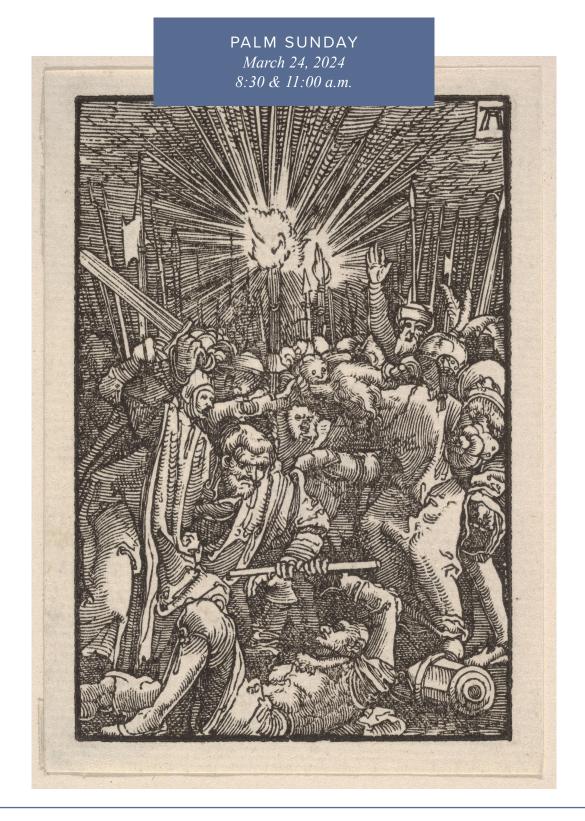


# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN Church of Nashville



To know Christ, to make Him known and to exhibit His love through worship, education and service.

#### THE CRY OF THE WHOLE CONGREGATION

A Palm Sunday Narrative Drama

The purpose of this drama is to allow each worshiper suddenly to discover (pitifully, intensely, truly to discover) his/her own rootedness in the drama, which is Christ's, so that the Passion Story may no longer be mere story for observance, analysis, learning, or history, but so that it embraces each worshipper.

> This drama has no audience. All are actors. None objective. *All subjective—or else the objects of the driving love of God.*

> > —Walter Wangerin, Jr.

#### ORDER OF WORSHIP

VOLUNTARY

*Valet will ich dir geben, BWV 736* (tune: *All Glory Laud and Honor*) Johann Sebastian Bach

WELCOME

INTROIT

Hosanna Ronald E. McVey

#### THE ENTRY INTO JERUSALEM | Luke 19:29-44

Narrator:

When Jesus drew near to Bethphage, at the Mount that is called Olivet, he sent ahead two of his disciples, saying, "Go into the village opposite. There you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever yet sat; untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' you shall say, 'the Lord has need of it."

People:

And as they were untying the colt, its owners said to them, "Why are you untying the colt?"

Peter:

And they said, "The Lord has need of it." And they brought it to Jesus, and throwing their

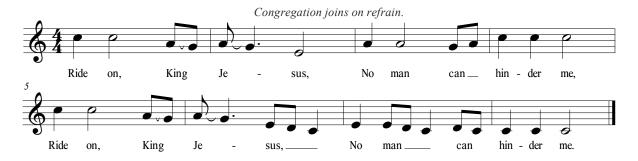
garments on the colt, they set Jesus upon it.

Narrator:

And as he rode along, they spread their garments on the road. As he was now drawing near, at the descent of the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to rejoice and to praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen.

**SPIRITUAL** 

Ride On, King Jesus arr. Alice Parker and Robert Shaw



Refrain

I was but young when I begun, no man can hinder me.

But now my race is almost done, no man can hinder me. Refrain

King Jesus rides on a milkwhite horse, no man can hinder me.

The river of Jordan he did cross, no man can hinder me. Refrain

Pharisee: And some of the Pharisees in the multitude cried to him, "Teacher, rebuke your disciples!

They're calling you the Christ. Tell them to stop!"

Narrator: He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent the very stones themselves would cry out." And when

he drew near and saw the city he wept over it, saying, "Would that even today you knew the things that make for peace! But now they are hid from your eyes. O Jerusalem! The days shall come upon you, when your enemies will cast up a bank about you and surround you, and hem you in on every side, and dash you to the ground, you and your children within you, and they will not leave

one stone upon another in you; because you did not know the time of your visitation."

