

# WELCOME ALL TO SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE



APRIL 10, 2022

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH | 2408 N. NAVARRO ST. | VICTORIA, TEXAS 77901

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## ORDER OF WORSHIP

First Presbyterian Church  
April, 10, 2022  
Passion Sunday

Prelude "He Was Despised"

- George Frideric Handel, 1741  
-From "The Messiah"

### Welcome and Announcements

#### \*Passing of the Peace and Waving of the Palms

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you!**

Introit: O Lamb of God

- Phillip R. Dietterich, 1931

### Call to Worship

One: They brought the colt of a donkey to Jesus;  
and after throwing their cloaks on the colt,  
they set Jesus on it.

All: **As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks  
on the road.**

One: As he was now approaching the path down from the  
Mount of Olives,  
the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God  
joyfully with a loud voice  
for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying,

All: **"Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!  
Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!"**

One: Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him,  
"Teacher, order your disciples to stop."  
He answered them:

All: **"I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out."**

### Prayer of the Day

Gracious God, as we enter this Holy Week,  
strengthen us to move beyond  
the festive parade of palms  
and to follow Jesus into the way of the cross,  
that united with him and all the faithful,  
we may one day enter through the gates of righteousness  
into the eternal city, the New Jerusalem,  
where we may praise you with Christ  
and the Holy Spirit forever. Amen.

*\*Please stand in body or spirit.*

**\*Opening Hymn:** “All Glory, Laud, and Honor”

No. 88

**\*Invitation to Confession**

Let us confess our sin to our God,  
trusting that God’s steadfast love endures forever.

**\*Prayer of Confession** (*unison*)

**God of heaven and earth,  
we give you thanks for sending us Jesus Christ  
in your name.  
Even though we profess to follow him,  
we confess that in times of trial we too often deny him.  
Forgive us and heal us, we pray.  
Help us to put our faith not in the princes of this world,  
but only in the Prince of Peace.  
In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.**

**\*Kyrie Eleison** (*unison*)

**Lord, have mercy.  
Christ, have mercy.  
Lord, have mercy.**

**\*Assurance of Pardon**

It is the Lord who helps us; who will declare us guilty?  
Because of the grace we received in baptism,  
we have nothing to fear.  
Believe in God, Friends!  
Believe the good news: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

**\*Gloria Patri** (*unison*)

**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, amen.**

**Prayer for Illumination**

Eternal God,  
quiet within us all mortal voices,  
that through the story of the passion and  
by the power of your Holy Spirit,  
we may have the same mind that was in Christ Jesus  
in whose name we pray. Amen.

**First Scripture Reading:** Isaiah 50:4-9

P. 680 in the Old Testament

The Lord GOD has given me  
the tongue of a teacher,  
that I may know how to sustain  
the weary with a word.  
Morning by morning he awakens—  
awakens my ear  
to listen as those who are taught.  
The Lord GOD has opened my ear,  
and I was not rebellious,  
I did not turn backward.  
I gave my back to those who struck me,  
and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;  
I did not hide my face  
from insult and spitting.  
The Lord GOD helps me;  
therefore I have not been disgraced;  
therefore I have set my face like flint,  
and I know that I shall not be put to shame;  
he who vindicates me is near.  
Who will contend with me?  
Let us stand up together.  
Who are my adversaries?  
Let them confront me.  
It is the Lord GOD who helps me;  
who will declare me guilty?  
All of them will wear out like a garment;  
the moth will eat them up.

**Anthem:** “A Lenten Walk”

- *American Spiritual* / arr. Hal H. Hopson, 1994

**Second Scripture Reading:** Luke 22:39-23:56

P. 87-89 in the New Testament

He came out and went, as was his custom,  
to the Mount of Olives; and the disciples  
followed him. When he reached the place, he  
said to them, “Pray that you may not come into  
the time of trial.” Then he withdrew from them  
about a stone’s throw, knelt down, and prayed,  
“Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from  
me; yet, not my will but yours be done.” Then  
an angel from heaven appeared to him and gave  
him strength. In his anguish he prayed more  
earnestly, and his sweat became like great drops  
of blood falling down on the ground. When he  
got up from prayer, he came to the disciples and  
found them sleeping because of grief, and he said

to them, “Why are you sleeping? Get up and pray  
that you may not come into the time of trial.”

