

**VICES**

**&**

**virtues**

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

MARCH 24, 2024 | 11 AM



**FPC HOUSTON**

# GATHER TO WORSHIP

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## PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

As we are called into worship today,  
it is sobering to remember  
that when God appeared on earth in the person of Jesus,  
most of the world did not recognize him  
and therefore did not worship him.  
Today we ask for faith that will open our eyes  
to see Jesus for who he is,  
that we might worship him in truth.  
People of God, behold and see your God!  
We open our eyes to see his glory.  
We open our ears to hear his wisdom.  
We open our hands to offer him gifts.  
We open our mouths to sing his praise.  
We open our hearts to offer him our love.  
He is Lord!

## PRELUDE | Fanfare for Organ

Ronald Arnatt

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Emmanuel Paulpeter

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Emmanuel Paulpeter

King Jesus comes, King Jesus, Son of God, Son of Man, Messiah.

**Hail! King Jesus, King of all!**

Recall the words of the Scriptures:

“A great crowd who had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem.

So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying,

**‘Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!’”**

**In praise we adore you, King Jesus. Enter our hearts today**

**as you entered Jerusalem long ago, and lead us by faith in the way everlasting. Amen.**

### Please stand

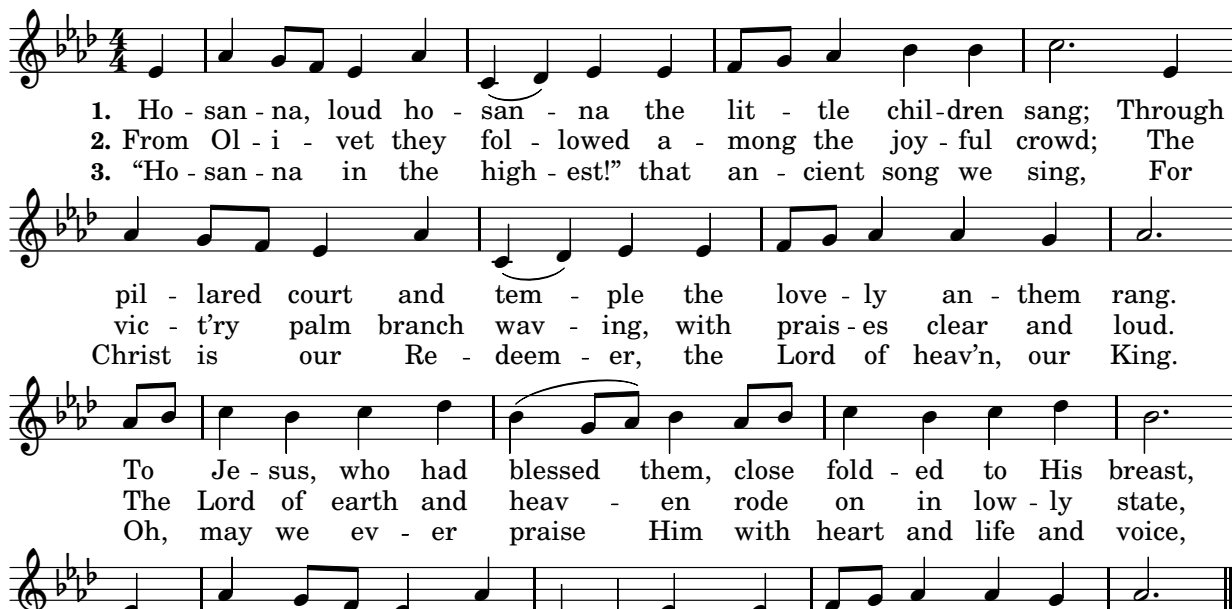
God initiated worship  
before time began,  
through his own  
perfect eternal glory.

As Christians, we  
respond to God's  
action toward us.

With intention of  
purpose, we lift our  
voices to declare why  
we are here.



