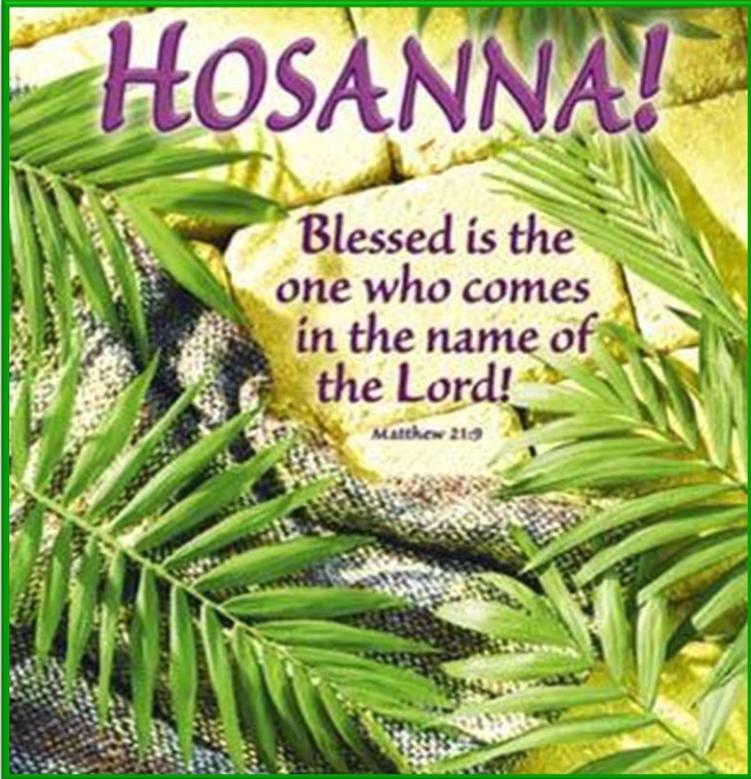


First Presbyterian Church
Salem, Ohio

March 29, 2026

10:30 a.m.

Palm / Passion Sunday



Worship will be live streamed on
Facebook: First Presbyterian Church of Salem, Ohio,
You Tube: www.youtube.com/FPCSALEM; and
our website, www.fpcsaalem.org.

"We are centered in Christ and powered by love."

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

*Please stand if you are able.

PRELUDE

Where Charity and Love Prevail

Lucius Chaplin

My Song is Love Unknown

Dale Wood

*Let us silently turn our hearts, minds, and
bodies to the worship of God as the
light of Christ is brought forward.*

PROCESSIONAL

PRELUDE

Intermezzo

James Mansfield

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please take a moment to sign and pass the Attendance Pad.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

"Hosanna!" They shouted. "Save us!"

"Hosanna!" We're shouting. "Save us!"

Savior, ride into our hearts again, wash us with excitement and hope, give us a reason to praise and to shout again,

"Hosanna! Hosanna!"

*HYMN 89

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

Accompaniment by Carillon Ringers

*INVITATION TO CONFESSION

When we say, "We don't sin," we deny who we are. But when we say, "There's no way out," we deny who God is. Trusting that God's grace is more powerful than our sin, let us confess our sins together.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*Unison*)

Holy Christ, we confess that amidst all the Palm Sunday crowds, we find ourselves in more turmoil than triumph. Our faith is unsteady. Our wisdom is eroding. Our resolve is shaken. Our mercy is hardening. Our hope is weakening. Come again and save us from these sins. Give us strength to follow you, our humble Savior and our all in all. Amen.

(Moments of Silent Prayer)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear this promise: Jesus has set his face toward the cross.

Nothing we can do can deter him.

He has determined that we are worth saving.

**By the power of the cross, by the power of wondrous love,
we are forgiven.**

Thanks be to God. Amen.

*GLORIA PATRI (*Unison; Hymn 579*)

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.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Fairest Lord Jesus

Carillon Ringers

Arr. Sandra Eithun

Jan Cox, Piano

THE WORD OF GOD AMONG US

THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (*Unison*)

Holy Spirit, share with us your wisdom; gift us with your hope; sustain us with your truth. Be in our hearing and our thinking, that through the words of Scripture we might know your call on our lives. Amen.

