

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF LANSING



Entry into Jerusalem ca 1030-1040

510 W. Ottawa Street ▪ Lansing, Michigan 48933

(517) 482-0668 www.lansingfirstpres.com

Facebook – Lansing First Presbyterian

Church Office Hours (M-F) 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

March 24, 2024 10:00 a.m.

PALM SUNDAY

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

In order to maintain our worship environment, please turn off your cell phones. Thank you.

PRELUDE

Sergei Kvitko

LENTEN CANDLE

Colin DeWitt and Lydia Bradford

CALL TO WORSHIP

Joe Ross

We claim God's salvation in Christ our Savior with the word:

Hosanna, hosanna!

An unlikely king, he rides into Jerusalem
on the back of a donkey never before ridden

and still we recognize him:

we find God's majesty in this humble man
who leads a bunch of ragtag followers!

**Let us worship Christ with thanksgiving
for his hope-filled entry into our lives.**

++HYMN #199 [GTG] Filled with Excitement

Though they have different perspectives, all four gospels give an account of Christ's entry to Jerusalem (Matthew 21:7-9 / Mark 11:7-10 / Luke 19:35-38 / John 12: 12-15). This Mexican hymn, appropriate for the beginning of worship on Passion / Palm Sunday, captures the crowd's enthusiasm.

SERVICE OF RENEWAL

Call to Confession

Joe Ross

Unison Prayer of Confession

Hosanna, we pray. Save us, Lord.

Save us from ourselves,

when we trip over pride, doubt, or fear.

Save us from the systems that keep us bound,

when we cannot see the way out.

++indicates to stand in body or spirit

**Save us from our sins,
when we feel their weight pressing on our hearts.
Remind us, O Lord, that crowds shouting “Hosanna”
will soon be screaming “Crucify him.”
Save us we pray, O Lord,
and do not let us be among them.**

Assurance of Pardon

Joe Ross

Listen, the time has come at last.
Look, now is the day of salvation!
In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!
Thanks be to God.

++Response to Forgiveness **#626 [GTG]** As the Deer

***As the deer pants for the water, so my soul longs after you.
You alone are my heart’s desire, and I long to worship you.
You alone are my strength and shield; to you alone may my spirit yield.
You alone are my heart’s desire, and I long to worship you.***

++PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Joe Ross

May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
And also with you.

#414 [GTG] Be Still and Know

Be still and know that I am God (four times).

CHILDREN’S MOMENT

Ms. Megan

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Joe Ross

Gracious God, our way in the wilderness,
guide us by your Word through these forty days,
and minister to us with your Holy Spirit,
so that we may reformed,
restored, and renewed;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Psalm 31:9-16

Joe Ross

⁹Be gracious to me, O LORD, for I am in distress; my eye wastes away from grief, my soul and body also. ¹⁰For my life is spent with sorrow, and my years with sighing; my strength fails because of my misery, and my bones waste away.

¹¹I am the scorn of all my adversaries, a horror to my neighbors, an object of dread to my acquaintances; those who see me in the street flee from me. ¹²I have passed out of mind like one who is dead; I have become like a broken vessel. ¹³For I hear the whispering of many—terror all around!— as they scheme together against me, as they plot to take my life.

¹⁴But I trust in you, O LORD; I say, “You are my God.” ¹⁵My times are in your hand; deliver me from the hand of my enemies and persecutors. ¹⁶Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CHORAL ANTHEM “Sanctus” from *Requiem* by Gabriel Faure with Karen Viele, violin

*Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus Dominus
Dominus Deus.
Deus Sabbaoth.
Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua.
Hosanna in excelsis.*

TRANSLATION

*Holy, holy, holy, Lord,
Lord God Almighty.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory, O Lord,
Hosanna in the highest.*

GOSPEL LESSON

Mark 11:1-11

Rev. Stanley Jenkins

¹¹When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples ²and said to them, “Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. ³If anyone says to you, ‘Why are you doing this?’ just say this, ‘The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.’” ⁴They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, ⁵some of the bystanders said to them, “What are you doing, untying the colt?” ⁶They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. ⁷Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. ⁸Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. ⁹Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,
“Hosanna!
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

¹⁰Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!
Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

¹¹Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

SERMON

"Mary: 33 Years Later"

Gwen Botting

++HYMN #202 [GTG] An Upper Room Did Our Lord Prepare

This text brings together the two New Testament traditions regarding Jesus' final evening with his disciples: the Synoptic account of the Last Supper (Matthew 26:26-29 / Mark 14:22-25 / Luke 22:14-20) and the Fourth Gospel's report of his washing the disciples' feet (John 13:3-17).

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Stanley Jenkins

The Lord be with you

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

(Prayers continue)

Lord's Prayer (**unison**)

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.

Amen #472[GTG] Kum ba Yah (verse 4)

Someone's praying, Lord, kum ba yah!

Someone's praying, Lord, kum ba yah!

Someone's praying, Lord, kum ba yah! O Lord, kum ba yah!

