

First Presbyterian Church of Farmington

The Church of the Open Hands
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April 5, 2020 Palm Sunday

Prayer of Preparation Joyce Rupp

God of Joy and Arrival, enter our lives as Christ entered Jerusalem. "My feet take me through each day but the rest of me just drags along, wondering if I will ever feel at home, doubting if this path is right for me. Assure me with glimmers of peace that this transition can be a source of growth. Grant me hopeful eyes to see beyond today to the time when joy will tumble freely. Lift up my heart and comfort me."

We Enter Into God's Presence

*Please stand in body or spirit

Welcome Minute for Mission - OGHS

Reflection: "Certainty"

Prophetic Word Zechariah 9: 9

The Coming Ruler of God's People

⁹ Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem! Lo, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

Opening Hymn & 196 Lighting of Christ Candle All Glory, Laud, and Honor (refrain, v. 1, refrain)

The Pharisee Jerry Custer

John the Disciple (refrain, v.2) Kris Kehrer

Prayer of Affirmation (read responsively)

Liturgist: I will not put down my palms.

All: I will not put down my palms.

Liturgist: I believe that Jesus is my Messiah no matter what others say about riding on a donkey.

All: I will not put down my palms.

Liturgist: It has been a long time coming, and I am no longer afraid to humble myself and claim Jesus as the Son of God.

All: I will not put down my palms.

Liturgist: I believe that I have been forgiven and no longer need to beg when I stand with others who want to be healed.

All: I will not put down my palms.

Liturgist: I can follow the light of this world.

All: I will not put down my palms.

Liturgist: Because Jesus promised us when he left that the Holy Spirit would be with us, I too, can do great things and no longer need to live in the darkness that has overwhelmed me.

All: I will not put down my palms.

*Congregational Response

Awesome God

Our God is an awesome God Who reigns from heaven above With wisdom, power, and love; Our God is an awesome God!

We Hear God's Word

Mindfulness Prayer

Gospel Lesson Mark 11:15 - 18

NT Pages 47-48

Jesus Cleanses the Temple

Sharon York

¹⁵ Then they came to Jerusalem. And he entered the temple and began to drive out those who were selling and those who were buying in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who sold doves; ¹⁶ and he would not allow anyone to carry anything through the temple.

¹⁷ He was teaching and saying, "Is it not written, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer for all the nations'? But you have made it a den of robbers."

¹⁸ And when the chief priests and the scribes heard it, they kept looking for a way to kill him; for they were afraid of him, because the whole crowd was spellbound by his teaching.

The Beggar Woman Pam Jusino

The Song of Expectation #88 O Come. O Come. Emmanuel

Gospel Lesson Mark 14:1 - 9 NT Page 51

The Plot to Kill Jesus Pastor Eddie

14 It was two days before the Passover and the festival of Unleavened Bread. The chief priests and the scribes were looking for a way to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill him; ² for they said, "Not during the festival, or there may be a riot among the people."

The Anointing at Bethany

³ While he was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he sat at the table, a woman came with an alabaster jar of very costly ointment of nard, and she broke open the jar and poured the ointment on his head. ⁴ But some were there who said to one another in anger, "Why was the ointment wasted in this way? ⁵ For this ointment could have been sold for more than three hundred denarii, and the money given to the poor." And they scolded her. ⁶ But Jesus said, "Let her alone; why do you trouble her? She has performed a good service for me. ⁷ For you always have the poor with you, and you can show kindness to them whenever you wish; but you will not always have me. ⁸ She has done what she could; she has anointed my body beforehand for its burial. ⁹ Truly I tell you, wherever the good news is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in remembrance of her."

Mary of Bethany Sharon York

We Respond to God's Word

Choral Response Cast Thy Burden Upon the Lord F. Mendelssohn

Prayer of Thanksgiving & The Lord's Prayer

Pam Jusino

Loving Jesus, You came to us as a teacher and healer, prophetic and yet humble. You called us all into a new way of life, taught us the ways of God's love and forgiveness, healing and peace. You called us to anew this day to live into Your ways. Help us Lord, when the world weighs down, when our lives become difficult, to not forget our calling to love You. And we cannot fully love You if we do not love our neighbors. Even during times of trial, when it feels like we are walking in the darkest valley, Lord, remind us that You are with us, that You call us to love with our whole being, and when we love our neighbors, we love You, and we find new strength to carry on. You have given us the gift of enduring steadfast love. Multiply these gifts so that we many share the magnitude of your joy-filled message throughout our community and world. Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord who taught us to pray: Our Father...

Offertory

O Mensch, Bewein' Dein' Sunde Gross

J. S. Bach

All that we have, all that we are, All that we hope to be: Work of our hands, fruit of our lives; All this, we offer to Thee.

Words of Invitation Sharon York

We Enter into the Mystery

The Shrouding of the Cross

John the Disciple Kris Kehrer

Closing Hymn 218 Ah, Holy Jesus

Depart In Silence

Please join us again on April 9 for our Maundy Thursday podcast worship service at 7:30 p.m. when our podcast is posted to the website.

While we are physically distancing ourselves, let this be our way of avoiding spiritual distancing ourselves from our church family and friends.

Also for additional spiritual enrichment, please check the daily lectionary readings on our home page:

https://farmington-pres.org/

or join us for The Wired Word, an adult curriculum via ZOOM meeting on Sundays at 9:00 a.m.

Worship Arts Team who will be playing, in order, the following roles in today's drama:

Jerry Custer, Minister of Music, Pharisee Kris Kehrer, Vocalist, John the Disciple Pam Jusino, Liturgist & Vocalist, The Begger Woman Sharon York, Vocalist, Mary of Bethany Shari Fiore, Piano and Organ Randy Wright, Vocalist & Sound Board

First Presbyterian Staff

Senior Pastor The Rev. Eddie Jusino

Ministers Members of the Congregation

Pastoral Care Parish Associate The Rev. Craig Aue

Family & Youth Ministry

CoordinatorKim KucharskiMinister of MusicDr. Jerry CusterOrganist/PianistShari FioreOffice ManagerKaren Spica

Sexton Vanya Georgieva
Childcare Provider Leslie Van Hamme