

**First Presbyterian Church
Founded 1835
Corner of Jefferson and Clinton Streets
Marianna, Florida
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**SUNDAY, MARCH 28, 2010 at 11:00 A.M.
A CELEBRATION OF GOD'S COMPASSION IN JESUS CHRIST**

THE CHURCH GATHERS . .

WORDS FOR REFLECTION FOR THE BEGINNING OF HOLY WEEK

What can we do to make ourselves worthy of God's grace and love? The answer, of course, is that there is nothing we can do to earn these things. Be prepared now to be accepted into God's all-encompassing love, a complete and free gift given by God alone.

PRELUDE *With the first notes of the organ please silently prepare yourself for worship.*

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND SHARING OF COMMUNITY LIFE

INTROIT

“We Do Adore Thee, O Christ”
Theodore Dubois from “The Seven Last Words of Christ”

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Come let us glorify and exalt Jesus Christ,
Unison: the king who came in the name of the Lord.
Leader: Come let us journey with Jesus into Jerusalem,
Unison: and let us join our praise with those welcomed him on this day long ago.
Leader: Come let us journey with Jesus into Jerusalem,
Unison: and let us see his compassion as he weeps over the city.
Leader: Come let us journey with Jesus in Jerusalem through this Holy Week,
Unison: and let us see again the humility with which he suffers for us.
Leader: Come let us journey with Jesus in Jerusalem through this Holy Week,
Unison: and let us see again his love with which he dies for us.
Leader: Come let us offer to Jesus Christ our praise and our prayers,
Unison: and hail him as our Redeemer and King.

*** HYMN OF PRAISE FOR PALM SUNDAY No. 88** *Valet will ich dir geben*
“All Glory, Laud and Honor”

CALL TO CONFESSION AND PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: As we begin this Holy Week, let us remember all that God has done for us in Jesus Christ, our Redeemer and King.
Unison: In Jesus Christ we have seen the compassion of God for us and for all people.

Leader: During this Holy Week, let us remember all that God has done for us in Jesus Christ, our Redeemer and King.

Unison: In Jesus Christ we have seen the love of God for us and for all people.

Leader: In the assurance of the compassion and love of God seen in Jesus Christ, let us confess our sin together,

Unison: Gracious God, in compassion and in love for this world, you have given us the gift of Jesus Christ your Son. Forgive us that we have not always appreciated all that in compassion and in love you have done for us in him. Help us through this Holy Week to ponder anew the wonder of your compassion and love for us. As we walk with Jesus through this week, we remember that as his followers you desire that we reflect his mind, his humility, his words, and his actions. Forgive us, for where we have failed always to live in ways that reflect his compassion and his love. As we watch him suffer and die for us, assure again of all that means to call him our Redeemer and our King.

PERSONAL PRAYERS OF CONFESSION IN SILENCE

SUNG PRAYER REQUEST FOR GOD'S FORGIVENESS FOR LENT

based on Psalm 51

(sung to the tune Martyrdom, found at No.78 in The Presbyterian Hymnal)

**Have mercy, God, upon my life, and make me clean within;
Pour out your ever faithful love, and wash away my sin.**

**My guilt is heavy on my mind; I know what I have done:
Against your justice I have sinned, against you, God, alone.**

THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Remember your baptism! Remember who you are!

Unison: Celebrate the compassion of God for you in Jesus Christ.

Leader: Claim the love of God for you in Jesus Christ.

Unison: Rejoice in the forgiveness of God for you in Jesus Christ.

Leader: Trust the good news of the Gospel,

Unison: and know that in Jesus Christ your sins are forgiven.

*** THE SUNG RESPONSE OF PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING FOR LENT**

Martyrdom

**Create in me a faithful heart, a spirit right and new.
Sustain me with your saving love, and keep me close to you.**

**Then I will praise you with my heart, my mind, my soul, my voice.
You save the least and seek the lost; let all the world rejoice.**

TO HEAR AND REFLECT ON GOD'S WORD...

A TIME FOR OUR CHILDREN

Suzanne Owens

(Children age 5 and under are excused to go downstairs after our Children's Time)

PAUL INVITES US TO REMEMBER THE EXAMPLE OF JESUS CHRIST

Philippians 2:1-11

The Response: Leader: This is the Word of the Lord
People: Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

Words by Isaac Watts

Music by Gilbert M. Martin

based on the tune, Hamburg, by Lowell Mason

JESUS ENTERS THE CITY OF JERUSALEM

Luke 19:29-44

The Response: Leader: This is the Word of the Lord
People: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

"THE FREEDOM TO CHOOSE TO WEEP"

Dr. Christopher

TO RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD..

*** AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

*based on A Declaration of Faith of
the Presbyterian Church in the United States*

**We recognize the work of God in Jesus' power and authority.
He did what only God can do.**

We also recognize the work of God in Jesus' lowliness.

**When he lived as a servant and went humbly to his death, the greatness that
belongs only to God was manifest.**

**In both his majesty and lowliness Jesus is the eternal Son of God,
God himself with us, always inviting us to follow in his ways.**

***HYMN FOR HOLY WEEK No. 91**

St. Drostane

“Ride On! Ride On in Majesty!”

THE FELLOWSHIP OF SILENT PRAYER

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND SUPPLICATION

THE PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

THE OFFERTORY

*** THE OFFERTORY RESPONSE FOR LENT No. 98 (stanza 3) *Passion Chorale***

**What language shall I borrow to thank Thee, dearest friend,
For this Thy dying sorrow, thy pity without end?
O make me Thine forever; and should I fainting be,
Lord, let me never, never outlive my love to Thee.**

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

***THE LORD’S PRAYER**

(Presbyterian Hymnal, page 16 traditional, using ‘debts’ and ‘debtors’)

TO GO OUT AND SERVE . . .

*** HYMN OF THE CROSS OF JESUS No. 93**

Herzliebster Jesu

“Ah, Holy Jesus”

***THE CHARGE AND BLESSING FOR LENT**

Leader: On this Palm Sunday, let us charge one another as we go forth into this Holy Week.

Unison: **Go now, as a beloved child of God. Remember who you are!**

Leader: Go, now as a follower of Jesus, remember all he has done for you.

Unison: **Have his mind in you, and live in his humble ways.**

Leader: Reflect his compassion in all that you say and do.

Unison: **Show forth his amazing love to all people,**

Leader: as you rejoice in his presence and power in your life

Unison: **this day and every day.**

*** THE CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE FOR LENT No. 538 *Sicilian Mariners***
(stanza one and two only)

**Lord, dismiss us with Thy blessing; Fill our hearts with joy and peace:
Let us each Thy love possessing, Triumph in redeeming grace.
O refresh us, O refresh us, traveling through this wilderness.**

**Thanks we give and adoration for Thy gospel's joyful sound:
May the fruit of Thy salvation in our hearts and lives abound.
Ever faithful, Ever faithful to Thy truth may we be found.**

***POSTLUDE**

***All who can do so comfortably will stand**

Pastor: Huw Christopher

Director of Music: Lawrence R. Nelson

Elder of the month: Don Hunter

Organist: Stanley Littleton

Administrative Assistant: Valerie Marlow

Custodian: Ron Jones

Nursery Assistants: Mary Skipper and Branham Skipper

To Our Guests – Welcome to First Presbyterian Church of Marianna. We are glad to have you worship with us today, and invite you to join us each Sunday, as we worship and study God's word. If you would like more information concerning our church, you may fill out one of the Welcome cards in the pews, talk to the ushers or the pastor, or call the church office.

Nursery care is available for children Kindergarten and below during our Worship Service each Sunday morning. Children may be taken to the nursery before the service begins, or after the Time with Our Children.

Our Prayer Calendar: Ilene Culpepper, Billy Sherrel, Alyne Pitman, Harold Pumphrey (son of Louise Pumphrey) , Irby Owens (father of Terry Owens), Barbara Black (requested by Nancy McMullin), Christine Stubbs (requested by Susie Stevens), Jack McGee (requested by Ed and Janie Harmon), Florry Lloyd (requested by Jeff Allen), Oscar & Jessie Olive (requested by Bud & Mary Wierman), Elizabeth Sweeney (sister-in-law of Marilyn Sweeney).

