



# First Presbyterian Church

*A Stephen Ministry Congregation*

## Palm Sunday

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### THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

The mission of First Presbyterian Church of St. Petersburg is to be and make disciples of Jesus Christ, who know God and, through love, serve the Lord and others. We will accomplish our mission by practicing radical hospitality, passionate worship, intentional faith development, risk-taking mission, and extravagant generosity.

### PREPARATION

*(Please use the prelude as a time for reflection and preparation for worship.)*

*\*Please stand, if able. Responses are in boldface.*

#### PRELUDE

"Christ's Entry into Jerusalem"

Stanley E. Saxton  
(1904–2002)

Jack Rain, organist

#### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

Morning after morning, God grants us a new day; wake up to the joys and challenges life presents.

**This is the day that God has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

God equips us to face whatever the day may hold; watch and listen as God offers to teach us.

**We gather, seeking a blessing in the name of God. We come, thanking God for the gift of salvation.**

See the gates of righteousness thrown open for us; enter to praise God's marvelous works.

**God's steadfast love endures forever! Blessed is the one who comes in God's name.**

**\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN 196**

**"All Glory, Laud, and Honor"**

VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

**"This is The Day"**

Day School and Children's Choir

**"My God Is so Big"**

Day School Children

**PRAYER**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Jim Garnett, Elder

**We confess, O God, that we identify with times of optimism and applause. We like a religion that makes us feel good. We prefer safety and security and certainty. Then Jesus comes, riding on a donkey, reaching out to outsiders, proclaiming humble obedience as a virtue, challenging powerful people to change their ways. We sense danger. When Christ upsets our craving for stability, we turn away from the risks. We do not want to be rejected or face a cross. We are not sure we really want to be Christians. O God, help us! Amen.**

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

God contends with us in our fears, identifies our rebellion, and transforms our contrition into courage. Our Creator does not give up on us when we are discouraged or reject us when our pretensions get out of hand. God, who exalted Jesus, is ready to forgive and lift us up. Christ walks with us on the way of faithfulness, empowering us to become the disciples we are called to be. Friends, believe the Good News:

**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!**

# PROCLAMATION

**SPECIAL MUSIC** “Tell Me the Stories of Jesus” arr. Judy Checketts Hatch  
Children’s Choir and Chancel Choir  
(see insert for words)

## CHILDREN’S SERMON

*(Children are invited to come forward to the pulpit area for the Children’s Sermon. Afterward, they may return to their parent or guardian or leave the sanctuary for Godly Play.)*

**WORSHIP SONG** “Open up the Heavens” (see insert for words)

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

First Lesson: Psalm 118:1-2; 19-29 Jim Garnett  
(pew Bible, *Old Testament*, page 694)

Second Lesson: Luke 19:28-40 Dr. Dawn Conti  
(pew Bible, *New Testament*, page 101)

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**SERMON** “Great Expectations” Dr. Dawn Conti

## PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD’S PRAYER

(concluding with) **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.**

# RESPONSE

**PRESENTING OUR GIFTS** Michelle Carothers

**OFFERTORY**

“The Holy City”  
Todd Donovan, Baritone  
(see insert for words)

Stephen Adams

**\*DOXOLOGY**

OLD HUNDREDTH

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

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**SENDING**

**WORSHIP SONG**      “All the People Said Amen”      (see insert for words)

**\*BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

“Toccata for a Festival”

Gilbert M. Martin  
(b. 1941)

*The congregation is invited to come forward and stand by the organ console.  
The minister is available at the door as you leave.*

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## FPC NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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*A Stephen Ministry Congregation*

A digital copy of each Sunday's **11:00 a.m. order of worship and announcements** can be found on our website: [www.fpcstpete.com](http://www.fpcstpete.com). On the home page, click on "Sundays" then scroll down to "Sunday's Bulletin." Also online: our **Calendar of Events** is updated as we receive information, and may be accessed from our website's "Events" tab at the top of the page.

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### CHANCEL FLOWERS



**If you would like to honor or memorialize a loved one with chancel flowers**, please fill out a green envelope,

available in the church pew. Enclose your donation of \$45 with the memo "Chancel flowers." Flower envelopes may be dropped in the offering plate or delivered to the church office.

