



J.J. White Memorial Presbyterian Church

PALM SUNDAY

April 2, 2023 • 10:30 AM

Gathering

Processional Hymn no. 203

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

ELLACOMBE

Verses 1 & 3 after choir is in loft

Welcome and announcements

Whitney Rawlings

***Call to worship**

Awake to the day of triumph for our Savior! Give thanks for this day that leads to the cross! Come with your branches, hosannas, and songs! Fill the air with welcome to the Lord! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Call to confession

Let us face this day of palms and Jesus' passion with honesty, confessing our sins before God.

Prayer of confession

Holy God, sure of your faithfulness even in your dying, comforted by your compassion toward your people in every age, we beg your mercy for our imperfect gratitude.

We have looked to you for paltry favors, when you have given everything. We have withheld from your people, our neighbors, and from your creation, our Earth, the care and tending they deserve. We have rejected the cornerstone you sent to build a people of righteousness even here, today.

Forgive our failings. Heal what we have broken, nurture what we have neglected, and lead us to your vision, so that we may know the peace of wholeness in you; in Jesus' name. Amen.

Declaration of forgiveness

Your God has come to you, humble, in the form of a slave, to free you from the weight of sin and death. Jesus' obedient suffering has released you. Your sins are forgiven, in the name of the one who is exalted beyond what we can comprehend: Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

The Word

Anthem

Open Wide the Gates!

Mary Kay Beall

Musical Offering

In Christ Alone

Townsend and Getty

Jeremy Threlfall, voice; Oscar Leal, cello; Jennifer Sanders, piano

Prayer for illumination

Let your Word, o God, break open our hearts this day through the power of the Holy Spirit, that we may enter into the coming Holy Week with the same mind that was in Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

Scriptures: *Matthew 21:1-11*

Readers: Kayden Hogan, Greta Barr, Colton Jackson, Emma Richardson, Ridge Barr

Sermon

After the Parade

the Reverend Chris Richardson

***Affirmation of Faith**

The Apostles' Creed

Hymnal, p. 14

***Gloria Patri**

Glory Be to the Father

Hymn no. 805

***Hymn no. 60**

Great is Thy Faithfulness

FAITHFULNESS

Invitation to offering

Let our hosannas to the one who brings liberation take form in our tithes and offerings.

Offertory

The Gift of Love

arr. Brandt Adams

Oscar Leal, cello; Jennifer Sanders, piano

***Doxology**

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

Hymn no. 809

***Prayer of thanksgiving**

God of all good gifts, we thank you for showing us how to care for each other. May these gifts lead to great feasting for those who have no banquets set before them. May these gifts build shelters and places of prayer for those who are homeless. May these gifts proclaim your desire that all your creation live in peace. Give us grateful hearts, o God, in the name of the one who came to draw all people to himself, Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

Prayers of the people

The Lord's Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Albert Hay Malotte

Jeremy Threlfall, voice; Oscar Leal, cello; Jennifer Sanders, piano

Sending

***Hymn no. 204**

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

ST. THEODULPH

Charge and blessing

Let the same mind be in you that is in Christ Jesus, our Lord. Look not to rewards and for your good deeds. Do unto others what will nurture God's will for them. Listen to the word of the Lord, and believe.

Go in peace, assured of God's presence with you, with the mind of Christ Jesus as your path and guide, and the constant companionship of the Holy Spirit.

Postlude

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee
Oscar Leal, cello; Jennifer Sanders, piano

arr. Henry Van Dyke

**Please stand as you are able*

Announcements

Record from last week (03/26/23) Attendance • 37

Offering • \$4,672

This week at J.J. White Memorial Presbyterian

Monday	5:30 PM	Pastor Nominating Committee
Tuesday	5:00 PM	Choir rehearsal
Wednesday	7:15 AM	Men's Prayer Breakfast (Fellowship Hall)
Thursday, 4/6	5:30 PM	Maundy Thursday (with Communion), led by the Rev. Chris Richardson
Friday, 4/7	6:00 PM	Good Friday at Centenary United Methodist Church

Upcoming events

Sunday, 4/9	Easter (with Communion), led by the Rev. Chris Richardson
Tuesday, 4/11	Presbyterian Women (lesson 8, Sabbath and Justice)
Sunday, 4/16	Led by the Rev. Joe Pack Arnold

Welcome to worship!

All who worship here are joyfully welcomed into our midst! To visitors, we offer a special hand of fellowship and invite you to join us again soon; please fill out the blue card in your pew and place in the offering plate.

Welcome to the Reverend Chris Richardson

Rev. Chris Richardson works part-time as a chaplain for Hospice Ministries and is an elder in full connection in the United Methodist Church. A graduate of Duke Divinity School, Chris has lived in Pike County since marrying husband Kevin in 2004. They have three children: Colin, Brooke, and Emma.

Welcome to our guest musicians

Oscar Leal was born in Mexico City and started his music career at the Conservatory of Music in Pueblo, Mexico. In 2001, Mr. Leal was offered a scholarship to study music performance and join the University of Southern Mississippi's Symphony Orchestra, where he has joined the stage with Placido Domingo, Itzhak Perlman, Sir Charles Galway, and other world-class musicians. Mr. Leal graduated in 2005. **Jeremy Threlfall** resides in McComb with his wife Cleia. His love for singing started at the early age of 5 and has developed into a life of performing, composing, recording, filming, and even arranging – with a variety of audiences ranging from country to Broadway, opera to children, and inspirational.

Vision 2023 (adopted by Session on December 11, 2022)

Believe in Me and grow our church together in 2023. In 2023, we shall regularly reach out to inactive members, encouraging them to renew participation in the life of JJWMP. We shall also increase visibility through social media and community involvement that encourages others to join our membership. This will include promotion of church facilities as a destination for appropriate community events, with special emphasis on attracting young adults and youth. In doing so, we shall be widely recognized as a vibrant, welcoming church family that loves the Lord and one another. These initiatives will serve to grow membership and double attendance by year end, 2023.

Reminder of God's call to stewardship

Yours, Lord, is the greatness and ... the kingdom; ... Wealth and honor come from you; you are the ruler of all things. (1 Chronicles 29:11-12). Please speak with Dennis Ross, 2023 Stewardship chairman, with any questions or concerns.

Session

Watkins "Noggin" Wild, Clerk of Session • Wayne Hutchison, Treasurer		
Class of 2023	Class of 2024	Class of 2025
Dennis Ross	Melisa DeCoux	Tommy Brock
Randy White	Suzi Drummond	Linda Miller
Rusty Whittington	Whitney Rawlings	Noggin Wild

Sanctuary flowers

Today's sanctuary flowers are provided by Carol Rawlings and Kathy Parker in honor of the congregation of J.J. White Memorial Presbyterian Church.

Lectionary readings and questions for reflection

As this week unfolds, spend some time each day pondering the mind of Christ. What is the shape of his compassion? What does it feel like, physically, to be so utterly cared for?

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