\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN 196

All Glory, Laud and Honor Valet Will Ich Dir Geben

\*PRAYER OF ADORATION

CHILDREN'S ANTHEM

Little Grey Donkey Natalie Sleeth

Little grey donkey, little grey donkey, little grey donkey, ho. Do you know just who it is you carry on your back? 'Tis no ordinary load, no mean or common pack. You are blessed of all beasts to carry into town Christ the Lord of Galilee; he wears no earthly crown. Little grey donkey, little grey donkey, little grey donkey, ho. Once you were a simple beast of poor and lowly state, Christ himself hath chosen you and honored is your fate. Though your path with palms is spread, make haste along the way; you were destined here to ride on this triumphal day. Little grey donkey, little grey donkey, little grey donkey, ho. Yonder is a grassy hill; it's known as Calvary. Up against the cloudless sky a barren cross you see. Little grey donkey, little grey mare, don't hide your head in shame. For you bear the Lamb of God, and Jesus is his name.

#### **‡BLESSING OF THE YOUNG DISCIPLES**

During the 8:30 and 11:00 services, children who are age 4, 5, or 6 (not in 1st grade) are invited to join Young Children & Worship.

#### THE LAST SUPPER | Luke 22:1–22

Narrator: Now, the feast of Unleavened Bread drew near, which is called the Passover. And the temple

priests were seeking how to put Jesus to death; for they feared the people.

Judas: Then Satan entered into Judas called Iscariot, who was of the number of the Twelve. He went

away and conferred with the temple priests and officers how he might betray him to them. And they were glad, and engaged to give him money. So he agreed, and sought an opportunity to

betray him to them in the absence of the multitude.

Narrator: Then came the day of Unleavened Bread, on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. So

Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and prepare the Passover for us, that we may eat it."

People: They said to him, "But where, Lord? Where will you have us prepare it, and what are

we to do?"

Narrator: He said to them, "Behold, when you have entered the city, a man carrying a jar of water will

meet you; follow him into the house which he enters, and tell the master of the house, 'The Teacher says to you, Where is the guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?'

And he will show you a large upper room furnished; prepare it."

Peter: And they went and found it just as he had told them, and they prepared the Passover.

Narrator: And when the hour came, he reclined at table, and the apostles with him. And he said to them,

"I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. For I tell you, I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God." And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he said, "Take this, and divide it among yourselves. For I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes." And he took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." And likewise, the cup after they had eaten, saying, "This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood. But behold, the hand of him who betrays me is with me on the table. For the Son of Man goes as it has been determined, but woe to that man by whom he is betrayed!"

People: And they began to question, "Who, Lord? Who is to betray you? Is it I? Is it I?"

Narrator: He answered, "He who has dipped his hand in the dish with me will betray me. The Son of Man

goes as it is written of him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would

have been better for that man if he had not been born."

Judas: Judas, who would betray him, answered, "Is it I, Master?"

Narrator: He said to him, "You have said so. What you are going to do, do quickly." Then Judas rose from

the table and went out; and it was night.

Peter: Simon Peter was indignant. "But I would not betray you!" he said. And he declared, "Though

they all fall away from you, I will never leave you."

Narrator: Jesus said to him, "Truly, I tell you, this very night, before the rooster crows, you will deny me

three times."

Peter: Peter said to him, "Even if I must die with you, I will never deny you!"

People: And so said all of the disciples, over and over again.

#### THE AGONY OF THE GARDEN | Luke 22:39–54

HYMN Go to Dark Gethsemane
REDHEAD 76

Go to dark Gethsemane, all who feel the tempter's power; your Redeemer's conflict see; watch with him one bitter hour; turn not from his griefs away; learn from Jesus Christ to pray.

Narrator: And he came out and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives, and the disciples

followed him. And when he came to the place, he said to them, "Pray that you may not enter

into temptation."

People: Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us, deliver us.

Narrator: And he withdrew from them about a stone's throw, and knelt down and prayed, saying, "Father,

if you are willing, remove this cup from me. Nevertheless, not my will, but yours, be done."