PROCESSIONAL HYMNS | *Hosanna, Loud Hosanna*



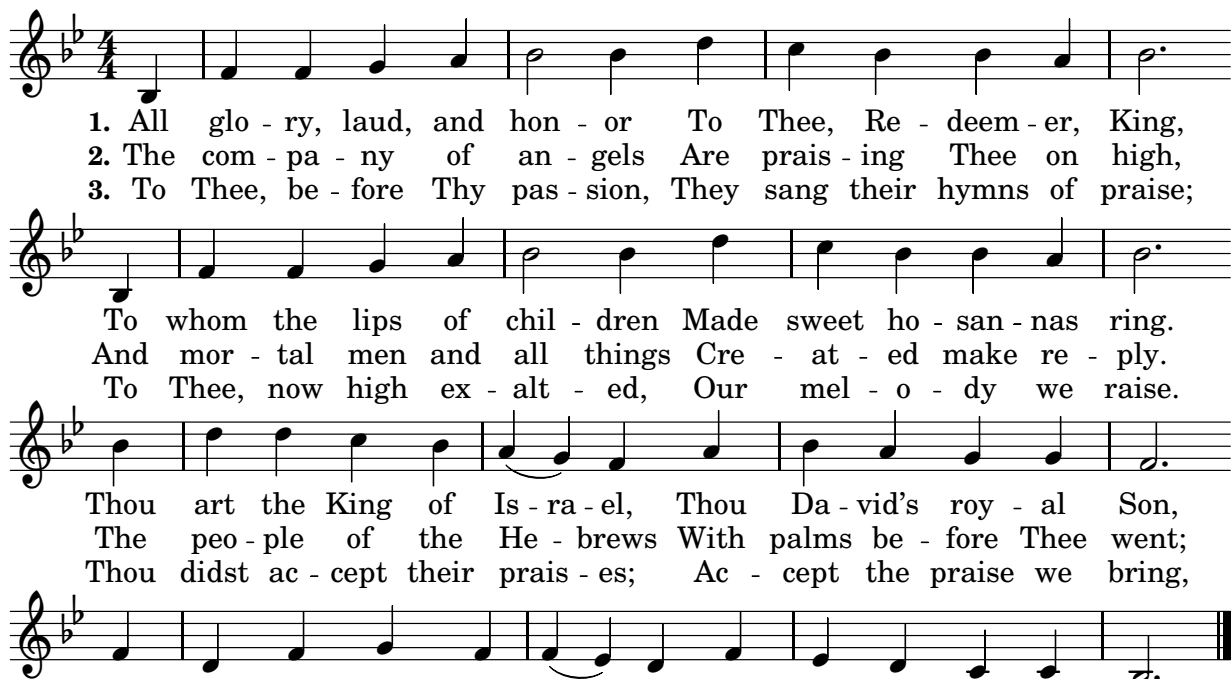
1. Ho - san - na, loud ho - san - na the lit - tle chil - dren sang; Through  
 2. From Ol - i - vet they fol - lowed a - mong the joy - ful crowd; The  
 3. "Ho - san - na in the high - est!" that an - cient song we sing, For

pil - lared court and tem - ple the love - ly an - them rang.  
 vic - t'ry palm branch wav - ing, with prais - es clear and loud.  
 Christ is our Re - deem - er, the Lord of heav'n, our King.

To Je - sus, who had blessed them, close fold - ed to His breast,  
 The Lord of earth and heav - en rode on in low - ly state,  
 Oh, may we ev - er praise Him with heart and life and voice,

The chil - dren sang their prais - es, the sim - plest and the best.  
 Nor scorned that lit - tle chil - dren should on His bid - ding wait.  
 And in His bliss - ful pres - ence e - ter - nal - ly re - joice!

