



First Presbyterian Church

of Raleigh, North Carolina

Serving Christ from the heart of the city to the ends of the earth with love, faith and action.

March 24, 2024

Palm Sunday

We Gather in God's Presence

Gathering Music

Welcome and Announcements

Introit

Call to Worship

We come to prepare for the holiest of weeks.

**Together, we journey through praise, with joy on our lips;
We travel through betrayal and death, cradling hope deep in our
hearts.**

Jesus leads us through this week; may we have the courage to follow,
for he is the life we long for, he is the Word who sustains us.

**Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is the One who comes in the
name of the Lord!**

*Hymn

"All Glory, Laud and Honor"
(Procession of palms by children)

No. 196

Prayer of Confession

Judy Pidcock

**Holy God, we confess that we have sinned. And although we would like
to deny it, we have forsaken you. We are horrified by the suffering we
cause- to you, ourselves, and the world you have created. Open the
gates of your mercy and restore us in your love. Hear us now as we
silently confess our sin before you now.**

Kyrie

No. 575

Lord, have mercy upon us, Christ have mercy upon us. Lord have mercy upon us.

Assurance of Pardon

Response to Pardon

Friends in Christ, in response to this gift of God's grace, how then shall we live?
With gratitude, following after the Lord Jesus Christ, who calls us to love God with heart, soul, mind, and strength, and our neighbors as ourselves.

This is the way of Jesus, in whom we find life!

*Gloria Patri

No. 581

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.

Joys and Concerns of the Church Family

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession and The Lord's Prayer

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.

Congregational Response to Prayer

Hear our prayer, O Lord, hear our prayer, O Lord, incline thine ear to us, and grant us thy peace.

We Listen and Respond to God's Word

A Moment for Children (11:00)

Katy Schafer

(Children's Church is offered for four years - second grade during the sermon.)

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Readings

Isaiah 50:4-9a, Mark 11:1-11

(Today's lay reader is Mary Jo Littlewood, 11:00)

Sermon

“A Different Kind of Parade”

Laurie Taylor Weicher

*Hymn

“My Hope is Built on Nothing Less”

No. 353

* Affirmation of Faith (From *A Brief Statement of Faith*)

Troy Lesher-Thomas

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. 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. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

An Invitation to Generosity

Offertory

“He Shall Feed His Flock”

John Ness Beck

8:30 Mark Woodcock, 11:00 Chancel Choir

*Doxology

No. 606

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. (Tune: Old Hundredth)

*Prayer of Dedication

We Carry God’s Word into the World

*Hymn

“Hosanna, Loud Hosanna”

No. 197

*Charge and Benediction

*Benediction Response

No. 748

Go with us Lord, and guide the way through this and every coming day, that in Your Spirit, strong and true, our lives may be our gift to you.

*Postlude

*All those who are able may stand.

Offertory Lyrics

He shall feed His flock like a shepherd:
He shall gather the lambs with His arm,
and carry them in His bosom,
and gently shall lead those that are with young.

The Lord is my shepherd,
I shall not want. Amen

The Chancel Flowers are dedicated to the glory of God and are given in loving memory of Chris' sister, Robin Conn, and Amy's cousin, Jacqueline Leeba, by Chris and Amy Northup.

Today's acolyte is Silas Tunnell.

(Sunday morning childcare is available in the Stock building from 8:30-12:15)

Staff Directory (919) 821-5750

Troy Leshner-Thomas
Interim Pastor | Head of Staff
ext 2206
tlesher-thomas@fpcraleigh.org

Laurie Taylor Weicher
Associate Pastor
ext 2208
lweicher@fpcraleigh.org

Judy Pidcock
Parish Associate
ext 2219
jpidcock@fpcraleigh.org

Katy Schafer
Dir. of Children & Family Ministries

Gail Barrett
Church Administrator

Jonathan Regalado
Sexton

Beth Thaxton
Dir. of Youth Ministry & Christian Edu.
Mark Woodcock
Dir. of Music

Scott Sommerfeld
Facilities Manager
Jamie Williams
Office Manager

Peggy Taft
Int. Co. Dir. Child Dev. Ctr.
Valarie Vess
Int. Co. Dir. Child Dev. Ctr.

Kathy Johnson
Dir. of Community Outreach

Jean Suber
Communications Specialist

Melani Willhite
Financial Assistant

Meredith Rawls
Ministry Intern



Connect with us every week just to let us know you worshiped with us today or send us your prayer requests. Go to www.fpcraleigh.org/connect. To make a contribution to FPC, use this QR code.

