

Welcome!

First Congregational Church
of Webster Groves United Church of Christ



Seek Christ in each. Serve God in all.

APRIL 2, 2023

**PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION
SACRAMENT OF CHRIST'S TABLE**



*We respond to God's call by welcoming everyone
regardless of ability, age, ethnicity, race, gender identity,
sexual orientation or socio-economic background.*

*To proclaim in word and deed the love of Christ,
we affirm that all may share in the full life,
ministry, fellowship, responsibilities and blessings
of our congregation.*

*No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here.*

Order of Worship

An asterisk () indicates that worshipers are invited to stand in body or in spirit.*

PRELUDE

All Glory, Laud and Honor

Georg Kaufmann

WELCOME

At this time, we invite you to complete an entry in the Friendship Booklet in your pew and to silence the ringer on any cellular device you may have with you.

LIGHTING THE CANDLES

TOLLING THE BELL

LITURGY OF THE PALMS

Reading from the Gospel

Matthew 21:1-11

Logos Readers[†]

Gathering Hymn

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

Jennette Threlfall

“Hosanna, loud hosanna!” the little children sang;
Through pillared court and temple the lovely anthem rang;
To Jesus, who had blessed them and folded to his breast,
The children sang their praises, the simplest and the best.

“Hosanna in the highest!” that ancient song is ours.
We hail our great Redeemer and sing with all our powers:
“Hosanna, Christ, we praise you with life and heart and voice.
Hosanna in your presence forever we’ll rejoice!”

*Blessing of Palms (Minister; **People**)*

Rev. David Denoon, *Pastor*

O Sovereign Jesus Christ,

We expect you.

Humble and riding on a donkey,

We greet you.

Acclaimed by crowds and caroled by children,

We cheer you.

Moving from the peace of the countryside to the corridors of power,

We salute you, Christ our Savior.

You are giving the beasts of burden a new dignity; you are giving majesty a new face; you are giving those who long for redemption a new song to sing.

With them, with heart and voice, we shout, “Hosanna!”

O God, here with us now, bless these palms we wave.

We pray that as we carry them in Christ’s name, so we may ever acknowledge Christ in the way that leads to eternal life. All praise to you, O God, in Christ who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. Amen.

ANTHEM

Majesty

Jack Hayford, arr. Eugene Thomas

Majesty, worship his majesty.

Unto Jesus be all glory, honor, and praise.

Majesty, kingdom, authority

flow from his throne unto his own.

His anthem raise.

So exalt, lift up on high

The name of Jesus glorify,

Christ Jesus the King.

Majesty, worship his majesty
Jesus who died, now glorified
King of all kings.

So exalt, lift up on high...

SACRAMENT OF CHRIST'S TABLE

The Story of the Last Supper

Mark 14:10-22

Pew Bible, p. 926

Sanctus (Minister; All)

In gratitude, let us join our voices to those of the Church on earth and in heaven:

Holy, holy, holy God of love and majesty. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Glory be to you, O God! Blessed is the one who comes, who comes in the name of our God. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest!

Prayer of Our Savior (Unison)

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 sins as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory for ever. Amen.

Agnus Dei (Minister; All)

Look, here is your Savior coming to you in bread and cup.

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

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Communion is being served from three stations at the head of each aisle.

When you are ready, please come forward and receive.

Bread is gluten-free, wine is white, juice is red.

We recommend consuming the elements there, discarding cups in the baskets.

But you may take the elements back with you to your seat, if you prefer, discarding cups in the rings provided on the back of the pew ahead of you.

Prayer of Thanksgiving (Unison)

Savior Jesus Christ, you have put your life into our hands; now we put our lives into yours. Take us, renew and remake us. What we have been is past; what we shall be, through you, still awaits us. Lead us on. Take us with you. Amen.

THE WORD SHARED

From the Gospels

Matthew 26:36-46

Logos Readers
Pew Bible, p. 906

Response.

Leader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the people.

People: Thanks be to God.

INTERLUDE

Lonesome Valley
Martin Mills, soloist

Traditional

MESSAGE OF THE DAY

“Risking Temptation”

Rev. Denoon

PARTING HYMN

My Song Is Love Unknown

Samuel Crossman

My song is love unknown, my Savior’s love to me;
Love to the loveless shown, that they might lovely be.
O who am I that for my sake
My God should take frail flesh, and die?
My God should take frail flesh, and die?

I sing my plain belief, one song my heart outpours;
Never was pain or grief, never was love like yours.
This is my Friend in whose sweet praise
I all my days could gladly spend,
I all my days could gladly spend.