*All Glory Laud and Honor*



1. All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or To Thee, Re - deem - er, King,  
 2. The com - pa - ny of an - gels Are prais - ing Thee on high,  
 3. To Thee, be - fore Thy pas - sion, They sang their hymns of praise;

To whom the lips of chil - dren Made sweet ho - san - nas ring.  
 And mor - tal men and all things Cre - at - ed make re - ply.  
 To Thee, now high ex - alt - ed, Our mel - o - dy we raise.

Thou art the King of Is - ra - el, Thou Da - vid's roy - al Son,  
 The peo - ple of the He - brews With palms be - fore Thee went;  
 Thou didst ac - cept their prais - es; Ac - cept the praise we bring,

Who in the Lord's name com - est, The King and Bless - ed One.  
 Our praise and prayer and an - thems Be - fore Thee we pre - sent.  
 Who in all good de - light - est, Thou good and gra - cious King.

Please be seated

## CHILDREN'S ANTHEM | *Lo, He Comes*

John D. Horman

*Children's Choirs, Cynthia Blackwell, Director*

Lo, he comes! Sing we "Hosanna!" Lo, he comes, let us sing to the Lord!

Enter his gates with shouts of thanksgiving, into his courts with songs of praise.

Come let us march in glad procession. Loud hosannas now we raise. Lo, he comes!

Open your heart and welcome the Savior. Join with the song that has no end.

This is the day for which we have waited; the coming of our Lord is surely at hand. Lo, he comes!

### PRAYER OF PRAISE

Jim D'Agostino, Elder

God of all, **you gave your only Son to take the form of a servant and to be obedient even to death on a cross. Give us the same mind of Christ Jesus so that, sharing in his humility, we may come to be with him in his glory, our Lord who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. At your glorious name, every knee will bow, and every tongue will confess that you are Lord. We bow before you now our gracious servant King. AMEN.**

based on

Philippians 2:5–11

### ANTHEM | *At the Name of Jesus*

Cindy Berry

Jesus, though he was God, did not cling to his rights as God,

But laid aside his mighty power, his mighty power and glory,

Taking the form of a servant, and becoming a man.

He humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even death on the cross.

At the name of Jesus, every knee shall bow in heaven and in earth.

That every knee shall bow and every tongue shall confess that Jesus Christ is Lord!

At the name of Jesus!

Phil. 2:6–11, adapted

### CALL TO CONFESSION

Jim D'Agostino

Like the people who greeted Jesus as he entered Jerusalem and then later pronounced "Crucify him," we are fickle people who often deny Christ in our thoughts, words, and deeds.

Remembering the events of Jesus' last week helps us see ourselves for what we are:

sinner in need of a Savior, a Savior—praise God—that we have in Christ.

In honesty and hope, we confess our sins to God, beginning with a moment for silent reflection.

*Please take a moment for silent reflection*

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving God, you rode a donkey and came in peace, humbled yourself and gave yourself for us.

**We confess our lack of humility.**

As you entered Jerusalem, the crowds shouted "Hosanna: 'Save us now!'"

On Good Friday they shouted "Crucify!"

**We confess our praise is often empty. We sing "Hosanna," but cry "Crucify."**

As the crowd laid their palms in front of you, you took no glory for yourself.

**We confess that we want to be accepted and take the easy way. We do not stay true to your will. Forgive us, Lord, and help us to follow in the way of obedience. Amen.**

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the Word of the Lord from Psalm 118:

**Let those who fear the Lord say, "His steadfast love endures for ever."**

Out of my distress I called on the Lord; the Lord answered me and set me free.

**The Lord is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation.**

**I shall not die, but I shall live, and recount the deeds of the Lord.**

In Christ, God answers us and sets us free!

