

**First Presbyterian Church
19 Seminary Street
Barre, Vermont**

Welcomes You to Worship



March 29, 2026

**Sunday Worship
Year A, Palm Sunday**

Welcome!

***Join us as we experience our spiritual journey through Christian community
and by living God's love in word and deed.***

GATHERING

Today's hymns are from the purple "Glory to God" hymnal. This service is being recorded for viewing on Facebook and on our website. Please guard your privacy as best you see fit.

Gathering on Abenaki Lands and Welcome

Prelude

Call to Worship (Psalm 146)

Leader: "Hosanna!" They shouted. "Save us!" "Hosanna!"

Congregation: **We're shouting. "Save us!"**

Leader: Savior, ride into our hearts again, wash us with excitement and hope, give us a reason to praise and to shout again,

Congregation: **"Hosanna! Hosanna!"**

★Opening Hymn No 408 There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit

Refrain: Sweet Holy Spirit, sweet heavenly Dove, stay right here with us, filling us with your love; and for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise; without a doubt we'll know that we have been revived when we shall leave this place.

1. There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place, and I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord; there are sweet expressions on each face, and I know they feel the presence of the Lord. *Refrain*
2. There are blessings you cannot receive till you know him in his fullness and believe; you're the one to profit when you say, "I am going to walk with Jesus all the way." *Refrain*

PRAYING for RECONCILIATION and FORGIVENESS

Call to Confession (from Psalm 103:8)

When we say, "We don't sin," we deny who we are. But when we say, "There's no way out," we deny who God is. Trusting that God's grace is more powerful than our sin, let us confess our sins together.

Unison Prayer of Confession

Holy Christ, we confess that amidst all the Palm Sunday crowds, we find ourselves in more turmoil than triumph. Our faith is unsteady. Our wisdom is eroding. Our resolve is shaken. Our mercy is hardening. Our hope is weakening. Come again and save us from these sins. Give us strength to follow you, our humble Savior, our wise fool, our all in all. Amen.

Silent confession of individual sins

Leader: Amen

Assurance of Pardon (from Jeremiah 33:31-34)

Leader: Hear this promise: Jesus has set his face toward the cross. Nothing we can do can deter him. He has determined that we are worth saving.

Congregation: By the power of the cross, by the power of wondrous love, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Amen.

★**Passing of the Peace** - Now is the time we pass the peace saying "Peace be with you," responding with "And also with you." When we pass the peace of Christ, we affirm that the nature of our faith is founded in the love, grace, and peace Christ continually extends to us.

LISTENING

Scripture Lessons Genesis 37:1-11;

Rev. Dwight

Leader: The Word of God, for the people of God.

Congregation: Thanks be to God

Luke 19:29-40

Rev. Dwight

Leader: The Word of God, for the people of God.

Congregation: Thanks be to God

Sermon

"Not What We Expect"

Rev. Dwight

Affirmation of faith (from Philippians 2:5-11)

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ 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, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death — even death on a cross. Therefore, God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Reflection Music

RESPONDING

★ Hymn No. 197

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

- 1. Hosanna, loud hosanna, the little children sang; through pillared court and temple the joyful anthem rang. To Jesus, who had blessed them, close folded to his breast, the children sang their praises, the simplest**

and the best.

2. From Olivet they followed 'mid an exultant crowd, the victor palm branch waving, and chanting clear and loud; the Lord of earth and heaven rode on in lowly state, nor scorned that little children should on his bidding wait.

3. "Hosanna in the highest!" That ancient song we sing, for Christ is our Redeemer; the Lord of heaven, our King. O may we ever praise him with heart and life and voice, and in his blissful presence eternally rejoice.

Call for the Offering (you may place your offering in the box just behind the last pew of the sanctuary or give online at fpcbarre.org. Click the green "Donate" button on the front page. You may also mail in your offering. Thank you for your generosity!)

