
A Message From Pastor Jay

SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:30 AM

Nursery and Sunday school at the 10:30am service

MASK WEARING IS NOW OPTIONAL AS WE FOLLOW THE LATEST CDC UPDATED GUIDELINES. REFRESHMENTS AND FINGER FOODS ARE BACK NOW AFTER WORSHIP IN PERKINS HALL

SUNDAY TOPIC:

Holy Week arrives Sunday! Palm/Passion Sunday combines the traditional palms that begin the service with a reading of the passion narrative. This developed from the realization that many would not be attending Holy Week services, thus going from the joy of the palms to the joy of Easter with no cross and death. The service will start with a palm waving procession with JJ and Ziggy leading the children. The sermon will consider Jesus' planned political protest as he rode into Jerusalem. Linda serves as liturgist. Dave and Brian sing a duet of "Ah, Holy Jesus."

Our past worship services are now on the website! Click on the "past worship services" link on the opening page of the website and you will find all the services back to January of 2020! Thanks to Jim for letting us use his YouTube channel for easy access.

ZOOM FAITH FORUM SATURDAY 10AM

Let us know if you want to be added to the Zoom invitation

ZOOM SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP HAS BEEN DISCONTINUED

[Watch Worship Services Here](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW! SPECIAL OFFERING: The UCC national headquarters has established a special fund to provide humanitarian aid to Ukraine. Those donating should write "Ukraine Relief" on their check memo line. Our Mission Outreach Committee will accept donations for a time period still TBD, and soon after deliver a check for the total amount given by the congregation to our Southwest Conference office.

SNACKS NEEDED FOR AFTER CHURCH FELLOWSHIP. IT WOULD HELP TO HAVE NON-PERISHABLE ITEMS TO SHARE AND KEEP FOR FUTURE SUNDAYS. PLEASE BRING THEM SUNDAY!

We need 'hosts' for our fellowship time after worship each Sunday. I will be putting a **sign-up list** in Perkins Hall for Sunday volunteers. This involves setting up the serving table with any treats provided by anyone in the congregation, including the hospitality team for that Sunday. Please provide anything to share as you feel called. As usual, *Tom Macy* will continue to set up coffee, water and juices as available.

WELCOMING/HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE

Patty Lantrip

CARING FOR CREATION

INTERFAITH SERVICE – EARTH CARE AMIDST CLIMATE CHANGE

THURSDAY, APRIL 28 AT 5PM – OUR SANCTUARY

The Prescott area Interfaith Climate Action Team (ICAT) invites you to come together to pray and praise the love of our Earth, the importance of the Environment, recognizing that Climate Change is happening and must be addressed locally and beyond. This is done in the spirit and unity of all faiths.

Where: First Congregational Church 216 E Gurley St (E

Gurley St at N Alarcon St) Prescott

When: Thursday April 28, 2022 5pm

Program: Several pastoral leaders representing different faith traditions will each give a brief message. The service will include Song and Prayer, Peace and Reflection. We humans do not live in a vacuum. Our planet is fragile. We need to honor and protect the Earth for a more just and sustainable future. For more information on Earth Day and Earth Week visit - <https://prescottearthday.org>

ACTION ALERT from the Interfaith Climate Action Team(ICAT) ICAT, affiliated with the Northern Arizona Climate Change Alliance, is a grassroots, non-partisan team, representing different faith traditions and communities in the Prescott area. Its purpose is to amplify the voice of the faith community and encourage proactive civic engagement on the climate crisis. ICAT pursues this mission through networking, sharing and education within the faith community of our region. We currently have 14 members, representing 8 different faith communities. This April 24 is Earth Care Sunday in the Quad Cities area. We encourage you to raise awareness within your faith community of the moral and spiritual response for care of the Earth in your worship services on that Sunday. It's all about stewardship of the Earth - its peoples, creatures and resources. We need to protect and restore the Earth for future generations NOW. We at ICAT are available with specific resources that your faith community may find useful. We invite you to learn more about the Interfaith Climate Action Team and consider appointing a representative to serve on ICAT. We stand ready to provide you more information on this important initiative. Let's use our faith traditions as a common bond to engage in this conversation and work. ICAT meets on the second Wednesday at 3:30 pm via ZOOM. For further assistance on Earth Care Sunday on April 24, please contact Mary Steenhoek at marysteeenhoek@gmail.com For additional information on joining the Interfaith Climate Team, please ccontact Patrick Grady at patrickgrady70@gmail.com

Musical Guests Sunday - Dave Foote & Brian Moore

Office Open by Appointment - Call Pastor Jay 928-899-9066

Outside groups are still not able to meet in the church as we come out of

APRIL MISSION NEWS

SPECIAL OFFERING: The UCC national headquarters has established a special fund to provide humanitarian aid to Ukraine. Those donating should write "Ukraine Relief" on their check memo line. Our Mission Outreach Committee will accept donations for a time period still TBD, and soon after deliver a check for the total amount given by the congregation to our Southwest Conference office.