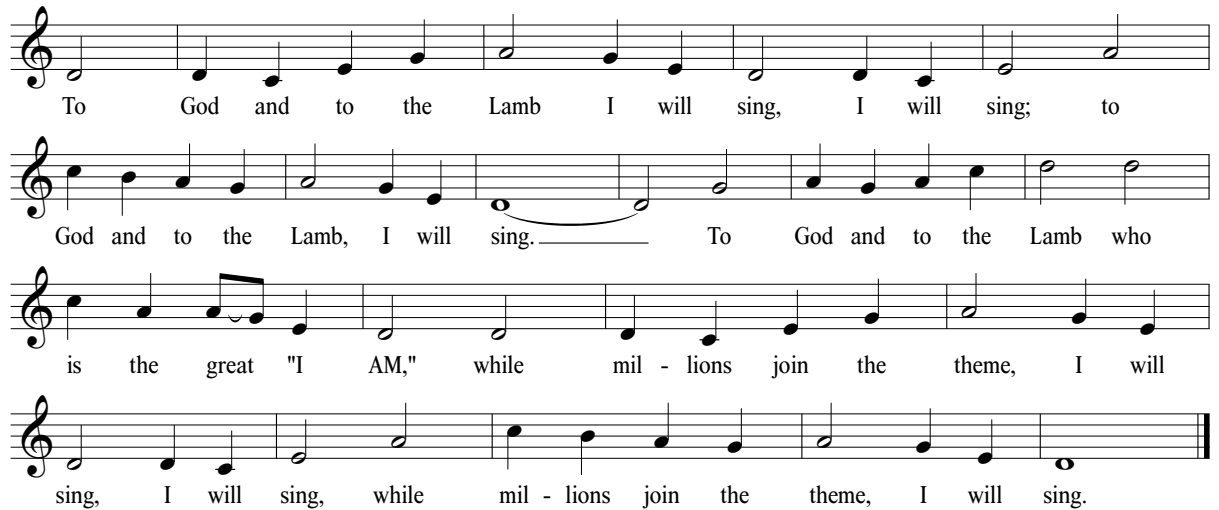
**In Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God.**

based on Psalm 118:4–5,  
14, 17, NRSV



Please stand

## LENTEN RESPONSE | #85 vs. 2 *What Wondrous Love*



To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; to  
God and to the Lamb, I will sing. To God and to the Lamb who  
is the great "I AM," while mil - lions join the theme, I will  
sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing.

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH | Apostles' Creed

Jim D'Agostino

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.

## PASSING OF THE PEACE

Jim D'Agostino

Leader: Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

People: And also with you.

Please be seated

Matthew 6:9-13

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Emmanuel Paulpeter

Our Father, who 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.

## CALL TO OFFERING

Emmanuel Paulpeter

## OFFERTORY | *The Holy City*

Stephen Adams

*Roberto Reyna, Baritone*

Last night I lay sleeping, there came a dream so fair,

I stood in old Jerusalem, beside the temple there.

I heard the children singing, and ever as they sang,

Me thought the voice of angels from heaven in answer rang,

Jerusalem, Jerusalem, lift up your gates and sing

Hosanna in the highest, hosanna to your King!

And then me thought my dream was changed, the streets no longer rang,

Hushed were the glad Hosannas the little children sang.

The sun grew dark with mystery, the morn was cold and chill.

And shadow of a cross arose upon a lonely hill.  
And once again the scene was changed, new earth there seemed to be  
I saw the holy city beside the tideless sea;  
The light of God was on its streets, the gates were open wide,  
And all who would might enter, and no one was denied.  
No need of moon or stars by night, or sun to shine by day,  
It was the new Jerusalem that would not pass away.

