

Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 17, 2024

*Nursery care is available for children up to age 3
in the Nursery on the first floor of the Center for Christian Studies*

Prelude

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

“Adagio in C minor”

Welcome

Ringling of the Bell

The original church bell is rung in memory of Donald (1917-1990), Jeanne (1922-2010), and Glenn (1951-2009) Sullivan, who are honored in our Memorial Garden.

Opening Prayer

First Scripture Reading (p. 1461)

Hebrews 8:10-12

“This is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord.

I will place my laws in their minds, and write them on their hearts.

I will be their God, and they will be my people. And each person won't ever teach a neighbor or their brother or sister, saying, 'Know the Lord,' because they will all know me, from the least important of them to the most important; because I will be lenient toward their unjust actions, and I won't remember their sins anymore.”

“Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty”

“Praise ye the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near;
Join me in glad adoration!

Praise ye the Lord, who o’er all things so wondrously reigneth,
Shelters thee under his wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!
Hast thou not seen how thy desires e’er have been
Granted in what he ordaineth?

Praise ye the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him!
Let the amen sound from his people again;
Gladly for aye we adore him.”

Prayers of the People

The Lord’s Prayer

“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, forever. Amen.”

Time with the Children (11 a.m.)

Gathering Song: “Jesus Loves Me”

“Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so;
Little ones to him belong; they are weak but he is strong.

Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!

Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.”

Children up to 3 years old may go to the Nursery (Nursery Rm)

Children 3 years old through Kindergarten are excused for Bible Bunch (Bible Bunch Rm)

Children in grades 1 through 4 are excused for Primary Sunday School (Sunday School Rm)

Children in grades 5 and up are excused for God Squad (Youth Rm)

Minute for Generosity—Delray Beach Police Department

Sgt. Alpert

Offering . . . *“Freely we have received, freely let us give.”*

Offertory Anthem

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

“Laudate Dominum”

Kyaunnee Richardson, solo

Translation of Latin Text:

“Praise the Lord, all you gentiles. Laud him, all you people.

For his merciful kindness is great toward us,
and the truth of the Lord endures forever.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost:

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.”

***Doxology and Prayer of Dedication**

“Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! Amen.”

The Service of Ordination and Installation of Elders and Deacons

Introduction of Those to be Ordained and Installed

Elder: Bill Bathurst*, Megan Buck, Carl Fedde, Amy Tanner*

Trustee: Bill Bathurst*

Deacon: Ed Breman*, Lori Hackenberg, Craig Matthews*, Jean Matthews, Sandy McGilvray, Tyler McGilvray*, Ann Shuman, Shane Tanner*, Connie Timmons, Holly Watts, Michael Watts

**Being ordained and installed during the worship service.*

Constitutional Questions

Prayer of Ordination and Installation

Recognition of Outgoing Elders and Deacons

Elder: Mary Martínéz, Keith Neff

Deacon: Chuck Holderness, Debbie Holderness, Robert Paris, Kim Pothast

Minute for Generosity—One Great Hour of Sharing

Ann Heilakka and Yan Heim

Affirmation of Faith (11 a.m.)

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; he descended into hell; 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."

Ministry of the Church

Special Music

Sandi Patti

"In the Name of the Lord"

"Crowds have lined the narrow street
To see this man from Galilee;
Just a carpenter some say, leading fools astray,
Yet many kneel to give him praise.

And in his eyes, they glimpse the power
That sees the heart of all men;
And he knows his Father's mind,
He speaks his Father's words,
For he comes in the name of the Lord.

There is strength in the name of the Lord,
There is power in the name of the Lord,
There is hope in the name of the Lord.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

When my plans have fallen through
And when my strength is nearly gone,
When there's nothing left to do but just depend on you
And the power of your name,

And as we call upon your name
Your strength through weakness to show,
We can know the masters plan, extend the masters hand,
When we come in the name of the Lord.

There is strength in the name of the Lord,
There is power in the name of the Lord,
There is hope in the name of the Lord.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

His name will be worshiped forever:
Creator, Redeemer, and King.
There is strength in the name of the Lord,
There is power in the name of the Lord,
And there is hope in the name of the Lord.

Blessed is he who comes, blessed is he who comes,
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord,
The name of the Lord.”