People: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come; thy will be

done. Thy will be done. Thy will be done.

Narrator: And when he rose from prayer, he came to the disciples and found them sleeping for sorrow,

and he said to them, "Why are you sleeping? Rise and pray that you may not enter into

temptation."

People: Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, even the evil within ourselves.

Judas: While Jesus was still speaking, there came a crowd, and the man called Judas, one of the

twelve, was leading them. He drew near to Jesus to kiss him.

Narrator: But Jesus said to him, "Judas, would you betray the Son of Man with a kiss?"

Judas: Judas said, "Hail, Master."

People: And when those who were around him saw what would follow, they said, "Lord, shall we

strike with the sword?"

Peter: And one of them struck the servant of the high priest and cut off his right ear.

Narrator: But Jesus said, "No more of this!" And he touched his ear and healed him.

People: Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

Narrator: Then Jesus said to the chief priests and officers of the temple and elders, who had come out

against him, "Have you come out as against a robber, with swords and clubs? When I was with you day after day in the temple, you did not lay hands on me. But this is your hour, and the

power of darkness." Then they seized him—

### THE JUDGMENT | Luke 22:54-71

HYMN

Go to Dark Gethsemane

REDHEAD 76

Follow to the judgment hall; view the Lord of life arraigned; O the wormwood and the gall! O the pangs his soul sustained! Shun not suffering, shame, or loss; learn from him to bear the cross.

Narrator: Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him into the high priest's house.

Peter: Peter was following at a distance; and when they had kindled a fire in the middle of the

courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them.

People: Then a servant girl, seeing him sit in the light, said, "This man also was with him."

Peter: But he denied it, saying, "Woman, I do not know him."

People: And a little later, someone else saw him and said, "You also are one of them."

Peter: But Peter said, "Man, I am not."

People: An hour later, yet another insisted, saying, "Certainly this man also was with him, for he

too is a Galilean."

Peter: But Peter said, "Man, I do not know what you are talking about."

Narrator: And immediately, while he was still speaking, the rooster crowed. And the Lord turned and

looked at Peter.

Peter: And Peter remembered the saying of the Lord, how he had said to him, "Before the rooster

crows today, you will deny me three times." And he went out and wept bitterly.

Narrator: Now the men who were holding Jesus in custody were mocking him as they beat him. They also

blindfolded him and demanded:

People: "Prophesy! Who is it that struck you?"

Narrator: And they said many other things against him, blaspheming him. When day came, the assembly

of the elders of the people gathered together, both chief priests and scribes, and they led him

away to their council.

People: And they said, "If you are the Christ, tell us."

Narrator: But he said to them, "If I tell you, you will not believe, and if I ask you, you will not answer. But

from now on the Son of Man shall be seated at the right hand of the power of God."

People: So they all said, "Are you the Son of God, then?"

Narrator: And he said to them, "You say that I am."

People: Then they said, "Blasphemy! What further testimony do we need? We have heard it

ourselves from his own lips. Blasphemy! Oh, blasphemy!"

#### DAWN FRIDAY: JESUS BEFORE PILATE | Luke 23:1–25

\* The congregation stands. \*

HYMN Go to Dark Gethsemane

Redhead 76

Calvary's mournful mountain climb; there, adoring at his feet, mark that miracle of time, God's own sacrifice complete; "It is finished" hear him cry; learn from Jesus Christ to die.

Narrator: Then the whole company of them arose and brought Jesus before Pontius Pilate.

People: And they began to accuse him, saying, "We found this man misleading our nation, and

forbidding us to give tribute to Caesar, and saying that he himself is Christ the King!"

Pilate: And Pilate asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?"

Narrator: And he answered him, "You have said so."

Pilate: Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds, "I find no crime in this man."

People: But they were urgent, saying, "He stirs up the people, teaching throughout Galilee, even to

this place."

Pilate: And when he learned that he was a Galilean, of Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him to Herod.

Narrator: Where he was vehemently accused, and treated with contempt, and mocked, and arrayed in

gorgeous purple, and then sent back again.

