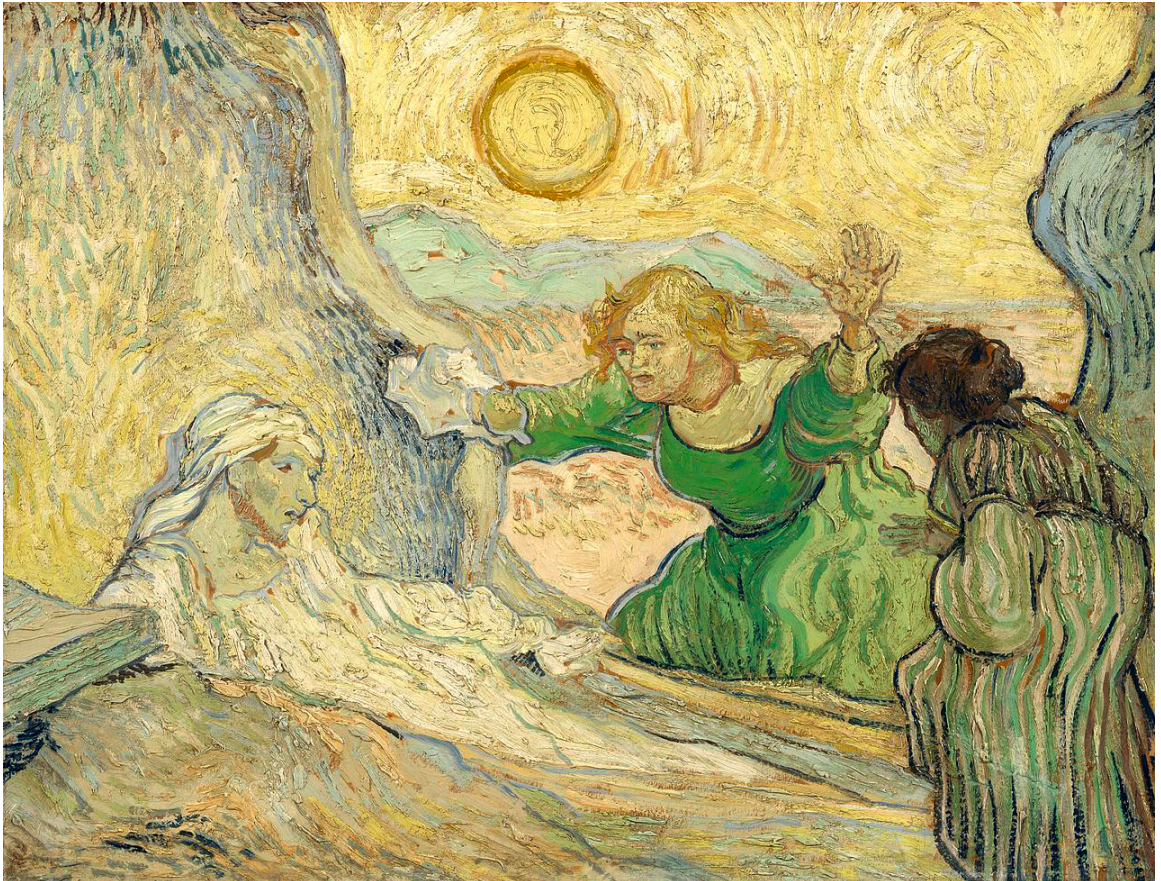




FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
DALTON, GEORGIA EST. 1847



Fifth Sunday in Lent

Sunday, March 26, 2023

How to Connect

- Welcome to First Presbyterian Church of Dalton. We are glad you are here!
- Currently our church observes a “Masks Optional” policy throughout the church campus with the exception of the nursery staff and volunteers. Adult teachers, volunteers, and nursery staff, if they are unvaccinated, are asked to remain masked when involved in children’s Christian Education activities. Some may still opt to wear a mask even if they are vaccinated. Additionally, we have returned to observing The Peace, passing the offering plate, and joining hands to sing The Congregational Response (“God Be with You ‘Til We Meet Again”) in our traditional manner. Anyone uncomfortable with this approach is encouraged to refrain from participation in any or all of these aspects with full knowledge that our congregation is respectful and recognizes that our members have different needs and comfort levels. Please check any of the following for updates and possible changes in our COVID protocol:

