

April 14, 2019

PALM SUNDAY & PASSION OF OUR LORD

Today's worship focuses on the complex character of this day, beginning with the acclamation of palms and ending by pointing toward our Lord's death on the cross. That movement mirrors the actual events in Jerusalem.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF HIGHLANDS

CHRIST'S CHURCH WITH ITS DOORS OPEN WIDE

11:00 A.M.

Weekly
9:30 a.m. Church School
11:00 a.m. Worship
Communion first Sunday of each month

This church welcomes you no matter who you are, where you come from, or why you are here. We are Christ's people, and this is Christ's place with its doors open wide. If you are passing through, Godspeed; if you are looking for a home, stay here; if you need instruction, learn from us as we learn from you. We invite visitors to join us, but most of all, to return often.

*Dedicated to the Glory of God on September 13, 1885
Highlands, North Carolina*

GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Please silence cell phones and quiet your voices, giving our attention to the presence of God in our midst
Childcare is available in the nursery
Large print hymnals available—see usher
***Indicates that those who are able may stand**

Ringing of the Church Bell

Prelude *The Palms* Joseph Faure
Welcome and Concerns of the Church Curtis Fussell

THE TRIUMPHAL ENTRY

***Call to Worship**

Leader: We come to prepare for the holiest of weeks.
People: We will journey through praise, with joy on our lips; we will travel through betrayal and death, cradling hope deep in our hearts.
Leader: Jesus leads us through this week, and we will follow, for he is the life we long for, he is the Word who sustains us.
People: We wave palm branches in anticipation, we lay our love before him, to cushion his walk.
Leader: Setting aside all power, glory, and might, he comes: modeling humility and obedience for all of us.
People: Hosanna! Hosanna! Blessed is the One who brings us the kingdom of God.

***Processional Hymn 196** VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN
"All Glory, Laud, and Honor"

Offering Our Gifts for the Work of God's Kingdom

Offertory What Wondrous Love Is This? American Folk Hymn
arr. John Innes

Prayer for the Day and the Lord's Prayer Hymnal page 35

THE PASSION OF OUR LORD

Musical Invocation "Were You There?" Spiritual
arr. Lani Smith

The Plot to Kill Jesus

Scripture Reading Luke 22:1-6
***Song of Wonder—Hymn #215** (vv. 1 & 2) WONDROUS LOVE
"What Wondrous Love Is This"

Preparation of the Passover

Scripture Reading Luke 22:7-13
Song of Gratitude—Hymn #202 (v. 1) O WALY WALY
"An Upper Room Did Our Lord Prepare"

The Last Supper

Scripture Reading Luke 22:14-30
Song of Gratitude—Hymn #202 (v. 2) O WALY WALY
"An Upper Room Did Our Lord Prepare"

Jesus Predicts Peter's Denial

Scripture Reading Luke 22:31-38
***Song of Proclamation —Hymn #618** (vv. 1 - 3) DEO GRACIAS
"O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High"

Jesus Prays on the Mount of Olives

Scripture Reading Luke 22:39-46
Song of Suffering —Hymn #220 (v.1) REDHEAD
"Go to Dark Gethsemane"

Jesus Is Betrayed & Arrested

Scripture Reading Luke 22:47-53
Song of Astonishment Donald McCullough
"Ah, Holy Jesus"
Chancel Choir

Ah, holy Jesus, how have you offended,
that mortal judgement has on you descended?
By foes derided, by your own rejected, O most afflicted!

Who was the guilty? Who brought this upon you?
It is my treason, Lord, that has undone you.
'Twas I, Lord Jesus, I it was denied you; I crucified you.

For me, dear Jesus, was your incarnation,
your mortal sorrow, and your life's oblation;
your death of anguish and your bitter passion, for my salvation.