THE FIRST READING

Philippians 2:5-11

⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, ⁷but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, ⁸he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death – even death on a cross. ⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

This is the Word of the LORD.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

The Haviland Choir

Sing to the Lord Hosanna!

Patrick Liebergen

Cheryl McDevitt, Flute

Hope Publishing Company, CCL#2595933

Sing hosanna! Sing Hosanna! Sing hosanna in the highest!
Sing hosanna, hosanna! Sing to the Lord hosanna!
Sing hosanna!
Sing to the Lord hosanna! Sing hosanna, hosanna!
Sing to the Lord hosanna!
Sing hosanna! Sing to the Lord hosanna!
Sing hosanna! Sing to the Lord hosanna!
Sing hosanna! Sing to the Lord hosanna!

Blessed is He, the King adored;
lift your voice, O praise the Lord!
Joyfully sing, He enters here;
join the songs resounding clear!
All the people call Him King,
hear the news we gladly bring!

Shout hosannas to His name;
loud hosannas we proclaim!

Sing hosanna, hosanna! Sing to the Lord hosanna!
Sing hosanna, hosanna! Sing to the Lord hosanna!
Sing hosanna! Sing to the Lord hosanna!
Sing hosanna, hosanna! Sing to the Lord hosanna!
Sing hosanna! Sing to the Lord hosanna! Sing hosanna!
Sing to the Lord hosanna! Sing to the Lord hosanna!

THE GOSPEL READING

Matthew 26:14-35

¹⁴ Then one of the twelve, who was called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests ¹⁵ and said, "What will you give me if I betray him to you?" They paid him thirty pieces of silver. ¹⁶ And from that moment he began to look for an opportunity to betray him. ¹⁷ On the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Where do you want us to make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?" ¹⁸ He said, "Go into the city to a certain man and say to him, 'The Teacher says, My time is near; I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples.' " ¹⁹ So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover meal. ²⁰ When it was evening, he took his place with the twelve disciples, ²¹ and while they were eating he said, "Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me." ²² And they became greatly distressed and began to say to him one after another, "Surely not I, Lord?" ²³ He answered, "The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me. ²⁴ The Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born." ²⁵ Judas, who betrayed him, said, "Surely not I, Rabbi?" He replied, "You have said so." ²⁶ While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body." ²⁷ Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; ²⁸ for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. ²⁹ I tell you, I will never again drink of

this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom."

³⁰ When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. ³¹ Then Jesus said to them, "You will all fall away because of me this night, for it is written, 'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.'" ³² "But after I am raised up, I will go ahead of you to Galilee." ³³ Peter said to him, "Even if all fall away because of you, I will never fall away." ³⁴ Jesus said to him, "Truly I tell you, this very night, before the cock crows, you will deny me three times." ³⁵ Peter said to him, "Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you." And so said all the disciples.

This is the Gospel of the LORD.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

"The Truth Hurts"

Rev. Annie Parker

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD IN OUR LIVES

*HYMN 94

An Upper Room Did Our Lord Prepare

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*Unison*)

Jesus died for sinners.

One of Jesus' followers betrayed him.

Others abandoned and denied him

because they were afraid to stand with him.

He was sentenced, mocked, beaten,

and crucified as a common criminal.

We confess that in the execution of Jesus

the sin of the human race reached its depths.

The only innocent One was condemned and put to death,

not by the sinfulness of one nation,

but by the sinfulness of us all.

(from "A Declaration of Faith," 1977)

MINUTE FOR MISSION

One Great Hour of Sharing Offering

Adam Seefeldt

CALL TO OFFERING / OFFERTORY

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

Arr. Fred Bock

One Great Hour of Sharing Offering envelopes are in Pew Racks.

*RESPONSE HYMN 592 (*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*)

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (*Unison*)

O God of Welcome and Waving Palms, as the crowd offered to you their praise and the palms on the road, so we share these gifts out of the abundance you have provided. May they be for the healing salvation and work of justice you are bringing about in the world through your unending love. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND SUPPLICATION/LORD'S PRAYER (*sins*)

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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

WE ENTER THE WORLD AS GOD'S PEOPLE

*HYMN 536

Lord, Make Us More Holy

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE (*Hymn 2162, Sing the Faith, Grace Alone*)

Every promise we can make, every prayer and step of faith,
every difference we will make is only by his grace.