First Presbyterian Church, Dalton Communication Channels:

- “First Presbyterian Church Dalton” - Our church’s public Facebook page.
 - “FPC Dalton Connect” - Our private Facebook page for church members and staff
 - “Midweek News” - Our newsletter sent online to most members unless a paper copy is requested by calling 706-278-8161.
 - Your E-Mail
 - Your personal mailbox
- Find the most current contact information on our members in the church directory. It can be found on our website (www.firstpresdalton.org) under the fellowship tab. Please email the church office for the directory password.
 - Regular team meetings will be held at the discretion of team chairs in-person and/or through video-conference. Scheduling will take place through direct communication and will be posted to the newsletter.

WI-FI



Free Wi-Fi is available throughout the church. There are two options available: First Pres Guest 2.4 and First Pres Guest 5. Although these will connect to the same network, 2.4 has more strength while 5 has more range. The location of the device will influence which one will automatically connect. The password for the guest network is **johncalvin**

Announcements

- Join us next Sunday, April 2, for **Palm Sunday Worship** and the procession of palms by the choir and children. Sometimes referred to as Passion Sunday, this is the first celebration in Holy Week and commemorates the Triumphant Entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. According to tradition, Jesus rode in on a donkey, reminiscent of the entry of King David and thus announced the beginning of a new Kingdom; the Kingdom of God. The people greeted Him with palm branches and pieces of clothing, another symbol of royal welcome.
- **Holy Week** begins next Sunday, April 2. See the Midweek News for a list and times of services. The nursery will be provided for all services except Good Friday.
- We are still collecting donations for **Heroes Against Child Abuse campaign** (through March) and **“One Great Hour of Sharing”** (through Easter.) See the Midweek News for more information and thank you to those that have already given.
- The Christian Education and Congregational Life Teams are planning an **Easter Egg Hunt** for the children on Saturday, April 8 at 11:00 a.m. on the front lawn of the church. In case of rain, the event will be held upstairs in the Martin House.

SUNDAY, MARCH 26, 2023

PRELUDE

Prelude in A minor

J.S. Bach
(1685-1750)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you all.
And also with you.

THE GREETING

At the sound of the bells, please prepare your heart and mind for worship.

INTROIT

O God, in a Mysterious Way

Dundee

*O God, in a mysterious way
great wonders you perform.
You plant your footsteps in the sea
and ride upon the storm.*

*Deep in unfathomable mines
of never-failing skill,
you treasure up your bright designs
and work your sovereign will.*

*O fearful saints, fresh courage take.
The clouds you so much dread
are big with mercy and shall break
in blessings on your head.*

*Our unbelief is sure to err
and scan your work in vain.
You are your own interpreter,
and you will make it plain.*

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Carol Houston

Death does not have the final word!

What do you mean by that? Dead is dead!

Just that death is a broken power.

What do you mean, “Broken?” Dead is dead!

Maybe I mean that death, itself, is broken.

Why don’t you figure out what you mean and then let us know?

OK, here is what I mean: There are words beyond death’s voice. Powerful words, creative words. Words like, “Come forth!” That is what we are called to hear. Even when we think that we and those we love are dead; even when our tombs are sealed and our bodies bound.

Perhaps we will learn more of this. With that hope and prayer, let us worship God!

Cover Art:

Gogh, Vincent van, 1853-1890. Raising of Lazarus, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-image/link.pl?RC=57322> [retrieved March 22, 2023]. Original source: [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:De_opwekking_van_Lazarus_\(naar_Rembrandt\)_-_s0169V1962_-_Van_Gogh_Museum.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:De_opwekking_van_Lazarus_(naar_Rembrandt)_-_s0169V1962_-_Van_Gogh_Museum.jpg)

*Where you see this notation, please rise in body or in spirit.

*UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION

We have gathered, O Lord, to witness that we don't understand. To consider things which, to us, are incomprehensible. To learn that in life, in death, in life beyond death, we are not alone. You are with us and that is enough. Amen.