Therefore, dear Jesus, since I cannot pay you,
I do adore you and will every pray you,
think on your pity and your love unswerving, not my deserving.
Text by John Heermann (1585-1647), tr. Robert Bridges (1844-1930) (altered)

Peter Denies Jesus

Scripture Reading Luke 22:54-62
***Song of Resolve—Insert** (vv. 1 & 2) PSALM 22
"When We Are Tempted to Deny Your Son"

Jesus before the Sanhedrin

Scripture Reading Luke 22:63-71
Poem of Bewilderment Holy Sonnet XI (altered) John Donne

Jesus before Pilate and Herod

Scripture Reading Luke 23:1-12
Song of Sorrow—Hymn #221 (v. 2) PASSION CHORALE
"O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"

Pilate Delivers Jesus to be Crucified

Scripture Reading Luke 23:13-25

*Song of Love—Hymn #209 LOVE UNKNOWN
“My Song Is Love Unknown”

The Crucifixion

Scripture Reading Luke 23:26-38

Song of Contemplation Stuart Townend
arr. Larry Shackley
“How Deep the Father’s Love for Us”
Chancel Choir

How deep the Father’s love for us, how vast beyond all measure
That he should give his only Son to make a wretch his treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss. The Father turns his face away
As wounds which mar the Chosen One bring many sons to glory.

Refrain: How high, how wide, how deep the Father’s love for us.

Behold the Man upon a cross, my sin upon his shoulders.
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held him there until it was accomplished;
His dying breath has brought me life. I know it is finished. *Refrain*

I will not boast of anything: no gifts, no pow’r, no wisdom.
But I will boast in Jesus Christ: his death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from his reward? I cannot give an answer.
But this I know with all my heart: his wounds have paid my ransom. *Refrain*
Text by Stuart Townend (b. 1963)

Scripture Reading Luke 23:39-43

Song of Supplication—Hymn #227 REMEMBER ME
“Jesus, Remember Me”
(3x)

The Death of Jesus

Scripture Reading Luke 23:44-49

Song of Commitment Emily Lund
“Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed”
Chancel Choir

Alas! And did my Savior bleed, and did my Sov’ reign die?
Did he devote that sacred Head for sinners such as I?

Was it for crimes that I have done he groaned upon the tree?
Amazing pity! Grace unknown! And love beyond degree!

Well might the sun in darkness hide and shut its glories in,
when Christ, the mighty Maker, died for his own creatures’ sin.

Thus might I hide my blushing face while his dear cross appears,
dissolve my heart in thankfulness, and melt mine eyes to tears.

But drops of grief can ne’er repay the debt of love I owe my Lord.
Here, I give myself away; ‘tis all that I can do.

Oh, take my voice and let me sing; Oh, take my hands to serve.
Oh, take my heart, it is thine own, and fill it with your love.
Text by Isaac Watts (1674-1748) and Emily Lund (b. 1971)

Jesus Is Buried

Scripture Reading Luke 23:50-56

Song of Contemplation—Hymn #228 (v. 1 & 5) WERE YOU THERE
“Were You There?”

Benediction

*Postlude “March to the Cross” Pyotr Tchaikovsky

The congregation is invited to leave in silence.

The practice of stripping the sanctuary dates from the seventh century and originally served the practical purpose of cleaning the sanctuary in preparation for Easter, when all things are made new. In time, however, the practice became ceremonial in its own right. In silence, liturgical and decorative objects including the Bible, the paraments, candles, and the pastors’ stoles, are removed. As we hear the drama of the desolation, abandonment, and darkness of the passion and death of our Lord in Scripture and music, we also see that drama unfold in our sacred space of worship. The sanctuary remains bare until the beginnings of the Easter celebration. The church remains in silence and desolation until Easter. Symbolically, Christ, stripped of his power and glory, is now in the hands of his captors who will take him to the cross.

Participating in Today’s Service:

Michael Lancaster, Director of Worship/Music
Angie Jenkins, Organist/Music Coordinator

Today’s greeters are:

Deborah McKnight, Leslie & Don Stewart and Donna Woods

Please keep in your prayers these members and friends of the congregation:

Frances Boggess (Sally Copeland’s niece), Foster Boone (Marty Boone’s brother),
Steve Castellaw, Blanche Fenner (Karen Sullivan’s mother),
Marc Good (Frances Hicks’ brother), Cecil Hines (Sally Copeland’s sister),
Makenzie Howard (Pam & Bill Peacock’s granddaughter),
Linda Lancaster, Ethan Lassiter (grandson of Marianne & E.G. Lassiter),
Ashley Turner Leverett (daughter of Peggy and Scott Turner),
Kelly McDuff, Arnall Page (son of Dr. & Mrs. John Page),
David Seaton (son of Nell and Charles Seaton),
Beth Sellers (Anne Sellers’ daughter-in-law), Veda & Jimmy Sherard,
Kay Smith, Kevin Tietze and Robert Whaley (Judy Joyner’s cousin).

