



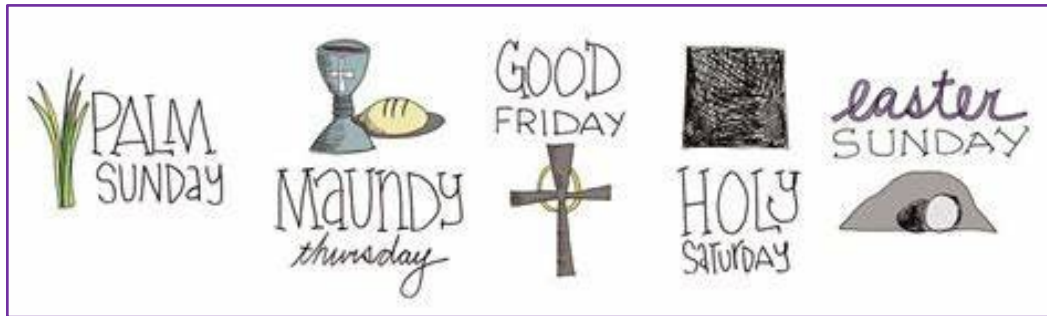
First Presbyterian Church

Sunday, April 13, 2025



Seeking the Faith – Sharing the Spirit - Serving God's People

Join us on our faith journey as we seek to serve God, minister to our community, and love one another. Help us become an ever more inclusive church welcoming people from all backgrounds, abilities, and identities. Come and experience the love of God, the grace of Christ, and the communion of the Holy Spirit.



Order of Worship

Prelude

My Heart Ever Faithful

arr. Bill Boyd

Gathering for Worship

Leader: Awake to the day of triumph for our Savior! Give thanks for this day that leads to the cross! Come with your branches, hosannas, and songs! Fill the air with welcome to the Lord!

All: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Let us worship God.

***Hymn #197**

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

Please wave your palm branches as you sing the hymn.

***Call to Confession**

Leader: Let us face this day of palms and celebration with honesty, confessing our sin before God.

***Prayer of Confession**

Leader: Let us pray.

All: Holy God, sure of your faithfulness even in your dying, comforted by your compassion toward people in every age, we beg for mercy for our imperfect gratitude.

We have rejected the cornerstone you set to build a people of righteousness even here, today.

Forgive our failings. Heal what we have broken, nurture what we have neglected, and lead us to your vision. In Jesus' name. Amen.

***Assurance of Forgiveness**

Leader: If the Holy Spirit dwells in us, then God, who raised Jesus from the dead, will also give life to your mortal bodies. Friends, this is the good news of the gospel: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

All: Thanks be to God.

***Giving of the Peace**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you all!

All: And also with you!

***Response #166**

Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days

v. 1 and 4

Anthem

A Celebration of Palms

J. M. Martin

Children's Sermon:

Branching Out?

Prayer for Illumination

Reader: Let your Word, O God, break open our hearts this day through the power of the Holy Spirit, that we may enter into the coming Holy Week with the same mind that was in Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

**Please stand as you are able*

Old Testament Lesson

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 (OT p. 565)

New Testament Lesson

Luke 19:28-40 (NT p. 83)

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God

Proclamation of the Word:

And So It Begins

***Affirmation of Faith:**

The Brief Statement of Faith

Leader: Let us affirm our faith together...

**All: Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition,
Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain
and giving his life for the sins of the world. Amen.**

***Hymn #200**

A Cheering, Chanting, Dizzy Crowd

Minute for Mission – One Great Hour of Sharing

Invitation to the Offering

Leader: Let our hosannas to the one who brings liberation take form in our tithes and offerings.

Offertory

Sonatina Op. 36 No. 3

M. Clementi

***#606 Doxology**

***Prayer of Dedication**

Leader: O Lord, we long to live as children of light, doing what is pleasing to you and bearing the fruit of the light through Jesus Christ, who awakens those who sleep, and raises those who are dead to new life. In his name we pray. **Amen.**

Pastoral Prayer and Congregational Prayer

Joys and Concerns

Minister: We give thanks to God for these blessings.

