

St. John's Presbyterian Church

April 13, 2025

10:30 a.m.



Vision Statement

Worship God

Love One Another

Serve the World

Worship Participants

The Rev. Kent Meads

Elaine York, Pastor

Carolyn Williamson, Lay Reader

Susan Horst, Music Director

David Brock, Organist

Chancel Choir

1070 W. Plumb Lane

Reno, Nevada 89509

(775) 826-0990

Website

www.stjohnschurch.org

St. John's Presbyterian Church

April 13, 2025

10:30 a.m.

*Please stand in Body or Spirit

BOLD People's Response

GATHERING

PRELUDE (David Brock, Organist)

Johannes Brahms

Herzlich tut mich verlangen (My heart is filled with longing), common meter

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS (The Rev. Kent Meads)

Please sign our Ministry of Friendship pad and pass it to the person sitting next to you.

CALL TO WORSHIP (Carolyn Williamson, Lay Reader)

Leader: You are my God,

People: And I will give thanks to You.

Leader: You are my God,

People: I will extol You.

Leader: O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good,

People: for His steadfast love endures forever.

*HYMN NO. 555 *Now Thank We All Our God*

—The Presbyterian Hymnal, CCLI# 86638 Public Domain/One License# 592e04d35e176

*CALL TO CONFESSION

Let us come together to a moment of confession.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Forgiving Father, Your dearly beloved Son was greeted by the crowd with incessant hallelujahs, but how quickly they mocked him as he went lonely to the cross. Forgive us for the ways that we, too, have welcomed Him only in words and resisted His kingship. May our hearts delight in You above all else and may Your Son not find in our hearts another place of crucifixion, but a place of love, loyalty, and devotion fit for such a gracious King. O Christ, free me to magnify and extol Your name with a joyful heart, like the children did long ago on Your triumphal entry. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON (Isaiah 12:2)

"Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid. The LORD, the LORD himself, is my strength and my defense; he has become my salvation."

*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: May the peace of the Lord Jesus be with you.

People: And also with you.

*HYMN

Glory Be to the Father

—The Presbyterian Hymnal, No. 577; CCLI# 221194

Glory be to the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen.

THE WORD

MOMENT WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES (Ann McElreath, Deacon)

ANTHEM

Ain't No Rock Gonna' Shout for Me
Susan Horst, Music Director
Chancel Choir

Lloyd Larson

MESSAGE

This Man on the Cross

The Rev. Kent Meads

Luke 23 (Selected Passages)

Have you ever had your character attacked unfairly by others?

Jesus Character is Attacked (vv. 1-3 and 5)

The attack on Jesus' character begins in a subtle way by never using His name but by referring to Him as "This Man."

We miss the phrase, 'this man', because we read into that phrase the name of Jesus.

Their 3 charges are an inversion of the truth of His character.

- (1) "We found this man misleading our nation – He's politically dangerous.
- (2) Forbidding us to give tribute to Caesar, -- no taxes to Caesar,
- (3) And saying that He Himself is Christ, a king"—He was a revolutionary stirring up the people – He's politically dangerous (v.5)

Pilate focus like a laser beam on the mention of "a king."
3 times Pilate makes the declaration: "Not guilty!" (vv. 4, 14, & 22).

But some wag commented, "3 times is 2 times too many."
The people shout "Crucify, crucify" Him.

Three Cries around the Cross (vv. 35, 36-37, 39)

Jesus is taken to the place that is called "The Skull," which is called Golgotha in other Gospels.

Here they crucified Jesus together with 2 criminals.

Then, we are informed of the audience watching His crucifixion: the people/crowd, the rulers, the soldiers and the criminals.

3 cries are shouted at Jesus on the Cross and they all included the word "**save**."

The 3 cries combine to form a 3-fold temptation of Jesus during His crucifixion, which are like the 3-fold temptation in the wilderness in Lk. 4.

As you think about how Jesus might reply to the 3 "**save**" Yourself appeals, why didn't Jesus **save Himself**?

An answer is given in Luke 19:10: "For the Son of man came to seek and save the lost." Or, Mark 10:45: "For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve and give His life as a ransom for many."

Jesus's innocence is very clear in our passage.

The central tenet of the Gospels is that Jesus was sinless.
2 Cor. 5:21: "For our sake God made Jesus to be sin who knew no sin, so that we might become the righteousness of God. See, also, Heb.4.15.

Let this sink into every fiber of your being – Jesus bore your sins. He had none of His own to take to the Cross but He took yours and mine. Jesus is innocent; we are not.

Jesus Two Words from the Cross (vv. 34, 46)

- (1) "**Father, forgive them, for they knew not what they do.**"
- (2) "**Father, into Your hands I commend My spirit.**"

Conclusion

Pascal in his *Pensees* (Pon-says) suggests there are only 3 sorts of people:

1. Those who have found God and serve Him;
2. Those who are busy seeking Him and have not found Him; and
3. Those who live without either seeking or finding Him.

