



First Presbyterian Church of
EDGEWOOD
The Community Church



Lent 
A SEASON OF RENEWAL



**Sunday Morning Worship at Eleven O'clock
Palm and Passion Sunday – April 2, 2023**

GATHERING

PRELUDE

TOLLING OF THE HOUR

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (responsive)

O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good.

God's steadfast love endures forever!

The stone that the builders rejected
as become the chief cornerstone!

Hosanna in the highest!

Fling wide the gates, that all may enter in and give God thanks.

God's steadfast love endures forever!

Blessed are all who come in the name of the Lord!

Hosanna in the highest!

PROCLAMATION OF THE ENTRANCE INTO JERUSALEM

Matthew 21:1-11, NRSVue

When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately." This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet:

"Tell the daughter of Zion,
Look, your king is coming to you,
humble and mounted on a donkey,
and on a colt, the foal of a donkey."

The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting,

"Hosanna to the Son of David!
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!
Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

** We invite you to rise in body or
in spirit where there are asterisks **

*We invite you to read all **bold**
words aloud with the community*

*We start services with a "Call to
Worship" to establish the context
for worship as an encounter with
the Holy One who calls all things
into being.*

When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, "Who is this?" The crowds were saying, "This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee."

***PROCESSION INTO THE BUILDING**

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

Hosanna in the highest!

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN**

"The Palms"

Jean-Baptiste Faure

1 O'er all the way green palms and blossoms gay
Are strewn this day in festive preparation,
Where Jesus comes, to wipe our tears away,
E'en now the throng to welcome Him prepare.

Refrain:

Join all and sing His name declare,
Let ev'ry voice resound with acclamation,
Hosanna! Praised be the Lord!
Bless Him, who cometh to bring us salvation!

2 His word goes forth, and people by its might
Once more their freedom gain from degradation,
Humanity doth give to each his right,
While those in darkness find restored the light. [Refrain]

3 Sing and rejoice, O blest Jerusalem,
Of all thy sons sing the emancipation,
Thro' boundless love, the Christ of Bethlehem
Brings faith the hope to thee forevermore. [Refrain]

WELCOME AND SHARING OF CHURCH LIFE

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

God of the humbled and rejected, you did not exploit your divine position or power but, faithful in your love, came as a human to live among us, spending your life with outcasts and sinners and opening gates that long had been closed.

You were mocked and insulted, denied, and betrayed, spat upon and beaten, convicted and crucified for claiming a kin-dom of the lost and forsaken.

Make us bold to follow you, to set our faces like flint toward your coming kin-dom of justice, righteousness, and peace, where those who have been rejected are considered indispensable.

All this we pray through Jesus Christ, our cornerstone. **Amen.**

LENTEN CANDLE RITUAL

EXTINGUISHING OF THE SIXTH CANDLE

RESPONSE

"Agnus Dei (Lamb of God)"

from the Iona Community



Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have
mercy upon us. sin of the world, grant us your peace.

CALL TO CONFESSION & PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Remember the words of the psalmist to the people of God:

Blessed are those whose iniquities are forgiven,
and whose sins are covered by the grace of God.

Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin:

O Lord our God, you created us and called us good.

**You planted us in the garden of your grace
and provided everything we might need.**

Yet we are tempted by other fruit and succumb to our own desires.

We sin against you, disobeying your commandments.

We sin against others, causing sorrow and suffering.

We even sin against ourselves, forgetting that we are made in your image.

Forgive us, O Lord our God.

**Deliver us from sin and death, strengthen us by your faithfulness,
and cover us with your righteousness,**

**that we may turn away from evil and live according to your word;
through Jesus Christ our Savior.**

We turn from communal praise to corporate confession, not for shame nor in guilt, but to wrestle honestly with the impact we have on each other. We do so with the knowledge of God's grace for all people.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

People of God, believe the good news: In the name of Jesus the Christ, we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God.

*RESPONSE

"Hosanna, Hosanna"

Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest!

Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest!

Lord we lift up Your name with hearts full of praise

Be exalted oh Lord my God! Hosanna in the highest!

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Speak to us, O Lord.

