

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
LANCASTER, PENNSYLVANIA

Palm-Passion Sunday

March 29, 2026

10:30 a.m.



Leading in Worship Today

The Rev. Dan Snyder

The Rev. Claire George-Drumheller

MUSIC

Dr. William Wright, Director of Music

Stephan Englehart, Children's Choir Director

Matt Weaver, Organist

Rila Hackett, Pianist

The Chancel Choir

The Children's Choir

READERS

Cody Smith, Director

Casey Barton

Sarah Barton

Theo Barton

Josh Glacken

Luke Glacken

Alice Kindig

Andy Kindig

Elizabeth Rickard

Randy Schrecengost

Sam Schrecengost

Harper Welch

Lakisha Welch



Palm-Passion Sunday is a day of drama and paradox, triumph and tragedy. The service begins with the crowd shouting, "Hosanna!" and wanting to crown Jesus as king. But as the story of Christ's passion unfolds, shouts of praise turn to demands for his death. Even during the triumphal entry into Jerusalem, the cross is in sight.

** Please stand in body or in spirit.*

PRELUDE ***O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus***

arr. Larry Shackley

WELCOME

PROCLAMATION OF ENTRANCE INTO JERUSALEM **Matthew 21:1-11** (pg 3 NT in the pew Bible)

INTROIT ***Hosanna in the Highest!***

Ruth Elaine Schram

You are the King, and we welcome You, hosanna in the highest!

We sing hosanna in the highest!

You are the King, the Son of David. You are the King, the One we've waited for.

You are the King, the Son of David, coming in the name of the Lord.

You are the King, and we welcome You, hosanna in the highest!

We sing hosanna in the highest!

*CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 118:1, 19 and Matthew 21:9)

ONE: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

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

ONE: The Lord's steadfast love endures forever!

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

ONE: Come with your branches, hosannas, and songs!

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

ONE: Open the gates of righteousness, that we may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord.

ALL: Hosanna in the highest heaven! Let us worship God.

*HYMN #196 ***All Glory, Laud, and Honor***

VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

*CALL TO CONFESSION

ONE: The word "hosanna" means, "save us." As the crowd went ahead of Jesus, they were crying out for help. As we confess our sins, we have our own hosanna moment. Rejoicing in God's grace, let us bring our burdens to God and confess our sin.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ALL: Christ our Redeemer, try as we might, we do not follow your example. We do not empty ourselves, we do not humble ourselves, and we are not obedient. As we sing "Hosanna!" bring us to the foot of the cross. As we wave our palms, show us your tomb. Forgive us, and teach us to turn our faces toward you. Heal us, and help us to follow.

(silent prayers)

*DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

ONE: Even in the face of hatred and violence, we know that Christ loves us. Christ cares for us; Christ forgives us.

ALL: In Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven. Thanks be to the God of mercy. Amen.

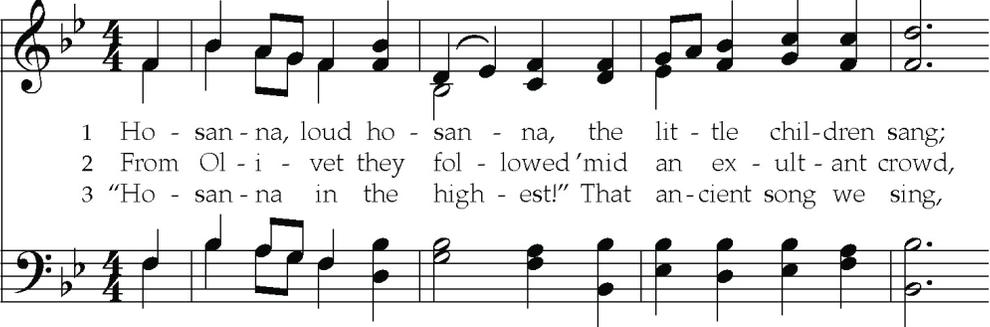
*PASSING OF THE PEACE

ONE: The peace of Christ be with you.

