



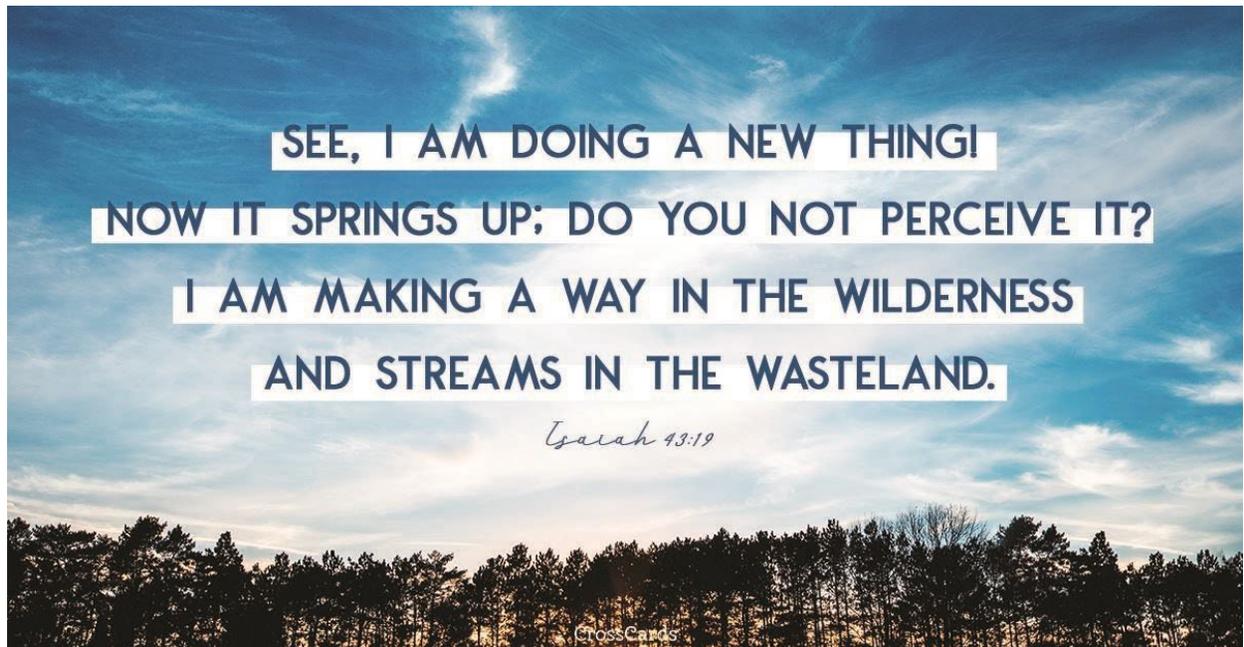
First Presbyterian Church

Sunday, April 3, 2022



Seeking the Faith – Sharing the Spirit Serving God’s People

You are invited to join us on our journey of faith! We seek to serve God, to minister to our community, and to love one another. Help us in our quest to become an ever more inclusive church that welcomes all people from all backgrounds, abilities, and identities. Come along and experience the love of God, the grace of Christ, and the communion of the Holy Spirit.



Order of Worship

Prayer in Preparation

Creator God, you have formed us as your own, so whether we are weeping or laughing, dreaming or shouting for joy, we are always coming home to you. For all this and more, we thank you in Jesus’ name. **Amen.**

Ministry of the Church

Leader: We thank God for these opportunities for fellowship and service.

All: Thanks be to God!

Joys and Concerns

Leader: We give thanks to God for these blessings.

All: Thanks be to God!

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

All: Please hold your people near, O God!

Prelude

Partita 2, Sinfonia excerpt- Grave adagio

J. S. Bach

Gathering for Worship

Leader: As people pressing on in faith, we give praise to God.
Dry ground in the sea, rivers in the desert, Christ among us-

All: God is doing a new thing! Let us worship God.

***Hymn:** #463

How Firm a Foundation

Call to Confession

Leader: If we ask God to restore us on the way we have been,
then we have not asked for as much as God intends to give.

With confidence in God's generosity, we confess our sins
and seek the new life offered in Jesus Christ.

Prayer of Confession:

Leader: Let us pray...

**All: Purifying God, we grow comfortable with the way things are
in our lives, in the church, in the world.**

We do not always welcome the new life you offer in Christ.

Sure of our own righteousness, we are critical of others.

Wanting to control our assets, we hoard the gifts you give us.

Forgive us, we pray.

**Fill us, our homes and churches, the whole world,
with the abundant love of Christ until all are made new.**

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Leader: Our righteousness come through faith in Christ, who has made us his own.
Hear the good news! In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. The old life has passed away
and a new life has begun.