BENEDICTION

From the *Byzantine Vespers*

POSTLUDE

O Sacred Head

Flor Peeters

† Our Logos Readers today are Jan Barnes, Gabriel Requadt, Andrea Welnick, and Rebecca Novak.

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Wi-Fi Info

Recommended: fccwg1, fccwg2 or fccwg3
Password for all: firstchurch.

Connecting Remotely to Worship

If you need to join us remotely, Sunday worship each week is streamed live on YouTube, starting at 10am (bit.ly/FCCWG-YT).

How to Donate to First Congregational Church

You may leave a donation in the offering plate in the Narthex, OR
Send a check made payable to FCCWG at:

First Congregational Church
10 W. Lockwood Ave.
Webster Groves, MO 63119

Visit <http://firstchurchwg.org/donate> to make an electronic contribution or scan the accompanying QR code.



Finding Your Way at First Church

The Nursery: The Nursery is located through the double doors at the end of the Narthex (foyer), turn left. **Nursery/Toddler Room** is on your right.

Restrooms: Family restrooms are located to the right of the Narthex (foyer) as you go to the library (look for the blue library banner) and to the left of the Narthex just before the double doors.

We Hold in Our Prayers

- Our members who are homebound, in assisted living, or skilled care – Sharon Beal, Becky Scott, Margery Gable, Shirley Moore, Kitty Pearl, Jan Ver Hagen, Joan Whitford
- All people who are living with dementia, their families, and their caregivers
- People we love who are living with cancer – Margaret Gustafson
- Leo Gomez
- David Scott
- People with mental illnesses, and those who love and care for them
- Peace with justice

Easter Library Books Here in Our Holiday Library

There are several books in our library for adults and children relating to Easter. They are on display waiting to be checked out! Just sign the card in the back of each book you take out and leave the cards in the basket on the library desk.

Easter Flower Sponsorships

For Easter we enjoy having our sanctuary beautifully decorated with a variety of potted spring flowers. Forms for ordering flowers are available on the table in the narthex. Flowers are \$20 each. You may also designate your contribution in celebration, honor or memory.

Get in the Easter spirit on Holy Saturday!

We will be **decorating the cross in Jubilee Garden** from 10am to 12pm, Saturday, April 8 — come by at your convenience to adorn it with flowers!

An indoor **Easter Egg Hunt** for children (toddlers through 5th grade) will take place at 10:00 also. Gather in Memorial Hall for a starting activity. Children then will be sent out to hunt in different parts of the church based on their age group. Bring your family and friends!

Coffee Cakes Needed!

On **Easter Sunday, April 9th**, please bring coffee cakes to share during Coffee Fellowship. Continuing our annual Easter tradition, Parish Life Ministry requests that the cakes are pre-plated and ready-to-serve!

Pastoral Relations Committee Tuesday, April 4

Confidentiality, acceptance, and trust: these are the primary values of the Pastoral Relations Committee (PRC). Our PRC is composed of church members given the responsibility of fostering a healthy relationship between the pastor and church members.

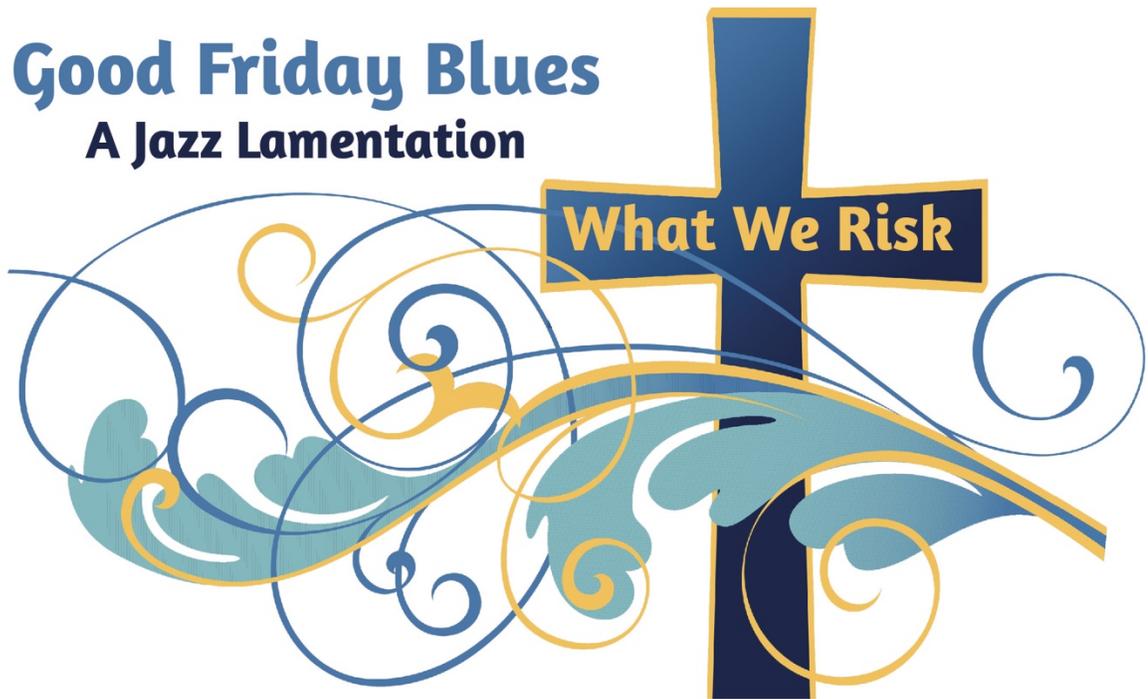
The Committee meets bi-monthly (next time on April 4) and seeks to maintain open communication between pastor, staff, and congregants; it is not a personnel or policy-making committee. The discussions of the committee are confidential, thus allowing members the freedom to express varying views.

