



Good Friday

Friday, March 29, 2024

How to Connect

- Welcome to First Presbyterian Church of Dalton. We are glad you are here!
- The session continues to monitor the current medical and scientific research and recommendations from local, state and national resources. 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 are asked to remain masked when they are involved in children's Christian Education activities. We are back 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 these procedures 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 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 U.S. Postal 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 videoconference. 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

- The Christian Education and Congregational Life Teams are planning an **Easter Egg Hunt** for the children on Saturday, March 30 at 11:00 a.m. at the home of Walter & Jeane Jones. All are welcome!
- On Saturday, March 30 at 7:00 p.m., **The DEO Clinic**, in partnership with FPC, is hosting a concert featuring Kristy Cox & Grasstime. Kristy has received six awards for 'Bluegrass Recording of the Year' in the Australia's CMA Awards, her latest in 2023 for her track "Good Morning Moon." This will be her third time at Woodsongs Dalton. You will not be disappointed!
- Bring your family to our time of celebration on **Easter morning** beginning at 9:45 a.m. in the Commons, sponsored by the Adult Sunday School class. We'll share coffee, conversation and refreshments as we "flower" both crosses.
- On Easter Sunday, please **bring flowers to decorate our two crosses**, the large one outside and the other in the Commons, as we continue celebrating the joy of Easter and new life. After Worship, everyone is welcomed and encouraged to take family Easter pictures with the flowered crosses. We would love if you posted your photos on our FPC Dalton Connect page.
- The church office will be closed Monday, April 1. Soup & Scripture will resume on Monday, April 8.

FRIDAY, MARCH 29, 2024

PRELUDE

Yearning

M. Hayes (b. 1953)

THE GREETING

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

INTROIT

When Jesus Wept

W. Billings (1746-1800)

When Jesus wept, the falling tear
With mercy flowed beyond all bounds.
When Jesus groaned, a trembling fear
Seized all the guilty world around.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Blessed be the name of the Lord, our God,

Who redeems us from sin and death.

For us and for our salvation,

Christ became obedient unto death, even death on a cross.

Blessed be the name of the Lord. Let us worship God.

*UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Almighty God, look with mercy on Your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed and to be given over to the hands of sinners and to suffer death on the cross; who now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever, Amen.

*HYMN 215

What Wondrous Love is This

Wondrous Love

THE SOLEMN INTERCESSION

Lord, in Your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

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.

Cover Art:

Thurman, Robert R.. Crucifixion, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=55831 [retrieved March 20, 2024]. Original source: Robert R. Thurman, https://soundcloud.com/the-8th-nerve.

Hymn 215 Note:

With its ballad-like repetitions before and after each stanza's central narrative lines, this meditative text needs performance in order to be effective. Its haunting melody proves the means of convincing us that the only adequate response to "wondrous love" is to "sing on."

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



ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

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

*HYMN 182

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

Kingsfold

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalm 22 NRSV

- My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning?
 - O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer; and by night, but find no rest.
 - ³ Yet you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel.
 - ⁴ In you our ancestors trusted; they trusted, and you delivered them.
 - ⁵ To you they cried, and were saved; in you they trusted, and were not put to shame.
 - ⁶ But I am a worm, and not human; scorned by others, and despised by the people.
 - All who see me mock at me; they make mouths at me, they shake their heads;
 - 6 "Commit your cause to the LORD; let him deliver let him rescue the one in whom he delights!"
 - Yet it was you who took me from the womb; you kept me safe on my mother's breast.

Hymn 182 Note:

Each stanza here pairs an invitation from Jesus with a response from the narrator. These three invitations recall how Jesus welcomed those who were heavy laden (Matthew 11:28), offered living water (John 4:10–14), and identified himself as the light of the world (John 8:12, 9:5).

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- On you I was cast from my birth, and since my mother bore me you have been my God.
- 11 Do not be far from me, for trouble is near and there is no one to help.
- Many bulls encircle me, strong bulls of Bashan surround me;
- they open wide their mouths at me, like a ravening and roaring lion.
- I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint; my heart is like wax; it is melted within my breast;
- my mouth is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to my jaws; you lay me in the dust of death.
- For dogs are all around me; a company of evildoers encircles me. My hands and feet have shriveled;
- ¹⁷ I can count all my bones. They stare and gloat over me;
- they divide my clothes among themselves, and for my clothing they cast lots.
- But you, O LORD, do not be far away! O my help, come quickly to my aid!
- Deliver my soul from the sword, my life from the power of the dog!
- Save me from the mouth of the lion!

From the horns of the wild oxen you have rescued me.

- ²² I will tell of your name to my brothers and sisters; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:
- You who fear the LORD, praise him!
 All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him;
 stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!
- For he did not despise or abhor the affliction of the afflicted; he did not hide his face from me, but heard when I cried to him.
- From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will pay before those who fear him.
- The poor shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the LORD. May your hearts live forever!
- All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD; and all the families of the nations

Service Notes:

The Service of Good Friday is the most somber service of the Christian Year, observing the death of the Savior. Here, we admit our complicity in His torture, crucifixion and death. Accordingly, it is a service of reflection and repentance. As the service concludes, the paraments are removed as a sign of the Church in mourning. The Holy Bible is closed and placed face down on the Communion Table, symbolic of the sealing of the tomb and the silence of God's Word until the triumphant sunrise of Easter Sunday.

shall worship before him.

- ²⁸ For dominion belongs to the LORD, and he rules over the nations.
- To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, and I shall live for him.
- ³⁰ Posterity will serve him;

future generations will be told about the Lord,

³¹ and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying that he has done it.

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

ANTHEM

Create in me a clean heart, O God

C. F. Mueller (1892-1982)

Create in me a clean heart, O God; And renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from thy presence; And take not thy holy spirit from me.

Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; And uphold me with thy free spirit.

Then will I teach transgressors thy ways; And sinners shall be converted unto thee.

Create in me a clean heart, O God!

SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 19: 17-42 NRSV

So they took Jesus, ¹⁷and carrying the cross by himself, he went out to what is called The Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha. ¹⁸There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, with Jesus between them. ¹⁹Pilate also had an inscription written and put on the cross. It read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." ²⁰Many of the Jews read this inscription, because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, in Latin, and in Greek. ²¹Then the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, "Do not write, 'The King of the Jews,' but, 'This man said, I am King of the Jews." ²²Pilate answered, "What I have written I have written." ²³When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four parts, one for each soldier. They also took his tunic; now the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top. ²⁴So they said to one another, "Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see who will get it." This was to fulfill what the scripture says,

"They divided my clothes among themselves, and for my clothing they cast lots."

²⁵And that is what the soldiers did.

Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son." ²⁷Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

²⁸After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfill the scripture), "I am thirsty." ²⁹A jar full of sour wine was standing there. So they put a sponge full of the wine on a branch of hyssop and held it to his mouth. ³⁰When Jesus had received the wine, he said, "It is finished." Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

³¹Since it was the day of Preparation, the Jews did not want the bodies left on the cross during the sabbath, especially because that sabbath was a day of great solemnity. So they asked Pilate to have the legs of the crucified men broken and the bodies removed. ³²Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who had been crucified with him. ³³But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. ³⁴Instead, one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once blood and water came out. ³⁵(He who saw this has testified so that you also may believe. His testimony is true, and he knows that he tells the truth.) ³⁶These things occurred so that the scripture might be fulfilled, "None of his bones shall be broken." ³⁷And again another passage of scripture says, "They will look on the one whom they have pierced."

³⁸After these things, Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, though a secret one because of his fear of the Jews, asked Pilate to let him take away the body of Jesus. Pilate gave him permission; so he came and removed his body. ³⁹Nicodemus, who had at first come to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds. ⁴⁰They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths, according to the burial custom of the Jews. ⁴¹Now there was a garden in the place where he was crucified, and in the garden there was a new tomb in which no one had ever been laid. ⁴²And so, because it was the Jewish day of Preparation, and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HOMILY

"We Were There"

Rev. Dr. Ken McKenzie

STRIPPING OF THE COMMUNION TABLE AND BAPTISMAL FONT

SEALING OF THE TOMB

*HYMN 218

Ah, Holy Jesus

Herz Leibster Jesu

Stanza 1

The congregation will depart in silence

Hymn 218 Note:

This beautiful English paraphrase of a German meditation on Christ's Passion bears testimony to the unobtrusive poetic skill and musical sensitivity of a future Poet Laureate of England. The associated chorale is no less carefully crafted and rewards singing in parts.



DALTON, GEORGIA EST. 1847

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VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

WORSHIP

| Date | Liturgist | Ushers | Flowers |
|------------------------|-----------|--------------------|---------|
| 3/29 Good Friday | | Kathryn Sellers | |
| 3/31 | Judi | Margaret Venable & | Jeane |
| | McPherson | Nathalie Sanders | Jones |
| 4/7 | Rachel | Larry & Sharon | Mary |
| | Smalley | Cooper | Hubbs |

MONTHLY

| Communion (April 7) | | Congregational Care | | Little Free Pantry Pal | |
|------------------------|---|------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Prep | Kathryn Sellers | March | Priscilla Brown | March | Alice Ensley & O'Gwins |
| Servers | Rev. Dr. Ken McKenzie, Jeff Granillo and Jack & Pam Partain | April | Mary Hubbs | April | Laura Allgood & Priscilla Brown |

PRAYERS

For Healing and Comfort for our Members:

Charles Allgood, as he battles lung cancer;

Ongoing Concerns for our Members:

Nancy Rhine, in assisted living located near her daughter; Stan Crawford, multiple health challenges including spinal stenosis;

Friends of First Presbyterian, Dalton

John Hinkle, who was recently diagnosed with bladder cancer;

Nikki Collins and her family, as they go through the difficult experience of losing their home in a house fire;

The peace of Israel and Palestine;

The families of victims of substance abuse;

Kathy Householder, friend of Debbie and Mary Dennard, who was recently diagnosed with breast cancer;

Arden Brown, son of Amanda and Chris Brown, as they seek a cure for DMD; Caregivers and aging parents.

Praises and Continuing Prayers!

John and Erin Swinney, on the birth of their daughter, Palmer; Becky Hansberry, daughter of Kaye Clark, who has moved to Atlanta, and is continuing her cancer treatment at Emory.

Upcoming Events

Friday, March 29

Good Friday Service

Saturday, March 30

Easter Egg Hunt 11:00 a.m.

DEO Clinic Concert 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 31

Fellowship & Flowering of the Cross 9:45 a.m.

Worship - Easter FPC Sanctuary (& Facebook livestream) 10:30 a.m.

Monday, April 1

Church Office Closed Staff Team Meeting 5:00 p.m.

Tuesday, April 2

Grateful Heart AA Mtg 8:00 p.m.

Wednesday, April 3

Congregational Life Team Meeting

10:00 a.m.

Choir Rehearsal 6:30-:800 p.m.

Thursday, April 4

Presbyterians at the Pub 5:00 p.m.

Knitting Group 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Sunday, April 7

Sunday School

9:15 a.m.

Fellowship

10:00 a.m.

Worship

FPC Sanctuary (&

Facebook livestream)

10:30 a.m.

Monday, April 8

Soup & Scripture noon

Tuesday, April 9

Saturday Sacks 10:30 a.m.

Grateful Heart AA Mtg 8:00 p.m.