Every mountain we will climb, every ray of hope we shine,

every blessing left behind is only by his grace.
Grace alone which God supplies,
strength unknown he will provide.
Christ in us our Cornerstone;
we will go forth in grace alone.

*Please remain standing as the Light of Christ
is carried into the world.*

POSTLUDE

Hail! Jesus Christ Our Redeemer

Hugh S. Livingston Jr.

Head Ushers: Wanda Navoyosky, Sandy Quinn

Liturgist: Tyson Jackson

Light-Bearer: Joseph Seefeldt

Bulletins have been given anonymously with thanks to all John, Jan, and all who help us worship through their gift of music.

Flowers have been given by Paul and Barbara Fennema in honor of Dan Fennema's birthday, and by Margaret Winch for the gift of Peterson Winch and Claire Janavitz.

Open dates are April 19 (1 vase), April 26 (2 vases), May 3 (1 vase), May 10 (1 vase). Cost is \$10.00 a vase.

Updated Membership Directories are available at Sanctuary entrances.

Soup to Go Today – Chicken Noodle

Quart containers of Chicken Noodle Soup will be available for \$8.00 for 1 or \$15.00 for 2 in the Kitchen. If at all possible, please consider adding a small donation when you purchase your soup. Please return jars and lids.

Environmental Team meeting today after Worship

Daytimers – Wednesday, April 1

April 1st (no kidding) Daytimers will feature Denni Dattilio, from Organizing by Denni LLC, who will speak to us about decluttering. Titled “Someday this will all be you yours,” she explains how to eliminate much of the STUFF we have accumulated over the years that our kids just don't want. Bring a small dish for the potluck at noon and join us for a lively talk.

Maundy Thursday Worship – April 2 at 7:30 p.m.

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper / Tenebrae

The Church Office will be closed on Good Friday.

Good Friday Worship – April 3 at Noon

Easter Worship – April 5

Sunrise Service at 8:30 a.m. Outside (Chapel if raining)

Traditional Service at 10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Paper Shredding Event – April 18

The Salem Public Library Community Paper Shred will take place on Saturday, April 18, from 10:00 to 12:00 in the library parking lot.

The Environmental Team is busy planning for the next Earth Sunday which will be celebrated on April 19. Our theme this year is “Leave Them a Flower.” Just as a flower needs clean air, water, and a clean place to live, so too will those who come after us. One the Team has chosen to do a book study using the book “The Serviceberry,” written by Robin Wall Kimmerer. It is a book about abundance and reciprocity in the Natural World. Grace Smith has offered to lead our study. The first session of our study will take place following our worship service on Earth Sunday. Books for the study will be ordered soon. If you are interested in joining the book study, please let Phyllis know by April 7th so we can get the books ordered and to you by April 12.

One Great Hour of Sharing Offering – Sharing God’s love with our neighbors-in-need around the world provides relief from natural disasters (Presbyterian Disaster Assistance), food for the hungry (Presbyterian Hunger Program), and support for the poor and oppressed (Self-Development of People). Please give what you can. When we all do a little, it adds up to a lot.

Vision Statement

*To glorify God and share the Spirit and love of Christ
with our community and the world.*

Palm Sunday, March 29

2:00 Cub Scout Pack 3 (Basement)

Monday, March 30

6:30 2003 Family Troop (Basement)

Tuesday, March 31

9:30 Holy Yoga (Fellowship Hall)

5:30 Lent Study (Library)

Wednesday, April 1

12:00 Daytimers (FH) – *Organizing by Denni LLC*

6:00 Carillon Ringers (200)

7:00 Haviland Choir (S)

Maundy Thursday, April 2

9:30 Holy Yoga (Fellowship Hall)

7:30 Maundy Thursday Worship (S)

Good Friday, April 3

Church Office Closed

12:00 Good Friday Worship (S)

Easter Sunday, April 5

8:30 Sunrise Service – Outside (Chapel, if raining)

10:30 Traditional Worship (S)

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pastorannie@fpcsaalem.org
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