Current members include Jared Cohen, Annie Sampath, Liu Lin Thio, Patrick Byrne, Jane Porchey, Doug Barton, Pat Doyle-Grace, and ex-officio members Moderator Joan Musbach and Pastor David Denoon.

We encourage all congregants to feel free to discuss with PRC members their concerns and views, both positive and negative, about what is going on in the life of the church and bring to light any issues that ought to be discussed.

Good Friday Blues

A Jazz Lamentation



Friday, April 7, 2023 at 7:00 PM

The Oïkos Jazz Ensemble

Kim Fuller & Jordyn Patterson – Vocalists • Cliff Aerie – Saxophone
Carolbeth True – Piano • Glen Smith – Bass • David True – Drums

Jazz is a powerful art form for sharing grief and lamentation. Good Friday Blues features music of jazz greats Billie Holiday, John Coltrane, Jon Batiste, Sting, and others expressing the pain of Jesus' crucifixion and modern injustices.

Free And Open To All!

*A free will offering will be received to benefit MICA
(Ministry of Imagination, Creativity and the Arts)*



10 W. Lockwood Ave.
Webster Groves, MO 63119
314/962-0475
www.FirstChurchWG.org

What's Going on at First Church

Sunday, April 2

Palm Sunday

Sacrament of Christ's Table

9:00 AM Brown Baggers

9:45 AM Nursery Care

10:00 AM **Worship (All Ages)**

11:05 AM Coffee Fellowship

11:20 AM Lent Bible Study

Monday, April 3

7:00PM Christian Education Ministry (Office)

7:00PM Parish Life Ministry (Inglis)

7:00PM Troops 301B&G (Dickens)

Tuesday, April 4

Election Day

1:00PM Communications Team (Office)

6:30PM Practicing Our Faith (Parlor)

6:30PM Pastoral Relations Committee (Zoom)

Wednesday, April 5

9:30 AM Yoga w/Jeanene (Inglis)

10:30 AM Staff Meeting

6:00 PM Bridge Club (Inglis)

Thursday, April 6

6:00 PM Canterbury Bells

7:00 PM **Worship** for Maundy Thursday (Sts. Clare & Francis, in Sample Chapel)

7:15 PM Good Friday Blues Blocking Rehearsal

Friday, April 7

7:00 PM **Good Friday Blues**

Saturday, April 8

10:00 AM Easter Egg Hunt

10:00 AM Decorate the Jubilee Garden Cross

Sunday, April 9

Easter Sunday

9:45 AM Nursery Care

10:00 AM **Celebration of the Resurrection**

10:15 AM Kids Church

11:05 AM Coffee Fellowship

Monday, April 10

Office Closed

7:00PM Facility & Finance Ministry (Parlor)

7:00PM Troops 301B&G (Dickens)



10 West Lockwood Avenue
Webster Groves, MO 63119
314-962-0475
www.FirstChurchWG.org

Contact Information

Moderator – Joan Musbach
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Student Minister – Gabriel Requadt
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Custodian – Mark Metcalf

Weekend & Events Custodians –
Dianna Konopka and Kayla Skiles

Assistant Custodian – Gus McLean

Director of Ministry of Imagination, Creativity
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Chaplain, Stillpoint Campus Ministry
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