All: Thanks be to God.

Giving of the Peace

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you all!

All: And also with you!

***Response:** #623 *I've Got Peace Like a River*

Children's Sermon: It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Easter!



Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reader: Break open the scripture through the power of
your Holy Spirit, O God. Let your word, read and proclaimed, pour out until its
fragrance fills this house and our lives. Then, anointed with your word, send us out to
share the good news we have received. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, who is
with us always. **Amen.**

New Testament Lesson

John 12:1-8 (NT p. 106)

Ministry of Music

Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 43:16-21 (OT p. 672)

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Proclamation of the Word: The Nuisance of Creativity

***Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles Creed**

(Hymnal p. 17)

***Hymn:** #201

A Prophet-Woman Broke a Jar

Covenant Box

Invitation to the Offering

Leader: As it is written in Deuteronomy: "Since there will never cease to be some in need on the earth, I therefore command you, 'Open your hand to the poor and needy neighbor.'" Through our tithes and offerings, we can give generously -as Mary did- and remember the poor. As we open wide our hands, we attend to Christ himself, who is present especially among those considered the least and the lost. Let us offer to God these gifts for ministry in Christ's name.

Offertory:

Partita 2, Sinfonia excerpt- Andante

J. S. Bach

***#606 Doxology**

*Prayer of Dedication

Leader: Abundant God: You cause water to flow in desert places. You give wine to flow at a wedding feast. Your generosity astounds and humbles us. We bow before you in gratitude and awe, asking you to receive what we have brought in response. May these gifts be a pleasing and fragrant offering, for the sake of the world you came to save. We pray in your holy name. **Amen.**

Pastoral Prayer and Congregational Prayer

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...**

(Hymnal p. 11)

***Hymn:** #540

Farewell, Good Friends!

(English-Hebrew-English)

***Blessing**

Postlude

Partita 2, Sinfonia excerpt- Allegro

J. S. Bach

Moment for Reflection:



Worship Assistants

Pam Holt- Greeter
Sue Bailey- Worship Assistant
Chanmi Jeong- Accompanist
Lisa Hollabaugh- Videographer

Jim Calloway- Head Usher
Sue Bailey- Scripture Reader
John Baker- Sound
Jane Swanson - Zoom Host

SUNDAY, APRIL 3, 2022

9:30 am Worship in Sanctuary and via Zoom
11:00 am Faith Dialogues via Zoom

TUESDAY, APRIL 5, 2022

10:30 am Deacon's Meeting at the back of the Sanctuary

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6, 2022

3:30 pm Bible Study via Zoom

SATURDAY, APRIL 9, 2022

9:00 am Outdoor Workday

SUNDAY, APRIL 10, 2022

9:30 am Worship in Sanctuary and via Zoom
11:00 am Faith Dialogues via Zoom

<p>Pastor Kerry's Office Hours This Week Monday - Thursday 10:00 am- 2:00 pm</p>

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.

Household Prayer: Morning

God, you have given me the gift of another day; may I live it in gratitude.
Help me to be loving to others, to Earth, and to myself;
in Jesus' name. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Holy One, this day is drawing to an end.
Be with me as I pause and ponder all the love I saw and received today.
Help me to see you in each moment of love.
Where I fell short of being patient and kind,
help me to feel your patience and kindness toward me,
and give me peace, as I give this day back to you. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming workdays: Saturday, April 9, 2022, we'll pull weeds, trim hedges and paint doors on the south side of the church. Saturday, April 23, 2022, we'll rake and spread mulch and finish up any outdoor painting. Bring your tools, gloves, water and sunscreen; we will gather at 9:00 a.m. and work 'til noon or so.

During the month of April, a **church photograph board** is being developed for the Narthex. Please either submit a 3x5" photo of yourself/your family to Sarah Merideth (place in mailbox in church office) or have Bob Luebbers take your photo following worship in the narthex. In addition, please provide your preferred pronouns. (If you don't see Bob on a given Sunday, please look for him the following week.) Thank you!

The revised list of deacons' shepherd flocks is now available on the church website. Under the "Church Life" menu, select "For Members." (Call the church office for the password to access that page. Other items on the "For Members" page include the church directory and the second-quarter schedule of Sunday worship volunteers.)