MONTHLY FOCUS: Each month we highlight a different mission outreach project/program. For the month of April, our highlighted program is One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS).

One Great Hour of Sharing is one of four annual special mission offerings of the United Church of Christ. Donations support denominational programs of Health, Education, Agriculture, Disaster Relief, and Refugee Camp ministries. The theme for 2022 is Love Remains, based on 1 Corinthians 13.

In the theme scripture, the Apostle Paul helped newly converted Christians at Corinth embrace the virtue of love. Love is an active decision to think of others before self; to work on behalf of others; and to care for others with acts of kindness and advocacy. Paul taught that community is less about "me" and more about "us."

This ministry of compassion is a result of the love Paul called the church to, and the love we will continue to witness through your generosity and gifts given through the One Great Hour of Sharing offering. If you have the means to provide a donation, checks may be made payable to the church with the memo: OGHS.

As always, thank you for remembering that we are blessed to be a blessing (Genesis 12:2).

Mission Outreach Committee members are Gary & Patty Gard, Carolyn Christians, and Becky Bryant, chairperson. If you would like to serve with us, or have any other outreach matters to discuss, please contact Becky at (928) 910-2820 or beckybryant2255@gmail.com.

STUDY OPPORTUNITY

ZOOM FAITH FORUM

The new faith forum will allow a variety of faith issues to be explored. Call or email the church office to be added to the weekly Zoom invitation: 928-445-4555; fccprescott@gmail.com.

April 9 Yale Bible Study - Passover in the New Testament
April 16: Yale Bible Study - The Beginnings of Easter
April 23: Yale Bible Study – Resurrection in Luke’s Gospel
April 30: Yale Bible Study – Resurrection in 1 Corinthians 15

SUNDAY BULLETIN

PALM/PASSION SUNDAY

April 10, 2022

10:30 a.m.

**Those who are able may stand*

GATHERING TO WORSHIP GOD

Prelude: “Lift High the Cross” Brian Moore

Words of Welcome – Announcements - *Passing of the Peace

Call to Worship Linda Foote

Dear friends in Christ, during Lent we have been preparing by works of love and self-sacrifice for the celebration of our Lord’s death and resurrection. Today we come together to begin this solemn celebration in union with the Church throughout the world. Christ enters his own city to complete his work as our Savior, to suffer, to die, and to rise again. Let us go with him in faith and love, so that, united with him in his suffering, we may share his risen life.

Proclamation of the Entrance into Jerusalem: Luke 19:28-40 Linda Foote

A Time for Children of All Ages
(Children are welcome to go downstairs for Sunday school after the children’s time)

*Processional Hymn: “All Glory, Laud, and Honor” New Century Hymnal #216

Call to Confession Linda Foote

Jesus rode into Jerusalem not as a conquering king but in humility, the Servant King, ready to complete the task for which he had walked this world. Let us humbly confess our sins:

Prayer of Confession Linda Foote

Holy God, forgive us those times when we think too highly of ourselves, and remind us that you ask from us dedicated service to you and to our

neighbors, wherever and whoever they might be. Enable us to take off our cloaks of self-righteousness and lay them down at your feet. Forgive our sins of omission and commission; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Linda Foote

Hear the good news: "Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave...and became obedient to the point of death --even death on a cross." (Philippians 6,7a,8b) Through his obedience we are therefore freed from whatever enslaves us. **Thanks be to God!**

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Gospel Reading: Luke 23:26-56

Pastor Jay

Jesus, Remember Me, When You Come into Your Kingdom (2X)

Duet: "Ah, Holy Jesus"

David Foote & Brian Moore; Carole Sue Linson, piano

Meditation: "Palm Sunday: Planned Political Theater"

Pastor Jay

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE

Responsorial Psalm: "Psalm 22: My God, My God" by Marty Haugen

My God, my God, O why have you abandoned me?

Prayers of the People / The Lord's Prayer (use trespasses)

Pastor Jay

Offering of Ourselves and our Gifts

Pastor Jay

Offertory: "Chorale: Hark, A Voice Saith, All are Mortal" by Bach-Schreiner Brian Moore

Prayer of Dedication

Linda Foote

We cast these gifts before you, O God, as palms were cast before Jesus long ago. We lay them on your altar in praise, thanksgiving, and joy. Receive them back from our hands, that they may become a greater blessing in your hands. Amen.

