



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ST. LOUIS

*"First there is the fall, and then we recover from the fall.
Both are the mercy of God."*

— Julian of Norwich

First Presbyterian Church of Saint Louis

April 13, 2025

Palm/Passion Sunday



WELCOME TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

**Whatever your culture or race,
Whatever your religion or background,
Whatever your age, orientation, or differing abilities,
Whatever has happened to you until now,
May this be a place of joy, peace, and healing for you.**

WE GATHER AROUND THE WORD

We light the Christ Candle as a reminder that Christ's light surrounds us and fills us. Please feel free to light a candle in prayer at the candle station.

Choral Meditation

"Hosanna!"
-Craig Courtney

Welcome

Rev. Bill Perman

Palm Sunday Lesson

Luke 19:29-40

When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, saying, 'Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, "Why are you untying it?" just say this: "The Lord needs it."' So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, 'Why are you untying the colt?' They said, 'The Lord needs it.' Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying,

'Blessed is the king
who comes in the name of the Lord!
Peace in heaven,
and glory in the highest heaven!'

Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, 'Teacher, order your disciples to stop.' He answered, 'I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out.'



***Processional Hymn #196**

All Glory Laud and Honor

***Opening Prayer (Unison)**

Jeanne Foster

O Christ, you lived as an ordinary man, not in style but simply,
yet still your simple kindness caused an uproar,
and questions everywhere.

Your word of love and justice drew hungry crowds,
and brought buried conflicts to the light.

May we, who are sometimes swayed by the crowd's approval,
and who often avoid conflict for fear of its cost to us,
hold fast to your gospel.

May we follow faithfully in your way of compassion and solidarity
with those who are poor and excluded and suffering,
wherever it may lead us. Amen.

***Assurance of Christ's Presence & Sharing the Peace**

One: Friends, nothing in life or death can separate you from the love of
God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts,
minds, and souls. Peace be with you.

All: And also with you.

***Response of Praise, Hymn #607**

Doxology

Tune: Old Hundredth

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

WE LISTEN TO THE WORD PROCLAIMED

The Passion of Jesus Christ

from the Gospel of Luke

Sermon

Rev. Bill Perman

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

Prayers of the People



The Lord's Prayer (Unison)

**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.**

WE OFFER THE WORD TO THE WORLD

News of the Church


***Hymn #209**

My Song is Love Unknown

***Benediction**

Postlude

*"Toccata on "Savior, When in Dust to Thee"
- Craig Bednall*



WELCOME

Welcome to First Pres! Join us as we Grow, Transform, and Serve!

We hope that you find the experience of church meaningful and our congregation welcoming. Please join us after worship for fellowship and refreshments in the back of the Sanctuary.

OUR VISION: By deepening our love for God and neighbor, we will build an intentionally inclusive and visible community to make a lasting difference in our lives and in the world.

OUR MISSION: We are an inclusive community inspired by Jesus' way of love and justice, called to grow, transform, and serve all.

Connect with First Pres!

Please use this QR code to connect with our church staff and/or to sign up for our weekly Enews letter. You can also find connection cards in the pews and at the back of the sanctuary.



Donate to First Pres

To make an electronic donation, please scan the QR code on the right. There is a PayPal fee of about 3% that will be deducted from your donation. Thank you for your generosity!



Check out our Enews!

Use this QR Code to keep up on all that is happening at First Pres. You will find many opportunities for fellowship, education, and service to the church and our community.



NEWS OF THE CHURCH

Maudy Thursday Dinner - 6:00pm

Join us this Thursday in the sanctuary for a light supper of soup and bread and a remembrance of Jesus' last days with his disciples. We will gather at 6:00pm for the meal. The service will begin around 6:30p.m. If you can bring soup or bread, wine or juice to share, please see Bill Perman.

Church Playground Work Day

Join us **today** from Noon to 2:00pm to clean up and add new equipment to our play ground. Any help you can give is greatly appreciated.





The Confirmation Class Needs Your Help!

As part of our service project to help the unhoused, we will be making Blessing Bags that can be given out to those who are in need. Scan the QR code below if you would like to donate some of the items needed for the Blessing Bags. Our goal is to make 30 bags. We will be assembling the Blessing Bags at the annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 19 before hunting Easter Eggs. Donations should be dropped off at church no later than Friday, April 18. You can also make a monetary donation, and we will use the funds to purchase items from the list. Please make sure the donation has "confirmation class" in the memo. Thank you so much for your help!