Pascal makes a comment about each group:

"The first are reasonable and happy; the last are foolish and unhappy; and those in the middle (the ones busy seeking Him) are unhappy but, at least reasonable."

C.S. Lewis expressed it: "Look for Christ, and you'll find Him and with Him everything else thrown in. (*Mere Christianity*)"

*Please stand in Body or Spirit
BOLD People's Response

*HYMN NO. 101 *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*
—The Presbyterian Hymnal; CCLI# 27893 Public Domain/One License# 95143 Public Domain

RECEIVING THE MORNING OFFERING (Elaine York, Pastor)

OFFERTORY Johannes Brahms
Herzlich tut mich verlangen (My heart is filled with longing), 6/4 meter

*DOXOLOGY *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.
—The Presbyterian Hymnal, No. 592; CCLI# 68003 Public Domain/One License# 96892 Public Domain

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE
(Prayers for our Future Pastor and Pastor Nominating Committee)

THE LORD'S PRAYER
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.

SENDING

*HYMN NO. 466 *O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing*
—The Presbyterian Hymnal; CCLI# 1369 Public Domain/One License# 94976 Public Domain

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE J.S. Bach
Choral Prelude: *Valet will ich dir geben* (All glory laud and honor), BWV 736

*Join us for Fellowship Time
in Martin Hall after our worship service.*

DONATE ONLINE



To donate using your mobile device, please scan the provided QR code, which will direct you to our secure online donation page. We kindly request that all online donations be completed before the 27th of each month. This timing ensures that your contribution is processed and reflected in the correct month's records, as end-of-month donations may not be transferred to our account in time, potentially affecting your year-end totals. By donating prior to the 27th, you help maintain accurate accounting and acknowledgment of your generosity.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

Typically received during the season of Lent, each gift to One Great Hour of Sharing supports efforts to relieve hunger through the Presbyterian Hunger Program, promote development through the Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People, and assist in areas of disaster through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. All three programs work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From the initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope. Please use the Pew envelopes and designate it to OGHS.

- 36% Supports the Presbyterian Hunger Program, which is committed to ending hunger globally.
- 32% Supports Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, which is committed to helping others repair from disaster during and beyond the initial aftermath globally.
- 32% Supports Self-Development of People, which is committed to helping communities around the world gain the skills they need to improve their communities.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

- April 13:** 10:30 am Palm Sunday Service
- April 17:** 5:30 pm Maundy Thursday
Light Supper/Communion Service (Martin Hall)
- April 18:** 7:00 pm Good Friday Service
- April 20:** 10:00 am Easter Egg Hunt
10:30 am Easter Worship Service

ST JOHN'S EASTER EGG HUNT will be Easter Morning - April 20th at 10:00 am. Children 12 years of age and under are welcome to enjoy the hunt this year. We will have the little ones (6 and under) hunting in the Memorial Garden area and the older children (7-12) hunting near the playground. We are also collecting donations of plastic eggs and wrapped candy to make this year's Easter Egg Hunt a success! Your support makes this event special for the children—thank you for being a part of it!

How You Can Help:

- Join us TODAY in Martin Hall after Sunday service to help stuff eggs
- Volunteer on Easter morning at 9 AM to hide eggs and assist with the hunt

MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE

Sign up today in the Narthex to attend our Maundy Thursday Communion Worship Service & Light Supper! Join us for a meaningful evening of worship and fellowship. When signing up, please indicate whether you will bring soup, salad, or bread to share. We look forward to sharing this special time together!

WHEN: Thursday, April 17, 2025

TIME: 5:30 PM

WHERE: Martin Hall

DECORATE OUR SANCTUARY WITH EASTER FLOWERS

All are invited to bring a potted, blooming plant to place at the front of the church on Easter Morning (**April 20**). Please label your plant with your name on the back or bottom and take it home with you after the Easter Worship Service. If you would like to dedicate your flowers, please fill out the dedication form and place it in the offering plate or email the church office at office@stjohnschurch.org by **noon on April 16**. Thank you for helping make our Easter celebration beautiful!

🚫 Please, no Easter lilies.

🌸 Suggested flowers: daffodils, tulips, hyacinths, and other blooming varieties.

EASTER CROSS

It is a cherished tradition at St. John's to decorate our Easter Cross on Easter Sunday! Everyone is invited to bring fresh flowers to adorn the cross, celebrating the joy and beauty of the Resurrection. Join us in this meaningful tradition as we transform the cross into a vibrant symbol of new life and hope!

