

Divine Worship

8:30 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.

Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped...

(Philippians 2:5–6, ESV)

(+ Congregation, please stand if able.)

VOLUNTARY: Trumpet Tune in D Major David N. Johnson

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT: Sing, O Sing Carolee Curtright

Sing, O sing this happy song, for Jesus Christ is risen.
Sing, O sing this happy song. He’s risen: Alleluia.
Alleluia now we sing, Alleluia to our King.
Sing, O sing this happy song, He’s risen: Alleluia.

Sing, O sing with joyful voice, for Jesus Christ is risen.
Come, O waking earth, rejoice. He’s risen: Alleluia.
Alleluia now we sing, Alleluia to our King.
Come, O waking earth, rejoice. He’s risen: Alleluia.

Let the bells on Easter ring, for Jesus Christ is risen.
Praise His name for he is King. He’s risen: Alleluia.
Alleluia now we sing, Alleluia to our King.
Praise his name for He is King. He’s risen: Alleluia.

Sing Alleluia, Sing Alleluia, Sing Alleluia.

The Children’s Choir
Ann Forrest Bowers, director; Dr. Elizabeth Yoder, piano

CALL TO WORSHIP Mr. Lauten (8:30) Mr. S. Henderson (11:15)

+ HYMN 235: All Glory, Laud, and Honor ST. THEODULPH

+ INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father, which 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.

+ CONFESSION OF FAITH

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth;
and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord;
Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost; born of the Virgin Mary;
suffered under Pontius Pilate; was crucified, dead, and buried;
He descended into hell.

The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven;
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

+ GLORIA PATRI LADY STREET

Glo - ry be to God the Fa - ther, Glo - ry be to God the Son, Glo - ry be to the

Ho - ly - Spi - rit, bind - ing all the church as one! As it was in the be - gin - ning

as is now and e'er shall be, World with - out end! A - men

CHILDREN’S SERMON: 8:30 A.M.

CHILDREN’S HYMN 237: 8:30 A.M. Ride On, Ride On in Majesty!
(Stanzas 1-2) ST. DROSTANE

Ride on, ride on in majesty!
Hark! All the tribes hosanna cry;
O Savior meek, pursue your road
With palms and scattered garments strowed.

Ride on, ride on in majesty!
In lowly pomp ride on to die:
O Christ, your triumphs now begin
O’er captive death and conquered sin.

CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION Dr. Stewart

Lord, there is too much of “Me” in my life. It self-controls me at every turn; it infects all my relationships. I see it most of all on the Lord’s Day: It belongs to you, but I live as if it belonged to me. Rather than calling the Sabbath a delight, I pursue too much my own pleasure, I speak too much my own words, and I go too much my own way. Father, have mercy upon me, and remember the day when, because of our sins, you gave Your Son no rest, and grant us rest this morning. For Jesus’ sake. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

MORNING PRAYER

+ HYMN 304: I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say VOX DILECTI

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY: Marvelous Song Tom Eggleston

Sing to the Lord a marvelous song,
A wonderful, glorious, jubilant song!
Sing to the Lord a marvelous song,
A wonderful, glorious, jubilant song!

O sing to the Lord a new song,
For he has done marvelous things.
His right hand and holy arm
have won salvation for all!

When singers make music to the Lord,
His people proclaim his wondrous praise;
For Christ brings new songs of life
To all who call on his name!

Sing to the Lord.
Sing to the Lord a marvelous song,
A wonderful, glorious, jubilant song!

+ DOXOLOGY OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heav’nly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

(During the 11:15 a.m. service, K4 and K5 children may leave for Children’s Church. Parents should come for them in the Education Building, Room 103.)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON John 3:22-36
(Pew Bible page 888, Children’s Bible page 1146)

SERMON: Of the Father’s Love Begotten Dr. Neil C. Stewart

“Surviving the ‘Shrinks’”

PRAYER FOR BLESSING ON THE WORD OF GOD

+ HYMN 263: Lift High the Cross (stanzas 1,3, and 5) CRUCIFER

+ BENEDICTION

+ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: HIGHLAND CATHEDRAL

Search me, O God, search me and know my heart,
Try me, O God, my mind and spirit try,
Keep me from any path that gives thee pain,
And lead me in the everlasting way.

