laud, and Honor" arr. B Logan/C. Tornquist
Donna Hathaway, guest pianist

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: As Jesus came into Jerusalem that day long ago, riding a donkey, the people whispered, "What's his name? Who is he?"

People: **The crowd shouted back, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"**

Leader: But who is he?

People: **His disciples praised God for his mighty deeds of power. They shouted, "Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven."**

Leader: But do we know him by his name?

People: **Hosanna to the Son of David! Jesus is his name!**

*HYMN NO. 196 "All Glory, Laud and Honor"

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Forgive us, Lord, for forgetting your sacrifice and for thinking your grace is cheap. Forgive us for using the cross as a trinket, forgetting the agony it represents. Forgive us for taking our worship for granted, forgetting the struggle that assured its freedom. Forgive us for being calloused to human cruelty, forgetting that every victim belongs to you. Forgive us, Lord, for thinking that sacrifice is obsolete, forgetting that we still contend against the powers of darkness. Hear our prayers offered in humility, as we honor Christ who prays for us still.

(Silent prayer)

KYRIE **Lord, have mercy upon us; Christ, have mercy upon us; Lord, have mercy upon us.** D. Johnson

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Out of the depths of his eternal love for us, God hears our prayers, forgives our sins and sets us free to live and work for God's glory. We are loved. We are forgiven. We are free!

People: **Thanks be to God!**

*SUNG RESPONSE (Hosanna, Loud Hosanna)

***Sing praise to God our Father, Sing glory to God's Son!
Rejoice in Holy Spirit to praise the Three in One!
When we were lost in darkness, unclean and without sight,
Our Savior saw and gathered us to raise us to God's light!***

*PEACE OF CHRIST

HEARING GOD'S WORD

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES Russ Pearson

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

NEW TESTAMENT READING *I Corinthians 1: 18-25*

GOSPEL READING *Matthew 27: 11-26*

SERMON "What Shall We Do With Jesus" Mike Shelton

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

*HYMN OF RESPONSE NO. 215 "What Wondrous Love Is This"

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Apostles' Creed

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; 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.

MINUTE FOR MISSION (11:00) ~ Neighborhood Service Center Martha Dixon

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING OURSELVES TO GOD

"Is He Worthy?" A. Peterson/B. Shive

*Do you feel the world is broken?... **We do.** Do you feel the shadows deepen?... **We do.**
But do you know that all the dark won't stop the light from getting through?... **We do.**
Do you wish that you could see it all made new?... **We do.***

*Is all creation groaning?... **It is.** Is a new creation coming?... **It is.**
Is the glory of the Lord to be the light within our midst?... **It is.**
Is it good that we remind ourselves of this?... **It is.***

*Is anyone worthy? Is anyone whole? Is anyone able to break the seal and open the scroll?
The Lion of Judah, Who conquered the grave, He is David's Root and the Lamb who died to ransom the slave.
Is He worthy? Is He worthy of all blessing and honor and glory? Is He worthy of this?... **He is.***

*Does the Father truly love us?... **He does.** Does the Spirit move among us?... **He does.**
And does Jesus, our Messiah, hold forever those He loves?... **He does.**
Does our God intend to dwell again with us?... **He does.***

*Is anyone worthy? Is anyone whole? Is anyone able to break the seal and open the scroll?
The Lion of Judah, Who conquered the grave, He is David's Root and the Lamb who died to ransom the slave.
Is He worthy? Is He worthy of all blessing and honor and glory? Is He worthy of this?... **He is.***

THE SENDING

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Generous God, we offer our gifts and our lives; may the spirit in which they are given allow them to free rather than bind, to heal rather than wound, and to serve the reign of the Lord of Life. Amen.

*HYMN NO. 216 "Beneath the Cross of Jesus"

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CONCLUDING PRAISE "Praise Him! Praise Him!" arr. M. Hayes

*Please stand as you are able.