FINANCIAL UPDATE

	03/31/2025	Year to Date
Giving	\$ 25,725	\$ 128,248
<u>Other Revenue</u>	\$ 6,118	\$ 22,457
Total	\$ 31,843	\$ 150,705
Expenses	\$ (33,946)	\$ (121,379)
Difference	\$ (2,103)	\$ 29,326

75th Capital Improvement Campaign	Progress:	Goal:
Pledged amount as of 04/30/2024	\$388,276.00	\$450,000.00
NON Pledged amount received as of 04/30/2024	\$62,195.18	
	<u>\$450,471.18</u>	100%

Pledged amount received as of 03/31/2025	\$256,794.00	
NON Pledge amount received as of 03/31/2025	\$73,895.18	
Total received as of 03/31/2025	\$330,689.18	73% of Goal

This Week at St. John's Presbyterian Church
April 13—April 20, 2025

Sun. Apr. 13			<i>Palm Sunday</i>		
8:30 am	Chancel Choir Rehearsal				Music Room
9:15 am	Lenten Bible Study				Clawson Memorial Library
10:00 am-10:30 am	Clawson Memorial Library Open				
10:30 am	Worship Service				Sanctuary
11:30 am	Fellowship/Coffee Time				Martin Hall
12:00 pm-12:30 pm	Clawson Memorial Library Open				
2:00 pm	Living Church of God				Martin Hall
Mon. Apr. 14					
9:30 am	AlAnon-Monday Morning Wake-Up				Martin Hall
11:00 am	Finance Comm.				Clawson Memorial Library
6:00 pm	Cub Scouts Pack 10				Geneva Room
6:30 pm	Bella Voce Rehearsal				Sanctuary
6:45 pm	The Compassionate Friends of Reno				Clawson Memorial Library
Tues. Apr. 15					
9:00 am	Children's Cabinet Stitchers				Martin Hall
1:00 pm	AlAnon-Family Group				Martin Hall
6:00 pm	Session				Geneva Room
6:30 pm	Sierra Highlanders Pipe Band				D104, 106, 108
Wed. Apr. 16					
11:30 am	Newcomers Artist				Martin Hall
1:00 pm	The Other Brothers Two Band Rehearsal				Music Room
5:00 pm	St. John's Children's Center				Geneva Room
5:30 pm	The Buttckickers Group of NicA				Clawson Memorial Library
6:00 pm	Coyote Crossing Band Rehearsal				D104,106,108
6:30 pm	Wednesday Night Beginner's Group				Martin Hall
	Alcoholics Anonymous				
Thurs. Apr. 17					
5:30 pm	Maundy Thursday Service				Martin Hall
6:00 pm	Cub Scouts Pack 10				Geneva Room
7:00 pm	Sierra NV Baroque Ensemble Rehearsal				Sanctuary
Fri. Apr. 18					
7:00 pm	Good Friday Worship Service				Sanctuary
Sat. Apr. 19					
9:00 am	Reno Cigar Lions-C4K Project				Martin Hall
12:00 pm	Living Church of God				Martin Hall
7:00 pm	Back to Basics-Alcoholics Anonymous				Martin Hall
Sun. Apr. 20			<i>Easter Sunday</i>		
8:30 am	Chancel Choir Rehearsal				Music Room
10:00 am	Easter Egg Hunt				
10:00 am-10:30 am	Clawson Memorial Library Open				
10:30 am	Easter Morning Worship Service				Sanctuary
12:00 pm-12:30 pm	Clawson Memorial Library Open				
11:30 am	Fellowship/Coffee Time				Martin Hall

Staff

The Rev. Kent Meads, Interim Pastor
Elaine York, Pastor
Maria Winchester, Administrative Assistant
Liz Salas, Financial Secretary
Lucas Parke, Security Sexton
Ann Peterson, Librarian

Music Staff

Susan Horst, Music Director
David Brock, Organist

Elders

Class of 2025

Aaron Karr, Multi Media
Doris Krater, Finance; Co-Chair
Amy Willoughby, Nominating
Elaine York, Fellowship and Nurture

Class of 2026

Nancy Lim (2nd Term), Missions
Stan Peck, Membership/Welcoming
Kathryn Smith, Christian Education
Stan White, Building and Grounds

Class of 2027

Rick McElreath, Finance; Co-Chair
John Dutton (2nd Term)
St. John's Children's Center
Rew Goodenow (2nd Term), Personnel
Winnie Kortemeier (2nd Term), Worship

Deacons

Class of 2025

Joan Jeffers
Ann Peterson
June Rosta
Ron Scovill

Class of 2026

Ann McElreath, Chair
Sarah Deardorff (2nd Term)
John Mahon
Marc Ullom

Class of 2027

Judy Mahon (2nd Term)
Carole Meiners
Tricia Murray
Bev Zakariassen (2nd Term)

Pastor Nominating Committee

Dale Clark, Chair
John Dutton, Vice Chair
Jann Carmichael, Secretary
Kelley Bottomley, Treasurer

Sue Goodenow
Sarah Deardorff
Nancy Lim
Marc Ullom

Multi Media Team

Aaron Karr, Chair
John Dutton
Lucas Parke
Chyennah Rowe, Staff
Maria Winchester, Staff