POSTLUDE: Fantasia in G Minor J. S. Bach

Sermon Notes

“Surviving the ‘Shrinks’”

John 3:22-36 | Dr. Neil C. Stewart

Worship at First

- ☞ Thank you for turning off cell phones during the worship service.
- ☞ The Sanctuary is equipped with a hearing assistance system. Please ask deacons for a receiver.
- ☞ Nurseries for children to the age of four are provided in the Education Building.
- ☞ A quiet room with a live video feed of the service is available in the Education Building, Room 113. There, mothers may attend to the needs of their children.

Announcements

Maundy Thursday

Thursday, March 28

6:00 p.m.

“Agony in the Garden”

Rev. David Henderson

Good Friday

Friday, March 29

12:15 p.m.

“Enduring the Cross”

Mr. Mark Capper

Hymn Sing begins at 12:00 p.m.

We will have our regular worship service schedule on Easter Sunday, March 31. Please join us for morning worship at 8:30 a.m. or 11:15 a.m., and Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. We will also have our evening worship service at 6:00 p.m., but we will not have dinner following the evening service.

For more information on upcoming events,
please visit the church website.

Pastoral Staff

DR. NEIL C. STEWART, SENIOR MINISTER

Rev. Bryan Bult, Associate Minister to Seniors

Rev. David Henderson, Associate Minister of Discipleship

Rev. Sean Henderson, Associate Minister of Missions

Rev. David Lauten, Senior Associate Minister of Congregational Care

Rev. Josh Squires, Associate Minister of Counseling

Office (803) 799-9062

www.firstprescolumbia.org

info@firstprescolumbia.org

Evening Worship

6:00 p.m.

“Where is God When You Need Him?”

Psalm 10 | Dr. Neil C. Stewart

The palms in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Tucker and Nell Laffitte by their family.

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in celebration of the marriage of Kevin Harbula and Britt Harris.



First Presbyterian Church Columbia, South Carolina

Palm Sunday, March 24, 2024 ~ 8:30 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.

DIVINE WORSHIP

8:30 A.M. AND 11:15 A.M.

Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped...

(Philippians 2:5–6, ESV)

VOLUNTARY: *Trumpet Tune in D Major*

David N. Johnson

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT: *Sing, O Sing*

Carolee Curtright

**Sing, O sing this happy song,
for Jesus Christ is risen.**

**Sing, O sing this happy song, He's risen: Alleluia.
Alleluia now we sing, Alleluia to our King.**

Sing, O sing this happy song, He's risen: Alleluia.

**Sing, O sing with joyful voice,
for Jesus Christ is risen.**

**Come, O waking earth, rejoice. He's risen: Alleluia.
Alleluia now we sing, Alleluia to our King.**

Come, O waking earth, rejoice. He's risen: Alleluia.

Let the bells on Easter ring, for Jesus Christ is risen.

**Praise his name for he is King. He's risen: Alleluia.
Alleluia now we sing, Alleluia to our King.
Praise his name for he is King. He's risen: Alleluia.
Sing Alleluia, Sing Alleluia, Sing Alleluia.**

CALL TO WORSHIP

HYMN: *All Glory, Laud, and Honor*

**All glory, laud, and honor
to thee, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children
made sweet hosannas ring!
Thou art the King of Israel,
thou David's royal Son,
who in the Lord's name comest,
the King and blessed One!**

**The people of the Hebrews
with palms before thee went;
our praise and prayer and anthems
before thee we present:
To thee, before your passion,
they sang their hymns of praise;
to thee, now high exalted,
our melody we raise.**

**Thou didst accept their praises;
accept the prayers we bring,**

**who in all good delightest,
thou good and gracious King!
All glory, laud, and honor
to thee, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children
made sweet hosannas ring!**

INVOCATION AND LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, which 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.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost; born of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate; was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven; and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the

holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to God the Father, glory be to God the Son, glory be to the Holy Spirit, binding all the church as one! As it was in the beginning as is now and e'er shall be, world without end! Amen.

CHILDREN'S SERMON: 8:30 A.M.