Please keep in your prayers these members in the community and beyond:

Harriet Bauknight, Mike Bobo, Caroline Cook, Jodie Cook, Dianne Copeland,
Lyle Cox, Agnes Crowe, Steve Foster, Jackson Hall, K.C. Hembree,
Billie Jean Hendrix, Jeff James, Donna Kneeland, Cherry Martin,
Beth Moore (Wally Patzke’s wife), Lil Murphy, Melanie Nix,
Eliza Parish, Seth Satterwhite, Jim Shearon,
Gene Talley, Lil Waller and Woodrow Wilson.

WE WELCOME GUESTS who are worshipping with us today.

If you are seeking a church home and would like to follow Jesus Christ
through the fellowship of this congregation, we invite you to full or affiliate
membership. For more information, please speak with one of the ministers
after worship, or call the church office.

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday, April 14 11:00 Morning Worship Service
Congregational Luncheon

Monday, April 15 8:00 Men’s Prayer Breakfast
—Highlander Room

Tuesday, April 16 4:00 Book Club—*The Earth, Thy Great
Exchequer, Ready Lies*, by Jo Lloyd
—The Ugly Dog Public House

6:00 Community Dinner
—Community Building

Wednesday, April 17 11:30 HCCDC Children’s Church
3:00 Staff Meeting
4:00 Sacred Sounds Bell Choir Rehearsal
6:15 Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, April 18 5:30 ***Maundy Thursday Service & Dinner***
Sacrament of Holy Communion
—Coleman Hall

Friday, April 19 12:00 ***Good Friday Stations of the Cross***
Assemble at Our Lady of the Mountains
Catholic Church at noon. All area churches
are invited to participate.

Sunday, April 21

Ecumenical Easter Sunrise Service

7:00 am at the Highlands Memorial Park
(Rain or cold plan: Episcopal Church of the Incarnation Chapel)

Easter Celebration Sunday Service

9:30 Adult Education Class—Library
11:00 am at First Presbyterian Church
Sacrament of Holy Communion & Ministry of the Farthest Pew
With guest musicians Mario Gaetano, *Timpani* and a Brass Quintet

Monday, April 22

Office Closed

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Elder for the month of April is Delaine Nelson.

Maundy Thursday Dinner & Worship Service - Please join us on Thursday, April 18, at 5:30pm in Coleman Hall for a light dinner followed by a service of the Lord’s Supper. As we break bread together, we will center our worship on the last meal Jesus shared with his disciples.

Dinner for ESL/GED classes—FPCH will be providing dinner for the students of the Literacy Council’s ESL and GED classes on the first Thursday of each month. If you are interested in signing up on your own or with a team of volunteers to provide food and hospitality to our guests (one time or many times!), please contact Emily at the church office.

The Food Pantry is collecting egg cartons. Please recycle your egg cartons by bringing them to the church and placing them in the labeled box located in the Ravenel Room.

The 2019 Flower Calendar —To provide flowers in honor of a loved one, please fill out a flower leaflet and the flower calendar located upstairs in the main hallway. Contributions to the flower fund are always appreciated.

The Adult Education Class will begin studying *The Return of the Prodigal Son* by Henri J.M. Nouwen on Sunday, April 28. The class meets every Sunday morning at 9:30 a.m. in the Library. Books are available in the church office.

Alcoholics Anonymous —Weekly meetings every Monday, and Tuesday (women’s meeting), at 5:30 p.m. in the Library, Wednesday at 12:00 p.m. in the Library, and Friday at 12:00 p.m. in the Choir Room.

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