Pilate: Pilate said to the rulers of the people, "You brought me this man as one who was misleading

the people. And after examining him, behold, I did not find him guilty of any of your charges. Look, nothing deserving death has been done by him. I will therefore punish and release him."

People: But they all cried out together, "Away with this man! Away! Away! Release to us

Barabbas—"

Narrator: Barabbas!—a man who had been thrown into prison, for insurrection and for murder.

Pilate: Pilate addressed them once more, desiring to release Jesus—

People: But they shouted out, "Crucify him!"

Pilate: "Why? What evil has he done? I've found no crime in him deserving death. I'll chastise him.

I'll release him—"

People: But they were urgent, demanding with loud cries that he should be crucified.

Narrator: And their voices prevailed.

Pilate: So Pilate gave sentence that their demand should be granted. He released the man who had

been jailed for murder. But he delivered Jesus over to their will.

\* The congregation sits. \*

FRIDAY MORNING: CRUCIFIXION | Luke 23:25–49

ANTHEM God So Loved the World

JOHN STAINER

God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whoso believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.

Narrator: But Pilate delivered Jesus over to their will.

Men: And as they led him away, they seized one Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the

country, and laid on him the cross, to carry it behind Jesus.

Women: And there followed him a great multitude of the people, and of women who were mourning

and lamenting for him.

Narrator: But turning to them Jesus said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for

yourselves and for your children. For behold, the days are coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren and the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed!' For if they do

these things when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?"

SOLO Were You There?
African American Spiritual

Were you there when they crucified my Lord? Were you there when they crucified my Lord? O! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble. Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Narrator: Two others, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. And when they

came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on his

right and one on his left.

SOLO Were You There?
African American Spiritual

Were you there when they nailed him to the tree? Were you there when they nailed him to the tree? O! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble. Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?

Narrator: And Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do."

Women: Forgive us our trespasses.

Men: And they cast lots to divide his garments.

**Women:** Forgive us our trespasses.

Men: And the people stood by, watching. But the rulers scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others;

let him save himself, if he is the Christ of God!"

Women: Forgive us our trespasses.

Men: The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine.

Women: There was an inscription over him: "This is the king of the Jews."

Men: Forgive us our trespasses. Forgive us, O Lord, our trespasses!

Judas: One of the criminals who were hanged railed at him, saying, "Are you not the Christ? Save

yourself and us!"

Peter: But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since we are under the same sentence,

and we justly? But this man has done nothing wrong." And he said, "Jesus, remember me when

you come into your kingdom."

People: Forgive us our trespasses. Deliver us from evil. Thine is the kingdom.

Narrator: And Jesus said to him—

People: And the power—

Narrator: "Truly, I say to you—"

**People:** And the glory—

Narrator: "Today, you will be with me in Paradise."

**People:** Forever and ever. Amen!

SOLO Were You There?
African American Spiritual

Were you there when he cried out at the end? Were you there when he cried out at the end? O! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble. Were you there when he cried out at the end?

Narrator: It was now about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth

hour, while the sun's light failed. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, calling out with a loud voice, said, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!" And having

said this he breathed his last.

People: And when they saw what had taken place, the people returned home beating their breasts.

Women: And all his acquaintances, and the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a

distance watching these things.

#### **THE BURIAL** | Luke 23:50–56

SOLO Were You There?

African American Spiritual

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? O! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble. Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

Pilate: Now there was a man named Joseph, from the Jewish town of Arimathea. He was a member

of the council, a good and righteous man, who had not consented to their decision and action; and he was looking for the kingdom of God. This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then he took it down and wrapped it in a linen shroud and laid him in a tomb cut in

stone, where no one had ever yet been laid.

Narrator: It was the day of Preparation, and the Sabbath was beginning.

Women: The women who had come with him from Galilee followed, and saw the tomb and how his

body was laid. Then they returned, and prepared spices and ointments.

Narrator: On the Sabbath they rested according to the commandment.

