

First Presbyterian Church



March 28, 2021
9:30 a.m. In-Person & Live Streaming

525 North Broadway • Wichita, Kansas 67214 • (316) 263-0248
www.firstchurchwichita.org

March 28, 2021

Palm Sunday

9:30 a.m.

Prelude

The Palms

Jean Baptiste Faure

Greetings

*Call to Worship

Leader: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

People: Hosanna in the highest.

*Prayer of the Day

We praise you, O God, for your redemption of the world through Jesus Christ. Today he entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph and was proclaimed Messiah and king by those who spread garments and branches along his way. Let these branches be signs of his victory, and grant that we who carry them may follow him in the way of the cross, that, dying and rising with him, we may enter into your kingdom, through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

*Processional Hymn

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna (Vs. 1, 3)

No. 89

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, we confess that you upend our notion of power by Jesus riding a beast of burden into Jerusalem. This was a sign that he came in peace not as a conquering hero back from battle, carrying with him the spoils of victory. Jesus had his disciples gather gleanings from the field and they laid them down in his path proclaiming, "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord." The crowd misread the sign and so do we.

We want a Messiah who will fight our battles, who will slay our enemies, who will bring home the spoils of victory. We will gladly hail you as Savior if you deliver the goods. But when you do not deliver the goods, we turn against you as the crowd did when their cheers turned to jeers, "Crucify him."

Forgive us for not seeing that the victory you seek is over sin. You will die to show us a better way to live and to love-- for you are the way, the truth, and the life. Help us to embrace the peace you bring so that the war within stops and we take our rightful place one step behind you as one of your disciples. This we pray in your holy name, Amen.

Silence

Choral Response

Assurance of Pardon

*The Peace

Leader: ...The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Kids Connection (pre-recorded)

First Reading

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

Anthem

Palm Branches

J. Faure/arr. Carl Bruche

Second Reading

Mark 11:1-11

Sermon

"A Well-Choreographed Coronation"

Rev. Dr. Brent O. Johnston

*Affirmation of Faith - excerpt from *A Brief Statement of Faith*

People: In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.

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.

With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Call to Stewardship

Offertory *King of Kings* Ligertwood/Ingram
Sarah Gutierrez, Alto; Jesse Warkentin, Piano; Steve Bixler, Guitar

*Doxology *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* No. 592

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn *All Glory, Laud and Honor* (Vs. 1, 2, 3) No. 88

*Charge and Benediction

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Choral Response

*Postlude *Passion Chorale* Raymond Haan

*signifies congregation standing (for those able)

Worship Leaders

Pastor	Brent O. Johnston
Liturgist	Rev. Dave Fulton
Director of Music	Steve Bixler
Organist	Mark Sweeney

Production Crew

Dave Muehl, Sound; Sailor Sulier, Computer Graphics;
Bob Moler, Camera Operator; Michelle Edwards, Video Editor.

Upcoming Events & News

Tod Bolsinger, author of *Canoeing the Mountains: Church Leadership in Uncharted Territory* will give the Sermon on Sunday, April 11.

In the early 1800's, Lewis and Clark led an expedition across the newly acquired western territory of the U.S. The chief purpose of this exploration was to find a practical water route to the Pacific Ocean. But what did they find instead? The magnificent but daunting Rocky Mountains. No way were the canoes and paddles they brought along going to work. Change was needed. Many challenges lay ahead and they had to literally lead their expedition into uncharted territory.

As with the Lewis and Clark expedition, First Presbyterian Church is and will be facing challenges in our future. Not that we don't get a lot of things right and do a lot of good things. So did Lewis and Clark! But like this adventuresome duo, this church will face some things that we have not faced before.

As part of our Durfee 360 series, the Rev. Bolsinger will preach at our worship service (virtually) on Sunday, April 11. Tod is a Presbyterian pastor and now serves as Vice President and Chief of Leadership Formation at Fuller Theological Seminary. Trained in the same vernacular utilized by the Kansas Leadership Center, he will give us a look of how these leadership principals can be applied to the church. [Please join us!](#)

CHURCH SESSION MOTIONS APPROVED

Session Motions passed March 16, 2021 to begin on March 22, 2021.

Reopen the church to all groups (of any size) beginning Monday, March 22.

Requirements for all church functions:

- no shared food, practice social distancing and wear face masks that cover the mouth and nose.
- In addition, due to the cleaning/sanitizing that will be necessary after a meeting, meetings must be scheduled through the office at least 2 days in advance of the desired date/time.
- In addition, the only food available will be individually wrapped.
- Temperature checks will no longer be required to participate in Sunday morning worship.

News & Events

Easter is Here!!

Invite Friends & Join Your FPC Family for Easter Celebration!

First Church Families have a variety of ways to celebrate the resurrection of Christ and the merriment of being with family and friends again! On April 4th, you can join our celebration in one of two ways or do both!

Easter Service in the Sanctuary at 9:30 a.m. will be in-person as well as live streamed.

Easter Tidings & Prayers will be at 11 a.m. outside in the west church parking lot. Both services will provide amazing live music, fellowship, goodie bags, pictures with the Easter Bunny and spiritual messages. If joining us outside, bring a lawn chair or listen from your car! If there is inclement weather, the Easter Tidings & Prayers will be held in The Parlor.

Bring your own lawn chair!

The Durfee 360 Series Presents

***The Breadth of Salvation* by Tom Greggs, PhD.**

Do You Have Questions About Your Salvation?