Hymn 409 Note:

Commissioned for the dedication of a renovated worship space in Austin, Texas, this text is one of the few to devote attention to how customary church features facilitate worship. The tune was composed in wartime Britain to replace a Haydn tune tainted by Nazi associations.

*HYMN 409

God is Here!

Abbot's Leigh

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(A time of silent prayer and meditation.)

Forgive us, Lord Jesus, for seeking a simple faith with easy answers to complex questions. We are so quickly distracted and soon exhausted with the business of living that we feel we need a safe harbor where no terrors lurk or dangers abide. A place where we need not think or question or doubt. We want an escape from life, if only for an hour.

But faith is not simple. It is a work in progress. Sometimes the quality of our faith is measured by the gravities of our doubts, fears and questions. Help us remember that You had all of these in Your life among us. So, may we embrace Your faith and follow Your path obediently. Amen.

KYRIE

Lord, Have Mercy

Castle Road

The musical score for the Kyrie consists of three systems, each with a Cantor part and a Congregation part. The music is in 4/4 time and G major. The lyrics are: "Lord, have mercy;" and "*Christ, have mercy;".

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days

St. Flavian

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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Jesus Loves Me!

William B. Bradbury

**Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so;
Little ones to Him belong; they are weak, but He is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalms 130

NRSV

- ¹ Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD.
- ² Lord, hear my voice!
Let your ears be attentive
to the voice of my supplications!
- ³ If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities,
Lord, who could stand?
- ⁴ But there is forgiveness with you,
so that you may be revered.
- ⁵ I wait for the LORD, my soul waits,
and in his word I hope;
- ⁶ my soul waits for the Lord
more than those who watch for the morning,
more than those who watch for the morning.
- ⁷ O Israel, hope in the LORD!
For with the LORD there is steadfast love,
and with him is great power to redeem.
- ⁸ It is he who will redeem Israel
from all its iniquities.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Romans 6:1-11

NRSVUE

¹What then are we to say? Should we continue in sin in order that grace may increase? ²By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? ³Do you not know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴Therefore we were buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we also might walk in newness of life.

⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united

with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶ We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, so we might no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷ For whoever has died is freed from sin. ⁸ But if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹ We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰ The death he died, he died to sin once for all, but the life he lives, he lives to God. ¹¹ So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Anthem:

Jesus, so lowly, Child of the earth: Christen me wholly, bring me new birth.

Jesus, so lonely, weary and sad; teach me that only love maketh glad.

Jesus, so broken, silent and pale; be this the token love will not fail.

Jesus, victorious, mighty and free; teach me how glorious death is to be.

ANTHEM

Jesus, So Lowly

H. Friedell
(1905-1958)

SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 11: 1-45

NRSV

¹Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ²Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. ³So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." ⁴But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." ⁵Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, ⁶after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

⁷Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." ⁸The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" ⁹Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. ¹⁰But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them." ¹¹After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." ¹²The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." ¹³Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. ¹⁴Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. ¹⁵For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." ¹⁶Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

¹⁷When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. ¹⁸Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, ¹⁹and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. ²⁰When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. ²¹Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²²But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." ²³Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." ²⁴Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." ²⁵Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, ²⁶and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" ²⁷She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world."

²⁸When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, “The Teacher is here and is calling for you.” ²⁹And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. ³⁰Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. ³¹The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. ³²When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.” ³³When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. ³⁴He said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Lord, come and see.” ³⁵Jesus began to weep. ³⁶So the Jews said, “See how he loved him!” ³⁷But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?”

³⁸Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. ³⁹Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, “Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days.” ⁴⁰Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?” ⁴¹So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, “Father, I thank you for having heard me. ⁴²I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.” ⁴³When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” ⁴⁴The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.”

⁴⁵Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“When Death Doesn’t Get the Last Word”

Rev. Dr. Ken McKenzie

*HYMN 686

God of Our Life

Sandon

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

“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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Hymn 686 Note:

This text was created for the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the Shadyside Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh, PA, by its pastor. He wrote these words especially for this tune, originally composed for John Henry Newman’s text “Lead, Kindly Light.”