**HYMN OF PREPARATION 443** 

There Is a Redeemer
Green

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON | Mark 11:1–11 (pg. 847)

<sup>1</sup> Now when they drew near to Jerusalem, to Bethphage and Bethany, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples <sup>2</sup> and said to them, "Go into the village in front of you, and immediately as you enter it you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever sat. Untie it and bring it. <sup>3</sup> If anyone says to you, "Why are you doing this?" say, 'The Lord has need of it and will send it back here immediately." <sup>4</sup> And they went away and found a colt tied at a door outside in the street, and they untied it. <sup>5</sup> And some of those standing there said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" <sup>6</sup> And they told them what Jesus had said, and they let them go. <sup>7</sup> And they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it, and he sat on it. <sup>8</sup> And many spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut from the fields. <sup>9</sup> And those who went before and those who followed were shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! <sup>10</sup> Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David! Hosanna in the highest!" <sup>11</sup> And he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple. And when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

Pastor: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

#### **OFFERTORY**

From Bethlehem to Calvary
Jonathan Varcoe

Of those who sought my crib at Bethlehem, heeding a voice and following a star, how many walked with me to Calvary? It was too far. Glory surrounded that once mangered babe, and hope for men who struggled with their loss. But hope, fulfilled, came through my thorny crown and through my cross. Truth was my sword, and pain the accolade which I bestowed on those who followed on; a tethered ass the charger which I chose to ride upon. Gone was the glory, then, of Bethlehem, the gifts of Kings and Magi from the East; gone were the multitudes, and only twelve were at the feast. Of humble bread served in the upper room, where that sad cup was passed from hand to hand in token of my love for all mankind within the land. When, at Gethsemane, I prayed alone that a more bitter cup might be withdrawn, ye could not watch with me one little hour until the Dawn! So many sought my crib at Bethlehem, heeding a voice and following a star, but only Simon walked to Calvary. It was too far.

#### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Dr. Sandra Randleman

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.

\*CLOSING HYMN 649

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound
Amazing Grace

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

May God Bless Us and Keep Us (8:30) Katie Houts

May God bless us and keep us as we go on our way, for we know that God loves us and guides us every day. May we love and serve our family, our enemies, and our friends. May God bless us and keep us 'til we meet again.

I Will Lift Mine Eyes | Psalm 121:8 (11:00) Jake Runestad

The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this day forth for evermore.

\*CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Variations on a Bass Henry Coleman

\* Those who are able, please stand.
† Latecomers may be seated.

#### PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

Ryan Moore, PhD (Pharisee) – Pastor Stuart Gordon, DMin (Judas) – Sr. Associate Pastor for Christian Formation & Witness

John Musgrave, DMin (Pilate) – Parish Associate Sandra Randleman, DMin – Associate Pastor for Congregational Care & Missions

Gage Arnold (Narrator, 11:00) – Director of Youth Programming

Mallory Hammond (Narrator, 8:30) – *Director of Ministry with Children & Their Families* 

William Booker (Peter, 8:30)

Reagan McMullen (Peter, 11:00)

Raphael Bundage, DMA - Director of Music

Peter Rogahn, DMA – Organist & Assistant Director of Music

Rhonda Swanson, MM – Assistant Organist
Soloists: Greg Thomas – Tenor, Claire Paschal – Soprano
Acolytes – Graham Swafford, Kennedy Swafford, Livia
Vargas, Lila Bess Vargas

FPC Children's Choir – *Directors*: Kelly Posey and Kevin Salter, *Soloists*: Caroline Cahill, Georgia Moore, Evelyn Ison *Disciples*, 8:30: Frank Bass, Edwin Bass, Greenlee

Flanagin Jr., Greenlee Flanagin III, Elijah Moore, Jonah Moore, Emmett Russell, Hawkins Russell, Stephen Ward, Brooks Ward, Watts Ward, Brian Wilson, and Walter Wilson. 11:00: Walt Burton, Liam Burton, Wally Conyers, Bennett Conyers, Damon Hininger, Robert Hininger, Elijah Moore, Jonah Moore, Lukas Raischel, Jeremy Shapiro, Isaac Shapiro, and Gabe Shapiro.

#### WELCOME

First Presbyterian Church extends a warm welcome in the name of Christ to all who worship with us today. Since 1814 First Presbyterian has sought to be faithful in service to Jesus Christ and the common good. We are rooted in the Reformed, orthodox, and evangelical traditions of the larger church. If you do not have a church home, we would love to welcome you!