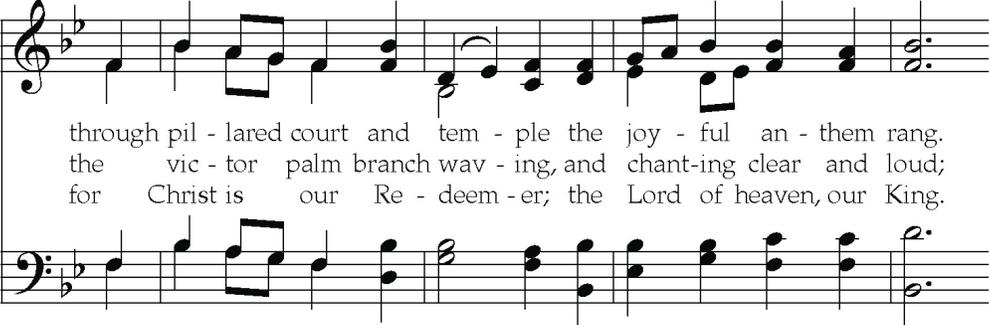
ALL: **And also with you.**

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE *Hosanna, Loud Hosanna*

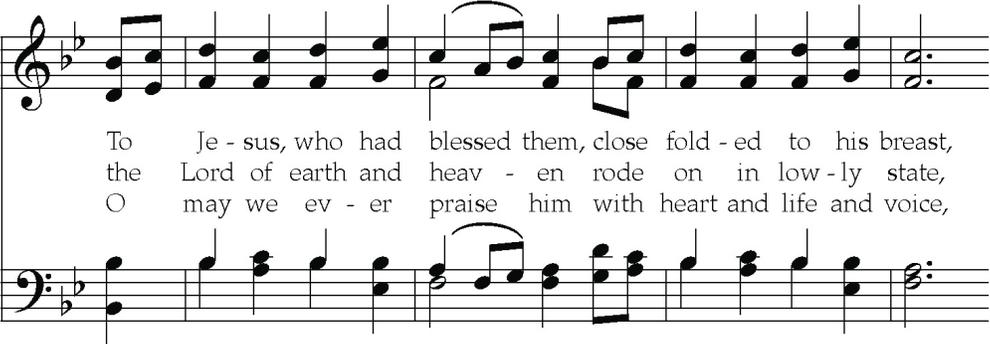
ELLACOMBE



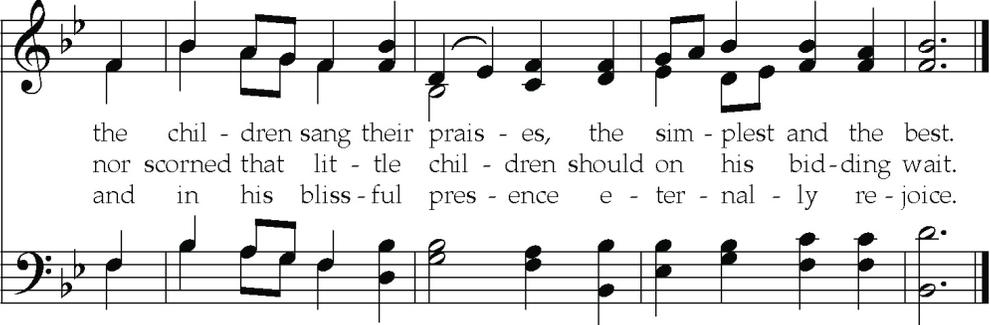
1 Ho - san - na, loud ho - san - na, the lit - tle chil - dren sang;
2 From Ol - i - vet they fol - lowed 'mid an ex - ult - ant crowd,
3 "Ho - san - na in the high - est!" That an - cient song we sing,



through pil - lared court and tem - ple the joy - ful an - them rang,
the vic - tor palm branch wav - ing, and chant - ing clear and loud;
for Christ is our Re - deem - er; the Lord of heaven, our King.



To Je - sus, who had blessed them, close fold - ed to his breast,
the Lord of earth and heav - en rode on in low - ly state,
O may we ev - er praise him with heart and life and voice,



the chil - dren sang their prais - es, the sim - plest and the best.
nor scorned that lit - tle chil - dren should on his bid - ding wait.
and in his bliss - ful pres - ence e - ter - nal - ly re - joyce.

The opening two stanzas narrate the first Palm Sunday in the past tense, but the third stanza shifts to the present tense to emphasize what current singers do and believe. The repeated elements in this anonymous German tune suggest the repetitive patterns in a crowd's chant.

WORSHIP ARTS BLESSING

Children through 6th grade can meet their Worship Arts teachers at the front of the sanctuary.

God be with you here.