The last opportunity to come and to read portions of **our church history** that is being written will be on Tuesday between 11 and 11:50 a.m. and 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. in the parlor. If you cannot come at either of those times, but are interested in reading the draft copy of our history, please be in contact with Judy Brooten at JDBrooten@aol.com, or Rachel Christopher at 482-8118 or rachelc25w@embarqmail.com

Our last **Lenten Luncheon** for 2010 will be held on Tuesday, from 12 noon until 12:50 p.m. in the fellowship hall. The reflections at this luncheon will be on the question, “How Did Jesus Use His Power and How Should We Use Our Power? – reflecting on how Jesus used his power and what that says to us about our use of power as his followers,” based on Luke 19: 28-44. The ladies of Circle 2 will be in charge of the food for this luncheon. Copies of the Lenten reflections from previous weeks are available on the table in the narthex.

Our **One Great Hour of Sharing** offering will be received on Easter morning, as well as through the baskets on the tables on Maundy Thursday. This offering is divided between the Presbyterian Hunger Program, (36%); the Self-Development of People program of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) (32%); and the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Program (32%). The insert in the bulletin outlines some of these programs. Please use the special envelopes in the bulletin for this offering. Children who have been “feeding their fish” for this offering are reminded to return them on Easter Day, or as soon as possible afterwards.

Special Easter editions of the daily devotional *Our Daily Bread* are available from the table in the narthex, the table in the hallway outside the fellowship hall, and also from the church office.

The **Community Easter Sunrise Service** sponsored by the Greater Marianna Ministerial Association will be held next Sunday, Easter Day, at 6 a.m. at Citizens Lodge Park on Caverns Road. Dress is casual and the whole community is invited. The Easter Message will be given by the Rev. Dr. Robert McKibben of the First United Methodist Church. Special music will be under the direction of Royce Reagan. The offering will go to the Ministerial Association. A free continental breakfast will follow the service.

Our **Presbytery Camp at Dogwood Acres**, near Vernon, Florida, offers a variety of camps for all ages from those entering Grade 2 through those entering Grade 12. Brochures are available on the table in the hallway outside the fellowship hall, and from the church office. The deadline to take advantage of the Early Bird Discount is Monday, April 5. The church and the camp have scholarship funds available for those who need them. More information is available from Mary Bevis Schmidt, the chairperson of our Christian Education Committee, who also serves on the Committee for Dogwood Acres, at 557-3332 or MaryBSchmidt@aol.com.

The sympathy of the church is extended to **Jae Jung** in the death of his grandfather, Jung Guk Hyun in Korea on March 23, 2010.

Congratulations are extended to **Tony Lee Golden and Christina Ruth Leidinger** who were married at this church on Saturday, March 20, 2010.

Congratulations are extended to Frank and Kate Allen on the birth of a daughter, **Eleanor Donna Allen**, on March 25, 2010 in Atlanta, Georgia. Jeff and Ruthanne Allen are the proud grandparents.

The first set of additional **Commemorative Bricks** are now in place in our Columbarium area. Appreciation is extended to Betty Joyce Hand for arranging for the placement of these bricks.

In our pew racks there are **white envelopes** for general offerings; **gold ones** for gifts to the 1835 Endowment Fund; and **green ones** for the Anniversary Birthday Challenge. There is a listing on the table in the hallway outside the fellowship hall of those who have been honored recently through our Anniversary Birthday Challenge.

This week in the life of the church . . .

- Monday Ladies Exercise Class 9:00
- Tuesday Reading of Church History in the parlor from 11 – 11:50 a.m.
Lenten Luncheon 12 noon – 12:50 p.m.
Reading of Church History in the parlor from 1 p.m. - 2 p.m.
Evangelism and Fellowship Committee at 6:30 p.m. in the parlor
- Wednesday Food pantry is open from 9:00 - 11:00, the volunteers are Ron and Willie Mae Goold, and Marianne Lonsinger
Choir Practice at 5:15 p.m.
JuBELLees, Confirmation Class and the Senior High Youth Group
will not meet this week because of Spring Break.
- Thursday Maundy Thursday Supper and Celebration at 6:30 p.m.
- Friday Church Office Closed for Good Friday
Ladies Exercise Class 9 a.m.
Sanctuary open for prayer and reflection 12 noon until 3p.m.
- Sunday (4th) Easter Day
Community Sunrise Service at 6 a.m. in Citizens Lodge Park
Coffee and Juice in the fellowship hall at 9:30 a.m.
Easter Celebration for all ages at 9:45 a.m. (see insert)
A Celebration of Good News of Easter in Word and Music at 11 a.m.

Have you remembered the Anniversary Birthday Challenge?