

# First Presbyterian Church of Pasadena

*Fourth Sunday in Lent*

March 11, 2018

10:30 am



**Mission Statement**

*“Our mission is to live and share the good news of God’s love, grace, and mercy in Jesus Christ, to equip people for discipleship and service, and to work for social justice and peace.”*

**FPC Staff**

James S. Currie, Pastor  
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Maria Morales, Custodian

**FPC Elders**

**Class of 2018**

Ruth Askine  
Nola Bray  
Barbara Davis  
Bonnie Keith

**Class of 2019**

Maurice Barclay  
Donna Morrison  
Jim Tinney  
Chere Wharry

**Class of 2020**

Luis Alvarez  
Brett Coe  
Jeanie Falls  
Tom Hoffman

**FPC Deacons**

**Class of 2018**

Connie Brakebill  
Elois Murray  
Celia Scheer  
Karen Schimnowski

**Class of 2019**

Joyce Barclay  
Barbara Chitwood  
Sue Clark  
Betty Pendleton

**Class of 2020**

Faith Alvarez  
Donna Coe  
Brian Davis  
George Yeargin

CCLI #3275908  
CVLI #504019360

**Invitation**

The jasmine is calling,  
Come, sit by me.

Even before I see it  
I know it is there - somewhere -

Its fragrance ripening  
in a warm March morning.

Tender green shoots clamor up  
twining woody vines, reaching  
for the arch of the arbor  
reaching for the sun.

Others can't wait and  
burst into bloom just  
inches above their roots.

Clusters of snowy  
petaled whirligigs  
beckon in the breeze.

All together, a joyous  
bohemian bridal veil.

Bending close and breathing  
deeply drives all else from  
my mind - all else but the  
sweet centering scent.

Both fleeting and grounded.

Come, sit by me.

*Chere Wharry  
March 28, 2017  
Villa de Matel Houston, Texas*

**Leading in Worship Today**

Rev. Dr. James Currie, Preaching  
David Brakebill, Liturgist  
Marilyn Wilkins, Music Director,  
Robin Dunn, Organist  
Barry Webb, Audio-Visual Ministry



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**Service for the Lord's Day**  
**Gathering Around the Word of God**

**Welcome and Life of the Church**

**Minute for Mission**

**Prelude:** *Prelude in A*

J. S. Bach

**Introit:** #209 *My Song Is Love Unknown*

John Ireland

**†Call to Worship**

Leader: The Lord is merciful and gracious,

**All: slow to anger and abounding in love.**

Leader: The Lord of life is lifted up!

**All: Let us look to him and live.**

**†Hymn of Praise:** #634 *To God Be the Glory*

**Call to Confession**

**Corporate Prayer of Confession**

**God our Redeemer, we confess that we are people of ashes and dust. We grumble and complain when you have provided all we need. We continue to walk in darkness when you have given light to the world. Forgive us, God of grace. Help us to trust in you so that we may not perish but may have eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Silent Confession**

**Liturgist:** Amen

698 Take, O Take Me as I Am

Take, O take me as I am; sum-mon out what I shall

be; set your seal up-on my heart and live in me.

**Assurance of Pardon**

Leader: Friends, believe and live the good news of the gospel.

**All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!**

**†Glory Be to The Father (Gloria Patri) #581**

**†Sharing the Peace of Christ**

**Chancel Time with Children**

Praise Him, praise Him, all ye little children, God is love, God is love.  
Praise Him, praise Him, all ye little children, God is love, God is love.

**Anthem:** *The Only Road to Easter Morning*

John Carter

The only road to Easter morning is in the shadow of the cross.  
The lonely road to Easter morning is paved with misery and loss.  
The only road to resurrection will pass a hill called Calvary.  
The lonely road to resurrection is dark as any road can be.

The only road to Alleluia is through a cry of grief and pain.  
The lonely road to Alleluia is through the sound of death's refrain.  
The only road to Easter morning is through an empty upper room.  
The lonely road to Easter morning comes to an end before a tomb.

**Proclaiming the Word of God**

**Prayer for Illumination #288** *Spirit of the Living God*

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me;  
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.  
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.  
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

**First Lesson:** Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22 (p. 432)

**Sermon Lesson:** John 3:14-22 (p. 752)

**Sermon:** "What's In a Word?"

Rev. Jim Currie

**Responding to the Word of God**

**†Affirmation of Faith:** Apostles' Creed (p. 35)

**†Hymn of Affirmation:** #728 *Somebody's Knocking at Your Door*

**Offering Our Gifts to God**

**Offertory Music:** *Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring*

J. S. Bach

**†Doxology:** #606 *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

**†Prayer of Dedication**

**Taking the Word of God into the World**

**Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer (p. 35)**

**†Hymn of Inspiration:** #223 *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*

**†Benediction**

**Response:** #819 *Be Still My Soul (verse 1)*

Jean Sibelius

Be still my soul: the Lord is on thy side.  
Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain.  
Leave to thy God to order and provide,  
who through all changes faithful will remain.  
Be still, my soul: thy best, thy heavenly Friend  
through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

**†Postlude:** *Carillon de Westminster*

Vierne