Shape us by your Word and fill us with your Spirit,

that these dry bones may rise and live to praise your name;

through Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Isaiah 50:4-9

NRSVue

The Lord God has given me a trained tongue,
that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word.
Morning by morning he awakens,
 wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught.
The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious;
 I did not turn backward.
I gave my back to those who struck me
 and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;
I did not hide my face from insult and spitting.
The Lord God helps me;
 therefore I have not been disgraced;
therefore I have set my face like flint,
 and I know that I shall not be put to shame;
 he who vindicates me is near.
Who will contend with me?
 Let us stand in court together.
Who are my adversaries?
 Let them confront me.
It is the Lord God who helps me;
 who will declare me guilty?
All of them will wear out like a garment;
 the moth will eat them up.

We read Scripture when we gather because we dare to believe that God continues to speak to us through it. Reading, hearing, preaching, and affirming the Word are central to Christian worship and essential to the Service for the Lord's Day.

*The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.***

ANTHEM*"Pilate's Dream" from *Jesus Christ Superstar**

A.L. Webber

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 27:11-54

NRSVue

Now Jesus stood before [Pilate] the governor, and the governor asked him, "Are you the king of the Jews?" Jesus said, "You say so." But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he did not answer. Then Pilate said to him, "Do you not hear how many accusations they make against you?" But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed.

Now at the festival the governor was accustomed to release a prisoner for the crowd, anyone whom they wanted. At that time they had a notorious prisoner called Jesus Barabbas. So after they had gathered, Pilate said to them, "Whom do you want me to release for you, Jesus Barabbas or Jesus who is called the Messiah?" For he realized that it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over. While he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent word to him, "Have nothing to do with that innocent man, for today I have suffered a great deal because of a dream about him." Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus killed. The governor again said to them, "Which of the two do you want me to release for you?" And they said, "Barabbas." Pilate said to them, "Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?" All of them said, "Let him be crucified!" Then he asked, "Why, what evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Let him be crucified!"

So when Pilate saw that he could do nothing but rather that a riot was beginning, he took some water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, "I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves." Then the people as a whole answered, "His blood be on us and on our children!" So he released Barabbas for them, and after flogging Jesus he handed him over to be crucified.

Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, and they gathered the whole cohort around him. They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, and after twisting some thorns into a crown they put it on his head. They put a reed in his right hand and knelt before him and mocked him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" They spat on him and took the reed and struck him on the head. After mocking him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him.

As they went out, they came upon a man from Cyrene named Simon; they compelled this man to carry his cross. And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall, but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. And when they had crucified him, they divided his clothes among themselves by casting lots; then they sat down there and kept watch over him. Over his head they put the charge against him, which read, "This is Jesus, the King of the Jews."

Then two rebels were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying, "You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross." In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes and elders, were mocking him, saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down from the cross now, and we will believe in him. He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he wants to, for he said, 'I am God's Son.'" The rebels who were crucified with him also taunted him in the same way.

From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And about three o'clock Jesus cried with a loud voice, "*Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?*" that is, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, "This man is calling for Elijah." At once one of them ran and got a sponge, filled it with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink. But the others said, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him." Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and breathed his last. At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. The earth shook, and the rocks were split. The tombs also were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised. After his resurrection they came out of the tombs and entered the holy city and appeared to many. Now when the centurion and those with him, who were keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were terrified and said, "Truly this man was God's Son!"

MESSAGE

Rev. Jason Dauer

HYMN

"Ride On, Ride On, the Time is Right"

- 1 Ride on, ride on, the time is right:
the roadside crowds scream with delight;
Palm branches mark the pilgrim way
Where beggars squat and children play.
- 2 Ride on, ride on, your critics wait,
intrigue and rumour circulate;

New lies abound in word and jest,
And trust becomes a suspect guest.

3 Ride on, ride on, while well aware
that those who shout and wave and stare,
Are mortals who, with common breath,
Can crave for life and lust for death

4 Ride on, ride on, though blind with tears,
though dumb to speak and deaf to jeers.
Your path is clear, though few can tell
Their garments pave the road to hell.

5 Ride on, ride on, the room is let,
the wine matured, the saw is whet;
And dice your death-throes shall attend
Though faith, not fate, dictates your end.

6 Ride on, ride on, God's love demands.
Justice and peace lie in your hands.
Evil and angels' voices rhyme:
This is the man and this the time.