All: Thanks be to God!

Minister: For all these people and all who are in need

All: Please hold your people near, O God!

Minister: God inspires us to pray, hears our prayers, and answers our prayers.

All: Alleluia! Amen!

Minister: Let us pray... *Silent Prayer*

Minister: Let us pray together...

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,

Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

***Hymn #687**

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

v. 1-4

Announcements

Blessing

Minister: May the love of God pursue you, the light of Christ enfold you, and the Holy Spirit keep you as you dwell in the house of the Lord your whole life long.

Postlude

Little March

Talivaldis Kenins

Moment for Reflection:



Worship Assistants

Beth Malmquist- Greeter
Kathy Manfredi- Worship Assistant
Jiyeon Lee- Accompanist
Elwood Prest- AV Tech

Gerry and Cindy Buys- Head Ushers
Beth Malmquist- Scripture Reader
Wendi Zea- Zoom Greeter
Choir- Anthem

APRIL 13, 2025

10:00 am Worship in the Sanctuary and via Zoom
Coffee Fellowship (Hosts: Rosey and Sue)

APRIL 14, 2025

6:00 pm Worship Ministry

APRIL 15, 2025

1:00 Presbyterian Women

APRIL 16, 2025

10:00 am Bible Study with Bill and J. P.
3:30 pm Bible Study with Pastor Kerry
5:30 pm Lenten Vespers via Zoom
6:00 pm Choir Rehearsal*
7:00 pm Bible Study with Judy Beyler*

*Change for this week only

APRIL 17, 2025

6:00 pm Light Meal and Christian Seder in Fellowship Hall

APRIL 20, 2025

6:30 am Easter Sunrise Service on the Greenspace
8:30-10:00 am Easter Breakfast
10:00 am Worship in the Sanctuary and via Zoom

Pastor Kerry's Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday 10:00 am-1:00 pm

If you would like a visit—or if you know someone who needs a visit— please let Pastor Kerry or one of the Deacons know.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Presbyterian Women will meet Tuesday, April 15, 2025, at 1:00 pm. Please join us for this time of fellowship and study.

Maundy Thursday: Please join us on Thursday, April 17 at 6 pm in the Fellowship Hall. A simple soup dinner will be served, followed by a service incorporating the Seder tradition. If you plan to attend, **please sign up** on the bulletin board in the hallway (or email wrzea17@hotmail.com). All are welcome; it will simply help our planning to know how many will attend. See you then!

At 6:30 am on Sunday, April 20 we will meet on the greenspace for our **Easter Sunday Sunrise Service**. Please dress appropriately for the weather and bring your own lawn chairs. In case of inclement weather, we will move into Fellowship Hall, but we are hoping for a lovely early morning service! **Easter Breakfast** will be served in FH 8:30 am-10 am (please sign up so we know how many to plan for). The 10:00 am Easter Sunday service will be in the Sanctuary and via Zoom.

The **April Dinner Group** meeting will be the fourth Thursday, **April 24**, at 5:30 at Giant City Lodge. Please let Jill know if you plan to attend jillhertzing@aol.com.

The opening reception for **Carolyn Hollabaugh's** watercolor exhibit "**Through My Eyes**" is Friday, April 25, 2025, from 5:00-7:00 pm at the Varsity Center in Carbondale; enjoy light refreshments and a cash bar and mingle with the artist.



Mark your calendars, invite a friend, and be sure to join us for **Fellowship** following worship Sunday, April 27, 2025. All are invited to participate as we explore together the topic *Hope in a Troubled World*. We will finish up at about noon.

“Come, let us sing for JOY to the LORD; Let us shout aloud to the ROCK of our SALVATION!”

On Sunday, April 27, at 5:00 pm, we are hosting the **Ol' Skool Gospel Jamboree Choir**. To show our gratitude and appreciation, we will have a potluck dinner immediately following their performance. The main course will be provided. Please see Kathy Manfredi or check out the Worship Ministry bulletin board for more information. If you have not heard this group, you are in for a treat! We hope you will join us.



