



Good Friday Service of Remembrance

March 29, 2024 | 12PM

Opening Scripture Isaiah 52:13–53:12

Hymn “O Sacred Head, Now Wounded” (insert)

Opening Prayer (in unison)

Almighty God, we watch and wait close by the cross. Can this be our King? Have You forsaken Him? Draw near to us as we recall the sufferings of our beloved Master. Comfort us as we remember His painful death, and open our eyes that we may learn again of Your mighty purpose in Jesus Christ. Strengthen our faith and help us recognize Your saving grace in the Passion of Christ. Worthy is the Lamb that was slain, that we may have eternal life, and may live forever with Him who now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, One God, to Whom all glory is due. Amen.

THE GARDEN

Mark 14:32-42

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

Merciful God, You have called us to be an obedient people, but we do not follow Your will. In our weakness we have fallen asleep to our duty in watching out for the enemy, and in serving You and our neighbor. We are often silent when we should speak, and useless when we could be useful. We have strayed like lost sheep and are blind to our faults. Have mercy on us, O God, and create in us a clean heart and a right spirit, that we may delight in Your will, walk in Your ways, and live a holy, just, and humble life for the glory of Your holy name. We pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Pastor: Upon Him was the chastisement that made us whole
and with His stripes we are healed.

**People: By the Son, who was condemned, forsaken,
and hanged on the cross, we are forgiven.**

Extinguishing the First Candle: Confession of Sin

Hymn “There Is a Green Hill Far Away” (insert)

THE ARREST

Matthew 26:47-56
& Matthew 27:3-5

Judas Speaks

Extinguishing the Second Candle: Judas' Betrayal

THE TRIAL

Luke 22:31-34; 54-62

Peter Speaks

Extinguishing the Third Candle: Peter's Denial

Matthew 27:15-23

Barabbas Speaks

Extinguishing the Fourth Candle: Barabbas' Release

Mark 15:1-5

Pilate Speaks

& Matthew 27:24-26

Extinguishing the Fifth Candle: Pilate Washes His Hands

Matthew 27:27-31

A Soldier Speaks

Extinguishing the Sixth Candle: Jesus Mocked

THE CRUCIFIXION

Matthew 27:32-44

Extinguishing the Seventh Candle: The Nails

Ministry of Music

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

The Seven Last Words of Christ

Luke 23:47-56

Draping the Cross & Extinguishing the Light of the Christ Candle

Were You There When They Crucified My Lord?

WHEN THE SINGING IS COMPLETED, PLEASE DEPART IN SILENCE.

Today's service | Leading our service is Pastor Steven Grant. Participants include Pastor June Barrow, Carson Brown, Tom Bunt, Robert Cone, Kenneth Owens, Angela Suh and Susanna Taylor. Music is led by Associate Director of Sacred Arts Thom DeLessio, and vocalists Jeff Faux and Michele Pelletiere.

Join Us!

Resurrection Celebrations

We offer four live worship services and one livestream service on Easter weekend.

Saturday Evening | 5:30PM | Sanctuary

For those who wish to celebrate Easter on Saturday, we will feature the same Easter message as Sunday from Pastor Brad Rogers, with music led by Randy and Lori Thomas.

Easter Sunday | 7:30AM • 9AM • 11AM | Sanctuary 9AM | Livestream

We celebrate Christ's Resurrection with traditional worship, an Easter message from Pastor Brad Rogers, and special music from the Chancel Choir.

Note: First Stop and our adult Bible study (D.I.G.) class will not be offered.

Seating in CenterPoint will be available during the 9AM and 11AM services.

Children's Easter Celebrations | 9AM • 11AM | Our First Kids Children's

Ministry has a very special Easter program planned for children 6 months to first grade, and all are invited to participate! Kids, ask your parents to accompany you to the Children's Desk so you can join the fun—including Easter crafts and a journey through Holy Week. Older children are invited to stay with their parents in the service; activity bags are available at the Children's Desk, located in the lobby, near the entrance to the Family Ministries Center.

The Resurrection Cross | A beloved part of our Easter celebration at First Church is the Resurrection Cross that comes to life on the lawn just south of the porte cochère. Worshipers are invited to bring a fresh cut flower to place on the cross that morning, and witness its transformation into a beautiful tribute to our Risen Lord.



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OUR MISSION

To welcome and nurture our community,
help people grow as disciples of Christ,
and present a positive witness in today's world.

A BIBLICALLY-CENTERED CHURCH IN THE PRESBYTERIAN FELLOWSHIP