“It’s not that I have already reached this goal or have already been perfected, but I pursue it, so that I may grab hold of it because Christ grabbed hold of me for just this purpose. Brothers and sisters, I myself don’t think I’ve reached it, but I do this one thing: I forget about the things behind me and reach out for the things ahead of me. The goal I pursue is the prize of God’s upward call in Christ Jesus. So, all of us who are spiritually mature should think this way and if anyone thinks differently, God will reveal it to him or her. Only let’s live in a way that is consistent with whatever level we have reached.”

Sermon

Dr. Hood

“The Most Difficult Person to Forgive”

***Closing Hymn No. 280**

Amazing Grace

“Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound”

“Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
Was blind, but now I see.

’Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils, and snares,
I have already come;
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me,
His word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures.

When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we'd first begun."

***Benediction**

Postlude

*The congregation is invited to stand, in mind or in body.

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For more information about **connecting with our church**, please  
complete the card in the pews.

The **flowers** that beautify the Chancel this morning are given to the glory  
of God.



Today's **Fellowship by the Sea** is provided by the Monday Morning Women's Bible Study and the Women's Book Group. Come to **outside the Lobby doors**, grab a bite, and say hello after worship.

**Following the 11 a.m. worship service today**, there is a Special Congregational Meeting with the purpose of calling Dr. Doug Hood and Rev. Greg Rapier as Co-Pastors, if the way be clear by the Presbytery of Tropical Florida.

The **Maundy Thursday** Communion worship service will be held on **Thursday, March 28<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m.** in the Sanctuary. This meaningful service commemorates the Last Supper.

On **Easter Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup>**, join us for one of our **two** worship services in our Sanctuary. The services rejoicing in Jesus' resurrection will be at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.

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**Stewardship 2024.** We thank our members and friends of the congregation who have made their stewardship pledges for 2024. Our goal this year is \$1,700,000. Thus far, we have received 165 pledges, totaling \$887,451. Estimate of Giving cards are available in the pews and church Lobby. You may place them in the offering plate, mail them to the church office, complete the card on our website ([www.firstdelray.com/give](http://www.firstdelray.com/give)), or call Christine Davis in the financial office (561-276-6338, ext. 16) and make a verbal pledge by phone. Please note that if you are currently using automated payments through your bank or credit card, we still need your completed estimate of giving card.

What will your legacy be? Please remember the church in your will and beneficiary donations and become a **Legacy Partner**. Contact Christine Davis (christinedavis@firstdelray.com) for more information.

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During the month of **March**, we are collecting NEW pajamas and age-appropriate, non-religious NEW books for children at The Milagro Center. We need pajamas in children sizes 6-16 and adults S, M, L, and XL. If you would like to order from Amazon, we have a “Wish List” available at <https://a.co/eWGoNjw>.

Stop by the Welcome Center to purchase **tickets for First Delray Concert Series concerts**. Upcoming concerts are **April 21<sup>st</sup>**, The Magic of Mozart, \$30 each; and **November 10<sup>th</sup>**, This Land is Your Land, \$20 each. All concerts are on Sunday afternoons at 4 p.m.

The First Delray Concert Planning team is seeking **volunteers** to help with **upcoming concerts**. Contact Penny Johnson (412-737-1929) to volunteer.



**Hometown Nazareth, Where Jesus was a**

**Kid** is this summer's VBS theme! Join us from 9 a.m. to noon from **June 10<sup>th</sup> to June 14<sup>th</sup>**.

Kathy Baldwin and Grace Hood are our co-directors. We are inviting you to prayerfully consider being part of our leadership team. As we take the children on a trip to Nazareth in the time of Jesus, we need actors, musicians, Bible teachers, game players, decorators, snack makers, and artisans for the marketplace. Contact Grace Hood (gracehood@firstdelray.com) to see how you can help!

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**Nursery Care** for children up to age 3 is available in the Nursery on the first floor of the Center for Christian Studies.

**Bible Bunch for Children** 3 years old through Kindergarten meets **after the Time with the Children** in the Bible Bunch Room on the first floor of the Center for Christian Studies.

**Primary Sunday School for Children** in 1<sup>st</sup> through 4<sup>th</sup> grade meets **after the Time with the Children** in the Sunday School Room on the first floor of the Center for Christian Studies.

**God Squad** for grades 5 and up meets **after the Time with the Children** in the Youth Room on the second floor of the Center for Christian Studies.