### PRAYER CONCERNS

**Please remember in prayer:** Ruth Bafaro, Millie Bradley, Katy Churchil, Kat Cline, Mark Estes, Joan Evans, Julie Evans, James Gonzales, Nancy Grandoff, Ron Hall, Larry and Diane Heath, Claire Hoel, Ann Holifield, Jean Howie, Barbara Hubbell, Walter Huber, Gary Hunt, Bonnie Jackson, Shirnice Johnson, Jim and Iberia Johnston, Anne Justiss, Glenice Kelley, Sam Kent, Richard Kirsch, Michael Liguori, Tom and Marie Machuga, Dave and Pam

Malone, Barbara Mauger, Gayle Moore, Camille Moran-Styles, Anne Mulder, Tamara Murphy, Del and Janet Poling, Jane Pruitt, Jean Reed, Lil Reid, Lee Scott, Jane Snoke, Laura Unger, Jill Whelpley and Rev. Alice Winters.

**Please pray for our family and friends serving in the military:** James Loeblein, USN; 1<sup>st</sup> LT. Taina Specie, USA; 2<sup>nd</sup> LT. Liam Shelton, USA; 2<sup>nd</sup> LT. Mallory Wasik, USMC; CPT. Robert Wilson, USAF. *Please provide us with mailing addresses for our card ministry for Easter greetings.* If you know of others, please contact **Blanche Ganey** ([bganey@fpc-stpete.org](mailto:bganey@fpc-stpete.org)).

### ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING OFFERING

Next Sunday we will collect the annual One Great Hour of Sharing offering to help people around the world affected by natural disasters.

## HOLY WEEK SERVICES

**This coming week is the highest point in our worship life as Christians. We invite you to take the spiritual journey through the week with us.**

**April 18, 7:00 p.m.**—Maundy Thursday communion and foot/hand washing service in fellowship hall.

**April 19, 7:30 p.m.**—Good Friday Tenebræ service in the sanctuary.

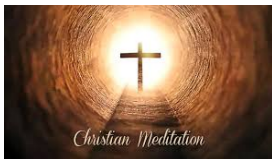
**April 21, 8:15, 9:00, and 11:00 a.m.**  
Resurrection Celebrations!

### FPC SECURITY TEAM



FPC is forming a security team to foster a safe environment for members, staff, day school students, visitors, and property; and we are looking for volunteers interested in serving on this team. If you are willing to serve or at least curious, please contact Dick Luehrs at (727) 866-7965 or [dicklu@windstream.net](mailto:dicklu@windstream.net).

### MEDITATION FOR CHRISTIANS



You are invited to experience meditation in a small group. We meet on alternate Tuesday evenings.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, April 16, in the chapel from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. Our group leader is **Carlen Maddux**. For more information, please contact **John Sims** (867-4032, or [simsjr@eckerd.edu](mailto:simsjr@eckerd.edu)). We welcome your inquiries and presence.

**BRING FLOWERS TO ADORN OUR EASTER CROSS ON EASTER MORNING AT THE 9:00 A.M. SERVICE!!**

### EASTER LILIES

Share the beauty of Easter by sponsoring a lily or lilies to be used as decoration in the Sanctuary. Easter lilies can be given in memory of a loved one or to honor family and friends. Suggested donation is \$15 per plant. *See insert.*

### PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN OUTING



Presbyterian women are going to the Museum of Fine Arts on April 29<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m. Please join us in the Conservation area of the museum for a docent-led tour of approximately one hour and then lunch together after at 400 Beach restaurant.

Group cost of museum ticket is \$14; lunch cost will vary based on your order. RSVP to Rachel Bowron at [rbowron@aol.com](mailto:rbowron@aol.com) by April 22<sup>nd</sup> to enjoy this fun day!

### ST. PETERSBURG FREE CLINIC NEEDS YOUR HELP



St. Petersburg Free Clinic's We Help pantry is always in need of volunteers. General hours

are Mon.-Wed., 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Thursday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Friday, 8 a.m. to noon. Four-hour shifts are available most of those times. You'll see lots of your First Pres buddies and be helping very grateful clients. Contact [volunteers@stpetersburgfreeclinic.org](mailto:volunteers@stpetersburgfreeclinic.org) or call 821-1200 x 114.

### JOIN US AFTER THE SERVICE TODAY FOR A TIME OF FELLOWSHIP



Take a minute immediately following the service for a moment of fellowship and to

enjoy a pastry and cold drink. The fellowship time is right out front of the church.