#### **Hearing Assistance App Directions**

Join WiFi network. You must be connected to this network for the app to work. Network Name: FPC Guest; Password: GreenRock-81. Download the WaveCAST app. Open the app and select "First Pres Sanctuary." Plug in your headphones and adjust the volume to your preference.

**Join us downstairs** in Courtenay Hall between services for coffee and doughnuts.

To **livestream** worship and special events or view past services, visit youtube.com/firstpresbyterianchurchofnashville.

Children of all ages are invited to worship alongside their families, and worship activity bags are provided at each entrance to the Sanctuary. Children ages 4-6 are invited to join Young Children & Worship following the Blessing of the Young Disciples. Parents pick up their child after worship at Grundy Hall, located in the Children's Ministry Wing. Following 8:30 a.m. worship, children of all ages are invited to stay for the Education Hour. Check-in and pickup for Nursery–Kindergarten is located in the Children's Ministry lobby, while Elementary is located in Oak Hill C-Wing. Nursery care for children ages 0–3 is available from 8:15 a.m.–12:15 p.m. The Mother and Infant Quiet Room is located in the Nursery Wing.

#### INTERESTED IN GETTING MORE CONNECTED?

If you are new to our community, we would love to get to know you and welcome you personally into the life and ministry of First Presbyterian Church. Whether you are a guest or a longtime member, fill out the Connect Card to get more involved, update your contact information, or sign up for church communications. Drop your completed Connect Card in the offering plate so we can follow up!

Stay informed about news and upcoming events by reading FPC's weekly Parish News email. To subscribe, email communications@fpcnashville.org.

#### ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Adult Sunday School classes offer an excellent opportunity to develop friendships and enjoy Christian community. Classes range in size, formats, and content. Most classes start at 9:45 a.m. during the Education Hour unless otherwise noted.

Bible & Coffee Class | Memorial Library
Confirmation 201 | OHS Board Room
Cornerstone Class | Vance Hall
Current Issues Class | L-200
Discipleship Class | Witherspoon Room
Fellowship Class | Jones Session Room | 10:00 a.m.
Good News Class | Room L-207
June Ramsey Class | Cheek House Living Room
Life Together | Room L-203
LOGOS Class | Stanford Chapel | 10:00 a.m.



SCAN HERE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS OFFERINGS

#### MUSIC NOTES

Little Grey Donkey arr. Natalie Sleeth © Choristers Guild. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-714895. May God Bless Us and Keep Us – Katie Houts © 2020 Choristers Guild. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-714895. From Bethlehem to Calvary by Jonathan Varcoe © 1990 Novello & Company Ltd. All rights reserved. CCS License #9151 Used by permission. Variations on a Bass by Henry Coleman © 1958 Novello & Company Ltd. All rights reserved. CCS License #9151 Used by permission.

#### **COVER IMAGE**

Albrecht Altdorfer, *The Arrest of Christ, from The Fall and Salvation of Mankind Through the Life and Passion of Christ*, c. 1513, Woodcut, 3 1/8 × 2 ½", Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/429637.

Flowering of the Cross — On Easter Day, we invite you to be part of the Flowering of the Cross, an ancient and meaningful tradition that represents the transition from Good Friday to Easter, from meditation on Jesus' death to joyful celebration of the resurrection. As you come to worship on Easter, pause by the cross on the north side of the sanctuary and add some flowers to it. Wildflowers, purchased flowers, or flowers from your garden are welcome. Christ's resurrection brings new life to the whole world—it is the beginning of the restoration of all things. Even the terrible, rugged cross, the instrument of Jesus' death, can become an emblem of new life in Christ when we cover it with flowers on Easter Sunday.

Washington University of St. Louis Choir Spring Tour Concert | Today | 2:00 p.m. | Sanctuary — The Washington University of St. Louis Choir will be presenting their Spring Tour Concert at First Presbyterian Church. The choir performs masterworks from five centuries and many cultures, encompassing sacred and secular works, folk and art music, and both accompanied and a cappella repertoire. Dr. McDonald conducts the WashU Choir and directs the vocal division. The concert is free and open to the public.

