Love is First

We are delighted that you are joining us for worship today! We are a curious, inclusive, and diverse gathering of imperfect people united by our common hope in Jesus Christ. Through worship, study, and service, we seek to know and show the transformative love of God found in the pages of scripture and revealed in the person of Jesus. No matter who you are or where you are on your spiritual journey, know that you are welcome here.

Sunday, April 6, 2025

If You Are New Here Whether you are searching for a church home or visiting from out of town, we are delighted that you are worshiping with us today. If you are interested in receiving more information about membership or the ministries of our congregation, please be sure to speak with our pastor after today's worship or share your information with us in the pew pad. We would love to get to know you.

Prayer Concern? Please let us know how we can be praying for you by filling out the welcome card and placing it in the offering plate or by calling the church office: (941) 955-8119.

Children Of All Ages Are Welcome in Worship! At the New Song (9:00 a.m.) service there are coloring sheets on the tables and an activity center in the corner. At the traditional (11:00 a.m.) service, children are invited to take a worship bag hanging in the narthex. Sunday School is from 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. in the children's wing on the second floor. Ask a greeter for directions.

To Aid In Worship In the sanctuary, a T-Coil Hearing Loop is available for people with equipped hearing aids. Headphones to amplify sound are also available at the tech booth in the rear of the sanctuary. Large print bulletins are available, ask an usher.

Worship Online Livestreams of the contemporary and traditional worship services are available at www.firstpressarasota.org/worship-live and on YouTube at www.youtube.com/@fpcsarasota4017.

Ways To Give There are many ways you can support the mission and ministries of First Presbyterian. During worship, you may place your gift in the offering plate or you can scan this QR code. It will direct you to our online giving portal. Additionally, you can mail a check to the church office. Thank you for your gifts. Questions? Contact Finance Manager, Lisa Garcia: (941) 955-8119/Lgarcia@firstpressarasota.org.

Good Friday, April 18, 12:15 p.m. in the Chapel



This short but powerful service will be a service of Tenebrae (from Latin, meaning "darkness" or "shadows") where you will hear Luke's account of the Passion of Jesus. You will be able to reflect as the passages are read, musical interludes are shared, and the eighth candle on the communion table is extinguished after the scripture reading of the crucifixion of Jesus. Come and be touched by the reality of Good Friday as we await the joy of the resurrection on Easter Sunday.

April 13, All-Church Palm Sunday Egg Hunt and Potluck Brunch

We look forward to beginning Holy Week with you on Palm Sunday. We will mark Jesus' triumphant entrance into Jerusalem at **one service at 10:00 a.m. in the sanctuary**. Children and youth are welcome to join our annual palm procession at the beginning of the service. Following the service all are welcome for an egg hunt outside and a potluck in the fellowship hall. Children are welcome to bring their baskets to hunt for eggs filled with tickets. Tickets can be redeemed at our prize table. Meanwhile, church members and guests will enjoy food inside. Suggested assignments based on last name; A-M: breakfast casseroles, N-Q: fruit, R-Z: pastries/bread. Please contact Eric Robinson at ERobinson@Firstpressarasota.org with any questions about the egg hunt.



Happy 104th Birthday, April 7 to **Naomi Pearson.** Help her celebrate, your greetings will reach Naomi at: Casa Santa Marta,1576 l8th Street, Sarasota , FL. 34236.

Holy Week at First Presbyterian! Here's a Quick Summary of the Events:

- **Palm Sunday**: 10:00 a.m. in the sanctuary, followed by egg hunt and brunch
- **Maundy Thursday**: 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary
- **Good Friday**: 12:15 p.m. in the chapel
- **Easter**: 9:00 a.m. in fellowship hall and 11:00 a.m. in the sanctuary

If you need any more information or assistance related to these events, feel free to call the church office.

Join Us to Support Long-Term Recovery Efforts

First Presbyterian Church is excited to announce our partnership with Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) to host teams dedicated to assisting with Long-Term Recovery from the recent hurricanes. This is a wonderful opportunity to serve as **hands and feet of Christ** to those in need.

To help get our site up and running, we need volunteers like you! Whether you're interested in lending a hand directly or supporting the effort in another way, we invite you to join us for one of our **PDA Interest Zoom Meetings** to learn more about this meaningful new ministry at First Presbyterian Church.
Meeting Dates and Times:
Wednesday, April 9 at 2:00 p.m. OR **Thursday, April 10 at 6:00 p.m.**

These Zoom meetings will provide important information about how you can get involved and make a difference. We hope to see you there as we come together to serve and support the recovery efforts. Let's work together to bring hope and healing to those impacted by disaster!
Zoom Link: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82101705127?pwd=dqAoBDZKJrEtCJ2mbb2RyLGHBml0qO.1 also see the *News@First.*

Take Me Out to the Ballgame!

Join us for **Faith and Family Night** at the ballpark! The Fellowship Committee invites you to a fun-filled evening as we cheer on the **Bradenton Marauders** against the **Lakeland Flying Tigers** on Friday, **May 9, at 6:30 p.m.**
Tickets: $15 (includes a Marauders hat and a Pepsi drink voucher!)
Location: LECOM Park, Bradenton
Get your tickets now! Scan the QR code to purchase.
Enjoy a night of baseball, community, and faith-filled fun! Don't miss out!

One Great Hour of Sharing

Traditionally given during Lent, contributions to One Great Hour of Sharing aid in combating hunger via the Presbyterian Hunger Program, foster development through the Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People, and support disaster relief efforts through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. Each of these programs serves individuals and communities in unique ways. From immediate disaster response to sustained community development, their efforts combine to offer safety, sustenance and hope to those in need. First Presbyterian will be receiving One Great Hour of Sharing on **Palm Sunday, April 13.**

Adult Education

The Parent Small Group meets at 10:10 a.m. today in the Parlor, where we'll continue our discussion of the book *Caring for One Another*. The Lenten Class on discipleship continues today at 10:05 in room 203, and on Zoom at 1:00 p.m .on Wednesday.

Presbyterian Women Bible Study

As we read the Bible from Genesis forward, we learn that God's people experienced many ups and downs. God's people experienced struggle, conflict, disappointment, celebration, redemption and joy. It is important to remember that God cares for all people in all places, times, and generations. The eighth lesson of the *PW Horizons Bible Study*, Let Justice Roll Down is "Intergenerational Justice." All are invited to join us for this Bible study. It is held via Zoom the third Wednesday of each month.

The lesson on April 16 at 10:00 a.m. will be lead by Colleen Forristall. We look forward to meaningful discussions about how both the younger and older generations can work to protect our earth. Please reach out to Elaine Barnett at ewbarnet@me.com for the Zoom info and a copy of the lesson if needed.

Would you like receive our Friday E-Newsletter? E-mail info@FirstPresSarasota.org to be added to our distribution list.