

FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PALM SUNDAY

of the Lord's Passion

Sunday, April 13, 2025

Reverend Delton H. Farmer, Pastor

Email : pastorfarmer@fupcc.org • [Mobile#: 919-740-2281](tel:919-740-2281)

406 N. College Street • Charlotte, NC 28202

Phone: 704-376-8014 • Fax: 704-376-8329

Email: firstunitedclt@fupcc.org • website: www.fupcc.org

"Helping Others See Jesus' Grace In Me"

Order of Worship

Palm/Passion Sunday

**Congregation Stands/Rise in spirit*

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

***INTROIT #174(AA) "We Have Come Into This House"**

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

LEADER: O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good;

PEOPLE: God's steadfast love endures forever!

LEADER: The stone that the builders rejected

PEOPLE: Has become the chief cornerstone.

LEADER: This is the day that the Lord has made;

PEOPLE: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

LEADER: Save us, we beseech you, O Lord!

PEOPLE: Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

LEADER: O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good;

ALL: God's steadfast love endures forever! Let us worship God.

***OPENING HYMN #171 (AA)
"Majesty, Worship His Majesty"**

*** PRAYER OF PRAISE AND ADORATION** (*Unison*)

Holy God, we reverence and welcome you into this hour of worship. With hearts overflowing with gratitude, we lift our voices in praise! You come to us humbly, offering boundless grace and inviting us to grow in faith, hope, and love. Open our spirits to your word, that we may joyfully and freely proclaim: Hosanna! Blessed is the One who comes in the Name of the Lord! AMEN.

CALL TO CONFESSION

We cannot escape the sin and brokenness in our world or in our hearts. But in Jesus Christ, God comes and meets us in our brokenness and makes us whole again. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin together.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(unison)*

Have mercy on us, O God, for we are broken vessels. You call us to Follow you, but we deny, abandon and betray. You call us to pursue justice and righteousness, but we stick to the status quo. You invite us into the hope of your Spirit, but we make despair our daily bread. You lead us to the cross, but in our discomfort, we try to skip to the empty tomb. Transform us, O God. Pour out your Holy Spirit upon all our brokenness, that your grace may fill in the cracks of our broken places and make us whole. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss To bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul?

***GLORIA PATRI**

SPECIAL SELECTION FUPCC Choir

"Hosana, There's None Like You—"Isiah 61"

by The Wilmington Chester Mass Choir

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION..... Rev. Delton H. Farmer

Illuminating God, shine your light through the darkness of this world into every corner of our hearts. As we read the many words of Scripture, may we recognize the presence of your one true Word, Jesus Christ, who bears your love into the world. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS Rev. Delton H. Farmer

OLD TESTAMENT: Zechariah 9:9, Psalm 118:25-26

NEW TESTAMENT: Matthew 21:1-11

SERMON Rev. Delton H. Farmer

"A New Kind of Freedom: From the Power of Repentance "

INVITATIONAL FUPC Choir

"I'll Just Say Yes" by Brian Courtney Wilson

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

THE LORD’S PRAYER/PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*unison*)

We trust in God, the source of all hope, Even as we call on God to meet us in places of hopelessness. We commit to be disciples of Christ Jesus, Who, though he was in the form of God, Did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, But emptied himself and was born in human likeness. He humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death – Even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him And gave him the name that is above every name, So that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, In heaven and on earth and under the earth, And every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, To the glory of God the father. Amen.

CALL FOR THE OFFERING (Collectors asked to come forward)

Jesus tells us it is more blessed to give than to receive. May we who have received so much from the Lord give back as we receive the morning offering. *You may give online @ fupcc.org, mail your gifts to the church office, 406 N. College Street, 28202, or give to the officers as they pass the collection plate. Remember, all we have, and all we are, belong to God. Let us give with a cheerful heart. Amen*

OFFERING

OFFERTORY..... FUPCC Choir

"Trust Me" by Richard Smallwood

***DOXOLOGY**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

God, giver of all good gifts, we thank you for all that you have graciously poured out on us. As we begin Holy Week and walk the final steps to the cross, we give you thanks for the greatest of all gifts — the gift of yourself to your people, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

CLOSING SELECTION "Give Thanks"

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

May the Lord bless you and keep you. May He guide you on your journey of repentance, leading you into the freedom that comes through Jesus Christ. And may His peace fill your hearts now and forevermore. Amen

RESPONSE "Seven Fold Amen"

POSTUDE