### FPC DAY SCHOOL'S 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY



We are excited to announce the celebration of the First Presbyterian Church Day School's 50<sup>th</sup>

anniversary. We hope you can join us on Saturday, May 4, for a special service in the sanctuary, open house, appetizers, a 1968 VW photo booth bus, and After Party at the Vinoy. Please click on the e-vite link on the Day School webpage to RSVP. We hope you can join us to commemorate 50 wonderful years as a preschool sharing God's love with the children in our community!

### THANK YOU FOR HELPING WITH EGGSTRAVAGANZA

What a wonderful time had by all at the annual Easter egg hunt. Thank you to all of the volunteers who helped make this a church and community success.

### IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO SIGN UP FOR THE CEDARKIRK CHURCHWIDE RETREAT

## THIS WEEK'S EVENTS AT FPC

### SUNDAY, APRIL 14

#### PALM SUNDAY

FPC Bus-Westminster Shores	8:30 AM	Church Bus
FPC Bus-Westminster Suncoast	9:00 AM	Church Bus
FPC Bus-Presbyterian Towers	9:15 AM	Church Bus
FPC Bus-Westminster Palms	9:30 AM	Church Bus
Valet Parking	10:00 AM	
<b>Blended Worship Service</b>	<b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>Sanctuary</b>
Yoga with Adam	3:00 PM	F'ship Hall
Youth Group	5:00 PM	Youth Cntr
Alcoholics Anonymous	8:00 PM	N-123

### MONDAY APRIL 15

Parents' Morning Out	9:00 AM	Child Care
PW Circle 3	9:30 AM	S-100
Stephen Minister Meeting	5:00 PM	S-100
Girl Scout Troop 094	6:30 PM	S-206
PW Circle 10	7:00 PM	S-100
PW Circle 9	7:30 PM	Off-site

### TUESDAY, APRIL 16

Parents' Morning Out	9:00 AM	Child Care
Children's Chapel	9:15 AM	F'ship Hall
Faith Development Bible Study	10:00 AM	N-123
GriefShare group	10:00 AM	Chapel
Church Staff Meeting	2:30 PM	N-218
Praise Band Rehearsal	6:00 PM	F'ship Hall
Finance Committee Meeting	6:30 PM	N-218
Girl Scout Troop 465	6:30 PM	S-206
Alcoholics Anonymous	7:30 PM	N-123

### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17

Parents' Morning Out	9:00 AM	Child Care
Children's Chapel	9:15 AM	F'ship Hall
MOPS	9:15 AM	Youth Cntr
Financial Peace	6:00 PM	Chapel
AA for Women	7:00 PM	N-123

### THURSDAY, APRIL 18

#### Maundy Thursday

Parents' Morning Out	9:00 AM	Child Care
Girl Scout Troop 560	6:00 PM	S-206
BSF Women's Bible Study	6:55 PM	Youth Cntr
Maundy Thursday Service	7:00 PM	F'ship Hall
Chancel Choir Rehearsal	8:00 PM	Choir Room

### FRIDAY APRIL 19

#### Good Friday

Men's Sunrise Bible Study	7:30 AM	N-123
Kids' Fun Day	9:00 AM	Child Care
Bible Study Lunch Bunch	12:00 PM	Off-site
Girl Scout Troop 560	6:00 PM	S-206
Good Friday Service	7:30 PM	Sanctuary

### SATURDAY, APRIL 20

Mainsail Art Show-FFIM parking	10:00 AM	Grass lot
Al-Anon Family Group	7:00 PM	N-123



Rev. Dr. Dawn Conti, Pastor ♦ Matt Clear, Director of Worship Music and the Arts ♦ Jonathan Rine, Contemporary Praise and Worship Leader ♦ Jack Rain, Organist ♦ David Aumack, Youth Coordinator ♦ Rev. Ruth Elswood, Parish Associate ♦ Ashley Davis, Day School Director ♦ Amy Grossenbacher, Admin. Asst. ♦ Carol Riley, Children's Ministry Coordinator ♦ Stacey Ramírez, Director of Child Care ♦ Linda Champion, Staff Accountant ♦ Blanche Ganey, Office Manager ♦ Johnny Miller, Building & Grounds Superintendent ♦ Bob Langley, Custodian  
 701 Beach Drive NE, St. Petersburg, Florida 33701 ♦ Church Office: (727) 822-2031 ♦ Fax: (727) 894-2971  
 Day School: (727) 894-5889 ♦ Web site: [www.fpcstpete.com](http://www.fpcstpete.com) ♦ E-mail: [office@fpc-stpete.org](mailto:office@fpc-stpete.org)



## **THIS WEEK'S EVENTS AT FPC**

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