On the Calendar This Week March 24 – March 30

Today Palm Sunday – Early Service 8:30a | Church School 9:45-10:40a | Late Service 11a
Serves, Sups and Sips 12-3p

Monday, Mar 25 – Bible Study 10:30-11:30a Vanguard Classroom | Staff Meeting 1-2p
Bible Study 6-7p Vanguard Classroom

Tuesday, Mar 26 – Glenaire Bible Study 2-3p

Wednesday, Mar 27 – Early Birds 6:30-8a | Property & Insurance 6-7p | Session 7-8:30p

Maundy Thursday, Mar 28 – Maundy Thursday Service 7-8:30p

Good Friday, Mar 29 – Good Friday Service 12-1p

Saturday, Mar 30 – No activities or events scheduled.

Announcements and Upcoming Events

Holy Week Schedule of Services

Today, Palm Sunday, March 24, 8:30am & 11am | *Maundy Thursday*, March 28, 7pm Communion & Tenebrae | *Good Friday*, March 29, 12pm Service of Prayer & Reflection | *Easter Sunrise Service*, March 31, 6am Capital Lawn | *Easter Sunday*, March 31, 8:30am & 11am. Childcare will be provided for the regular scheduled Sunday services as well as Maundy Thursday service.

Easter Egg Hunt and Reception

Easter Sunday, March 31, 9:45am, meet in the Sanctuary for a short message from a pastor. We will walk together to the Capitol Lawn for an Easter egg hunt followed by a reception in Memorial Hall. A great activity for the whole family. All are welcome and bring your basket! Thank you to everyone who donated candy.

FPC Officer Nomination

Your 2024 Nominating Committee has opened nominations for the offices of Elder and Deacon, Class of 2027. Nomination forms can be found on the counter in the Gathering Space, Sunday School rooms or by scanning the QR Code found around the church. Please place completed forms in the box on the counter in the Lisa Ham Gathering Space or in Darcy Dye Bowers' box on the 2nd floor of the Edge Building by Sunday, April 7.

Adult Fellowship

Thursday, April 11 from 11am to 1pm, Lunch and Bingo! Come and enjoy fun, fellowship, games and more! All are welcome, so be sure to invite a friend. RSVP with the church by noon, April 8.

FPC College Scholarships

College scholarships from First Presbyterian Church are available! For all those interested in this opportunity, printed copies of applications are available at the Edge Lobby Welcome Center. The deadline for all submissions is April 14.

FPC Mission Fair

Save the Date! Sunday, April 28 from 8:00am-1:00pm, Memorial Hall. Sponsored by the FPC Mission Committee and FPC Foundation

FPC Shares Item for March

This month's FPC Shares item is Canned Spaghetti or Ravioli! Bring this item and/or your favorite non-perishable food donations to the church. There are FPC Shares receptacles on both sides of the Edge Lobby and in two places in the Lisa Ham Gathering Space outside the sanctuary.

The Columbarium is Now Open!

The columbarium remodeling and landscaping project is finished. If you would like to visit and you have a key, you may come anytime. If you don't have a key, please come to the Church Office and we will be happy to assist you with entry.

Mission Partners and Highlights

Family Promise of the Triangle

Each year in Wake County, nearly 8,000 children experience homelessness. Family Promise of the Triangle is working to bring that number down to zero. Their mission is to move families at risk of or experiencing homelessness into sustainable, permanent housing in our community through a continuum of support services.

Family Promise of Wake County began in 1994 as Wake Interfaith Hospitality Network (WIHN), a 501(c)(3) providing church-based emergency shelter and meals to Wake County families experiencing temporary homelessness. Since then, they've expanded the services they offer to include life-skills training, case management provided by social workers, a day center and transitional housing.

They remain one of only three emergency shelters in Wake County to allow families to stay together, regardless of the ages and genders of the children and parents, sparing parents the difficult choice between keeping their families together and finding a safe place for their children to sleep. Family Promise is one of few homelessness nonprofits to offer a continuum of services and partnerships to move families all the way from homelessness to safe, affordable, permanent housing.

The First Presbyterian Church Mission budget annually supports the work of Family Promise. And, First Presbyterian Church is a host congregation for Family Promise three to four weeks per year. Post pandemic, instead of hosting families on campus, we provide dinners and collect supplies for the families. Our next hosting week is in June.

A team of FPC members and staff went to Family Promise Community Center on Tuesday to host a craft and Easter Egg hunt. Fun and fellowship was had by all. Today after worship, we will be cleaning out our Family Promise supply closet in the Stock building. Meet in the Edge Lobby after worship if you're interested in participating.