CHILDREN'S HYMN: 8:30 A.M. *Ride On, Ride On in Majesty*

**Ride on, ride on in majesty!
Hark! All the tribes hosanna cry;
O Savior meek, pursue your road
With palms and scattered garments strowed.**

**Ride on, ride on in majesty!
In lowly pomp ride on to die:
O Christ, your triumphs now begin
O'er captive death and conquered sin.**

CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord, there is too much of "Me" in my life. It self-controls me at every turn; it infects all my relationships. I see it most of all on the Lord's Day:

It belongs to you, but I live as if it belonged to me. Rather than calling the Sabbath a delight, I pursue too much my own pleasure, I speak too much my own words, and I go too much my own way. Father, have mercy upon me, and remember the day when, because of our sins, you gave Your Son no rest, and grant us rest this morning. For Jesus' sake. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

MORNING PRAYER

HYMN: *I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say*

**I heard the voice of Jesus say,
“Come unto me and rest;
lay down, O weary one, lay down
your head upon my breast.”
I came to Jesus as I was,
weary and worn and sad;
I found in him a resting place,
and he has made me glad.**

**I heard the voice of Jesus say,
“Behold, I freely give
the living water, thirsty one,
stoop down and drink, and live.”
I came to Jesus, and I drank
of that life-giving stream;**

**my thirst was quenched, my soul revived,
and now I live in him.**

**I heard the voice of Jesus say,
“I am this dark world’s Light;
look unto me, your morn shall rise,
and all your day be bright.”
I looked to Jesus and I found
in him my Star, my Sun;
and in that light of life I’ll walk,
till trav’ling days are done.**

OFFERTORY: *Marvelous Song* Tom Eggleston

**Sing to the Lord a marvelous song,
A wonderful, glorious, jubilant song!
Sing to the Lord a marvelous song,
A wonderful, glorious, jubilant song!**

**O sing to the Lord a new song,
For he has done marvelous things.
His right hand and holy arm
have won salvation for all!**

**When singers make music to the Lord,
His people proclaim his wondrous praise;
For Christ brings new songs of life
To all who call on his name!**

**Sing to the Lord.
Sing to the Lord a marvelous song,**

A wonderful, glorious, jubilant song!

DOXOLOGY:

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 3:22-36

22 After this Jesus and his disciples went into the Judean countryside, and he remained there with them and was baptizing. 23 John also was baptizing at Aenon near Salim, because water was plentiful there, and people were coming and being baptized 24 (for John had not yet been put in prison). 25 Now a discussion arose between some of John's disciples and a Jew over purification. 26 And they came to John and said to him, "Rabbi, he who was with you across the Jordan, to whom you bore witness—look, he is baptizing, and all are going to him." 27 John answered, "A person cannot receive even one thing unless it is given him from heaven. 28 You yourselves bear me witness, that I said, 'I am not the Christ, but I have been sent before him.' 29 The one who has the bride is the bridegroom. The friend of the bridegroom, who

stands and hears him, rejoices greatly at the bridegroom's voice. Therefore this joy of mine is now complete. 30 He must increase, but I must decrease.”

31 He who comes from above is above all. He who is of the earth belongs to the earth and speaks in an earthly way. He who comes from heaven is above all. 32 He bears witness to what he has seen and heard, yet no one receives his testimony. 33 Whoever receives his testimony sets his seal to this, that God is true. 34 For he whom God has sent utters the words of God, for he gives the Spirit without measure. 35 The Father loves the Son and has given all things into his hand. 36 Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him.

SERMON:

Dr. Neil Stewart

“Surviving the ‘Shrinks’”

PRAYER FOR BLESSING ON THE WORD OF GOD

HYMN: *Lift High the Cross*

*Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim,
Till all the world adore his sacred name.*

Come, brethren, follow where our Savior trod,

**Our King victorious, Christ, the Son of God.
*Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim,
Till all the world adore his sacred name.***

**O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
As thou hast promised, draw men unto thee.
*Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim,
Till all the world adore his sacred name.***

**For thy blest cross which doth for us atone,
Creation's praises rise before thy throne.
*Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim,
Till all the world adore his sacred name.***

BENEDICTION

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE:

**Search me, O God, search me and know my heart,
Try me, O God, my mind and spirit try,
Keep me from any path that gives thee pain,
And lead me in the everlasting way.**

POSTLUDE: *Fantasia in G Minor*

J. S. Bach