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

"Lenten Creed" from Patmos Abbey, the Celtic Order of St. Columba

**We believe that our lives are held within the encircling love of God,
who knows our names and recognizes our deepest needs.**

**We believe that Christ is the divine Child of the living God,
and that his grace is like living waters that can never be exhausted.**

**We believe in the birthing, renewing, enabling Spirit of God
who yearns over our welfare as a mother yearns for her child.**

**We believe that God is in the arid desert as well as in green pastures,
and that hard times and disciplines are also loving gifts.**

**We believe that our journey has a purpose and a destination,
and that our path leads to a human glory we cannot yet imagine.**

**We believe that in the church we are fellow pilgrims on the road,
and that we are called to love one another as God loves us.**

This is our faith, and we are humbled to profess it in Jesus the Christ. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

RESPONDING WITH THANKSGIVING / EUCHARIST

OFFERING OF OUR LIVES, GIFTS, AND GOODS

What shall we offer for all God's goodness to us?

**Let us lift up the cup of salvation
and call on the name of the Lord.**

*Those wishing to make
offerings by electronic
transfer may use this
QR code or go to
fpcedgewood.org/donate*



RESPONSE #527

"Eat This Bread"

Eat this bread; drink this cup; come to me and never be hungry.
Eat this bread; drink this cup; trust in me and you will not thirst.

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

GREAT THANKSGIVING & LORD'S PRAYER

The Holy One be with you

And also with you

Open your hearts to the One who is Love

We open our hearts to you, O God

Let us give thanks to God, who gives us courage

To the One who calls us to lives of service, we give thanks and praise

From our beginning...

...Therefore, we join our voices with your people on earth and all the company of the heavens,
singing praise to you,

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er, God of might.
 Hea-ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the
 high-est Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
 Ho - san - na in the high-est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Gracious One...

...In remembrance of all you have done to save us, we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

Christ has died. Christ is ris-en. Christ will come a - gain.

Pour out your Spirit...

...in collective longing for a taste of your Kin-dom on earth, we join together echoing, in the
languages closest to our hearts, the prayer Jesus taught:

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.**

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

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

All are welcome at Christ's table.

All who come to the table are offered the bread and cup, regardless of their age, understanding, or baptismal status. The opportunity to eat and drink with Christ is not a right bestowed upon the worthy, but a privilege given to the undeserving who come in faith, repentance, and love.

Gluten-Free wafers are available by asking.

Please come down the center aisle to receive the elements and partake, then deposit your cup in the basket at the end of the first pew as you return to your seat.

The many-faceted meaning of this sacrament is seen in the names given to it. The title Lord's Supper recalls Jesus' institution of the sacrament with his disciples. Eucharist (thanksgiving) reminds us that we receive all of the benefits of God's grace with joy. Holy Communion reminds us that in this sacrament we are made one with Christ and with each other. The Breaking of the Bread describes the sacramental action by which Christ is known to his disciples.

COMMUNION ANTHEM

"At the Cross"

Chris Tomlin

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Holy God, your bread and your cup renew our spirits.

No matter the times we have failed

to show up to your call,

or to our own needs,

or to the cries of our neighbors,

you receive us again.

May your unending grace be our foundation

as we journey with Christ towards justice. Amen.

SENDING INTO THE WORLD

***HYMN #223**

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

1 When I survey the wondrous cross
on which the Prince of glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss,
and pour contempt on all my pride.

2 Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
save in the death of Christ my God;
all the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to his blood.

3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet,
sorrow and love flow mingled down;
did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
or thorns compose so rich a crown?

4 Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were a present far too small;
love so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul, my life, my all.

BLESSING & CHARGE

POSTLUDE

*Please be seated as we partake in a time of contemplation.
When the music ends, we invite you to join us in the Gathering Place for coffee hour!*

SERVICE IN THE WORLD

*Christian worship and service does not end at the conclusion of the Morning Service;
we go forth to love and serve the Lord in daily living.
In so doing, we seek to fulfill our chief end: to glorify and enjoy God forever.*

Participants in this worship service:

Rev. Jason Dauer, pastor | **Elder Roberta Thompson**, liturgist
Shaun Cloonan, minister of music | **Sunny Sakai**, pianist | **David Falk**, vocalist
John Foster, videographer

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This service may be found posted on our website at www.fpcedgewood.org, on our YouTube channel,
or audio only on our SoundCloud channel at www.soundcloud.com/fpcedgewood



A LOT CAN HAPPEN IN SEVEN DAYS.