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

SCRIPTURE READING | Luke 18:9-14

Jim D'Agostino

MESSAGE | Pride & Humility (Mark 11:1-11)

Curtis A. Bronzan

FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

HYMN ANTHEM | Tree of Life

K. Lee Scott

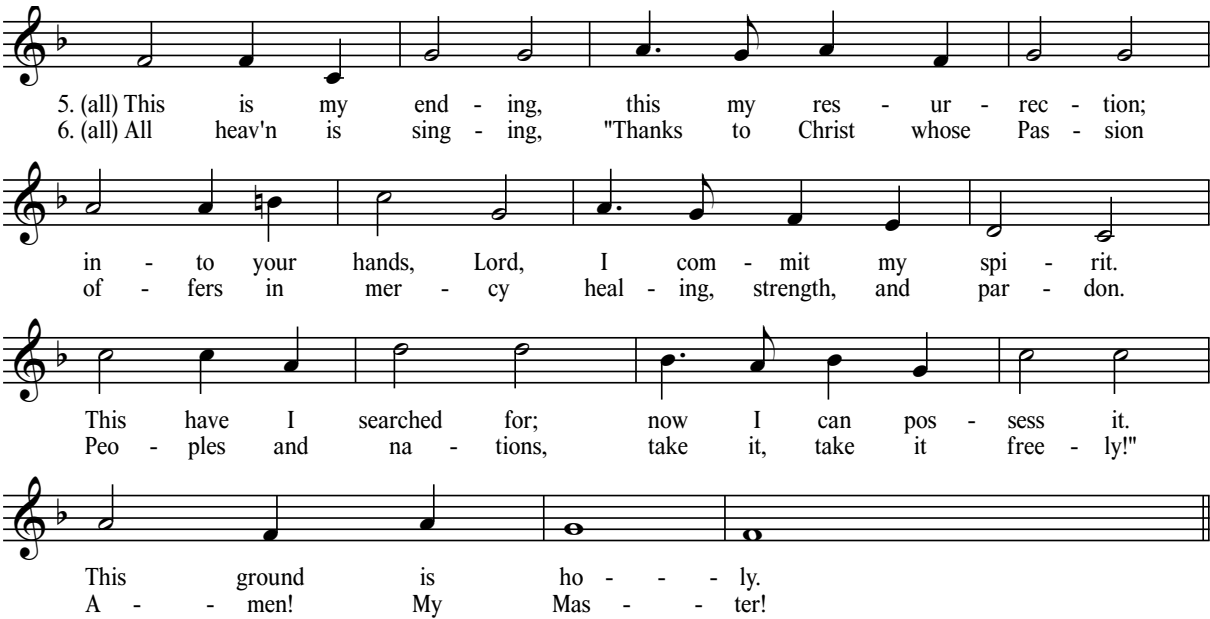
There in God's garden stands the Tree of Wisdom, whose leaves hold forth the healing of the nations;  
Tree of all knowledge, tree of all compassion, Tree of all beauty.

Its Name is Jesus, name that says, "Our Savior!" There on its branches see the scars of suffering;  
See where the tendrils of our human selfhood feed on its lifeblood.

Thorns not his own are tangled in its foliage; our greed has starved it, our despite has choked it.  
Yet, look! It lives! Its grief has not destroyed it nor fire consumed it.

See how its branches reach to us in welcome; hear what the Voice says, "Come to me, ye weary!  
Give me your sickness, give me all your sorrow, I will give blessing."

Please stand  
when directed,  
at the interlude

Musical notation for the hymn 'Tree of Life'. It consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff has two lines of lyrics: '5. (all) This is my end - ing, this my to res - ur - rec - tion;' and '6. (all) All heav'n is sing - ing, "Thanks to Christ whose Pas - sion'. The second staff has two lines: 'in - to your hands, Lord, I com - mit my spi - rit.' and 'of - fers in mer - cy heal - ing, strength, and par - don.'. The third staff has two lines: 'This have I searched for; now I can pos - sess it.' and 'Peo - ples and na - tions, take it, take it free - ly!'. The fourth staff has two lines: 'This ground is ho - - - ly.' and 'A - - - men! My Mas - - - ter!'. The music is written in a simple, accessible style with a mix of quarter, eighth, and half notes.

BENEDICTION

Curtis A. Bronzan

POSTLUDE | Final from 15 Versets, Op. 18

Marcel Dupré

## FLOWERS

The flowers are placed in the Sanctuary today to the glory of God and in loving memory of our parents, Nelda and Bob Moffatt and Marge and Louie Davis, by Ann and Ron Davis and family.

