



March 24, 2024

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF TOPEKA

Loving God, loving neighbors, and living with purpose

785.233.9601

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March 24, 2024

Order of Worship

Palm Sunday

Where you see an asterisk (), please rise in body or spirit.*

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC (10:30) — “Sei gegrüßet, Jesu gütig” (“Hail to you, kind Jesus”)

— J. S. Bach (*Choral, Variations I and II*)

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WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE — “Sei gegrüßet, Jesu gütig” — J. S. Bach (*Variation V*)

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*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good.

People: **God's steadfast love endures forever!**

Leader: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

People: **Hosanna in the highest!**

*OPENING PRAYER

***OPENING HYMN #196 — “All Glory, Laud and Honor” (8:30 vv 1 and 4 only)**

WE CONFESS OUR SINS

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Mercy of Mercies, where you go we have often been afraid to follow. Sometimes the sorrows of our lives blind us to the pain in the lives of others. Even yours. When we are spent with sorrow, when our years are filled with sighing, when our souls waste away, when we can barely speak your name—we find it hard to trust your presence, though you have already made yourself humbled and broken, just like us. Help us place our trust in you, no matter the cost. Our times are in your hands. Give us the courage and the strength to stay by your side.

SILENT CONFESSION and KYRIE — #576

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy on us.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

We do not sing the Gloria during Lent.

***PASSING THE PEACE**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

WE PROCLAIM GOD’S WORD

CHILDREN’S MOMENT

MINISTRY OF MUSIC (10:30 only) — “Day to Sing Hosanna” — Pepper Choplin

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PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING — Mark 11:1-11 — pg. 47 in NT

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING — Philippians 2:5-11 — pg. 197 in NT

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE — “Wondrous”

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

***Apostles’ Creed** (p. 17 in *Glory to God*)

***HYMN #215 — “What Wondrous Love Is This ”** (10:30 only)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD’S PRAYER

OFFERING

Offertory (8:30) — “Wondrous Love” — Alice Parker

© 1970 Goshen College

(10:30) — “Ride On, King Jesus” — arr. Hall Johnson

© 1951 Carl Fischer Music

***Doxology — #607**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all people here below;
praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise triune God, whom we adore.**

***Prayer of Dedication**

WE DEPART IN JOY TO SERVE

***SENDING HYMN #223 — “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”**

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL BENEDICTION — “Christ Is the King” (excerpt) — Lloyd Pfautsch**

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POSTLUDE — (8:30) — “Sei gegrüset, Jesu gütig” — J. S. Bach (*Variation XI*)

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(10:30) — Sei gegrüset, Jesu gütig” — J. S. Bach (*Variations X and XI*)

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Chancel flowers provided by Debbie Gray in memory of her father, Martin Gray

Ministers: All the Members of the Congregation

Pastors:

The Rev. Sandra Stogsdill Nichols, *Pastor*

Patrick Yancey, *Commissioned Associate Pastor*

The Rev. Dr. Neil Weatherhogg, *Pastor Emeritus*

Liturgist: Julie Lady

Music Staff:

Dr. Kevin Kellim, *Director of Music*

Dr. Dina Pannabecker Evans, *Organist*

Dr. Cynthia Neufeld Smith, *Assistant Organist*

Norma Pettijohn, *Organist Emeritus*

Soloist: Sandra Willetts

Fellowship Hosts: Marilyn Meyer & Carol Sook

Audio/Video: Treven Broxterman, Will Hartner

Assistant to the Pastors: Treven Broxterman

Director of Maintenance: Mark Ingle

Family Ministries Coordinator: Herman Jones

Office Assistant: Patty Foster

Sunday Custodian: Steve Johnson

Childcare Attendants:

Becky Foster, Samantha Edwards,

Maresella Newton

Stephen Ministry Leaders:

John Dorsey, Jane Owen