



First Presbyterian Church of Athens

In response to God's grace, the mission of First Presbyterian Church is to create a community where people seek the truth of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, rejoice in worship, and go forth sharing the love of Christ with Athens and the world!

March 20, 2016
8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
Palm Sunday

GATHERING IN THE NAME OF GOD

Welcome to all who are worshipping with us. As we enter a holy space this morning, **please silence your cell phone.** The nursery is available downstairs during both services. Consult an usher if you need a personal hearing device, large-print bulletin or large-print hymnal.

8:45 a.m. Greeting

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Prelude *All Glory, Laud, and Honor* Johann Sebastian Bach
Palms are available from ushers in the narthex.

At 11:00 a.m., the congregation is invited to gather at the front door of the sanctuary to join in the procession waving palm fronds during the first hymn.

Call to Palm Sunday *(spoken)*

Paraphrase of Jesus' triumphal entry—Luke 19:29-40

***Processional Hymn No. 88** *All Glory, Laud, and Honor*

VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

*Call to Worship

Psalm 118:26; Zechariah 9:9

Minister: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

People: Hosanna in the highest!

Minister: Lo, your king comes to you;

People: triumphant and victorious is he,

Minister: humble and riding on a donkey,

People: on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

**All: "Hosanna! Blessed is the one
who comes in the name of the Lord!"**

The stanzas of *All Glory, Laud, and Honor* have been selected and translated from a much longer Latin poem written by a bishop who was the leading theologian in Charlemagne's court. They are sung to a 17th-century German chorale, as adapted for these words in the mid-19th century.

Wes Clarke, trumpeter

*Those who are able may stand.

Sung by the Cherub
Choir and St. Andrews
Choir

11:00 a.m. Anthem *Hosanna to the Son of David* Carol McClure
Shout, "Hosanna!" to the Son of David, King of Kings, God's Royal Son!
See him riding on a donkey; blessed is the King who comes!
Shout, "Hosanna!" to the Son of David, King of King's God's Royal Son!
All Jerusalem is shouting, "blessed is the King who comes!"
Shout, "Hosanna!" to the Son of David, King of Kings God's Royal Son!
Wave your palms and sing his praises; blessed is the King who comes!

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, on this day, your son Jesus entered the holy city of Jerusalem and was proclaimed King by those who spread garments and palm branches along his way. Let those branches be for us signs of his victory, and grant that we who hear the Hosannas may ever hail him as our Lord, and follow him in the way that leads to eternal life. In his name we pray. Amen.

***Congregational Response** Hymn No. 89, Stanza 3
**"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.**

***Passing of the Peace**

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.
And also with you.

*Worshippers may greet each other by saying, "The peace of Christ be with you,"
and responding, "And also with you."*

*****Latecomers may be seated.*

11:00 a.m. A Time for Young Children

Children, age four through grade two, may come forward for a message and then leave for Children's Church located in the Children's Ministry Suite. To pick up your child after the service, please go through the Atrium and down the stairs.

Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Please sign and pass the Fellowship Pad.

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

Congregational Prayer for Illumination *(spoken)*

**Eternal God, whose word silences the shouts of the mighty:
quiet within us every voice but your own. Speak to us through
the experience of Jesus raising hopes among his people as he
rode into Jerusalem, that we too may experience his triumph
and his concern. Amen.**

Old Testament Lesson Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29, page 554

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

***8:45 a.m. Hymn No. 91** *Ride On! Ride On in Majesty!* ST. DROSTANE

11:00 a.m. Anthem *Hosanna! Hosanna!* Antonio Caldara
arr. Alice Carpenter

Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna!

Sing glory to God in the highest evermore.

Sing glory to God, sing glory to God forevermore.

Awake, my heart to sing thy praise, thou Prince of Life and Fount of Grace,
hosanna in the highest, hosanna evermore.

Children's Church is
a special time for our
youngest members to
learn scripture through
song, art, and play.

Sung by the Celebration
Singers, Chancel Choir,
and St. Andrews Choir,
this anthem is an
arrangement of a piece
by Antonio Caldara
(1670-1736), an Italian
Baroque composer
known for his operas,
cantatas, and oratorios.

New Testament Lesson Luke 19:41-44, page 959

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

***11:00 a.m. Hymn No. 91** *Ride On! Ride On in Majesty!* ST. DROSTANE

Sermon

After the Parade is Over

Dr. Doak

Text: And when he drew near and saw the city, he wept over it saying,
“Would that even today you knew the things that make for peace.”

Luke 19:41

RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

***Hymn No. 151** *Crown Him with Many Crowns* DIADEMATA

***Affirmation of Faith** from *the Brief Statement of Faith*

In life and in death we belong to God.

Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit,
we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel,
whom alone we worship and serve.

We trust in Jesus Christ,
Fully human, fully God.
Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:
preaching good news to the poor
and release to the captives,
teaching by word and deed
and blessing the children,
healing the sick
and binding up the brokenhearted,
eating with outcasts,
forgiving sinners,
and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.
Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition,
Jesus was crucified,
suffering the depths of human pain
and giving his life for the sins of the world.
God raised this Jesus from the dead,
vindicating his sinless life,
breaking the power of sin and evil,
delivering us from death to life eternal.

With believers in every time and place,
we rejoice that nothing in life or in death
can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Amen.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer Hymnal p. 16

. . . forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. . . .

Hymn No. 91 is a 19th-century Palm Sunday text better understood as the reflections of someone standing outside the event rather than as coming from those participating in the actual procession. This poignant text is set to a tune written especially for it later in the same century.