Prayer of Dedication: (in unison)

Holy one, we cannot offer you great treasures as the world measures them. Here is only what we have at hand: cloaks and palm fronds to line your path, and all our ordinary sacrifices. Accept these gifts, and transform them, that we may share in your great work of love. Amen

Prayers of the People

Children's Sermon

★ **Closing Hymn No. 201 A Prophet-Woman Broke a Jar**

1. A prophet-woman broke a jar, by Love's divine appointing. With rare perfume she filled the room, presiding and anointing. A prophet-woman broke a jar, the sneers of scorn defying. With rare perfume she filled the room, preparing Christ for dying.
2. A faithful woman left a tomb by Love's divine commission. She saw; she heard; she preached the Word, arising from submission. A faithful

woman left a tomb, with resurrection gospel. She saw; she heard; she preached the Word, apostle to apostles.

3. Though woman-wisdom, woman-truth, for centuries were hidden, unsung, unwritten, and unheard, derided and forbidden, the Spirit's breath, the Spirit's fire, on free and slave descending, can tumble our dividing walls, our shame and sadness mending.

4. The Spirit knows; the Spirit calls, by Love's divine ordaining, the friends we need, to serve and lead, their powers and gifts unchaining. The Spirit knows; the Spirit calls from women, men, and children, the friends we need, to serve and lead. Rejoice, and make them welcome!

SENDING

Benediction

Postlude

★Please rise in body or spirit as you are able.

Thanks to Sylvia Mitton who is leading us in worship.

Holy Week Services - Below are listed Easter activities and services occurring during Holy Week. We encourage you to take advantage of these offerings as you observe Holy Week and Easter.

March 29 - Palm Sunday - 10 a.m., First Presbyterian Church, Barre

April 2 - Maundy Thursday Service - 7 p.m., Hedding Methodist Church, Barre

April 3 - Good Friday Prayer Walk with Service to Follow - Noon - Gather on the Steps of Good Shepherd Episcopal Church, Barre

April 5 - Easter Sunrise Service - 7:30 a.m., Graniteville Presbyterian Church, with breakfast to follow

April 5 - Easter Morning Service - 10 a.m., First Presbyterian

Church, Barre

Prayers - Each week we pray for a different person or family in our church. This week please keep Jeanette Walker in your prayers. Gracious Lord, we give thanks for her. Hold her in the palm of your hand let her feel your love. Give her the wisdom and strength to do your will and the faith and courage to face what challenges may arise.

As part of being the connectional Presbyterian Church, we keep in our prayers other ministries usually within the PNNE. This week our prayers are for Holy Week - March 29 - April 5.

Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained
from ONE LICENSE #734910-A.

**Organizing Meeting for in person community breakfast will be held
Tuesday March 31 at 7 pm via Zoom.**

Anyone interested in or curious about our restart of the Wednesday morning community breakfast is invited to join the planning discussion. Please use the Thursday Meditation Zoom link.

Topics to consider:

Menu options, Safety and security, Clean up, Advertising, Connection to community service. Please contact Jim (802-371-8285) or Pastor Dwight for more information.

MONTHLY MEETINGS:

Session, 2nd Sunday, after Church

Deacons, 1st Monday, 7:30 p.m.

Outreach, 1st Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.

Book Group, 4th Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.

Meditation Group, Thursdays, 10 a.m.

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS:

March 30th - Paulette O'Bryan

April 3rd - Michael Caccavo

April 5th - Jordan Blondin

NO UPCOMING ANNIVERSARIES

TO CONTACT REV. DWIGHT MCCORMICK :

Phone: 802-261-5074, Email: fpcbarrepastor@gmail.com

TO CONTACT CINDY HOOKER:

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Online Security - If you change your screen name, please email Josh, jman.laflower@gmail.com so he can admit you to the service.



We are a Matthew 25 church in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) This means we have three areas of focus to our ministries: **building congregational vitality, dismantling structural racism, and eradicating systemic poverty.**

First Presbyterian Church, Barre is part of the Presbyterian Church (USA). We are members of the Presbytery of Northern New England.