Pizza and Movie: Monday, April 11, 6:00 pm All are welcome to join us in the lounge for pizza and "go withs" followed by *Easter Parade*. If you plan to attend, please let Kitty know phone or text: 618-203-1807 or email: trescott@midwest.net

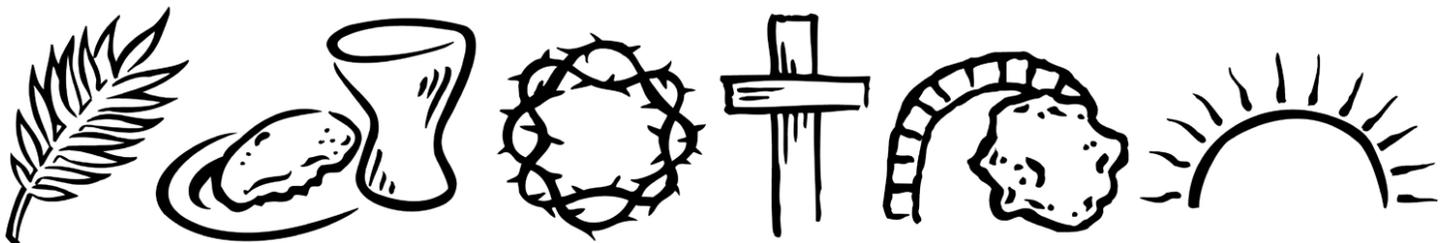
Per Capita for 2022 is \$40.00 per member. We encourage all who can do so to submit their payment to the church office.

HOLY WEEK WORSHIP

Palm Sunday worship is **April 10, 2022, at 9:30 a.m.** If you plan to worship from home, you can pick up a palm from the church office Thursday afternoon, April 7 (contact Barb Stewart to arrange pickup). Palms will also be available in the Sanctuary Sunday morning.

The **Maundy Thursday** service is **Thursday, April 14, 2022, at 6:00 pm** in the Sanctuary; this service will also be available via Zoom.

Easter Sunday, April 17, 2022, we will have two services. A **6:30 a.m. Sunrise service** (in-person only) will be held on our green space (weather permitting; please dress accordingly). The **9:30am Sanctuary service** will include those worshipping via Zoom. Consider inviting a neighbor or friend to worship that morning. (Faith Dialogues will not meet Easter Sunday.)



463 *How Firm a Foundation*

1 How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,
is laid for your faith in God's excellent Word!
What more can be said than to you God hath said,
to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

2 "Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed,
for I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;
I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

3 "When through the deep waters I call thee to go,
the rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;
for I will be near thee, thy troubles to bless,
and sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.

4 "When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,
my grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply;
the flame shall not hurt thee; I only design
thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.

5 "The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose,
I will not, I will not desert to its foes;
that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no, never, no, never forsake."

#623 *I've Got Peace Like a River*

1 I've got peace like a river; I've got peace like a river;
I've got peace like a river, in my soul. (Repeat)

2 I've got joy like a fountain; I've got joy like a fountain;
I've got joy like a fountain, in my soul. (Repeat)

3 I've got love like an ocean; I've got love like an ocean;
I've got love like an ocean, in my soul. (Repeat)

Isaiah 43:16-21

16 Thus says the LORD, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters, **17** who brings out chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick: **18** Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. **19** I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.

20 The wild animals will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches; for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, **21** the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise.

John 12:1-8

¹Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ²There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. ³Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. ⁴But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, ⁵"Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" ⁶(He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) ⁷Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. ⁸You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

#201 A Prophet-Woman Broke a Jar

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1 A prophet-woman broke a jar, by Love's divine appointing.
With rare perfume she filled the room, presiding and anointing.
A prophet-woman broke a jar, the sneers of scorn defying.
With rare perfume she filled the room, preparing Christ for dying.

2 A faithful woman left a tomb by Love's divine commission.
She saw; she heard; she preached the Word, arising from submission.
A faithful woman left a tomb, with resurrection gospel.
She saw; she heard; she preached the Word, apostle to apostles.

3 Though woman-wisdom, woman-truth, for centuries were hidden,
unsung, unwritten, and unheard, derided and forbidden,
the Spirit's breath, the Spirit's fire, on free and slave descending,
can tumble our dividing walls, our shame and sadness mending.

4 The Spirit knows; the Spirit calls, by Love's divine ordaining,
the friends we need, to serve and lead, their powers and gifts unchaining.
The Spirit knows; the Spirit calls, from women, men, and children,
the friends we need, to serve and lead. Rejoice, and make them welcome!

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

#606 Praise God from Who All Blessings Flow (Doxology)

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

The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

#540 Farewell, Good Friends! (English, Hebrew, English)

Farewell, good friends! Farewell, good friends! Shalom, shalom!
Till we meet again, till we meet again, shalom, shalom.

Shalom, chaverim! Shalom, chaverot! Shalom, shalom!
Lehitraot, lehitraot, shalom, shalom.

Farewell, good friends! Farewell, good friends! Shalom, shalom!
Till we meet again, till we meet again, shalom, shalom