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## A Message From Pastor Jay

Palm Sunday is here!

We will consider Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem as a planned political protest against the empire of Rome (Matthew 21:1-11). The children will march around with palm fronds during the opening hymn. JJ & Ziggy will lead the way! Music will be provided by The Ringing Bells; David and Linda, Brian, Carole Sue; liturgy and scripture readings done by Linda, Ralph, and Mary Beth.

HOLY WEEK SERVICES  
MAUNDY THURSDAY 5:30PM PERKINS HALL  
GOOD FRIDAY - NOON - SANCTUARY  
RECORDED GOOD FRIDAY PLAY  
APRIL 2, 2021 (PAST WORSHIP SERVICES TAB ON WEBSITE)  
PLAY BY MICKI SHELTON

[Watch Worship Services Here](#)

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**NEW MEMBERS RECEIVED ON EASTER SUNDAY - APRIL 9. A NUMBER OF PEOPLE ARE ALREADY PLANNING TO JOIN ON EASTER - LET PASTOR JAY KNOW IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN BECOMING A MEMBER!**

Today, March 31st, 2023 is International Transgender Day of Visibility

The Rev. Dr. Ruth E. Shaver wrote:

You are loved just the way you are. You are not alone. Our faith teaches us that every person has a right to bodily, emotional, and spiritual autonomy, and we in the United Church of Christ will stand with you, sit with you, and weep with you as we work together to stop aggression and hateful actions in communities around

the country. Please know that there are many more people who support you and love you than there are people who fear or even say they hate you. Together, we will win because love is far more powerful than hate.

## PICTURE DIRECTORY OF CONGREGATION

**At church this Sunday, we will start taking photos for our directory - every Sunday after church in Perkins Hall from Easter through first Sunday in May**

### AED TRAINING APRIL 16 AT NOON

New Life CPR will be offering a CPR Adult/Child/Infant CPR with AED as well as choking for Adult/Child and Infant. We will discuss the NEW AED that you have on site and make sure everyone is comfortable on how to use this AED. You will have a great time. Come on and join us! Lesa West

#### American Heart Association Heartsaver CPR/AED Training Course

Please join us to become certified in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and the use of an automated external defibrillator (AED). The training will be led by New Life CPR. This is useful training for all and especially since the church now has an AED on site, it would be great to have trained users in the congregation. The Heartsaver CPR AED course trains participants to give CPR, and use an AED in a safe, timely, and effective manner. Reflects science and education from the American Heart Association Guidelines Update for CPR and Emergency Cardiovascular Care (ECC).

The training will be held in Perkins Hall after the church service on Sunday, April 16th and it should last approximately 2.5 hours. The church will cover the cost of the training and also provide pizza to trainees.

If you are interested, RSVP to Morgan Greenwald as soon as you are able at [Morgan.Greenwald@gmail.com](mailto:Morgan.Greenwald@gmail.com) or 570-660-2227. The RSVP will help us to get a headcount prior to the training. Thanks for your interest!

### FACEBOOK UPDATE

"We have a new Facebook group, First Congregational Church Prescott FCC - which you can join. We will be posting events, and meetup information for the community, as well as exploring ways to bring back our outreach partners; the LGBTQ community youth, AA, etc. and other groups who have used the church pre-Covid for meeting spaces. Please join the group, and join in the discussion! If you have any questions, you can email Brit and Mike Flores at [bafwriter@gmail.com](mailto:bafwriter@gmail.com), our current group admins. All event questions and suggestions should be directed to the church email at [FCCprescott@gmail.com](mailto:FCCprescott@gmail.com).

**SATURDAY, APRIL 2, 10AM - ZOOM FAITH FORUM**



HOLY WEEK IN THE LIFE OF JESUS  
EMAIL THE CHURCH OFFICE TO BE ADDED TO THE ZOOM INVITE  
FCCPRESCOTT@GMAIL.COM

**RELAY FOR LIFE JUNE 2 (CANCER AWARENESS)**

THE 29th RELAY FOR LIFE of the Quad Cities is scheduled June 2nd 2023.