## CARING MINISTRY UPDATES

Our prayers and sympathies go out to the following individuals:

Daniel and Lyndsey Knight for the loss of Daniel's stepfather, **R. Wayne Kistler**, on Wednesday, March 6, 2024. Condolences to Daniel's mother, Brenda Kistler, his sister Amanda (Bill) Pritchett as well as Mr. Kistler's grandchildren Gwendolyn and Coleman Knight and Billy Pritchett.

Carolyn Elledge for the loss of her husband, **George Elledge**, on Thursday, March 7, 2024.

Family of **Charles Stuart "Sonny" Wallace, Jr.**, who passed away on Thursday, March 7, 2024.

Judy Stipp for the loss of her husband, **Louis Stipp**, on Saturday, March 9, 2024.

## MUSICIANS

Chancel Choir, Dan Wagner (conductor & Director of Worship), Jeong-Suk Bae (organ & accompanist), Children's Choir (Cynthia Blackwell, Director & pianist), Erin Tucker (conductor), and Roberto Reyna (soloist).

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## PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Curtis A. Bronzan, Senior Pastor  
Rev. Dr. Jon Crantz, Pastor of Community Life  
Rev. Emmanuel Paulpeter, Pastor of Outreach



# Holy Week + Easter @ FPC

## Maundy Thursday | Mar 28

7 PM | Sanctuary

## Good Friday | Mar 29

7 PM | Sanctuary

## Easter Sunday | Mar 31

Traditional | 8 & 11 AM | Sanctuary  
Contemporary | 9:30 AM | Grand Hall

Family Celebration  
beginning at 10:30 AM.

[fpchouston.org/lent](https://fpchouston.org/lent)

Have you considered inviting a friend to Easter worship? Here's a quick text message to help you reach out. "Have you made plans for Easter? Our church is having three services and there will be something for everyone. I/we would love to have you join us!" or download a digital invite from our Easter page.

## Project Flourish Community Learning Series

Thur | Mar 28 | 11:30 AM–1 PM | Living Room

Ready to connect with like-minded redemptive entrepreneurs and gain valuable business skills? Join Project Flourish's new monthly Community Learning Series and do both. Plus, lunch is on us! March topic: "Building Your Team: Best Practices for Recruiting and Hiring." For information and registration, visit [projectflourish.org](https://projectflourish.org).

## Alpha

Thursdays | Begins Apr 11 | 7 PM | LC 080

Do you or someone you know have questions about faith, life, and God, or would you like to volunteer to help explore these topics with those who do? Alpha is a listening community designed to help participants explore their questions. Visit [fpchouston.org/alpha](https://fpchouston.org/alpha) to register. Flyers are available outside the worship service.

## Elder & ENC Nominations

Deadline to Submit Recommendations is April 15

Our Nominating Committees are looking for candidates to serve as future Elders or on our next Elder Nominating Committee (ENC), and they need your help. If you know a Covenant Partner who loves Christ, has a strong faith, and demonstrates a willingness to serve, consider nominating them for one of these roles. For more information or to submit a nomination, visit [fpchouston.org/enc](https://fpchouston.org/enc).

## Neighborhood Connect

Begins in April | Various Times & Locations

Designed to make the BIG church feel smaller, these events allow you to meet and fellowship with others in the FPC Community at a location near you. For dates and your neighborhood's event location, visit [fpchouston.org/neighbors](https://fpchouston.org/neighbors).

## Explore

Learn what it means to become a member of FPC. Register for the **MAY 4** Explore FPC class at [fpchouston.org/explorefpc](https://fpchouston.org/explorefpc).

## Connect

Let us know you're here! Scan the QR code or text CONNECT to 90859.



## Give

Your generosity helps impact the people, places, and ministries we serve.