God be with you there.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

ALL: Faithful God, your church is listening. Send us your Spirit to give us courage to ask honestly, humility to listen deeply, and faith to trust what you reveal, that we may follow Jesus more faithfully. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING: **Matthew 26:14-27:66** (pg 23 NT in the pew Bible)

ONE: The word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

SILENT REFLECTION

Reflect on the story you just heard. You may wish to use the images on the cover of the bulletin as a guide to rehearse the story. Consider what the characters in the story might have been feeling and what words or images stand out to you.

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Adapted from the Barmen Declaration (8.11, 14-15)

ALL: We believe Jesus Christ is God's assurance of the forgiveness of all our sins; in the same way and with the same seriousness, Christ is also God's mighty claim upon our whole life. Through Christ we are delivered from the godless fetters of this world for a free and grateful service to God's creatures. We reject the false doctrine that there are areas of our life that do not belong to Jesus Christ, or in which we do not need his grace. Jesus Christ, as he is attested for us in Holy Scripture, is the one Word of God which we have to hear, to trust, and to obey. Amen.

ANTHEM *Father, Forgive (from "Prayers at the Cross")* Lee Dengler and Susan Naus Dengler

During this time of music, you are welcome to come forward to present your offerings, to leave a prayer request, or to light a candle as a symbol of your prayer.

O Father, forgive our sins, we are helpless, we have lost our way.
O Father, forgive our sins, in your mercy save us! Hear our cry!
On a cross of grief and pain, Jesus suffered for our shame.
Such amazing love He showed. What a debt to Him we owe.
O Lord, have mercy. O Christ have mercy.
O Lord, have mercy upon us.
O Father, forgive our sins, in your mercy save us! Hear our cry!

ORISON *Precious Lord*

Thomas A. Dorsey

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

ALL: 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.

*HYMN #209 *My Song Is Love Unknown*

LOVE UNKNOWN

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE *At the Foot of the Cross* Lee Dengler and Susan Naus Dengler

At the foot of the cross, there is sorrow. At the foot of the cross, there is love,
Flowing down together in a river of salvation, covering all the world with grace.

POSTLUDE *Adagio from Symphony No. 5*

Charles-Marie Widor

Kindly refrain from applause and exit quietly.

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Chancel Flower Dedication

*Today's Chancel flowers are given in loving memory of parents,
Harry & Clara Wilt and Robert & Mary Jane Williams,
by Mark and Pam Williams and family.*

Welcome, Visitors!

We would love to reach out and say hello! Write your contact information on the back of the orange prayer cards or leave your email address at the Visitor's Table. We are grateful you have joined us for worship and hope you will come back again soon and often.

LENT

Holy Week

Maundy Thursday, April 2

7:00 p.m., Shirk Hall

On Maundy Thursday, we remember the new commandment that Christ gave us, that we love one another as Christ has loved us. We also celebrate the Lord's Supper, remembering the final meal Christ shared with his disciples before his death.

Good Friday Tenebrae, April 3

7:00 p.m., Sanctuary

Good Friday marks the day Jesus was crucified. "Tenebrae" means shadows, and as we hear the story of Jesus' journey towards death, the shadows lengthen and the lights grow dim.

Resurrection of the Lord

Easter Sunday, April 5

9:00 a.m. Shirk Hall &

10:30 a.m. Sanctuary

LCTV & YouTube

On Easter Sunday we celebrate the great mystery of our faith—that Jesus Christ is risen from the dead.

Easter Small Groups

Great is the mystery of faith: Christ has died, Christ has risen, Christ will come again. This Easter season, engage Scripture and build community by joining one of our 4-week Small Groups. Groups will meet during the weeks of April 5, April 12, April 19, and April 26, and discussions will focus on Scripture passages for the upcoming Sunday and the impact of Easter on our lives of discipleship.

In order to receive communication from your leaders, please sign up for the Small Group of your choice by following the QR code (below), or by contacting the church office (info@fpclancasterpa.org).

Men's Group @ the Richards'

The Richard Family Home (address will be sent to registrants)
Mondays, 6:00 p.m. (4/6, 4/13, 4/20, 4/27)
Josh Richard and Dan Snyder, co-leaders

Women's Small Group

Thornhill Winery Tasting Room (1945 Fruitville Pk.)
Tuesdays, gather at 6:30 p.m.; study at 7:00 p.m. (4/7, 4/14, 4/21, 4/28)
Carol Aastad, Linda Cushman-Baugh, Carol Lytch, & Jan Masland, co-leaders