While he was still speaking, suddenly a  
crowd came, and the one called Judas, one of the  
twelve, was leading them. He approached Jesus  
to kiss him; but Jesus said to him, “Judas, is it  
with a kiss that you are betraying the Son of  
Man?” When those who were around him saw  
what was coming, they asked, “Lord, should we  
strike with the sword?” Then one of them struck  
the slave of the high priest and cut off his right  
ear. But Jesus said, “No more of this!” And he  
touched his ear and healed him. Then Jesus said  
to the chief priests, the officers of the temple,

**Second Scripture Reading:** *(continued)*

**Second Scripture Reading:** *(continued)*

police, and the elders who had come for him, "Have you come out with swords and clubs as if I were a bandit? When I was with you day after day in the temple, you did not lay hands on me. But this is your hour, and the power of darkness!"

Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him into the high priest's house. But Peter was following at a distance. When they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them. Then a servant-girl, seeing him in the firelight, stared at him and said, "This man also was with him." But he denied it, saying, "Woman, I do not know him." A little later someone else, on seeing him, said, "You also are one of them." But Peter said, "Man, I am not!" Then about an hour later still another kept insisting, "Surely this man also was with him; for he is a Galilean." But Peter said, "Man, I do not know what you are talking about!" At that moment, while he was still speaking, the cock crowed. The Lord turned and looked at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said to him, "Before the cock crows today, you will deny me three times." And he went out and wept bitterly.

Now the men who were holding Jesus began to mock him and beat him; they also blindfolded him and kept asking him, "Prophecy! Who is it that struck you?" They kept heaping many other insults on him.

When day came, the assembly of the elders of the people, both chief priests and scribes, gathered together, and they brought him to their council. They said, "If you are the Messiah, tell us." He replied, "If I tell you, you will not believe; and if I question you, you will not answer. But from now on the Son of Man will be seated at the right hand of the power of God." All of them asked, "Are you, then, the Son of God?" He said to them, "You say that I am." Then they said, "What further testimony

do we need? We have heard it ourselves from his own lips!"

Then the assembly rose as a body and brought Jesus before Pilate. They began to accuse him, saying, "We found this man perverting our nation, forbidding us to pay taxes to the emperor, and saying that he himself is the Messiah, a king." Then Pilate asked him, "Are you the king of the Jews?" He answered, "You say so." Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds, "I find no basis for an accusation against this man." But they were insistent and said, "He stirs up the people by teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee where he began even to this place."

When Pilate heard this, he asked whether the man was a Galilean. And when he learned that he was under Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him off to Herod, who was himself in Jerusalem at that time. When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad, for he had been wanting to see him for a long time, because he had heard about him and was hoping to see him perform some sign. He questioned him at some length, but Jesus gave him no answer. The chief priests and the scribes stood by, vehemently accusing him. Even Herod with his soldiers treated him with contempt and mocked him; then he put an elegant robe on him, and sent him back to Pilate. That same day Herod and Pilate became friends with each other; before this they had been enemies.

Pilate then called together the chief priests, the leaders, and the people, and said to them, "You brought me this man as one who was perverting the people; and here I have examined him in your presence and have not found this man guilty of any of your charges against him. Neither has Herod, for he sent him back to us. Indeed, he has done nothing to deserve death. I will therefore have him flogged and release him."

Then they all shouted out together, "Away with this fellow! Release Barabbas for us!" (This was a man who had been put in prison for an insurrection that had taken place in the city, and for murder.) Pilate, wanting to release Jesus, addressed them again; but they kept shouting, "Crucify, crucify him!" A third time he said to them, "Why, what evil has he done? I have found in him no ground for the sentence of death; I will therefore have him flogged and then release him." But they kept urgently demanding with loud shouts that he should be crucified; and their voices prevailed. So Pilate gave his verdict that their demand should be granted. He released the man they asked for, the one who had been put in prison for insurrection and murder, and he handed Jesus over as they wished.

