



WORSHIP

MARCH 17, 2024 | 10:30 A.M.



FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH of
RICHARDSON

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT: THE SHAPE OF POWER

Responding to God's love and grace, we WORSHIP with joy, NURTURE with faith, and SERVE others with love.

We Gather Around the Word

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

Rev. Rosy Robson McCreary

OPENING VOLUNTARY

"Jesus Paid it All"
Terry Metzger, Organ

by James Pethel

*CALL TO WORSHIP | *Responsively*

Jenny James, Liturgist
adapted from Rev. Beth Merrill-Neel

Friends, we gather this day to celebrate life –
The life we have been given by God,
The life we share with one another in community,
The life that Jesus gives in abundance.
Let us be grateful for the joy of life,
And let us worship God.

*OPENING HYMN | "O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go"

Glory to God 833

CALL TO CONFESSION *and* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

adapted from Rev. Ginna Bairby

Living Christ, with whom we journey to the cross,
we confess that we are always looking for an easier way.
We long for the fullness of life with you,
but we are slow to abandon the comforts of the life we know.
We seek the fruit of new life, but we are not willing to die to ourselves.
You call us to life in community, but we stubbornly cling to "me and mine."
Yet you offer the grace of life abundant,
even and especially when our best efforts fall short.
Transform us, renew us, and free us from our attachment to what was,
so that you might bring us into the glory of what will be.
In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

**Please stand in body or spirit*

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with-in me. Cast me not a - way from your
pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me.
Re - store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up -
hold me with your free Spir - it. Cre-ate in me a clean
heart, O God, and re - new a right spir - it with-in me.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Friends, hear the good news!

We worship a God who forgives our iniquities and remembers our sins
no more. Proclaim the good news with me:

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Thanks be to God! Amen.

***GLORIA PATRI | "Glory Be to the Father"**

Glory to God 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.**

***PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

The Peace of Christ be with you all.
And also with you.

TIME FOR TINY THEOLOGIANs

Pastor Alice and Pastor Rosy

*Children of all ages are welcome to join us up front for a brief children's lesson.
Children between the ages of 0-kindergarten are then welcome to go to the nursery following the lesson, or return to their seats.*

ANTHEM

"O God, Our Help In Ages Past"
Sanctuary Choir, Amanda Hollis, Director
Terry Metzger, Organ

by Isaac Watts and Mark Miller

We Proclaim the Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

PSALM

Psalm 119
(9-16)

Hal H. Hopson



O Lord, you have the words of life; O teach me your ways.

*Lord, by obeying your commandments, a youth can remain pure.
I seek you with all of my heart; keep me from disobeying your commandments.
I treasure your word deep in my heart so that I do not sin against you.
I praise you, O Lord, teach me your ways.*

*Lord I will repeat aloud all the laws you have given;
my joy lies in following your commandments, a joy more great than riches.
I meditate on your laws and I examine your instructions.
My delight is in your statutes; I will not forget your word.*

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Hebrews 5: 5-10

NRSV N.T. Pg. 220

GOSPEL READING

John 12:20-33

NRSV N.T. Pgs. 106-107

The grass withers, the flower fades.
The Word of our God will stand forever.

SERMON

Rev. Rosy Robson McCreary

SILENT REFLECTION

We Respond to the Word

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

adapted from The Heidelberg Catechism, 4.001

What is your only comfort in life and death?

**That I am not my own,
But I belong- body and soul, in life and in death-
to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ.**

**He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood,
and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil.
He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head
without the will of my Father in heaven.**

**Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life,
and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and THE LORD'S PRAYER | Unison

**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.**

CALL FOR OFFERING

OFFERTORY

"Order My Steps"
The Sanctuary Choir, Amanda Hollis, Director
Terry Metzger, Organ

*by Glenn Burleigh
arr. Jack Schrader*

***DOXOLOGY | "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"**

Glory to God 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. Amen.**

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

We Are Sent Out to Bear the Word in the World

*SENDING HYMN | “Be Thou My Vision”

Glory to God 450

*BENEDICTION

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

“An Irish Blessing”

Terry Metzger, Organ

by Brian Glyncannon

**The art installation on the Communion Table
represents the journey of Holy Week.**

We begin with Jesus' entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, when folks crowded the streets waving palm branches and laying down their cloaks. On Maundy Thursday, Jesus gathered for dinner with his disciples, and washed their feet. The cross and crown of thorns represents Jesus' death on Good Friday. The rocks represent the tomb where his body was placed.

Maundy Thursday Dinners for 8

Thursday, March 28 / 6:30 pm

Break bread, pray, and fellowship with other FPCR friends on **Thursday, March 28.**

Hosts will provide a main dish, and others are invited to bring a side or dessert to share.

Fill out a form in the Narthex!



FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH of
RICHARDSON
established 1870

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Week at a Glance:

Sunday, March 17

Nursery: 9:00 am - 11:30 am, CE Building
Children's Sunday School: 9:00 am, CE Building
Coffee Class: 9:00 am, Room A111
Present Word: 9:00 am, Room A109
Worship: 10:30 am, In-person and Online
Grace Community Presbyterian Fellowship: 11:00 am - 1:00 pm, Chapel, A111, A109
Session Meeting: 12:00 pm, Library
United Fellowship Bible Church: 3-5:00 pm, Chapel
Book Club: 5:00 pm, Library

Monday, March 18

P.E.O. Chorus Rehearsal: 1-3:00 pm, Chapel
Accolade Theatre Rehearsal: 5-10:00 pm, Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, March 19

Tuesday Morning Prayer Group: 6:30 am, Phone
UDCC Primetimers: 11:30 am - 2:00 pm, Fellowship Hall
Staff Meeting & Lunch: 12:00 pm, Conference Room; Library
Tuesday Morning Bible Study: 10:00 am, Library
Pastor's Bible Study: 4-5:00 pm, Zoom

Wednesday, March 20 - Flower Dedications Due!

Sometimers: 8:00 am
P.E.O. Council Meeting: 10-11:00 am, Chapel
Handbell Rehearsal: 5:45-7:15 pm
Choir Rehearsal: 7:30-9:00 pm

Thursday, March 21

Tai Chi: 10:00 am - 12:00 pm, Fellowship Hall
Art Therapy: 10:00 am, Room A109

Friday, March 22

Accolade Theatre Rehearsal: 5-10:00 pm, Fellowship Hall

Saturday, March 23 - Marilyn's Wedding Day!

Taiwanese Ministry Bible Study: 10:30 am - 12:00 pm, Library
Shirley Bridge's 90th Birthday Party: 2:00 pm, Welcome Center
Grace Community Presbyterian Choir: 3-4:00 pm, Chapel
United Fellowship Bible Church: 4:30-8:00 pm, Chapel
Accolade Theatre Rehearsal: 5-10:00 pm, Fellowship Hall

Sunday, March 24 - Palm Sunday

Nursery: 9:00 am - 11:30 am, CE Building
Children's Sunday School: 9:00 am, CE Building
Coffee Class: 9:00 am, Room A111
Present Word: 9:00 am, Room A109
Worship: 10:30 am, In-person and Online
Grace Community Presbyterian Fellowship: 11:00 am - 1:00 pm, Chapel, A111, A109
United Fellowship Bible Church: 3-5:00 pm, Chapel

**CANDY
DONATIONS
NEEDED!**

The Children's Ministry is seeking candy donations for a Surprise Easter Sunday Children's Activity!

Between now and March 28, please bring donations of individually wrapped candy to the basket in the Welcome Center.

Good Friday Gathering

Friday, March 29 | 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

FPCR will host children in kindergarten through sixth grade for fellowship, fun, stories, and music about Holy Week and Easter on **Good Friday, March 29**. Snacks and lunch will be provided!

SCAN HERE TO RSVP



Easter Flower Dedications

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO DEDICATE FLOWERS TO A LOVED ONE FOR EASTER, PLEASE FILL OUT A DEDICATION CARD AND TURN IT IN TO AN USHER.
DUE WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20.



Saturday, March 23 | 2:00 PM

Shirley Bridges 90th Birthday Party

The family of Shirley Bridges will be hosting a celebration for Shirley's 90th birthday in the Welcome Center. Feel free to come and go anytime between 2-4:00 pm. All are invited!

RSVP to deborahbjones.2020@gmail.com



The Shape of Our Lives *Lent 2024*

Lenten Activities

Friday, March 29

Good Friday Children's Gathering

9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Easter Flower Dedications

Use the link in the ePress or fill out a card in the narthex to purchase flowers for the sanctuary in honor or in memory of loved ones.

DEDICATIONS DUE BY WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20.

Meditation Stations

Throughout the season of Lent, we invite you to visit the 15 Meditation Stations placed around the church. Each station has a meditation or lesson, and offers scripture resources.

Join us this Lenten season as we explore what gives shape to our lives through our faith journeys. We'll explore "shapes" like hope, feelings, and words on Sunday mornings in worship- and then we'll try to experience those "shapes" with other special activities throughout the week.

Special Services

Sunday, March 24

Palm Sunday

10:30 AM | Sanctuary

Thursday, March 28

**Maundy Thursday:
The Shape of Service**

Dinners for 8 | 6:30 PM
(Sign-ups to Follow)

Friday, March 29

**Good Friday: A Service of
Shadows and Songs**

6:00 PM | Sanctuary

Sunday, March 31

**Easter Sunday: Shaped by
Resurrection Promise**

8:00 AM | Outdoors

10:30 AM | Sanctuary