

March 24, 2024
Palm Sunday



Koenig, Peter. *Palm Sunday*, from *Art in the Christian Tradition*, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN

To join worship this morning via zoom app, click this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83928727469?pwd=WFhzWkJFQjBhTlp4UEUvdWRhS2lKdz09>

(if you are asked for a password, it is: 890967). **To dial in by phone** call 1 312 626 6799. When prompted, enter **839 2872 7469#**. Next, you will be prompted to enter your participant ID or to push #; **simply push # again.**

Music will be displayed on the screen during the service.

Prelude

Welcome

Hymn 213: "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"

Scripture: Mark 11:1–11

Anthem: "Lift Up Your Heads, You Mighty Gates," Peter Niedmann

Time with Children

Sermon: "Inhabiting the Story" by Chris Bohnhoff

Song: "Hosanna! Come and Deliver" by Ray MacKeever. *The choir will sing the verses; please join them in singing the refrain:*

Prayers of the People

Please share your prayer requests in the chat and we will pray with you.

Lord's Prayer

A commonly used form is printed below. You are welcome to use the version most meaningful to you.

Our God, 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 for ever. Amen.

Offering

We invite your financial gifts to support our ministries within and beyond First Church. March's special offering is dedicated to the First Church Little Free Pantry. You can give electronically at our website:

www.firstchurchmn.org; click on the "Support Us" link. You can also give by texting 612-255-4109: "\$(amount) Special" (for the monthly offering) or "\$(amount) General Fund. If you give by check, please make it out to First Church with "Pantry" in the memo line.

Offertory: "Were You There," spiritual; arr. Richard Proulx

Offertory Response

Prayer of Dedication

Announcements

Hymn 222: “My Song Is Love Unknown”

Benediction

Postlude

Thanks to those who serve in the following roles today:

Valet: Mary Korsmo

Usher: Kris Felbeck

Reader: Xan Laurence

Tech Support: Maggie George, Hikaru Peterson

Coffee Hour: Sally Wingert, Tim Danz

Special Music: Ann Sather, violin

Coming up this week

Sunday, March 24

9:30a: Coffee hour

10a: Worship / Palm Sunday (hybrid)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83928727469?pwd=WFhzWkJFQjBhTlp4UEUvdWRhS2lKdz09>

11:15a: Coffee hour (hybrid—stay on Zoom call)

11:30a: All-ages Holy Week Walk

Monday, March 25

9:30a: SE Playgroup

6p: Justice Team potluck/meeting

Tuesday, March 26

1p: Building Committee

Wednesday, March 27

7p: Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 28

9:30a: SE Playgroup

6p: Maundy Thursday potluck/service (service is hybrid)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83928727469?pwd=WFhzWkJFQjBhTlp4UEUvdWRhS2lKdz09>

Friday, March 29

7p: Good Friday service (hybrid)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83928727469?pwd=WFhzWkJFQjBhTlp4UEUvdWRhS2lKdz09>

Sunday, March 31

8a: Early Worship @Stone Arch Bridge

8:45a: Easter Breakfast/Egg Hunt

10a: Worship/Easter Sunday (hybrid)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83928727469?pwd=WFhzWkJFQjBhTlp4UEUvdWRhS2lKdz09>

Holy Week events at First Church

- Maundy Thursday, March 28, 6p; potluck meal and worship. (If you can help with set up or clean up, or bring food, please sign up in the back of the Sanctuary).
- Good Friday, March 29, 7p worship
- Easter Sunday, March 31: 8a worship at the Stone Arch Bridge; 8:45a breakfast and Easter Egg Hunt; 10a worship in the Sanctuary (hybrid). (If you can bring a food item for the Easter breakfast, please sign up in the back of the Sanctuary.)

Stories @First: A Story Slam Event, Saturday April 13, 7–9p. The theme is “wonder.” This event is being planned by the Faith Formation and Hospitality and Engagement Teams as a way to share with our neighbors our congregation’s love of creating community through storytelling. If you would like to be a story-teller or help out with hosting the event, please sign up in the back of the sanctuary. Please invite friends using email or social media, or take printed fliers to share.

Study Hall returns! May 1–3. We look forward to once again providing space for our student neighbors to study during finals! Please let Candy Matzke know if you are interested in helping host or getting the word out (candymatzke@netscape.net).

Taking action on Gaza. This past Monday, several members of our congregation participated in the Christians for a Free Palestine Day of Action at Sen Klobuchar's office and Jane offered the sermon. Copies of the sermon are available on the table outside the office. (Email the office for an electronic copy)

Renewing our covenant to be a Just Peace church. In 1985, The General Synod (the national gathering of the United Church of Christ) passed a Just Peace resolution. General Synod resolutions serve as a witness to the whole church, rather than a mandate that is binding for people or congregations. In 1987, First Church passed our own resolution declaring ourselves a Just Peace church. In the small groups about Gaza, we read the Just Peace resolution and discussed what it might mean to renew our covenant as a just peace church in the present day. One idea we'd like to implement right away is to encourage members to join in praying the "world peace prayer" at noon each day (a longstanding tradition begun by Benedictine nuns and referenced in the resolution). We anticipate that doing it together at the same time will be a very meaningful yet simple way to connect with each other and also to remind ourselves of our commitments to be peace-makers.

Here is the prayer (which is based on a verse from the Upanishads):

Lead me/us from death to life, from falsehood to truth.

Lead me/us from despair to hope, from fear to trust.

Lead me/us from hate to love, from war to peace.

Let peace fill our hearts, our world, our universe.

Chimes returns in May! If you would like to contribute an article to the May issue Chimes, please send it to Sarah Tittle (office@firstchurchmn.org) no later than April 15. The issue after May will be published in September 2024.