

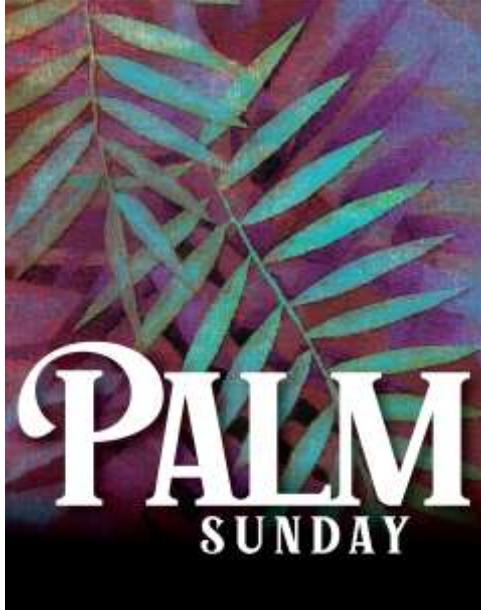
**First Presbyterian Church
Delhi, New York**

March 29, 2026

10:30 a.m.

Palm Sunday

"It is your responsibility!" Pilate's words from Matthew 27:54



GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Prelude

Welcome and Church Life Notes

Introit

"Filled With Excitement"

***Call to Worship (Psalm 31:13-16)**

Leader: For I hear many whispering, "Terror on every side!" They conspire against me and plot to take my life.

People: But I trust in you, Lord; I say, "You are my God."

Leader: My times are in your hands; deliver me from the hands of my enemies, from those who pursue me.

Unison: Let your face shine on your servant; save me in your unfailing love.

***Hymn**

"Lord, the Light of Your Love Is Shining"

#192

Prayer of Confession

Heavenly Father, how painful it must have been for You to watch the events of this week. Your son enters Jerusalem with no harmful intent, only healing and a restoration of Your ways to Your people in his heart. Yet his very triumph triggered these dreadful, dark events that ended in Glory. A stirring story, a marvelous truth, a painful moment. Help us to learn from the history of our own people what we must do in our time to stand with You. In Christ's Name, Amen.

(A moment for silent personal prayer of confession)

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Sisters and brothers, we are so fortunate that the Bible wrote down all the different ways people failed to follow God, because we also get to see how deep God's forgiveness and love are through those people. The same forgiveness and love are offered to us through Jesus Christ.

People: Thanks be to God. Amen.

***Choral Response**

"Gloria Patri"

#581

***Sharing the Peace**

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Anthem

"The Palms"

by Faure

Prayer for Illumination

It was hard for You to endure this time of triumph and failure. Be with us as we hear again uncomfortable truth. Open our hearts to Your call to us in our day. Show us how You want us to stand beside the right, encourage those who truly are oppressed, and lift up freedom that triumphs over everything. Then give us the courage by that same Spirit that gives us sight, the courage to live the light each day. In Christ's Name, Amen.

Gospel Reading – Matthew 27:11-24

Meanwhile Jesus stood before the governor, and the governor asked him, "Are you the king of the Jews?" "You have said so," Jesus replied. When he was accused by the chief priests and the elders, he gave no answer. Then Pilate asked him, "Don't you hear the testimony they are bringing against you?" But Jesus made no reply, not even to a single charge—to the great amazement of the governor. Now it was the governor's custom at the festival to release a prisoner chosen by the crowd. At that time they had a well-known prisoner whose name was Jesus Barabbas. So when the crowd had gathered, Pilate asked them, "Which one do you want me to release to you: Jesus Barabbas, or Jesus who is called the Messiah?" For he knew it was out of self-interest that they had handed Jesus over to him. While Pilate was sitting on the judge's seat, his wife sent him this message: "Don't have anything to do with that innocent man, for I have suffered a great deal today in a dream because of him." But the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowd to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus executed. "Which of the two do you want me to release to you?" asked the governor. "Barabbas," they answered. "What shall I do, then, with Jesus who is called the Messiah?" Pilate asked. They all answered, "Crucify him!" "Why? What crime has he committed?" asked Pilate. But they shouted all the louder, "Crucify him!" When Pilate saw that he was getting nowhere, but that instead an uproar was starting, he took water and washed his hands in front of the crowd. "I am innocent of this man's blood," he said. "It is your responsibility!"