The 50th Annual Sale to Fight Hunger is May 2, 9 am – 6 pm and May 3, 9 am – 2 pm.

Volunteers are needed to help during the sale and to help set up April 28-May 1.

Sign up online at signupschedule.com/hungersale2025 or see Brenda Myers or Ann Warner for more information.

Please, as you are able, continue to contribute financially to the life and ministry of the church through Sunday offerings, direct deposit, by sending checks in the mail, online at <http://www.firstpresdale.org> or by scanning this QR code with your smartphone camera.



Joys and Concerns

Remember to Pray for:

- Those affected by natural disasters, threats of terrorism, mass shootings, and hate crimes
- Our National, State, Regional, and Community Leaders
- Areas of the world at war, peace in the Middle East
- Our Democracy in the face of social unrest and political polarization
- Transgender community and others under attack legislatively
- Those who are homeless, hungry, marginalized, underrepresented and in harm's way
- Military Service Members

Each week we pray for one of the Carbondale Interfaith Council faith communities.

This week, please pray for: **The Local Shelters**

The Mission/Ministry we are praying for this month: **Mission**

Household Prayer: Morning

God, whenever the cup of gladness overflows, help me to recognize that it is filled with your goodness and mercy. In praise and anticipation, I begin this day, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

*O Lord, I pray that you will improve my eyes of faith so that I can see you more clearly, love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly tomorrow, and all my tomorrows.
In the name of your Son, my Savior, I pray. Amen.*

#197

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

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1 Hosanna, loud hosanna, the little children sang; through pillared court and temple the joyful anthem rang. To Jesus, who had blessed them, close folded to his breast, the children sang their praises, the simplest and the best.

2 From Olivet they followed 'mid an exultant crowd, the victor palm branch waving, and chanting clear and loud; the Lord of earth and heaven rode on in lowly state, nor scorned that little children should on his bidding wait.

3 “Hosanna in the highest!” That ancient song we sing, for Christ is our Redeemer; the Lord of heaven, our King. O may we ever praise him with heart and life and voice, and in his blissful presence eternally rejoice.

#166 (v. 1, 4)

Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days

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Lord, who throughout these forty days for us did fast and pray,
teach us with you to mourn our sins and close by you to stay.

Abide with us, till when this life of suffering shall be past,
an Easter of unending joy we may attain at last.

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 (OT p. 565)

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever!

Let Israel say, “His steadfast love endures forever.” Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord. This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it. I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation. The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. This is the Lord’s doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. Save us, we beseech you, O Lord! O Lord, we beseech you, give us success! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. We bless you from the house of the Lord. The Lord is God, and he has given us light. Bind the festal procession with branches, up to the horns of the altar. You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God, I will extol you. O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.

Luke 19:28-40 (NT p. 83)

After he had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, saying, “Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you untying it?’ just say this, ‘The Lord needs it.’” So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, “Why are you untying the colt?” They said, “The Lord needs it.” Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. 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, “Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!” Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, order your disciples to stop.” He answered, “I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out.”

#200 *A Cheering, Chanting, Dizzy Crowd*
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A cheering, chanting, dizzy crowd had stripped the green trees bare,
and hailing Christ as king aloud, waved branches in the air.

They laid their garments in the road and spread his path with palms
and vows of lasting love bestowed with royal hymns and psalms.

When day dimmed down to deepening dark the crowd began to fade
till only trampled leaves and bark were left from the parade.

Lest we be fooled because our hearts have surged with passing praise,
remind us, God, as this week starts where Christ has fixed his gaze.

Instead of palms, a winding sheet will have to be unrolled,
a carpet much more fit to greet the king a cross will hold.

#687 (v. 1-4) *Our God, Our Help in Ages Past*
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1 Our God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home:

2 Beneath the shadow of thy throne thy saints have dwelt secure;
sufficient is thine arm alone, and our defense is sure.

3 Before the hills in order stood, or earth received its frame,
from everlasting thou art God, to endless years the same.

4 A thousand ages in thy sight are like an evening gone,
short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun.