# MERRITT ISLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

# Leading in Worship: Rev. Christina Greenawalt and Craig Smoot

March 24, 2024 In Person and Facebook Live

10:00 a.m.

## **Palm Sunday**



Gathering Music Wandering Heart: Return to You (video)

Words of Welcome Pastor Christina

Prelude: O Worship the King Maryrose Beerman & Joyce Walker

Call to Worship (responsive):

God invites and calls us into His presence to worship Him. He enters into our busy lives to speak to us.

One: Sing songs of loudest praise!

All: Hosanna!

One: Sing songs that are unashamed.

All: Hosanna!

One: Sing songs without being afraid.

All: Hosanna!

One: Sing for the God of tomorrow and today.

All: Hosanna!

One: Let us worship the One worthy to be praised.

## Congregational Hymn # 197: Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

Hosanna, loud hosanna, the little children sang; through pillared court and temple the joyful anthem rang. To Jesus, who had blessed them, close folded to his breast, the children sang their praises, the simplest and the best.

From Olivet they followed 'mid an exultant crowd, the victor palm branch waving, and chanting clear and loud; The Lord of earth and heaven rode on in lowly state, nor scorned that little children should on his bidding wait.

"Hosanna in the highest!" That ancient song we sing, for Christ is our Redeemer; the Lord of heaven, our King.

O may we ever praise him with heart and life and voice, and in his blissful presence eternally rejoice.

Call to Confession Liturgist

Prayer of Confession (unison):

Holy God, we want to run into the streets and sing your praise! We want to be bold and unashamed of this good-news Gospel. However, too often we find ourselves standing against the wall.

Too often we stay quiet. Too often we let others carry the song. Forgive us for the moments when we could lead the parade but instead find ourselves standing on the sidelines.

Show us which songs are ours to sing. Show us which parades are ours to lead, and then give us the courage and conviction to do both. With hope and honesty we pray, amen.

## Words of Forgiveness (responsive):

Liturgist

One: Friends, no matter where you are on the parade route—whether you are waving palm branches through the streets or standing against the wall, quiet and cautious—Jesus marched for you. Jesus' love, his striving for justice and mercy, it was for you. You are included in this story and nothing can ever change that. So hear these words and trust them deep in your bones: We have reason to sing, for Jesus Christ loved you yesterday. Jesus Christ loves you today. And Jesus Christ will love you tomorrow. You are forgiven, claimed, and sent to serve. Go out and sing. Go out trusting these words.

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

# Response to Assurance: Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing (verses 1 & 3)

Hymn # 475

Come, Thou Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing Thy grace Streams of mercy, never ceasing call for songs of loudest praise Teach me some melodious sonnet sung by flaming tongues above Praise the mount. I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's unchanging love.

O, to grace, how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be Let Thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to Thee Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love Here's my heart, O, take and seal it, seal it for Thy courts above.

Time with the Young and Young at 💗

Special Music: Comes the King

Resurrection Singers

Prayer for Illumination Pastor Christina

Scripture Reading: John 12:12-16 Page 129, NT

One: The Gospel of the Lord. All: Praise to You, O Christ.

Message: Wandering Heart: "Songs of Loudest Praise"" Rev. Christina Greenawalt

## Responding to the Word

Pastoral Prayer/The Lord's Prayer (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 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.

Invitation to Live Generously: The offering basket is near the back door of the sanctuary.

You may also give online at www.merrittislandpc.org

Response: Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise him, all creatures here below Praise him above, ye heavenly hosts. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen. **Prayer of Dedication** 

Closing Hymn: Majesty, Worship His Majesty

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; magnify, come glorify Christ Jesus the King
Majesty, worship His majesty; Jesus who died now glorified, King of all kings
Jesus who died now glorified King of all kings

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# **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

<u>Welcome!</u> Thank you for joining us today, whether you are here in person or online! We gather together as a church family, from wherever we may be. If you would like to know more about MIPC, how you can be more involved, or to speak to the pastor, please contact the church office at the number/email below.

**Lenten Series**: We are using the Sanctified Art series *Wandering Heart*, which focuses on Jesus' disciple Peter. By following Peter's journey, we watch the story of Jesus unfold through the eyes of a very normal human trying to figure it all out—just like us. There are devotionals in the Narthex; watch for our daily Facebook posts throughout Lent as we prepare our hearts and minds for the celebration of the Resurrection.

<u>Holy Week</u>: We will have a Maundy Thursday communion service at 7 PM this Thursday, March 28. The Preschool children will have a chapel service at 10:30 AM. On Good Friday, March 29, we will have a prayer service at noon, and the sanctuary will be open from 12 - 3 PM for self-guided meditation. Then, celebrate the Resurrection with us on Sunday, March 31 at 10 AM!

#### **Ways to Serve**

<u>Palm Sunday/Easter Choir</u>: Our Resurrection Singers are singing in worship today, Palm Sunday, and on Easter Sunday. Thank you, Maryrose and Ted Beerman, for putting this group together!

<u>Calling All Gardeners!</u> Please meet in the Memorial Garden tomorrow, March 25 from 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM for a Spring clean-up of our garden. Change of Greenery will have 2 workers to help and guide us. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. Let's help make our Memorial Garden beautiful for Easter! See Pat Smith if you have any questions.

<u>One Great Hour of Sharing</u>: Through Easter Sunday (March 31), we receive this PC(USA) offering. For 75 years, One Great Hour of Sharing has provided Presbyterians a way to share God's love with our neighbors in need around the world. The three programs supported by One Great Hour of Sharing - Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People - all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. Please consider giving to this wonderful cause. Special envelopes and flyers with more information are available in the Narthex.

#### **Ways to Connect**

<u>Join us for coffee and fellowship</u> in the Narthex after worship. Thank you, Sharon & Dave Hertzler, for providing goodies today! If you'd like to bring snacks one week, there is a sign up sheet in the Narthex.

<u>Adult Faith Enrichment Class:</u> Join us for Adult Faith Formation at 9:00 a.m. in the Session Room or on Zoom. Our Lenten study is *Pause: Spending Lent with the Psalms* with Dave Hertzler. All are welcome! The Zoom link is emailed weekly.

<u>Women's Ministry: Fabulous Fridays!</u> Come and join us in the Activities Room every other Friday @ 2:00 p.m. for our Women's Bible Study Group. (Our next gathering is April 5.) Our study, led by Julie Hill, is titled "Sacred Encounters: The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke - Acts." Please contact Julie Hill for more information.

#### **Celebrations & Concerns**

## Happy Birthday to:

## Happy Anniversary to:

March 24: Ryan Gould March 27: Mary Ann Eastep March 27: Milt Seapker March 24: Tina & Gregg Kraver March 25: Rose & Trevor Murdoch

<u>Our Prayers are with:</u>\* Sis Beckman, Cindy Bottomley, Dot Corbett, Carolyn Crockett, Andre Koodie, Elaine Krieger, Janet Post, Kelly Shephard, and George Wilcox.

<u>Thank you</u>, Maryrose Beerman, Ted Beerman, Jeana Lutz, Joyce Walker, and the Resurrection Singers, for the beautiful music today!

#### THIS WEEK AT MIPC:

Monday, March 25, 9:30 AM:	Memorial Garden Cleanup
Monday, March 25, 7:00 PM:	Session (Zoom)
Tuesday, March 26, 3:00 PM:	Kids Klub, Fellowship Hall
Tuesday, March 26, 8:00 PM:	AA, Fellowship Hall
Wednesday, March 27, 10:00 AM:	Heavenly Handmade, Activities Room
Wednesday, March 27, 3:30 PM:	One Purpose, Fellowship Hall
Thursday, March 28, 10:30 AM:	Preschool Chapel
Thursday, March 28, 6:00 PM:	Square Dancers, Fellowship Hall
Thursday, March 28, 7:00 PM:	MAUNDY THURSDAY WORSHIP SERVICE
Friday, March 29	Preschool closed for Good Friday
Friday, March 29, 12:00 PM	GOOD FRIDAY PRAYER SERVICE
Friday, March 29, 12 – 3 PM	Sanctuary open for self-guided meditation
Sunday, March 31, 9:00 AM:	Adult Faith Formation, Session Room
Sunday, March 31, 10:00 AM:	Worship Service
Sunday, March 31, 11:00 AM	Christ the King Church service, Fellowship Hall

For more information on any of these events, check with the church office.

#### Rev. Christina Greenawalt, Pastor

(321) 452-5689

Maryrose Beerman, Acting Music Director Tammy Lewis, Preschool Director Leslie Mitchell, Financial Secretary James Neihouse, Live Feed Director/Producer www.merrittislandpc.org Pam Poland, Faith Formation Ministries Robyn Mills, Preschool Director Mary Lou Tipton, Director of Performing Arts Dale Greenawalt, Sound Operator mipresbyterian@gmail.com

<sup>\*</sup> Names will remain on the list for 4 weeks unless otherwise requested. If you would like your prayer concern to be shared on our Prayer Chain Email (or if you'd like to be on the email distribution list), contact Jill Franklin at mipcprayerchain600@gmail.com, or make a note on the Prayer Request card in the pew.