

First Presbyterian Church

Ninth at Washington, Michigan City, Indiana

April 13, 2025

10:00 A.M. (Sanctuary)

Palm Sunday

Holy Week Begins

GOD WHO GOES WITH US,
GIVE US BREAD FOR THE JOURNEY.

THE ROAD THAT LEADS TO JUSTICE IS LONG,
THE PATH OF LOVE CAN BE EXHAUSTING.

WHEN WE ARE HUNGRY,
NOURISH US.

WHEN WE ARE TIRED,
SUSTAIN US.

AMEN



THE WORSHIP OF OUR LORD

† † †

** Indicates those who are able, please stand*

† † †

WE GATHER BEFORE GOD
† WELCOME – WORSHIP – CELEBRATE – SERVE †

PRELUDE “The King Rides In”

L. Smith

WELCOME

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP: “The King of Glory Comes”

arr. J. Ferguson

*CALL TO WORSHIP: (Please join in unison)

One: People of Michigan City, bring your garments and branches—Jesus is coming into town! Shout Hosanna!

All: Hosanna! Our deliverer has come! Let all the hungry be fed!

One: Jesus, the servant king, has come to show us a new kind of power.

All: Hosanna! Our liberator will set the prisoners free!

One: Let us worship the one who will save us from corruption

All: Shout Hosanna to the King of Kings! Hosanna! Hosanna! The bread of life has come to sustain us.

One: Believing this promise, let us worship together.

*OPENING PRAYER (Please join in unison)

Holy God, we gather on this Palm Sunday and find ourselves in solidarity with the crowds who shouted for salvation. We know our needs, both individually and collectively. Our hunger for righteousness and justice compels us to proclaim, “Hosanna! Save us!” two thousand years later. As we begin this journey toward the cross, from admiration to despair, we know we are well-nourished for the path ahead. You have prepared us, fed us with love and truth, and refreshed our spirits throughout the Lenten season. Let us carry the spirit of Hosanna in our hearts, ready to serve and love, knowing the journey continues toward resurrection and renewal. May the bread we break, both physical and spiritual, remind us of your presence in every step. Guide us on this path and sustain us for the work ahead. Amen.

*HYMN #88 “All Glory, Laud, and Honor” (blue pew hymnal)

CALL TO CONFESSION (Spoken by Liturgist)

Because human beings often choose corrupt powers to save us, let us confess the ways in which we have shouted “Hosanna” to the empire rather than trusting in Jesus.

WE ARE RENEWED IN GOD’S GRACE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Please join in unison)

Holy and saving God, we confess we have sought comfort in systems of power that promise salvation through dominance, control, and division. We place our hope in the forces of wealth, status, and self-preservation, rather than in the humility of Christ. We align ourselves with the powers of this world, turning away from the radical love, justice, and peace embodied in Jesus. We fail to notice how the cries for justice of the oppressed mirror the “Hosannas” of hope. We ignore the cries of the poor, the marginalized, and the suffering, choosing instead the easy path of complicity. We turn a blind eye to the earth’s cries and the injustices so many endure. Forgive us, O God, for placing our trust in the powers of this world rather than in the power of your love. Renew our hearts and minds and lead us back to the path of true salvation, where love, justice, and peace reign. Amen.

SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE:

Pastor: Siblings in Christ, hear this good news: Jesus comes not with armies or powers of this world, but with the radical gift of love and forgiveness.

All: Though we have often turned away, God in Christ offers us grace and peace.

Pastor: In Christ, our sins are forgiven, and we are made whole.

All: Amen.

*SINGING GOD'S GLORY: Gloria Patri "Glory to the Father" #567 (Please join in unison)
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen Amen Amen

*PASSING OF THE PEACE: (Please join in unison)

Pastor: Beneath the mantle of peace, Jesus, the bread of life, provides a bounty of fellowship, care, and connection. May the peace of Christ be with you.

All: *And also with you.*

(Worshippers are invited to turn to others and safely show signs of peace by giving a nod, a smile, or a hand gesture of peace).

CHILDREN'S SERMON

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (Please join in unison)

God, may the scriptures we read today become living bread. May your Spirit empower them to shape us in Jesus' likeness. Give us wisdom as we interpret these words of scripture; may they nourish our minds and souls. Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

Zechariah 9: 9; 16-17

SPECIAL MUSIC: "Hosanna! Blessed Is He"

M. Bedford

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 19:28-40

SERMON: "Hosanna!"

Reverend Dr. Ericka Parkinson Kilbourne

HYMN: "Bread of Life" (see insert)

Children are excused for Sunday school. Please join Ms. Sue and Ms. Anne in the lobby to walk up together as a group.

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Please join in unison)

We believe in Jesus Christ, who rode into Jerusalem not on a warhorse but on a humble donkey, proclaiming peace instead of domination. We believe in the way of the servant leader, where greatness is found in humility, and power is made perfect in love. We believe in choosing integrity over bluster, faithfulness over greed, and justice over the empty promises of empire. We believe God's kingdom is not built by violence, but by the transformative power of grace, mercy, and sacrifice. We believe salvation is not found in the halls of the mighty, but in the heart of Christ, who calls us to walk the road of love and courage. We believe in shouting "Hosanna" to the one who brings true peace, trusting not in the powers of this world, but in the reign of God that has no end. Amen.

Sharing Our Joys and Concerns - please see usher for green pew cards

EXPRESSING OUR GRATITUDE IN OUR OFFERING

OFFERTORY: "Ride On, O King, Ride On"

G. Martin

Many ways to give and give back  paypal.com **Click on link**

<https://www.paypal.com/fundraiser/112574644767835624/charity/3545525>

OR [Scan here:](#)



*Doxology Song #592
"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

OLD HUNDREDTH

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & DEDICATION

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH (Announcements)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, ending with Our Lord's Prayer (together, using "debts")

WE GO OUT IN GRATITUDE TO SERVE IN GOD'S NAME

HYMN #89 "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna" (blue pew hymnal)

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE: "Go to Dark Gethsemane"

R. Graham

SHARE OUR PRAYERS WITH:

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For each of us to share the Gospel with someone this week:

- Don Bowman, Dave Dougherty, Sandy Dougherty, Levon McEwan, Johanna Miller, Barb Reichert, Mary Steider and Donna Wiseman for health needs.
- Pray for our Military and their families.
- AmeriCorps and Peace Corps workers and their families.

GUESTS AND VISITORS

We are delighted to welcome you and worship with you today! **First time visitors**-we would love to connect with you. Please text "welcome" to 219-300-9867 and share your contact information with us.

SERVING TODAY

Ministers	All Members of the Congregation
Preacher	Reverend Dr. Ericka Parkinson Kilbourne
Organist	Carol Garrett
Liturgist	Rob McFarland
Youth Liturgist	TBD
Greeter(s)	Jamie, Kash & KC Williams
Usher	Debbie Langley
Video and Sound Team	Rick Blank, Rylie Thornton and Antoinette Jackson

MEMORIALS/DONATIONS

The Elevator Fund received donations from Doug Wiseman and FPC Session.

Thank you for your kindness



Wishing you Very Happy Day!

April 02	John Gesse	April 18	Sophia Ortiz-Burgos
April 03	Joan Mokrycki	April 19	Brandon DeLeon
April 04	Laura Meyer	April 20	Robert Angelo
April 04	Brad Dezur	April 22	Connie McKeague
April 08	Judy Spiece	April 24	Frank Labaj
April 09	Christian McDaniel	April 24	Susan Seibert
April 10	Renee Jackson	April 25	Vernon Towle, Jr
April 12	Mark Smith	April 26	Scott Beatty
April 15	Kaity Mosher	April 26	Regan Russell

CHURCH CHAT

“Any or all information is subject to change without notification”

CHOIR PRACTICE

In the sanctuary on April 13th and 20th at 9:25 a.m.



Good Friday Walk for Peace and Justice using the format of the Stations of the Cross.