Hymn 326 Note:

The broad and sweeping tune with which this hymn is so closely identified was created to be sung during a reverent but dramatic procession at the beginning of an All Saints’ Day service, an enacted representation of the enduring “fellowship divine” celebrated by this text.

Offering Note:

Copy and paste the link under the Offertory onto your browser to easily submit your online offering.

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.

THE OFFERING

www.firstpresdalton.org/giving/

THE OFFERTORY

Sonata in F minor

D. Scarlatti
(1685-1757)

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow

Old 100th

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.

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

*HYMN 326

For All the Saints

Sine Nomine

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

God Be with You Till We Meet Again

Traditional

God be with you till we meet again;

By His counsels guide, uphold you,

With His sheep securely fold you;

God be with you till we meet again.

There will be no postlude during the season of Lent.

Please leave the church in a spirit of prayer.



Contact FPC

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VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

WORSHIP

Date	Liturgist	Ushers	Flowers	Joy Makers	Faith Explorers
3/26	Carol Houston	Charles Allgood Nathalie Sanders	The Flower Team	Jeff & Leanna Granillo	Jodi Johnson Rachel Smalley
4/2	Kathryn Sellers	Bob & Mary Hubbs	TBD	Michelle & Ian Lively	Jean Strain Jeane Jones

MONTHLY

Communion (April 2 - Palm Sunday)		Congregational Care	
Prep	Margaret Venable	March	Becky Jolly
Servers	Rev. Dr. Ken McKenzie, Jack & Pam Partain & Leanna Granillo	April	Mary Hubbs
Communion (April 6 - Maundy Thursday)			
Prep	Jean Lowrey		
Servers	Rev. Dr. Ken McKenzie, Charles & Laura Allgood & Sarah McCown		

PRAYERS

For our Members:

The Pastor Nominating Committee, as they begin our search for a new pastor;
The family of Fran Lewis, as they mourn her death;
Cecilia Passmore, recovering from surgery;
Nancy Rhine, in assisted living located near her daughter;
Mary Dover, in rehabilitation at Regency Park;
Greg George, kidney disease and recent surgery;
Noel and Coy Temples, as they continue to adjust together;
Stan Cramford, multiple health challenges including spinal stenosis;
Kristen Weiss, complications of Crohn's disease.

For Family and Friends of our Members:

Roger and Peggy Rollins
 The family of Shirley Owens, friend, as they mourn her death;

Friends of First Presbyterian, Dalton

Arden Brown, son of Amanda and Chris Brown, has been accepted into a clinical trial for a drug which hopefully will prove to be a cure for Duchennes Muscular Dystrophy;
Wilson Kennedy, Cherokee Presbytery General Presbyter;
Families affected by COVID-19;
Caregivers and aging parents.

Praises and Continuing Prayers!

Becky Hansberry, daughter of Kaye Clark, is moving to Atlanta in June and will continue her cancer treatment at Emory.

Upcoming Events

Sunday, March 26

Sunday School
 9:15 a.m.
 Fellowship
 10:00 a.m.
 Worship
 FPC Sanctuary (& Facebook livestream)
 10:30 a.m.
 Connection Team Meeting
 11:45 a.m.

Monday, March 27

Soup & Scripture
 noon-1:00 p.m.

Tuesday, March 28

Saturday Sacks
 10:30 a.m.
 Staff Team Meeting
 5:30 p.m.
 Grateful Heart AA Mtg
 8:00 p.m.

Wednesday, March 29

Choir Rehearsal
 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Sunday, April 2

Sunday School
 9:15 a.m.
 Fellowship
 10:00 a.m.
 Worship - Palm Sunday
 FPC Sanctuary (& Facebook livestream)
 10:30 a.m.

Monday, April 3

Soup & Scripture
 noon-1:00 p.m.

Tuesday, April 4

Grateful Heart AA Mtg
 8:00 p.m.

Wednesday, April 5

Choir Rehearsal
 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 6

Maundy Thursday Worship
 6:00 p.m.

Friday, April 7

Good Friday Worship
 noon

Saturday, April 8

Easter Egg Hunt
 11:00 a.m.