**FPC Offices Closed | Monday, April 1** — The church offices will be closed for the Easter holiday.

Upcoming Inquirer's Class — If you are interested in membership or gaining a deeper understanding of First Presbyterian Church of Nashville, we invite you to attend our Inquirers Class. It's also a good opportunity to meet other newcomers to the church, as well as pastors and staff. Attending the class does not obligate you to join the church. No matter where you are in your journey of faith—whether you are new to the Christian faith, seeking, questioning, or desire to become a member—you are invited to participate in our Inquirers Class. Lunch and childcare are provided; registration requested. For more information, contact Julia Wilk (jwilk@fpcnashville.org or 615-473-8742).

History, Politics, and Religion | Tuesday, April 9 (new date) | 6:00 p.m. | Gathering Place — The next edition of History, Politics, and Religion has been rescheduled for April 9 instead of March 19 (as originally published). The subject will be freedom of speech on college campuses. Our guest will be Marshall C. Eakin, Distinguished Professor of History at Vanderbilt University. The opinion piece to begin our discussion is Pamela Paul's March 14 essay in the *New York Times*, "Colleges are Putting their Futures at Risk." Eakin has taught at Vanderbilt since 1983, offering a wide variety of courses in history and Latin American studies at all levels, from first-year to Ph.D. students. Childcare is available upon request; please contact Stuart Gordon at sgordon@fpcnashville.org.

The Fellowship Community 2024 National Gathering April 23–25 — The Fellowship Community (TFC) is a network of churches and leaders called together to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ by growing in Christ's likeness, living by God's Word, and joining in God's mission in the world. As host church for the annual gathering, First Presbyterian congregants are welcome to attend and can register using the "Part-time" registration option that is \$75 (covers meals, plenary sessions, and breakouts). Visit linktr.ee/fpcnashville to register.

#### RECREATION

Welcome Visitors as a Soccer Saint | Saturdays through May 11 — We want to welcome and love the soccer families as they play, cheer, and coach on the FPC campus. Would you help us create a warm and welcoming atmosphere by volunteering as a Soccer Saint at one of our welcome tents on Saturday mornings during soccer season? Whether you are young, old, or in between, it's a great way to serve God's people and spread joy. Your ministry of presence will be a blessing to our community. Visit linktr.ee/fpcnashville to sign up.

Pickleball | Wednesdays through May | 5:00–8:00 p.m. Enrichment Center — We are playing together on Wednesday evenings through the end of May (excluding April 3, 24, and May 8). All ages are welcome, and no experience is necessary for a good time. For more information, please contact Jen Kutzner (jkutzner@fpcnashville.org).

## CHILDREN

VBS Registration Open! | Evenings, June 24–27 — Join us for Run the Race VBS this summer! Children age 4 through rising 4th graders will team up to explore what it means to trust and obey Jesus through Bible stories, skits, music, crafts, and games. This year we will be talking about "running the race" by looking to Jesus! Please contact Mallory Hammond (mhammond@fpcnashville.org) with any questions.



VISIT LINKTR.EE/FPCNASHVILLE TO REGISTER, DONATE, OR LEARN MORE

#### LOOKING AHEAD

April 1 | PW Handiwork Drop-in April 7 | Third Grade Bible Milestone Youth Discipleship Group April 28 | New Baby Reception May 9 | Ascension Worship Service & Lunch May 14 | PW Spring Gathering

# — Holy Week and — EASTER

# **EASTER FESTIVAL**

Today!

3:30 p.m. | By the Barn

# **MAUNDY THURSDAY SUPPER & SERVICE**

Thursday, March 28

Supper | 5:30 p.m. | Courtenay Hall Cost: \$10 (Individual), \$20 (Family) Service | 6:30 p.m. | Sanctuary Childcare provided

# **GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE**

Friday, March 29

12:00-1:45 p.m. | Sanctuary

# **EASTER DAY**

Sunday, March 31

6:30 a.m. Sunrise Service | Columbarium 8:00, 9:30 (livestreamed), and 11:00 a.m. Services | Sanctuary Join us for Easter breakfast between services in Courtenay Hall until 10:45 a.m.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

PSALM 118:26