**First United Methodist Parking Lot,
Franklin and 7th**

We have been invited to join 1st United Methodist for Good Friday this year. This interactive worship experience will give us the opportunity to walk, give witness to our faith, and pray for our community, world, churches, and selves. While the stations will be up all day, Pastors Nancy and Ericka will be present at the stations between 12:00 pm and 3:00 pm.

SIGN UP SHEET FOR EASTER MORNING BREAKFAST

There are several items that are still needed to make the breakfast a success. Please sign up on the list hanging on the door of the Edith Boyd Lounge. Please consider bringing one of the items on the list.

Thank you for your contribution.

EASTER MORNING BREAKFAST

April 20th in the Edith Boyd Lounge at 8:30 am

Please have your food donation in the “Edith Boyd Lounge” kitchenette by 8:15 a.m. to allow time for set up.

Thank you and hope to see you there.



THE CHANCEL FLOWERS

If you are interested, as of now, we have open dates on June 8, June 15, June 29, July 6, July 20, July 27, August 3, August 17, August 24, August 31, October 5, October 19, October 26, November 9 and November 30. If you are interested in any of these dates, please contact the office. The cost is \$35.00. Thank you.

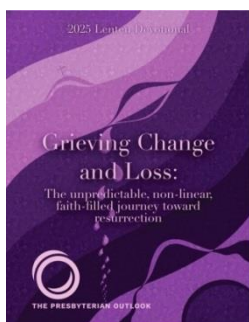
Coffee Hour Sign-Up

Our 2025 Coffee Hour sign-up chart is posted on the Edith Boyd Lounge door, ready for you along with your family, friends, or committee to pick a date to sponsor coffee hour. Remember, it doesn't have to be extravagant. Coffee, a drink for the kids, and a treat is all that's needed. Most of the year is covered by the Women's Circles, Deacons, and the Mission Committee but every other third Sunday and the fifth Sundays need volunteers. It would be really great if one group would volunteer for all the 5th Sundays, there are 4. If you are willing to do this, see Jeanette Tyrrell. In the meantime please consider serving your fellow congregants by signing up for a coffee hour Sunday.

GRIEF GROUP

“For everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven: A time to be born and a time to die; a time to plant and a time to pluck up what is planted; a time to kill and a time to heal; a time to break down and a time to build up; a time to weep and a time to laugh; a time to mourn and a time to dance,” (Ecclesiastes 3:1-4)

This spring, Pastor Ericka is hosting a Grief Group, which will meet twice a month on Sundays, after worship. Whether your grief is new or has been for many years, whether you are grieving a loved one or a situation, our God offers compassion through scripture, prayer, and through conversation with others. Copies of the “Grieving Change Loss” Lenten devotional are available in the Narthex for your personal use or for use in a group. If you would like to join and attend, please speak with Janice Casper, Brock Vinson, or Pastor Ericka.





- ❖ April 13 Sunday 9 a.m. Adult Ed
- ❖ April 13 Sunday 9.25 a.m. choir rehearsal in the sanctuary
- ❖ April 13 Sunday 10 a.m. Worship service Palm Sunday. Holy Week Begins
- ❖ April 13 Sunday Teens and Tweens meet after worship
- ❖ April 14 Monday **PASTOR OFF**
- ❖ April 15 Tuesday 6:30 p.m. Elizabeth Circle meeting
- ❖ April 16 Wednesday NO Bible Study (Will resume on April 30.)
- ❖ April 16 Wednesday 6:30 p.m. Session meeting
- ❖ April 17 Thursday Maundy Thursday
- ❖ April 17 Thursday 5:30 p.m. Girl Scouts meeting
- ❖ April 18 Friday Office Closed **Good Friday Pastor off**
- ❖ April 19 Saturday 11:30 a.m.- 1:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen
- ❖ April 20 Sunday 9 a.m. Adult Ed
- ❖ April 20 Sunday 9 a.m. choir practice in the sanctuary
- ❖ April 20 Sunday 8:30 a.m. Easter Breakfast in the Edith Boyd Lounge
- ❖ April 20 Sunday 10 a.m. Easter Sunday Worship service
- ❖ April 20 Sunday after worship – Coffee Hour
- ❖ April 20 Sunday after worship (approximately 11:15 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt
(Meet by the garden doors))
- ❖ April 21 Monday **OFFICE CLOSED-PASTOR OFF**
- ❖ April 22 Tuesday through Saturday April 26 **PASTOR ON VACATION**
- ❖ April 23 Wednesday NO Bible Study (Will resume on April 30)
- ❖ April 23 Wednesday 4 p.m. Deacons meeting
- ❖ April 26 Saturday 9:30 a.m. Faith Formation Bible Study
- ❖ April 26 Saturday 11:30 a.m.- 1:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen
- ❖ April 27 Sunday 9 a.m. Adult Ed
- ❖ April 27 Sunday 10 a.m. Worship service NOISY OFFERING
- ❖ April 28 Monday **PASTOR OFF**
- ❖ April 30 Wednesday 10:30 a.m. Bible study resumes
- ❖ May 01 Thursday
- ❖ May 02 Friday Office Closed **Good Friday Pastor off**
- ❖ **May 03** Saturday 11:30 a.m.- 1:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen



For over 70 years, Presbyterians have joined together through OGHS, responding to Christ’s call to serve “the least of these.” This offering supports the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and the Self-Development of People ministry—bringing hope and tangible assistance to communities in need.

Through your generous gifts, we help rebuild lives after natural disasters, combat hunger and poverty, and empower communities to create lasting change. When we give, we proclaim that “God’s love is overflowing”—reaching those in need and transforming lives.

Ways to Give:

- During Worship: Use the OGHS blue-colored envelope.
- Online: Give securely at pcusa.org/oghs.
- By Mail: Send a check to the church with “OGHS” in the memo line.
- Text-to-Give: Text OGHS to 91999 to make a donation.

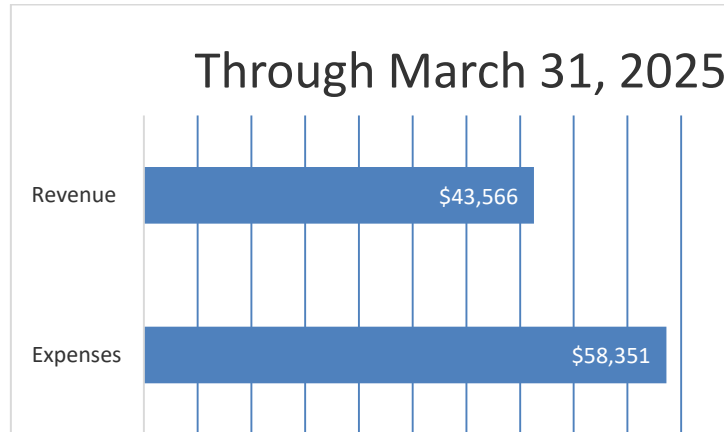
A Special Invitation for Kids!

Children are also invited to participate in this offering through the “Gracie” fish banks! These colorful fish-shaped banks help teach children about giving and compassion. Kids can collect coins throughout Lent and bring their filled fish banks on as an offering of love and generosity.

Join us in making a difference! When we all do a little, it adds up to a lot.

“And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work.” – 2 Corinthians 9:8

FINANCIALS



ELEVATOR FUND CAMPAIGN

As of April 7th, the numbers are:

- ✚ We anticipate the final cost of the project is going to come in around \$142,000 (about 8K under the original budget).
- ✚ We have raised \$133,689 (includes a \$50K grant).
In order to avoid dipping into our savings, we are still looking to raise an additional \$8,311.

Please continue to donate to the elevator fund, and/or buy a brick or two for our heritage garden. Bricks are \$100.00 each and can be purchased via this link. You can also pick up a paper form at the display by the garden door or contact Diane for one. Thank you for your generosity!

<https://form.jotform.com/241926284623157>



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For prayer requests
Contact Brian Spiece at
jspiece@hotmail.com

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WiFi password: 1holyGod!

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