Thursday Morning Men's Group

FPC Library
Thursdays, 7:00-8:00 a.m. (4/9, 4/16, 4/23, 4/30)
Dan Snyder, Leader

Women's Bible Study

FPC Community Arts Annex (Room 1)
Thursdays (4/9, 4/16, 4/23, 4/30)
9:30-10:00 a.m., gathering; 10:00-11:00 a.m., study
Alison Mekeel & Donna Wilcox, co-leaders

Willow Valley

North Activity Room & North Auditorium
Thursdays, 1:00-2:00 p.m. (4/9, 4/16, 4/23, 4/30)
Claire George-Drumheller and Beth Horst, co-leaders
*Open to all! Group communications will include location details

Thursdays on Zoom

Thursdays, 7:00 p.m. (4/9, 4/16, 4/23, 4/30)
Millard & Carolyn Fisher, co-leaders



Ways to Give: Mission Giving

Our Mission Partners in the first quarter are nonprofits that support those of our community experiencing food insecurity.

Power Packs, based in Lancaster, provides free ingredients and recipes for weekend meals, as well as pantry staples such as peanut butter and cereal, to low-income students and their families.
www.powerpacksproject.org

Anchor Lancaster, based in First United Methodist Church in downtown Lancaster, provides free, hot breakfasts, showers, laundry services, a day shelter and other services to low-income people.
www.anchorlancaster.org

Rise Against Hunger, based in Raleigh, NC, provides free meals to the needy in 41 foreign countries, including Honduras, where it works with the Lancaster-based Central American Relief Effort (CARE), which has close ties to FPC.
www.riseagainsthunger.org



Special Offering: One Great Hour of Sharing

Immediately following World War II, Protestant churches in the U.S. made appeals for relief and reconstruction in areas devastated by the war, and the leaders of several denominations organized a national appeal. One Saturday evening in March of 1949, a program called "One Great Hour" was broadcast over major networks and many independent stations. The broadcast closed with a request that listeners attend their local church the following morning and make a sacrificial contribution. It was estimated that more than 75,000 churches participated.

From the beginning, One Great Hour of Sharing has been an ecumenical effort. While each denomination allocates its gifts differently, all use their funds for ministries that repair the lives of people who are hurting.

FPC will collect the One Great Hour of Sharing offering between March 29-April 5. Money collected will go to ministries of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) that share God's love with global and national neighbors in need, addressing disaster recovery, hunger relief, systemic poverty, immigration and refugee support, and creation care.

Mark gifts (cash, check, or online) with "OGHS." Together, let us participate in God's ongoing repair of the world God so loves.

Mission Opportunities

Crispus Attucks Food Pantry

Wednesday, April 8

12:45-3:45 p.m.

Volunteer parking lot- 412 Locust Street or carpool from FPC.

Contact Patti Overly to volunteer: patti@fpclancasterpa.org

Community Meal

Tuesday, April 14

Food prep help: 3:00 p.m.

Servers: 4:30 p.m.

First Reformed Church, 40 E. Orange St.

Contact Patti Overly to volunteer: patti@fpclancasterpa.org

Rise Against Hunger Food Packing Event

On Sunday, March 22, we gathered for a start-to-finish meal assembly experience to combine rice, soy, dehydrated vegetables and a packet of 18 vitamins and minerals into life-changing meal packages. Food packages like these will be transported around the world, including to schools in Honduras, to help meet the immediate nutritional needs of people facing food insecurity.



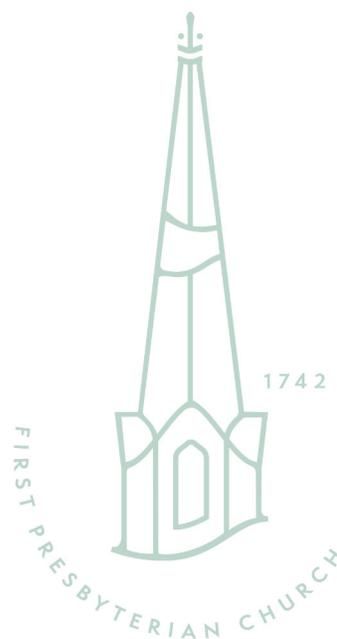
New Member Class @ FPC

Sunday, April 19

11:30-1:30 p.m. at FPC

The New Member Class is for those who want to learn more about how we live out our faith at FPC and would like to become members. We will begin with lunch after the 10:30 worship service on April 19, and participants will have the opportunity to join the church as members at the end of class. Childcare can be provided if requested at registration. New members will be introduced in worship on Sunday, April 26.

Please register by Monday, April 13 so that lunch can be arranged. Register on Realm or by contacting the church office (info@fpclancasterpa.org or 717-394-6854).