One Great Hour of Sharing

On Easter Sunday we will collect the One Great Hour of Sharing special offering. A gift to OGHs enables the church to share God's love with our neighbors-in-need around the world by providing relief to those affected by natural disasters, food to the hungry, and much needed support to the poor and oppressed.

Community Easter Egg Hunt!


All are welcome to come to the First Pres Annual Community Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 19 at 10:00 am, rain or shine. Before hunting for eggs, we will be participating in a short service project. Please feel free to invite friends, neighbors, and grandchildren. The more the merrier!

Rebuilding Together, St. Louis – Special Offering

We are collecting a Special Offering to support our April 26 Build Day with Rebuilding Together St. Louis. We are hoping to raise a good deal of the \$3000 participation fee. Each year we spend one Saturday dramatically improving the home of one of our neighbors. Please consider a generous gift to this vital ministry. In addition, we need people willing to join our team on Saturday, April 26. No special construction skills are required. A sign up sheet is in the back of the Sanctuary.

We are Updating the Church Directory

In the next couple of weeks we are publishing a new Church Directory. There will be a print version and an online version with a password protected link on our website. If any of your information has changed in the last 6 months or if you would like to be included in the Directory please send updates to the church office.



We Need a Washer and Dryer

Now that the boiler is off-line, we would like to install a washer and dryer in the boiler room. This would be of great help to the Early Years Center and for our various fellowship events that use table linens. If you are about to upgrade your washer and dryer or happen to have an old set lying around please consider donating them to the church. Cleanliness is next to Godliness!

Donate Your Jewelry for a Great Cause!

The Books & Bling Bazaar is coming up on May 4th-5th, running alongside the Scholastic Book Fair, and we need your help! We're collecting jewelry—costume or fine—to sell at the event, with all proceeds benefiting the EYC Scholarship Fund. Clean out your jewelry box and make a difference! Donations can be dropped off in the church office. Thank you for supporting education and opportunity through EYC.

Community Yoga Class

Join our Community Yoga class every Tuesday at 12pm in our sanctuary. This open-level Vinyasa Flow session welcomes both beginners and experienced yogis. Led by Katie LeGrand, a passionate instructor and wellness coach, these donation-based classes focus on alignment, mobility, and personal growth. Please bring a yoga mat (extras available) and enter through the main red sanctuary doors off Overhill Drive. No registration is needed—just arrive by 11:45 a.m. to settle in. For questions, contact Katie at koparecept@gmail.com.

Year at a Glance:

April 17, 6:00pm

Maundy Thursday Church
Family Dinner

May 18

Youth Sunday

April 19, 10:00am

Easter Egg Hunt & Service
Project

June 8

Pentecost/Confirmation
Sunday

April 26

Rebuilding Together St. Louis
Build Day

September 19-21

Mound Ridge Retreat

May 7, 7:00pm

Spirited Conversations

January 31, 2026, 5:30pm

Welcome Home Dinner

May 14, 6:30

Horizons Bible Study



WELCOME!

First Presbyterian Church of St. Louis, a community of faith since 1817, is a More Light congregation - dedicated to our community of faith, welcoming people of every race; ethnicity; age; sex; physical, mental, or emotional condition; sexual or gender orientation; and economic, cultural, or religious background.

Church Staff

Rev. Bill Perman, Pastor
Marge Meier, Early Years Center Director
Sarah Butler, Church Office Administrator
Clay Butler, Audio Visual Technician
Hedy Rothfuss, Interim Music Director

7200 Delmar Blvd, University City MO 63130
www.firstpresbyterianstl.com
Church Office: 314-726-6677
Bill Perman email: bill@firstpres-stl.org
Church email: office@firstpres-stl.org
Office Hours:
Monday-Thursday 9:00am - 1:00pm

Board of Deacons

Class of 2025: Katherine Chamberlain, Roger Chamberlain, Jill Schantz
Class of 2026: Rob Dodson, Nancy Kidd, Ruth Reese
Class of 2027: Mary Bryant, Jill Butler, Julie Griffin

Session

Class of 2025: Glenna Hughes, Sue Salvati, Genny Watkins
Class of 2026: Bruce Butler, Jeanne Foster, B. Terrell
Class of 2027: Jodie Burditt, Sarah Butler, Brad Schnell

Treasurer, Nancy Patten - treasurer@firstpres-stl.org
Clerk of Session, Andrew Loth - clerk@firstpres-stl.org

Music Resources reprinted for congregational worship in agreement with
OneLicense#A-708807