- *"Are our imaginations of salvation too narrow, self-obsessed, and self-justifying for the nature of the gospel?"*
- *"We should dare to hope that salvation is wider and broader and higher and deeper than we ever might imagine."*

These are the words of Tom Greggs, PhD. called one of today's leading Christian theologians, and author of the recent book *The Breadth of Salvation*.

Through the generosity of the Durfee 360 Lecture Series, **Dr. Greggs will be at our church (virtually) to present four lectures during March.** Dr. Greggs, FRSE, holds the Marischal Chair at the University of Aberdeen, where he also serves as the Head of Divinity.

There will be two opportunities to hear Dr. Greggs:

- **Sunday mornings, 10:45 a.m. (March 7, 14, 21, and 28)**
 - Lectures with "live" discussion sessions with Dr. Greggs
- **Wednesday evenings, 6:30 p.m. (March 10, 17, 24, 31)**
 - Lecture with discussion session led by Pastor Brent

Classes will be held via Zoom, pending any changes regarding COVID-19.



Welcome, Visitors!

We extend a special welcome to those who are visiting First Presbyterian Church this morning. We are glad you are here! If you recently had a change in address, e-mail, or phone number, please feel free to contact the office on Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. so that we may update your information.
Please remember to turn off your cell phone before worship this morning.

All persons must sign in upon entry of the building at this time for safety reasons due to COVID-19.

Children’s Information-Children are welcome in worship. We do not mind a little fidgeting and fussing in the pew. And, finally, we encourage you to consider the Nursery, which is located in the south end of the Case Building, where we have trained Staff to look after and engage your child from birth to Kindergarten. If we need to contact you during worship, just give us your cell number and we will text you. You and your child’s (spiritual, emotional, and social) needs are important to us. (Liz Norris-Director of Children’s Ministry)

A quick reminder: Under the Child Protection Policy children are not allowed to leave the Sanctuary without an adult escort. In addition, all children and youth group activities including children in the Nursery must be supervised by a minimum of 2 authorized staff or volunteers.
 Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sunday Kids Connection-Kids Connection is prerecorded as part of the live stream worship service at 9:30 a.m. on Sundays. If you have questions on how to find the group, please call Liz at (316) 214-4318.

Praying for the Church Family-As a congregation we weekly focus our personal and corporate prayers upon a selection of church members and friends. Let us remember in prayer this week the following: Jackson Haltom, Velta Clough, Elfie Alexander, and Pearl Whittit.

Calendar

<p>Sunday, March 28 <i>Palm Sunday</i></p> <p>9:30 Worship (Sanctuary) In-Person, Live Streaming, & Facebook Live</p> <p>10:00 Refugee Worship (Rm 204)</p> <p>10:30 Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)</p> <p>10:45 Durfee 360 Class (Zoom/<i>The Well</i>)</p> <p>12:00 WOW Bible Study (YL)</p> <p>Monday, March 29</p> <p>1:30 Book Study (C109)</p> <p>Tuesday, March 30</p> <p>1:00 Staff Mtg (MS Teams/<i>The Well</i>)</p> <p>2:00 Pastoral Staff Mtg (MS Teams/<i>The Well</i>)</p> <p>Wednesday, March 31</p> <p>9:00 Dorcas (Rm C105)</p> <p>6:00 Youth Club (YL)</p> <p>6:30 Durfee 360 (Zoom/<i>The Well</i>)</p>	<p>Thursday, April 1</p> <p>7:00 Maundy Thursday Service with Communion (Sanctuary)</p> <p>Friday, April 2</p> <p>7:00 Good Friday with Tenebrae Service (Zoom)</p> <p>Saturday, April 3</p> <p>8:00 Community Breakfast (WDR/KIT)</p> <p>Sunday, April 4 <i>Easter Sunday with Communion</i></p> <p>9:00 Coffee Fellowship-Easter Sunday Only (<i>The Well</i>)</p> <p>9:30 Worship (Sanctuary) In-Person, Live Streaming, & Facebook Live</p> <p>10:00 Refugee Worship (Rm 204)</p> <p>10:30 Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)</p> <p>11:00 Easter Tidings and Prayers (Sports Court/West Parking Lot)</p>
--	---

YOUR LEADERSHIP EDGE REGISTRATION INFORMATION

The next sessions of the Kansas Leadership Center’s Your Leadership Edge class will be held on April 14-15, May 5-6, June 2-3, and July 7-8. Courses are held online using Zoom. Sessions begin at 8:30 a.m. and end by 2 p.m. with generous breaks built into each day. To enroll in a class:

1. Go to the Kansas Leadership Center’s Your Leadership Edge page (www.kansasleadershipcenter.org/yourleadershipedge)
2. Look for a blue box that says, “Create Account Here to Register.” Click on that box to start your registration, then select the option to create your account.
3. Toward the end of the registration, there will be an option to enter a promo code. Be sure to enter FirstPrez2020 to waive the registration fee.
4. Watch for an email confirmation of your class registration.

The two books used in the class are available at no charge and located in the church office. These are Your Leadership Edge: Lead Anytime, Anywhere and the KLC Guidebook. If you have questions about the training or need assistance with your registration, contact Cynthia Berner, facilitator of our Core Transformation Team, at ictbooks@gmail.com or 641-7587.

--Cynthia Berner, Transformation Team Facilitator