*Hymn: "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"

New Century Hymnal #226

*Benediction

Pastor Jay

*Postlude: "Were You There" African-American Spiritual

Brian Moore

Income for the first quarter of 2022 is at \$44,471. This is 29% of the income budget. Expenses to-date are \$39,332. This is 25% of the expense budget. Income exceeds expenses by \$5,139.

Julie McCurdy, treasurer

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday Worship 10:30am
Nursery & Sunday School 10:30am

April 14 Maundy Thursday Service 5:30pm
We will gather in Perkins Hall for a simple meal at 5:30pm. We will sit around one large table and share the meal and Communion, and then move to the sanctuary for a brief Service of Tenebrae.

April 15 Good Friday Service Noon
We will gather in the sanctuary at noon for a meditative service of music and a reading of the seven last words of Jesus.

April 17 Easter Worship 10:30am

New Members Received on Easter Sunday.

Please let Pastor Jay know if you are interested in joining the church. If you cannot be here on Easter, another Sunday will be possible. What is involved in joining? As part of our extravagant welcome here, we have tried to remove barriers to joining as much as possible. There is no creed or statement of faith required. We value diversity of belief. There is an hour-long orientation to the church on YouTube that can be viewed. At the worship service on the day of joining, you will be asked to come up front, and Pastor Jay will introduce you to the congregation. You will be asked the following questions: Do you desire to follow in the way of Jesus and listen to his teachings? Will you be a faithful member of this congregation, supporting its ministry, and using your gifts and talents here as you have opportunity? A prayer for you and a “welcome” follows!

Here is information regarding membership in our bylaws:

ARTICLE V: MEMBERSHIP

This church welcomes into its fellowship any person who subscribes to the teachings of Jesus Christ. Membership is open to all without regard to age, race, gender, sexual orientation, ethnicity, gender identity, faith, marital status, and personal ability. Members may participate in any activity of this church and may serve in an elected or appointed position of leadership. Members have the right to vote at any Annual or Special Meeting.

Membership may be determined as follows: 1. By satisfactory and public profession of the Christian faith as evidenced by the covenant of this church with the United Church of Christ. 2. By the rite of Confirmation in this church. 3. By a letter of transfer from another Christian Church. Members covenant to participate fully in the life of the congregation by: 1. Attending worship, 2. Celebrating Communion, 3. Seeking to learn about and understand Holy Scripture and its implications for our lives as Christians, 4. Sharing time and talent dedicated to church work, 5. And supporting the financial and spiritual welfare of the membership and community to the best of their ability.

Full rights and privileges of membership are granted to those members wishing to retain membership with other Christian Churches. Members shall be granted, on request, a letter of transfer to another church. Church membership rolls will be updated periodically by members of the Cabinet. 3 We recognize as friends those who are active in the life of First Congregational Church, but who choose not to join as members. They share fully in the spiritual life of this church and may participate in all its programs and activities. Friends may serve with the Ministries, but are ineligible to serve on the Cabinet or be elected an Officer. Friends are also granted the privilege of voice without vote at any Annual or Special Meeting. The United Church of Christ (UCC) is a distinct and diverse community of Christians that come together as one church to join faith and action. With over 5,000 churches and nearly one million members across the U.S., the UCC serves God in the co-creation of a just and sustainable world. The UCC is a church of firsts, a church of extravagant welcome, and a church where "...they may all be one" (John 17:21).

The Church of Firsts

Since 1957, the United Church of Christ has been the [church of firsts](#), weaving God's message of hope and extravagant welcome with action for justice and peace. Together, we live out our faith in ways that effect change in our communities. The UCC's many "firsts" mean that we have inherited a tradition of acting upon the demands of our faith. When we read in Galatians: "There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus"—a demand is made upon us. And so we were the first historically white denomination to ordain an African-American, the first to ordain a woman, the first to ordain an openly gay man, and the first Christian church to affirm the right of same-gender couples to marry. We were in the forefront of the anti-slavery movement and the Civil Rights movement. Our response to the demands of our faith is woven into the history of our country.

SUPPORT THE CHURCH

Online – go to our website: www.fccprescott.org and look for the tab on the front page You can set up regular, ongoing giving or one-time giving.

Use your credit card and get some points!

Your bank may have free online bill pay. You find the tab on your online

account, fill in the details of the check as you would a regular check, and the bank will mail it for you! You can set up a one-time check or recurring scheduled check amount.

Make a check out to the church and mail it to: 216 East Gurley Street, Prescott, AZ 86301

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United
Church of
Christ

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