

*RESPONSE OF THANKSGIVING NO. 607

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Old Hundredth

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

GOING FORTH

*HYMN NO. 200

“A Cheering, Chanting, Dizzy Crowd”

Christian Love

*BENEDICTION

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE NO. 543 *“God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me” (stanza 5)*

*THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Please exchange greetings of welcome and peace with your neighbor.

****Please rise in body or in spirit***

† If you are new to the church... **Welcome!** We're glad to have you here. Please ask an usher to direct you to **Visitor packets** at the rear of the church. They can be found on the table near the usher's closet under the balcony stairs. After the 10:00am service today, we hope you will join us for Coffee Hour in Room 120 located through the door to the left of the choir loft and left to the end of the hall.

† The white rose on the communion table celebrates the life of First Presbyterian Church Member, Fred Beck, and remembers the promise of the resurrection in his death on Friday March 15, 2018. Our sympathy is extended to the Beck family and friends.

† You are respectfully requested to turn off all pagers and cell phones. Our church is equipped with a hearing assistance system. Please ask the usher for a receiver.

† Nursery care is provided for children up to 24 months in our Cradle Room during the 10:00AM Worship Service. There is Christian Education during the 10:00AM Worship Service. The Cradle Room and Rest Rooms are located through the door to the left of the pulpit then left down the hallway.

† The flowers this morning, are given to the glory of God...

.....In memory of my Mother Dorothy McConnell, by Dotti Leonard.

.....In memory of Carl E. Thyren by his wife, Jean.

† Your prayers of intercession are requested for those members and friends known to be *currently or recently hospitalized or who continue to need our prayers and support:*

... Maggie Bischoff, Eleanor Casagrand, Harry Coppens, Jay Courter, Ruth Evans, Bill Hayden, Edith Jipp, Christopher Kerwin, Dottie Leonard, Max Oehler, Patty Onjian, Barbara Piggery, Arline Pressl, Louise Ritscher, Richard Rose, Michael Sanok, Bob Scarrillo, Laura Winter and Helena Wispelwey. The church office will be happy to verify their home addresses for you should you wish to send them words of encouragement or get well wishes.



THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
AT CALDWELL
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March 25, 2018
Ten o'clock
PASSION/PALM SUNDAY

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

GATHERING

PRELUDE "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna" arr. Joel Raney

CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Psalm 118) Adam Freda, Lay Reader

This is the day that the Lord has made.

We will rejoice and be glad in it!

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

This house of worship blesses you, holy God!

God has sent the Light of the world to us.

Let us celebrate God's gift with a procession of palms and shouts of "Hosanna!"

O give thanks to the Lord. God is good to us!

God's steadfast love endures forever!

OPENING PRAYER

*HYMN NO. 197 "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna" Ellacombe
Lighting the candles today is Acolyte Gary Suda

CONFESSION

Invitation

Let us come together to a moment of confession. Imagine Jesus entering our presence just as he entered Jerusalem some 2,000 years ago. Envision the palm branches, the donkey, the shouts of "hosanna." Understanding who he is and knowing who we are...we pray together...

Prayer

O God, you know us well. We are quick to speak of faith, but slow to live it fully. We shout "hosanna" as Jesus approaches, as did the people of Jerusalem many years ago; but we do not want him to come too close -- not close enough to really see...

Silent Confession

And we pray together...

O God, you know us well. We are quick to claim faith in Jesus as our Lord and Savior; but, like the throng who greeted his entry into Jerusalem, we are fickle, slow to live fully and everywhere as faithful disciples. We know where we fail...

Silent Confession

And we pray together...

O God, you know us well. We are quick to want the blessings of faithfulness; but, like the Twelve who spent the last week with him, we are slow to accept the pain and suffering of authentic Christ-like living. Forgive our weakness and fear...

Silent Confession

Words of Assurance

The Lord brings light to those in darkness, forgiveness to those who truly confess, and pardon to all who seek to follow Jesus. Rejoice that the steadfast love of the Lord endures forever and ever. In the name of Jesus the Christ, receive the love that never dies and never fails. Amen.

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE NO. 196 "All Glory, Laud, and Honor" (stanza 4) Valet Will Ich Dir Geben

PROCLAIMING AND RESPONDING

ANTHEM "Lo, He Comes" John Horman
Children's Choir

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

Please note: Children through 7th grade may leave the sanctuary for Sunday School following the Time with the Children. Please exit through the doors on either side of the Choir loft.

PARISH LIFE

Members, friends and visitors, please sign the Friendship Pad in each pew and pass it to the person next to you. The last person will pass the pad back to the first person, who will then please place the sheet in the offering plate. **Worshippers are invited to use the cards in the pew racks for prayer requests so we may share one another's joys and concerns.** The ushers will collect the cards during the hymn following the sermon and they will be offered during the Prayers of the People.

MINUTE FOR MINISTRY "Deacons' Coat and Blood Drives" Lisa Stein

SCRIPTURE John 12:12-16 page 100 NT

Today we read the account of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem from the gospel according to John. It is from this gospel alone that we get both "Palm" and "Sunday." That is to say, only in John does the crowd greet Jesus with palms--they are tree branches in Matthew, leafy branches cut from the fields in Mark, and absent altogether in Luke. And only in John is Jesus' entry into Jerusalem able to be pinpointed to a day of the week, viz. Sunday. The church has followed John's tradition in celebrating Palm Sunday a week before Easter with a procession of palms since the fourth century.

SERMON "Who (or What) Killed Jesus?" Dr. Sommers

*HYMN NO. 160 "A Stable Lamp Is Lighted" Andujar

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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 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.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY "No Rocks A-Cryin'" Rollo Dillworth
Chancel Choir