As they led him away, they seized a man, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming from the country, and they laid the cross on him, and made him carry it behind Jesus. A great number of the people followed him, and among them were women who were beating their breasts and wailing for him. But Jesus turned to them and said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For the days are surely coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never nursed.' Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us'; and to the hills, 'Cover us.' For if they do this when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?"

Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying, "If you are

the King of the Jews, save yourself!" There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, while the sun's light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit." Having said this, he breathed his last. When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said, "Certainly this man was innocent." And when all the crowds who had gathered there for this spectacle saw what had taken place, they returned home, beating their breasts. But all his acquaintances, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.

Now there was a good and righteous man named Joseph, who, though a member of the council, had not agreed to their plan and action. He came from the Jewish town of Arimathea, and he was waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God. This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then he took it down, wrapped it in a linen cloth, and laid it in a rock-hewn tomb where no one had ever been laid. It was the day of Preparation, and the sabbath was beginning. The women who had come with him from Galilee followed, and they saw the tomb and how his body was laid. Then they returned, and prepared spices and ointments.

On the sabbath they rested according to the commandment.

**Sermon:** The Death of an Innocent

Rev. Jim DeMent

Luke 23:47: When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said, “Certainly this man was innocent.”

*Silence and meditation*

**\*Congregational Hymn:** “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

No. 101

**Presentation of Tithes and Offerings**

**Offertory:** Ah, Holy Jesus

*-Johann Cruger, 1598-1662*

**\*Doxology** (*unison*)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, all heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**\*Prayer of Thanksgiving** (*unison*)

Holy One,  
we give you thanks for the great deeds of salvation  
that you have done and continue to do.  
Bless these offerings of thanksgiving  
that they may further your kingdom in this world;  
through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

**\*Affirmation of Faith (The Apostle’s Creed)** (*unison*)

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 at 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.

**Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer**

**\*Closing Hymn:** “Beneath the Cross of Jesus”

No. 92

**\*Charge**

**\*Benediction**

**\*Choral Benediction:** Lead Me, Lord

*- Samuel S Wesley, 1810-1876*

**Postlude:** He Gave His Back to the Smiters

*- George Frideric Handel, 1741 from “The Messiah”*



*Join us for*  
**HOLY WEEK**  
*In-person or livestreaming at*  
*[www.fpcofvitoria.org](http://www.fpcofvitoria.org)*  
—  
**GOOD FRIDAY**  
**APRIL 15, 2022 NOON**  
—  
**EASTER SUNDAY**  
**APRIL 17, 2022, 10:30 AM**

We have reproduced below the lyrics of the hymns selected for this morning's worship service. All the hymns below are either in the public domain or have been reproduced, under license, from *The Presbyterian Hymnal* (Westminster/John Knox Press, Louisville: 1990) or from Christian Copywrite Licensing International (*ccli.com*). If you are worshiping with us from home, we encourage you to sing along. Follow the verses in this order:

Verse 1  
Verse 2

Verse 3  
Verse 4

### **All Glory, Laud, and Honor**

Thou art the King of Israel,  
Thou David's royal Son,  
Who in the Lord's name comest,  
The King and blessed One.  
*Refrain*

The people of the Hebrews  
With palms before Thee went;  
Our praise and love and anthems  
Before Thee we present.  
*Refrain*

To Thee, before Thy passion,  
They sang their hymns of praise;  
To Thee, now high exalted,  
Our melody we raise.  
*Refrain*

Thou didst accept their praises;  
Accept the prayers we bring,  
Who in all good delightest,  
Thou good and gracious King!  
*Refrain*

#### **Refrain:**

All glory, laud, and honor  
To thee, Redeemer, King!  
To whom the lips of children  
Made sweet hosannas ring.

### **When I Survey the Wondrous Cross**

When I survey the wondrous cross  
On which the Prince of glory died,  
My richest gain I count but loss,  
And pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,  
Save in the death of Christ my God;  
All the vain things that charm me most,  
I sacrifice them to His blood.

