



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
of Sumter

Sunday, April 2, 2023

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Gigue

Douglas E. Wagner

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

WELCOME

Missy Coulter

INTROIT

Palm Sunday Processional

Daniel Greig and Jon Paige

Chancel Choir with Joseph Bettinger, Percussion
Kelsie Decker and Madison White, Handbells

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Come, it is time to worship God.

People: Join the happy throng that gathers to honor Jesus!

Leader: Come! From all the scattered places of your busy lives,

People: And put down your work in joyful celebration!

Leader: Come! Lay down your sorrows and worries,

People: And turn your eyes toward the Savior whom God has sent!

Leader: Shout praises as Jesus enters Jerusalem on this Palm Sunday.

People: Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

*** HYMN OF PRAISE 197**

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

ELLACOMBE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Eternal God, this is the day we cheer for you. We praise you for Jesus Christ, who came riding into the city on a lowly beast, victorious through love and not through violence. Help us to learn the meaning and purpose of life from Jesus, who, though being one with you, took the form of a servant and shared our human life and sufferings. Forgive us, O Lord, when we claim you in the sunshine of success and prosperity and then shrink away in the difficult times of trial and suffering. We thank you for the Jesus life of humility and gentleness and love, and we pray that you would give us the courage to follow where Jesus leads. Have mercy upon us. Hear us as we bring our hopes and our needs to you.

(Silence for Personal Confession)

In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, the Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world. Your mercy renews our hope: in Jesus Christ, we are a forgiven people.

People: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to all the earth. Thanks be to God!

*** GLORIA PATRI**

GLORIA PATRI

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 OF THE PEACE**

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Rev. Bob Brearley

Following the Children's Moment, children preschool through 2nd grade are invited to Children in Worship. Parents can pick up their children from the third floor after worship.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Psalm 118:1, 19-29

Madison White

(Pew Bible, pg. 565, Old Testament)

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Matthew 2:1-11

Rev. Bob Brearley

(Pew Bible, pg. 23, New Testament)

SERMON

"A Stirring Entrance"

Rev. Bob Brearley

* **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost; born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; He descended into hell; the third day, He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

* **COMMUNION HYMN** 500

Be Known to Us in Breaking Bread

ST. FLAVIAN

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: We give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

Communion this morning will be served by intinction. The congregation will come forward by the center aisle, receive the bread, the cup and partake at one of the stations and return to your seat by the side aisle. If you would rather partake in the pew, please raise your hand and Elders will come to you where you are seated.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Call to Giving

Offertory Anthem

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross
Chancel Choir

Gilbert M. Martin

* Doxology

*Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow
Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him all creatures here below.
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

OLD HUNDREDTH

* Offertory Prayer

* **HYMN** 215

What Wondrous Love Is This

WONDROUS LOVE

BENEDICTION

* **CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

ST. FLAVIAN

*Abide with us, till when this life of suffering shall be past,
An Easter of unending joy we may attain at last.*

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Festival March on St. Theodolph

Leopold Mozart

* Please stand as you are able

WELCOME!

We especially welcome those of you who are guests today. We invite you to fill out a Welcome card found in the pew racks and place it in the offering plate as it is passed. We look forward to meeting you. If you have particular questions, please speak to Rev. Brearley.

Crucifer: Edmunds DuBose
Beadle: Glenn Woodrum

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP THIS MORNING

Elder: Missy Coulter
Assisting in Worship: Missy Coulter
Deacons: Valerie James, Kimberly Land
Youth Liturgist: Madison White
Junior Usher: Ligon Ferguson, Caroline Thames

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY

Elders: Bill Richardson, Dan Spencer
Assisting in Worship: Bill Richardson
Deacons: Debbie Jackson, Kathy Lyons
Youth Liturgist: Riley Berger
Junior Usher: Harry Berger, Adelaide McElveen



EASTER EGG HUNT

Palm Sunday, April 2

3:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Everyone is invited!

Holy Cow!! A congregational survey is coming your way in the near future. We hope you will take a few minutes and fill it out and help the Pastor Nominating Committee as they do their work searching for our next pastor.

There will be no children's Sunday School on April 9 or April 16 due to spring break. Children in Worship will continue as planned.

The church office will be closed Friday, April 7, and Monday, April 10 in observance of Easter. The Preschool will be closed April 7-14 for spring break.

A congregational meeting has been called for Sunday, April 16, during the morning worship service for the purpose of electing officers to the class of 2026.

HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Maundy Thursday, April 6

7:00 p.m. ~ Worship with Communion

Easter Sunday, April 9

10:30 a.m. ~ Worship

Please bring blooms from your yard to decorate the cross in celebration of the risen Christ!

JOYS AND CONCERNS

National Healthcare: Wanda Casker

Home: Jackie Osteen, Norma Abbott, Milo Abbott (Grandson of Norma Abbott)

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY is extended to Charlene Young, formerly of Sumter and still a church member, on the death of her sister, Lynn Williams Klatt, who died March 19, in Waco, Texas.