



PREPARE YE
THE WAY
OF THE LORD

*Palm
Sunday*

SUNDAY, MARCH 29, 2026

First Presbyterian Church
501 1st St. SE, Moultrie GA
www.moultriefirstpres.com
229-985-3158

PALM SUNDAY

March 29, 2026

THE CHURCH GATHERS

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Austin Pounds, Liturgist

Leader: We raise our voices and wave with joyful hope the palms of deliverance of God's people.

People: Hosanna! Hosanna to the Son of David!

Leader: Our hearts are filled with expectation as we welcome the coming king.

People: Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

Leader: We receive into the crowded streets of our lives the one who is Savior, not only of us, but of all the earth.

People: Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest heaven!

PROCESSION OF THE PALMS

*HYMN #208 (see bulletin)

"All Glory, Laud and Honor"

Theodulph of Orleans/Neale/Teschner

*CALL TO CONFESSION

When we say, "We don't sin," we deny who we are. But when we say, "There's no way out," we deny who God is.

Trusting that God's grace is more powerful than our sin, let us confess our sins together. Let us pray...

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Holy Christ, we confess that amidst all the Palm Sunday crowds, we find ourselves in more turmoil than triumph. Our faith is unsteady. Our wisdom is eroding. Our resolve is shaken. Our mercy is hardening.

Our hope is weakening. Come again and save us from these sins. Give us strength to follow you, our humble Savior, and hear the petitions of hearts, even now, in these silent moments of worship....

our prayers continue in silence...

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON:

Leader: Hear this promise: Jesus has set his face toward the cross.

People: Nothing we can do can deter him.

Leader: He has determined that we are worth saving.

People: By the power of the cross, by the power of wondrous love, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.

Amen.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The Peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Share the peace of Christ with one another.

*HYMN #211 (see bulletin)

"Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"

Threlfall

WE RESPOND TO GOD WITH OFFERINGS AND PRAISE

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“Amazing Grace”

Arr.: Janet Linker

***DOXOLOGY**

OLD HUNDREDTH

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

MESSAGE FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

WE PROCLAIM GOD’S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING:

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

ANTHEM

“Hosanna to the King of Kings”

Lloyd Larson

SECOND READING:

Matthew 21:1-11

SERMON

“Pointing a Finger Toward the Cross of Jesus”

Rev. Rick Douylliez

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:**

The Apostles’ Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

***HYMN #206** *(see bulletin)*

“O Love How Deep, How Broad, How High”
Verses 1,3,4,6

Adapted: Edward Miller

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

Leader: The week stretches ahead glory-less and pain-full. Whether we walk with all faith or none, we look towards the cross, knowing it is both the most human and most divine of all journeys.

People: **Let us travel the road with courage, with love, and with the uneasy peace that is the gift of faith into this holiest of weeks. Amen.**

***POSTLUDE**

“Postlude in C Major”

George Blake

(*) *We stand as we are able*

*The flowers in the sanctuary today are given to the Glory of God
and in loving memory and in honor of Rita and Gerry Girard, Diane Lowry’s parents.*

By Diane and Jim Lowry

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ELDERS OF THE MONTH: Laura Perry Johnson and Joan White

HOLY WEEK

THIS AFTERNOON!!! Sunday, March 29 from 4-6 p.m. EGGVENT food, crafts, games for all ages

Tuesday, March 31 at 9 a.m. LENT STUDY (end of study)

Tuesday, March 31 LAST DAY TO DONATE TO MOMMY MALL in our helping hands collection box

Wednesday, April 1 NO SUPPER

Thursday, April 2 WATCH SUPPER & MAUNDY SERVICE

Friday, April 3 at NOON Meet at the Cross on the front lawn

Sunday, April 5 at 7 a.m. SUNRISE EASTER SERVICE, followed by breakfast

Sunday, April 5 at 9 a.m. Flowering of the cross on the front lawn

Sunday, April 5 at 11 a.m. EASTER CANTATA WORSHIP SERVICE

SPECIAL OFFERING: ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING ON APRIL 5th, EASTER SUNDAY

EGGVENT & COVERED DISH SUPPER THIS AFTERNOON!!

This afternoon, March 29th, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., we will be hosting a time of food, fun games and crafts for all ages. The church will provide fried chicken, slaw and baked beans. Members are encouraged to bring side dishes and desserts. Donations will be accepted to cover the cost of the chicken.

Please RSVP to Austin at dcefirstpresmoultrie@gmail.com.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

Now through Easter Sunday, we will be collecting special offering donations for One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS), as Presbyterians worldwide respond to Christ's call for compassion for most vulnerable people around the globe through development projects and disaster relief. If we all do a little, it adds up to a lot! You can give by texting OGHS to 91999 or through pcusa.org/give-oghs. Or you can put a separate check or envelope in the collection plate. Make it out to First Presbyterian and put OGHS in the memo line.

PRESBYTERY MISSION TRIP TO WESTERN NC: APRIL 26 - MAY 2, 2026

A joint mission trip with Savannah Presbytery has been scheduled to provide Hurricane Helene related relief in and around Canton, North Carolina. Up to 20 volunteers are needed to perform a variety of services, from group support and transportation to clean-up, repairs and new construction under local guidance. The service week will \$20 per person

April 26-May 2, plus meals. Interested individuals can get more information or a volunteer application from Tom McFarland at mcfarlandthomasr@hotmail.com or by calling him at 229-942-0224. *Donations to assist with trip expenses can be made at on our online giving link at www.flintriverpresbytery.org. Please note that your donation is for disaster relief and note in the memo that this is for the April NC mission trip.*

WATCH SUPPER

RESERVATIONS: 229-985-3158 or firstpresmoultrie@gmail.com

NO WATCH THIS WEDNESDAY...

Instead, join us Thursday for our meal & special communion service in the fellowship hall.

MAUNDY THURSDAY—Thursday, April 2, Supper 5:30 p.m. and worship at 6:30 p.m.:

Everyone: Soup & Sandwiches

THE STORY OF A TREE

The rough, rugged cross that stands in our Sanctuary this morning was at one time a beautiful Christmas Tree, standing in the very same spot! That Christmas Tree was sparkling with hundreds of tiny white lights (symbolizing Jesus as the light of the world), its evergreen branches symbolizing everlasting life, and its ornaments symbols of God's most precious gift to mankind-the gift of His Son, our Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.

That same tree was then stripped of all its beauty, its light and life, its branches cut off to the very trunk of it. It was fashioned into the shape of a cross. It stands today, stark and naked, adorned merely with a crown of thorns. It serves as a reminder of what the World (of which we are a part) did with God's most precious Gift, and what we continue to do today.

But the story of that tree is not over! On Easter Sunday Morning, that cross will be covered from top to bottom with greenery and beautiful white lilies! This time it will again give testament to God's most precious Gift to us. This time it will testify to the Glorious Resurrection of His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ!
- His victory over Sin and Death, His perfect love, mercy and forgiveness, His sacrificial Gift of Salvation - to this sinful and dying world.

All glory be to God!!!