**Youth Chimes** meets during Sunday School in the Bell Room on the second floor of the Center for Christian Studies.

The **Children's Choir** for kindergarten through 5th grade meets **Sunday mornings** from **10:15 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.** in the Children's Music Room on the first floor of the Center for Christian Studies.

The **Youth Group** meets **Sundays at 12 p.m.** in the Youth Room on the second floor of the Center for Christian Studies.

**Monday Morning Women's Bible Study** meets Monday mornings at **10 a.m.** via Zoom. Contact Maria Graham (mmg2352@gmail.com) for more information.

The **Women's Book Group** next meets **Monday, April 1<sup>st</sup> at 1 p.m.** via Zoom and in the Meeting Room on the second floor of the Center for Christian Studies, to discuss *The Paper Garden: Mrs. Delany Begins Her Life's Work at 72* by Molly Peacock. Contact Martha Smith (marthaksmith44@gmail.com) for more information.

**Holly House Workshops** meet **Tuesday and Thursday mornings** at 9:30 a.m. in the Holly House.

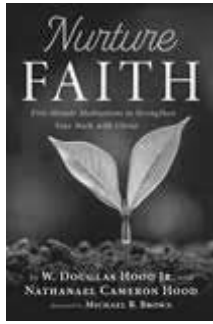
**Men's Fellowship** meets **Thursday mornings at 8:30 a.m.** at local area restaurants for breakfast and discussion. Contact Fred McNaboe (561-350-4294) for this week's location.

**Women's Discipleship Group** next meets **Thursday, March 28<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m.** in the Meeting Room on the second floor of the Center for Christian Studies. Contact Pamela Kent-Balasco (561-414-7552) for more information.

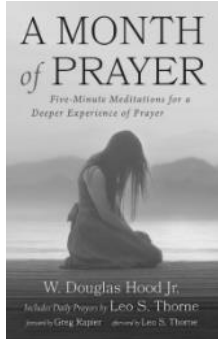
**First Delray Ringers** meets **Thursdays at 6 p.m.** in the Bell Room on the second floor of the Center for Christian Studies.

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Read Dr. Doug Hood's [weekly Nurture Faith meditation](#) on our website under Resources.



Pick up a copy of *Nurture Faith: Five Minute Meditations to Strengthen Your Walk with Christ*, a spiritual resource by Dr. Doug Hood and his son, Nathanael. You may purchase it at the Welcome Center in the Lobby or from your favorite online retailer. Any royalties received support the mission and ministry of the church.



Dr. Doug Hood's new book, *A Month of Prayer: Five-Minute Meditations for a Deeper Experience of Prayer*, is here. With the foreword by Rev. Greg Rapier and prayers by Leo S. Thorne, this spiritual resource will provide a pathway to a deeper prayer experience. You can purchase this book at the Welcome Center in the Lobby for \$5 or from your favorite online retailer. Any royalties received from book sales support the mission and ministry of the church.

ABC affiliates nationwide and US territories showed a television special taped in our church, *Every Day Is Easter*, on Easter Sunday 2023. DVD copies of the program are available for a donation of \$15. See Nancy Fine at the Welcome Center in the Lobby if you would like one.

Visit our website ([www.firstdelray.com](http://www.firstdelray.com)) for more information about our ministries.

## Easter Memorials

Members and friends wishing to make a memorial gift for Easter Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup>, may designate their contribution for Easter lilies to beautify the Sanctuary and/or feeding hungry people. This alternative giving opportunity has offered us a way to respond to hunger in our community and the world.

The names of those in whose memory or honor gifts are made and the names of the donors will be printed in our Easter bulletin. Please use the form below to provide the necessary information and send your contribution to the church office by **next Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup>**, which is the final date for including names to be printed. Donors of lilies (\$10) may pick them up after the 11 a.m. Easter worship service.

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(Please PRINT YOUR LISTING, as you want it to appear in the bulletins)

My/our Easter Memorial Gift of \$ _____ is given:

In loving memory of _____

In honor of _____

Given by _____

My/our contribution is to be used for:

Easter Lilies _____ Food for the Needy _____

(Please make the check out to **First Presbyterian Church**
and indicate either **“Lilies”** or **“Food for the Needy”**.)



Easter Egg Hunt

Sunday, March 24th at noon

Join us for pizza and an egg hunt

Bring your own basket!

Make your reservation in the Lobby or our website