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

***Hymn** *"Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"* **#197**

Message Reading – Matthew 27:25-44

All the people answered, "His blood is on us and on our children!" Then he released Barabbas to them. But he had Jesus flogged, and handed him over to be crucified. Then the governor's soldiers took Jesus into the Praetorium and gathered the whole company of soldiers around him. They stripped him and put a scarlet robe

on him, and then twisted together a crown of thorns and set it on his head. They put a staff in his right hand. Then they knelt in front of him and mocked him. "Hail, king of the Jews!" they said. They spit on him, and took the staff and struck him on the head again and again. After they had mocked him, they took off the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him. As they were going out, they met a man from Cyrene, named Simon, and they forced him to carry the cross. They came to a place called Golgotha (which means "the place of the skull"). There they offered Jesus wine to drink, mixed with gall; but after tasting it, he refused to drink it. When they had crucified him, they divided up his clothes by casting lots. And sitting down, they kept watch over him there. Above his head they placed the written charge against him: this is Jesus, the king of the Jews. Two rebels were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by hurled insults at him, shaking their heads and saying, "You who are going to destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! Come down from the cross, if you are the Son of God!" In the same way the chief priests, the teachers of the law and the elders mocked him. "He saved others," they said, "but he can't save himself! He's the king of Israel! Let him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in him. He trusts in God. Let God rescue him now if he wants him, for he said, 'I am the Son of God.'" In the same way the rebels who were crucified with him also heaped insults on him.

Leader: God's Word for Today.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon *"Do You Believe Pilate?"* Pastor Jamie Tyrrell

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Presentation of Gifts and Offerings

Call to the Offering

Offertory

***Choral Response** *"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"* **#606**

***Prayer of Dedication**

Lord of All, You were with us through the entire Holy Week story. You never left. Take us and our gifts and do something glorious with us. In Christ's Name. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

... "forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors"

***Closing Hymn** *"All Glory, Laud, and Honor"* **#196**

*Benediction

Postlude

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*You may stand

Thought for the Day: “One of the scariest questions in the Palm Sunday story.... How will I respond when Jesus comes riding humbly into my life? Will I recognize the time of God’s coming to me?” —Marty Boiler

Leading us in worship this morning:

Pastor Jamie Tyrrell, Interim
Billy Meredith, Music Director
Elder Linda Malcolm, Liturgist

The Delhi Clergy Association has decided to offer 10 **grants to community members** that have a need for **assistance with a medical or energy bill**. These grants will be up to \$500, and proof of the bill will be required for the money to be granted and will be paid to the company or organization the bill is from. Funds will be reviewed and granted on a first-come-first-served basis until the 10 grants have been given out. The applicant does not need to be a member of one of our churches but must live in Delhi or the surrounding area. For information or an application, see Pastor Jamie or Darcy.

Let’s go to Christian Camp! Christian summer camps are a place for children and the adults who love them, for faith-building, character-forming, life-changing adventures that we all need to equip us for a lifetime and the years ahead. There are countless activities at camp to choose from: swimming, sailing, canoeing, hiking, and crafts, as well as specialized camps for fishing, horseback riding, STEM (science, technology, engineering and math), high-peaks backpacking and ballet camp, among others. Our Church will cover most of the expenses. There are brochures in the office and education committee members to talk to: Tammy Tully, Kathy Beveridge, Nancy Lee, Linda Malcolm, Anna Newbold, Kathy Sullivan and Bessie Tyrrell.



First Presbyterian Church of Delhi, New York March 29, 2026

Welcome! It was the children on Palm Sunday who cheered the loudest. They loved him simply because they knew how much he loved them. If by chance your faith has lost its childlike simplicity, we hope that this hour of worship will restore it to you. And we offer our friendship to help in the restoration.

(Prayer) Hosanna in the highest! Lord Jesus, as we remember your triumphal entry, prepare our hearts to welcome you with joy and humility. Clear away our distractions so we may follow you in both triumph and trial. May our worship today honor you, our gracious King. Amen.

Your **tithes and offerings** may be made online via PayPal, click the donate button at <https://fpcdelhi.org/offering>, or by regular mail (4 Clinton Street, Delhi, NY 13753).

Andes Presbyterian Church has invited us to attend their **Maundy Thursday service** at 7pm on Thurs, Apr 2. All are welcome!

