



The Last Words of Christ on the Cross
March 19, 2023



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Montrose, CO

WELCOME

*We are people called together by Christ to celebrate God in worship,
grow together through discipleship and bring others to Christ.*

March 19, 2023

9:30 a.m.

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT THE LAST WORDS OF CHRIST ON THE CROSS

MEDITATION

Jesus understands our suffering because he suffered physical and emotional pain and knew what it was like to be rejected, despised, and abandoned.

~Sacred Space

PRELUDE MUSIC

WELCOME AND INVITATION TO WORSHIP

THE SOUND OF A BELL, A MOMENT OF SILENCE

OPENING PRAYER

CALL TO WORSHIP*

(by Beth Merrill Neel)

Leader: God has set this day before us,

All: A day set apart, a day of rest and praise.

Leader: God has set our lives before us,

All: A span of years in which we love, and learn, and serve.

Leader: God has set God's seal upon our hearts,

All: So that we might live fully in deep love. Let us worship God!

*Rise if you are able.

Childcare is available during the service for ages 0 - 5 yrs..

SONGS OF WORSHIP*

10,000 Reasons

O Come To The Altar

(Please be seated)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(James G. Kirk, *When We Gather*)

God of compassion, have mercy upon us. You have given us directions to follow you, but we follow our own desires. We know of your laws, yet we try to justify our own way. You desire obedience, we practice rebellion. You offer blessing, we search for scapegoats. Make us mindful of how we disorder your intentions. Set us aright in accord with your design for us.

(Moment of silence for personal prayer and confession)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

(James G. Kirk, *When We Gather*)

Our assurance of pardon is in Jesus, "who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard 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 . . . on a cross." Through his obedience we are freed from whatever bondage enslaves us.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

One ancient and significant gesture in worship is the passing of the peace. Passing the peace is a tradition rooted in Scripture that embodies our identity as peacemakers (Matt. 5:9; 2 Cor. 5:20) and trains our hearts, hands, and voices in the ways of peace. At these times, we leave the comfort of our seat, turn to our neighbors, grasp their hands, and speak the words, "The peace of the Lord be with you," and receive the words in turn, "And also with you." The gesture is simple, but the meaning is profound. When we extend our hand to another, we identify with Jesus, who extended his life to the point of death to make peace with humanity. (Col. 1:20-21).

OFFERING

Please consider tithing during this part of the service. You can also tithe electronically by going to the "Give" tab on our website.

*Rise if you are able.

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SERMON TEXT

Matthew 27: 45-49

MESSAGE

"The Last Words of Christ on the Cross" - Rev. Dr. Jesse G. Mabanglo

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

LORD'S PRAYER

SONG OF SENDING*

How Deep The Fathers Love For Us

LIFE IN THE BODY

BLESSING AND BENEDICTION*

POSTLUDE

Life in the Body

- Welcome to First Presbyterian Church. We are glad to have you here with us today. If you would like to be contacted by one of our deacons or to be put on our digital communications list, please fill out one of our welcome cards, which can be found either in the seat pocket in front of you or out in the foyer.
- Today is our monthly church potluck. Join us immediately after the service for fun fellowship and yummy food. Don't worry if you didn't bring anything to share; we still want you to come!
- We hope you can join us on Wednesday evenings from 5:30-6:30 p.m. for soup and a time of Lenten Introspection.
- If you feel led, we would appreciate your help in reaching our goal of adding \$75,000 to our parking lot project fund. Anyone wishing to contribute can make their check out to FPC with "capital improvement" on the memo line.
- If you want to learn more about our church, you can visit our website at: <https://fpcmontrose.com>.
- To find out what is happening in the life of our church, an event calendar and weekly newsletter (Announcements) are available on the table in the foyer.

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