PRESENTING OUR GIFTS

Offertory Music

"Betrachte, meine Seel" from *St. John's Passion* by J.S. Bach

Colin Dewitt, Baritone

*Betrachte, meine Seel, mit ängstlichem
Vergnügen,
Mit bitterer Lust und halb beklemmtem Herzen
Dein höchstes Gut in Jesu Schmerzen,
Wie dir auf Dornen, so ihn stechen,
Die Himmelsschlüsselblumen blühen!
Du kannst viel süße Frucht von seiner Wermut
brechen
Drum sieh ohn Unterlass auf ihn!*

*Contemplate, my soul, with anxious
pleasure,
with bitter joy and half-constricted heart,
your highest Good in Jesus' suffering,
how for you, out of the thorns that pierce
Him,
the tiny 'keys of Heaven' bloom!
You can pluck much sweet fruit
from his wormwood;
therefore gaze without pause upon Him!*

Offering

++Doxology #607 [GTG]

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.***

Prayer of Dedication

++HYMN #353 [GTG] My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

This hymn develops the imagery of Jesus' remark (Matthew 7:24-27 / Luke 6:47-49) that those who believe in him and act on that belief are like someone who builds a house on a rock. The text is set to a tune created for it by a prolific 19th-century American composer and editor, William B. Bradley.

BENEDICTION

BLEST BE THE TIE 306[GTG]

***Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love:
The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.***

POSTLUDE

Sergei Kvitko

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MORE LIGHT
PRESBYTERIANS

INFORMATION FOR THE DAY

Participants in this morning's service:

Liturgist
Organist/Pianist
Director of Music
Dir. Church Life/Comm. Outreach
Pastor
Bell Choir Director

Joe Ross
Sergei Kvitko
Megan Higle
Prince Solace
Rev. Stanley Jenkins
Darin Showalter

Concerns of the congregation:

In care facilities: Jean Dietrich (Story Point of Grand Ledge)
Dianne Rector (Rosewood Adult Foster Care- DeWitt)

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS AND HYMNS are available.

Flowers today are in honor of the 65th wedding anniversary of Bill and Karen Rude.

FLOWER CHART There are many dates available on the chart to celebrate special days in our church family. The price is \$50. Simply sign up on the chart (in the office hall), indicate the occasion that you would like celebrated or honored (birthday, anniversary or memorial), write a check to the church and give it to Betsy, and we will order for you. If you would like to purchase or provide a silk arrangement, please see Judy Whitman. Thank you! ~ Worship Committee.

YOUR SUPPORT IS VITAL TO OUR MISSION! PLEASE SCAN THIS CODE WITH YOUR SMARTPHONE TO GIVE SECURELY ONLINE. Take a picture with your phone and it will take you to the website to make a donation.



THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, March 24

8:30 a.m. Breakfast – Litten Hall
10:00 a.m. PALM SUNDAY– Sanctuary
11:30 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt
12:30 p.m. Victory in Jesus Ministries Worship – Chapel

Monday, March 25

9:00 a.m. GIL classes
9:00 a.m.-2 AARP Tax assist – Litten Hall
10:00 a.m. Church staff meeting - Library
5:30 p.m. Yoga – Yoga room
6:30 p.m. Bells of First rehearsal - Sanctuary

Tuesday, March 26

9:00 a.m. GIL Classes
9:00 a.m.-4 AARP Tax assist – Litten Hall
6:30 p.m. Glen Erin Pipe Band rehearsal – Litten Hall
7:00 p.m. Capital City Chordsmen rehearsal – Chapel

Wednesday, March 27

9:00 a.m. GIL Class
5:30 p.m. Yoga – Yoga Room

Thursday, March 28

9:00 a.m. GIL Class
9:00 a.m.-2 NWI food distribution – Kitchen/Litten Hall
1:00 p.m. Bridge in the Parlor
7:00 p.m. Victory in Jesus Ministries– Library
7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service – Litten Hall

Friday, March 29

12:00 p.m.-3 Clergy Forum Good Friday – Sanctuary
7:00 p.m. Good Friday Service – Sanctuary
5:30 p.m. Yoga – Yoga Room

Saturday, March 30

??? Chapel

Sunday, March 31

10:00 a.m. EASTER SUNDAY Worship - Sanctuary
12:30 p.m. Victory in Jesus Ministries Worship – Chapel

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

Easter Activities

March 24, Palm Sunday breakfast & Egg Hunt, 8:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

March 28, Maundy Thursday service, 7:00 p.m.

March 29, Good Friday service, 7:00 p.m.

March 31, Easter Service, 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday Adult Bible Study will resume after Easter.

Concert to Raise Funds for the Food Pantry

St. Paul's Episcopalian Church at 218 West Ottawa has been offering annual concerts to raise funds for our food pantry. Their congregation has also provided food and additional funds to support our pantry during the year. On Saturday, April 13 at 7 pm, MSU students will perform the concert: "If Music Be the Food". No admission will be charged but a free will offering will be collected for our pantry. The April First Epistle has more details on this special event.

YOU HAVE TALENT and we want to know about it. When you have a performance, a game, or an exhibit, please tell your church family, so if we are available, we can come cheer you on and be wowed by your abilities. There is a Talent Calendar on the long table in the elevator lobby, so share the when and where and your name so we can come see you in action or talk to you afterwards about it. We also would love to have photos of any events you participate in. Please submit any photos to Prince Solace, psolace@lansingfirstpres.org

**MARCH 24 - No Adult Forum today
Breakfast served by the Deacons 8:30-9:30 a.m.**

**MARCH 31 – No Adult Forum today
EASTER SUNDAY Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed!**

APRIL 7

Discussion of the all-church book read *Poverty, By America* by Matthew Desmond. If you have read the book or not, JOIN US as we try to answer questions such as *Why does the United States, have more poverty than any other advanced democracy? Why does this land of plenty allow one in every eight of its children to go without basic necessities, permit scores of its citizens to live and die on the streets, and authorize its corporations to pay poverty wages?* Discussion led by **George Bennett**