See, from His head, His hands, His feet,  
Sorrow and love flow mingled down;  
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,  
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
That were a present far too small;  
Love so amazing, so divine,  
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

### **Beneath the Cross of Jesus**

Beneath the cross of Jesus  
I fain would take my stand,  
The shadow of a mighty rock  
Within a weary land;  
A home within the wilderness,  
A rest upon the way,  
From the burning of the noon-tide heat,  
And the burden of the day.

Upon the cross of Jesus  
Mine eye at times can see  
The very dying form of One  
Who suffered there for me:  
And from my stricken heart with tears  
Two wonders I confess:  
The wonders of redeeming love  
And my unworthiness.



**Caregiving Concerns and Prayer Requests**

Kathryn Amsler	Gloria Aouelle	Bette Austin	Nathan Galvan (Son of Leila Galvan)
Kathleen McCameron	Leonard “Mac: MCCameron	Linda Patterson	Maria Pezeski (Mother of Leila Galvan)
Mikey Ruddock	Jere Swoboda (Prior FPC Member)	Carol Wisdom (Daughter of Lea Lenz)	Bob Zawadzki

For caregiving concerns—please contact:  
Lynn McAuley (979. 248.6238); or Gayla Whitaker (361. 935.0950)

**FPC Opportunities for Worship & Service**

- Monday, April 11**  
2:00 PM Presbyterian Women Mary & Martha Meeting  
6:00 PM Session Meeting
- Friday, April 15**  
12:00 PM Good Friday Service
- Sunday, April 17**  
10:30 AM Worship Service Easter Sunday  
**Lord’s Supper**

The picture on the cover shows one of the fourteen Stations of the Cross located at The Cloisters on the Platte in Gretna, Nebraska. Completed in 2017, The Cloisters is operated as a spiritual retreat and conference center (<https://cloistersontheplatte.com>).

**FPC Victoria Servant Leadership Session Members**

- Jim DeMent, Moderator  
Francis Byrne, Mission & Outreach  
John Horadam, Buildings & Grounds  
Lynn McAuley, Asst. Clerk, Caregiving & Fellowship  
Dawn Neel, Finance, Assistant Treasurer, Worship  
Patrick Patterson, Buildings and Grounds  
Becky Richter, Christian Education, Personnel  
Suzanne Salinas, Mission & Outreach, Worship  
Gayla Whitaker, Caregiving & Fellowship  
Bonnie Wilkinson, Clerk of Session, Personnel

**Other**

- Lynn McAuley, Presbyterian Women  
Melissa Samudio, Presbyterian Day School  
Jim Stokes, Treasurer  
Henry Hauschild, Historian

**Pastor’s Notes**

The custom arose in the early church, when literacy was rare, of depicting Christ’s passion in paintings or sculptures at 14 different “stations” which recalled the route that Christ took from Pilate’s house to Calvary. Said to have arisen from the practice of Christian pilgrims in Jerusalem trying to walk the same “way” as Jesus did as he carried his cross to Golgotha, each station marked an event that occurred during his passion, crucifixion, and burial. Especially in the Roman Catholic tradition, the practice of adorning churches, cathedrals, and other religious sites with the 14 stations, and of penitent believers meditating and praying before each station in sequence, remains strong to this day.

On our Bulletin cover is a large statute of the “Fifth Station of the Cross,” depicting the first of three times that Jesus fell on the way to his crucifixion. In this instance, the Roman centurions “seized a man, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming from the country, and they laid the cross on him, and made him carry it behind Jesus” (Luke 23:26). Even though he did not volunteer, Simon surely helped to ease Jesus’ burden. If we would follow in Jesus’ way, we could ease the burdens of the weak, the poor, the hungry, the oppressed, the wrongly convicted. The miracle Jesus promises is that for us his yoke is easy and his burden is light (Matthew 11-30).

**Clergy, Music, and Administration**

Rev. Jim DeMent, Interim Pastor  
Robert Wyatt, Organist/Choirmaster  
Erica Colding, Office Administrator

**Office Hours**

Monday — Friday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM  
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[info@fpcofvictoria.org](mailto:info@fpcofvictoria.org)