First Presbyterian Church, Lancaster

2026 Officer Roster

ELDERS

Martha Barry

Ruthie Blazer

Tim Brendler

Dan Brubaker

Linda Cushman-Baugh

Alyssa Feather

Josh Glacken

Debbie Kirk

Ginny Landis, Clerk of Session

Tim Mekeel

John Myers

Cody Smith

Mark Williams

DEACONS

Carol Aastad

Ellen Altdoerffer

Sarah Barton

David Bennett

Karen Bennett

Nancy Butler

Annie Carmitchell, Moderator

Andrew Cross

Stephany & John Davidson

Linda Frederiksen

Beth Manners

Tom & Connie Paisley

Maureen Quinlan

Julia Snyder

TRUSTEES

Brian Rutter, Acting President

Greg Allison

Barry Bosley

Tom Falk

Bob Hallinger

Kasey Jendras

Megan Kiel

Matt Kirk

Theo Krappels

Mark Mooneyhan

Nolan Myers, Treasurer

Nathan Poglein

Allen Tate

Tom Zigoris

SUMMER CHORAL CAMP

For rising 3rd-12th grade students
(2026/2027 school year)

JUNE 22-26 / 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

at First Presbyterian Church / 140 E Orange St / Lancaster



FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
Lancaster, PA
www.fpclancasterpa.org

A day camp for
students who
love music and want to
explore and develop
their musicality
in a fun
choir setting



Family Ministry

Katie Kindig
Director of Family Ministry



Sunday Mornings

The Nursery

Suggested for 6wks up to 4yrs
Second Floor, open 9:00-11:30 a.m. / Professional Staff

Nursery students engage in free-play, a short Scripture lesson and organized activity time.

We ask that you assist with your student's hand-washing upon arrival. We have hand sanitizer stations as well.

A nut-free snack is provided. Please bring a labeled water bottle and alternative snacks if needed. A changing table, with quiet room are also available.

Worship Arts Faith Formation

Suggested for 4yrs through grade 7

Worship Arts begins with a combined lesson and then splits to separate age-appropriate groups to study. A peanut free snack is offered.

Taught by FPC volunteer teachers, we study Scripture through reading, dramatic play, storytelling, and song.

Students begin worship in Shirk Hall (9:00 a.m.) OR the sanctuary (10:30 a.m.) with their families.

Teachers will escort students who wish to participate in Worship Arts to the upper level following the "Worship Arts Blessing."

Parents attending the 9:00 a.m. service - Students will be escorted back to you before the end of the service.

Parents attending the 10:30 a.m. service - Students will return to the sanctuary at the end of worship or can be picked up in the lobby.

Youth Ministry

Designed for grades 7-12 and led by Family Ministry staff and volunteers.

March 29—Event at Urban Air, 4:30-6:00 p.m. Pick-up & drop-off at venue, 2040 Bennet Ave., Lancaster. Suggested cost: \$40/pizza and drink provided. RSVP to katie@fpclancasterpa.org

Celebrating Children at FPC

Dear parents of young children,

Relax! God put the wiggle in children; don't feel you have to suppress it in God's house! All are welcome!

Sit toward the front where it is easier for little ones to see and hear what's going on. They tire of seeing the backs of others' heads.

Quietly explain the parts of the service and actions of the pastor, ushers, musicians, etc.

Sing the hymns, pray, and voice the responses. Children learn liturgical behavior by copying you.

If you have to leave the service with your child, feel free to do so, but please come back. As Jesus said, "Let the children come to me."

Remember, the way we welcome children in church directly affects the way they respond to the church, to God, and to one another. Let them know they are at home in this house of worship.

Dear church members,

The presence of children is a gift to the church and they are a reminder that our congregation is growing.

Please welcome our children and give a smile of encouragement to their parents.

Large-print hymnals are available. Please alert an usher or greeter if you would like one for today's service.

Online prayer
request here:



**Guest WIFI Password:
Welcome2FPC**

Sarah Barton: Deacon to Family Ministries



A note from Sarah:

I am grateful for the opportunity to serve as Deacon to Family Ministries and to walk alongside the families of our congregation. Supporting families has long been close to my heart, and I am thankful to serve in a role that allows me to do so more intentionally.

As Deacon to Family Ministries, my hope is to be a supportive presence for families of all ages during seasons of celebration, transition, and need. I look forward to getting to know you and serving our church community together.

Contact: sarahbarton@gmail.com