Welcome

Thanks be to God for allowing us to worship with you!

IF YOU ARE VISITING WITH US TODAY: first, welcome! Please fill out a blue visitor's card found in the pew rack. If you are interested in being on our email or newsletter mailing lists, provide that information so we can keep in touch. Please place this card in the offering plate either during or after the service.

BOOK CLUB continues to meet each Tuesday at 10:00AM at the Apossos home, three blocks from the church, 361 Maple Avenue. They are starting *Falling Upward: A Spirituality for the Two Halves of Life* by Fr. Richard Rohr. Drop by for conversation and coffee.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT ZOOM BIBLE STUDY is led by Elder Tim Hoffman discussing what the Bible says about itself, Jesus, devil, angels, heaven, prophecy, and more! Zoom link is available on the website and in the weekly email updates. No password is needed, just the link. Tim will let you in from the waiting room as you join. Come and join the discussion on Wednesday nights at 7:30PM online! Questions? Shoot an email to Tim Hoffman at HoffmanTL@gmail.com.

PER CAPITA REMINDER - Our 2023 per capita donation is \$35.70. This is the amount of support, per member, that our Congregation remits to the Presbytery. This allows us to support the mission of Jesus Christ around the world. Thank you!

COFFEE WITH THE PASTOR. Jason is at Biddle's Escape every Wednesday, 8 AM – 12 PM. Drop by to catch up, share ideas, ask questions, or talk about the latest movie!

WILKINSBURG COMMUNITY MINISTRY has several opportunities to volunteer for various projects in the area, including their weekly mobile pantry distribution. Visit <https://app.involvemint.io/projects> to find out more information or scan the QR code to the right.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS...April 29, AED/CPR training

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Maundy Thursday, April 6 at 7:00PM beginning in the Gathering Place

Good Friday, April 7 at 11:00AM in the Lounge

Easter Sunday, April 9 at 11:00AM in the Sanctuary

**LOVE GOD
EACH OTHER
OUR NEIGHBORS**

CHURCH ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK

AH=Apessos Home, B=Basement Band Room, C=Choir Room, CE=CE Office,
GP=Gathering Place, L=Lounge, O=Office, PS=Pastor's Study, S=Sanctuary,
Sc=Scout Room, SL=Side Lawn, SR=Social Room

Today, Sunday, April 2

12:00PM Fellowship (GP), Membership Class (L),
Outreach & Communication Meeting (GP)

Monday, March 3

6:30PM Scouts (Sc/SR)
7:00PM Vocal Confluence (S)

Tuesday, March 4

10:00AM Book Club (AH)
7:00PM Edgewood Symphony (S)

Wednesday, March 5

7:30PM Zoom Bible Study

Maundy Thursday, March 6

2:00PM Writing Class (L)
3:45PM Flute Lesson (CE)
7:00PM Service/Communion (GP)

Good Friday, April 7

11:00AM Service (L)
4:15PM Flute Lesson (CE)
8:30PM AA (SR)

Saturday, April 8

6:00PM Stonewall Abbey Bonfire (SL)
8:30PM AA (SR)

Next Sunday, Easter, April 9

9:30AM Choir Rehearsal (S)
11:00AM Worship (S), Youth Sunday School (GP)
12:00PM Fellowship (GP)

How can you become involved?

As we reimagine the ministries at FPCE, consider if you have a heart for:

- Encouraging our younger members
- Learning more about God & faith
- Praising God through music
- Serving senior citizens
- Working in publicity/advertising

...please contact a member of our FPCE Family listed below for more details on how to become involved!

OUR FPCE FAMILY

Pastor..... The Rev. Jason Dauer
pastorjason@fpcedgewood.org

Office & Cleaning Manager
..... **Judy Mysels**
office@fpcedgewood.org

Building Manager **Rob Mysels**
building@fpcedgewood.org

Minister of Music **Shaun Cloonan**
music@fpcedgewood.org

Pianist..... Sunny Sakai
Sunnysakai4@gmail.com

Ministers..... The Entire Congregation



First Presbyterian Church of
EDGEWOOD
The Community Church



*Believing we are called together by God's love through Jesus Christ,
our mission as the First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood is to
love God, to love each other, and to love our neighbors.*