Anyone interested in creating a team representing FCC can contact the church email at  
FCCprescott@gmail.com

**KNIT WITS THURSDAY, APRIL 27, AT 1PM CHURCH OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM**  
**PASS MEAL WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, AT 5PM**

**CHURCH CALENDAR**

APRIL 2- TEACHING SEDER WITH RABBI SUSAN – PERKINS HALL 1:30PM  
APRIL 6 - MAUNDY THURSDAY – 5:30PM  
APRIL 7 - GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE - NOON  
APRIL 9 - EASTER SUNDAY – NEW MEMBERS RECEIVED  
APRIL 16 - HOLY HUMOR SUNDAY  
APRIL 16 - AED TRAINING - NOON  
APRIL 19 - PASS MEAL 5PM  
APRIL 26 - KNIT WITS AT THE CHURCH OFFICE - 1PM  
April 27 - EARTH DAY EVENT IN PERKINS HALL

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**PALM/PASSION SUNDAY**

April 2, 2023

10:30 a.m.

*\*Those who are able may stand*

**GATHERING TO WORSHIP GOD**

Prelude: “Hosanna Fanfare” arr. by Tammy Waldrop .

The Ringing Bells

Words of Welcome – Announcements - \*Passing of the Peace

Gather Song: “Jerusalem, My Destiny” by Rory Cooney

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 on earth, 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: Matthew 21:1-11

Linda Foote

A Time for Children of All Ages – JJ & Ziggy

(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: Matthew 27:11-54

Verses 11-26. Linda Foote

Verses 27-37 Ralph Mora

Verses 38-54 Mary Beth Martin

***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

Special Music: "O Sacred Head"

Linda Foote, Bells; Brian Moore, Organ

The Sacrament of Holy Communion – all are invited

Communion Music: "In the Garden" by C. Austin Miles

Brian Moore



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

Pastor Jay

Offering of Ourselves and our Gifts

Pastor Jay

Offertory: "Ani M'amin" Traditional Jewish Song

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: "Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross"

New Century Hymnal #197

\*Benediction

Pastor Jay

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

Brian Moore

## APRIL MISSION NEWS

**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. This Lenten Offering carries God's message of love and hope to people in crisis. The UCC works with international partners to provide sources of clean water, food, education and health care, small business micro-credit, advocacy and resettlement for refugees and displaced persons, and emergency relief and rehabilitation.

Through **One Great Hour of Sharing**, lives are literally changed daily.

If you wish to make a donation, checks may be made payable to the church with the memo: **OGHS**. Undesignated mission donations will be used at the discretion of the Mission Outreach team.

So far in 2023, our Mission Outreach ministry has delivered \$710 in contributions to Prescott Community Cupboard for January, \$594 to Prescott Area Shelter Services for February, and will shortly be sending collected March donations to Prescott Area Habitat for Humanity. We are deeply grateful to our congregation for providing the funds to so meaningfully assist these worthy organizations!

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

*Mission Outreach Committee members are 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](mailto:beckybryant2255@gmail.com).*

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## TREASURER REPORT

### A NOTE FROM THE TREASURER – JULIE MCCURDY FEBRUARY 2023

INCOME is \$30,592  
EXPENSES are \$35,472  
Net EXPENSE is \$4,880

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#### SPANISH CLASS ONGOING

Our church has been blessed with many new members this past year, including some who speak primarily Spanish. To underscore our commitment to welcoming people of every race, language, age, gender and gender identity, ethnicity, economic status, mental or physical ability, or sexual orientation, our congregation was inspired to offer weekly Spanish classes. We are blessed to have congregants with gifts of fluency in both English and Spanish and those who are educators. Through the partnership of those talents, our weekly Spanish classes have been very popular and well attended. They have truly strengthened our commitment to being “opening and affirming” and have brought joy and new friendships as well as the opportunity to learn to speak Spanish.



# SUPPORT THE CHURCH

Online – go to our website: [www.fccprescott.org](http://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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