Pastor Jamie will be starting his **virtual Lectio Divina Bible Study** on Sunday, April 12 at 7pm, to occur weekly. Also, if there is enough interest, we will have an **in-person Lectio Divina Study** in the Library on Tuesdays at 1pm starting April 7. If you are interested in either version of the study, please speak with Darcy or Pastor Jamie.

Books for the Bible Study are in! See Kathy Beveridge after the service, or stop in the office during office hours to pick up your copy.

The **Mission committee emphasis** for the month of March is One Great Hour of Sharing. If you would like to contribute toward this mission, just use the mission envelopes or write “OGHS” on the memo line of your check. Thanks for your continued support.

Our **April mission** is Care Kits through Church World Service. If you wish to contribute to this mission, see the March-April Courier for a list of needed items, or check with Betty Bell.

The fourth Sunday of every month is a **BOUNTIFUL GIVING SUNDAY**. The Delhi Food Pantry accepts non-perishable food items. You can also donate via <https://fpcdelhi.org/content/offering> or give cash or check donations designated for the food bank. Please make checks out to First Presbyterian Church.

The **TRUSTEES** responsible for counting today are Alex Cantwell and Tom Little. The Trustees responsible for counting on April 5 are Art Maxwell and Ed Chytalo.

Devotional booklets (Upper Room and Daily Bread) are available outside the office and in the new narthex. Please take one for your daily devotions!

THOUGHTS ON GIVING: “As they were marching out, they came upon a man of Cyrene, Simon by name; this man they pressed into service to carry his cross.” (Matthew 27:32) The Lord calls us to love God and to love our neighbor. Every day we are presented with opportunities to love our neighbor and help him “carry his cross.” These opportunities aren’t usually big events; they are usually ordinary occurrences like helping someone carry their groceries or holding the door open for them. The key is putting the other person’s needs before our own and not expecting anything in return.

STEWARDSHIP PRAYER: That we learn to put other’s needs before our own and help our neighbor “carry his cross”.

The **Per Capita** amount for 2026 has been set at \$50.51 per member.

<i>Virtual and Sanctuary Attendance Sunday 3-22-2026</i>	36 - 25 in sanctuary + approx. 11 virtual
General amount needed each week	\$1,432.90
General amount given week of 3-22-2026	\$965.00
General amount needed year-to-date	\$17,194.80
General amount given YTD as of 3-22-2026	\$16,673.99
Fuel Fund needed each week	\$384.62
Fuel Fund given week of 3-22-2026	\$315.00
Fuel Fund needed year-to-date	\$4,615.44
Fuel Fund given YTD as of 3-22-2026	\$869.00
Kirk Receipts 3-15-26 to 3-21-26	\$1,862.08
Presbyterian Mission Support week of 3-22-2026	\$20.00
Presbyterian Mission Support YTD as of 3-22-2026	\$145.00
Apportionment Needed 2026	\$6,162.22
Apportionment received YTD as of 3-22-2026	\$754.06

*General amount needed each week is total expenses minus budgeted savings transfers and fuel expenses.

SUNDAY March 29	<i>Palm Sunday</i> 9:30 am Sunday School 9:45 am Choir Rehearsal 10:30 am Worship 12:15 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal
MONDAY March 30	8:00 am – 12:00 pm Little Inspirations 9:00 am Kirk Work Day
TUESDAY March 31	8:00 am – 12:00 pm Little Inspirations 4:45 pm PNC Meeting
WEDNESDAY April 1	8:00 am – 12:00 pm Little Inspirations 10:30 am Gentle Yoga
THURSDAY April 2	8:00 am – 12:00 pm Little Inspirations 9:00 am Kirk Work Day 7:00 pm Maundy Thursday Service (Andes)
FRIDAY April 3	8:00 am – 12:00 pm Little Inspirations 9:00 am – 2:00 pm Kirk Thrift Store Open 10:30 am Adult Ballet Class
SATURDAY April 4	9:00 am – 2:00 pm Kirk Thrift Store Open 10:00 am Yoga
SUNDAY April 5	<i>Easter Sunday</i> 9:30 am Sunday School 9:45 am Bell Choir Rehearsal 10:00 am Choir Rehearsal 10:30 am Worship

*First Presbyterian Church actively exists as the living body of Christ, committed to growing in faithfulness to God, serving the whole human family and welcoming all people into God’s love.
(Our Mission Statement)*