

The Worship of God
Palm Sunday, March 29, 2026 – 9:00 Morning Worship
Welcome to First Presbyterian Church via Zoom!

PRELUDE

“All Glory, Laud, and Honor”

Craig Phillips

PALM PARADE

Hosanna!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of God!

GATHERING AROUND GOD’S WORD

CALL TO WORSHIP

It is only one week, but this week is a wilderness of emotion and heartbreak.
Everything that could happen happens: celebration, betrayal, feasts,
and love made real, hearts are broken, and faith questioned.

It all happens here in this one week.

It is a wildness that we know.

We have wandered through it, and we come again today
to find God never strays but is hidden behind every rock.

God’s reflection is in every puddle and every stream.

God is in all these days, just as God will be a part of every day of our lives.

OPENING PRAYER

Great God, sometimes we are frozen in time.

We feel like we can’t move forward.

We feel stuck and wonder if this is all that will ever be.

In these wild moments, we most need to find your grace.

SING

“Hosanna, Loud Hosanna”

#197

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving God, we confess that we yearn for comfort and companionship.

**We confess we feel weak with fear when we imagine
the challenges that lie ahead of us.**

We do not know what humility looks like,
we do not know how to speak truthfully about who we are or who you are,
but we also confess that we trust you will strengthen our resolve
and lead us in new paths as you prepare us to greet death
as part of abundant life.

Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Christ refused to give up on love.

And Love never gives up on us.

We live in abundant forgiveness, grace, and gratitude as followers of Christ.

We enter this time of difficult conversations knowing we are forgiven

Thanks be to God.

SHARING GOD'S PEACE

I invite you to turn to one another and share a sign of peace:

You're invited to unmute yourselves and exchange peace with one another

LISTENING TO GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE

Psalms 118:1-2; 19-29

SECOND SCRIPTURE

Matthew 21:1-11

...The Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

REFLECTION

Reverend Susan Phillips

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

SING

"All Glory, Laud, and Honor"

#196

GIVING OUR GIFTS

DOXOLOGY

"Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow"

#607

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE FROM THE CHAT

THE LORD'S PRAYER (debts & debtors)

SENDING INTO GOD'S WORLD

SING

"Ride On! Ride on in Majesty!"

#198

INVITATIONS

BENEDICTION

Let us go out into God's world in peace;

have courage; hold on to what is good;

return to no one evil for evil; strengthen the faint-hearted;

support the weak; help the suffering; honor all persons;

love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

SENDING

We believe that the Christ still travels the roads of human life
and is never defeated by our humanness.

We believe that the church can carry Love wherever we go
and that our dreams of faithfulness can be given new possibilities in each day.

**We believe that, here in this place,
we will find inspiration and encouragement,
that will lead us on in our journey with the Christ.**

POSTLUDE

“Lift High the Cross”

Carolyn Hamlin