

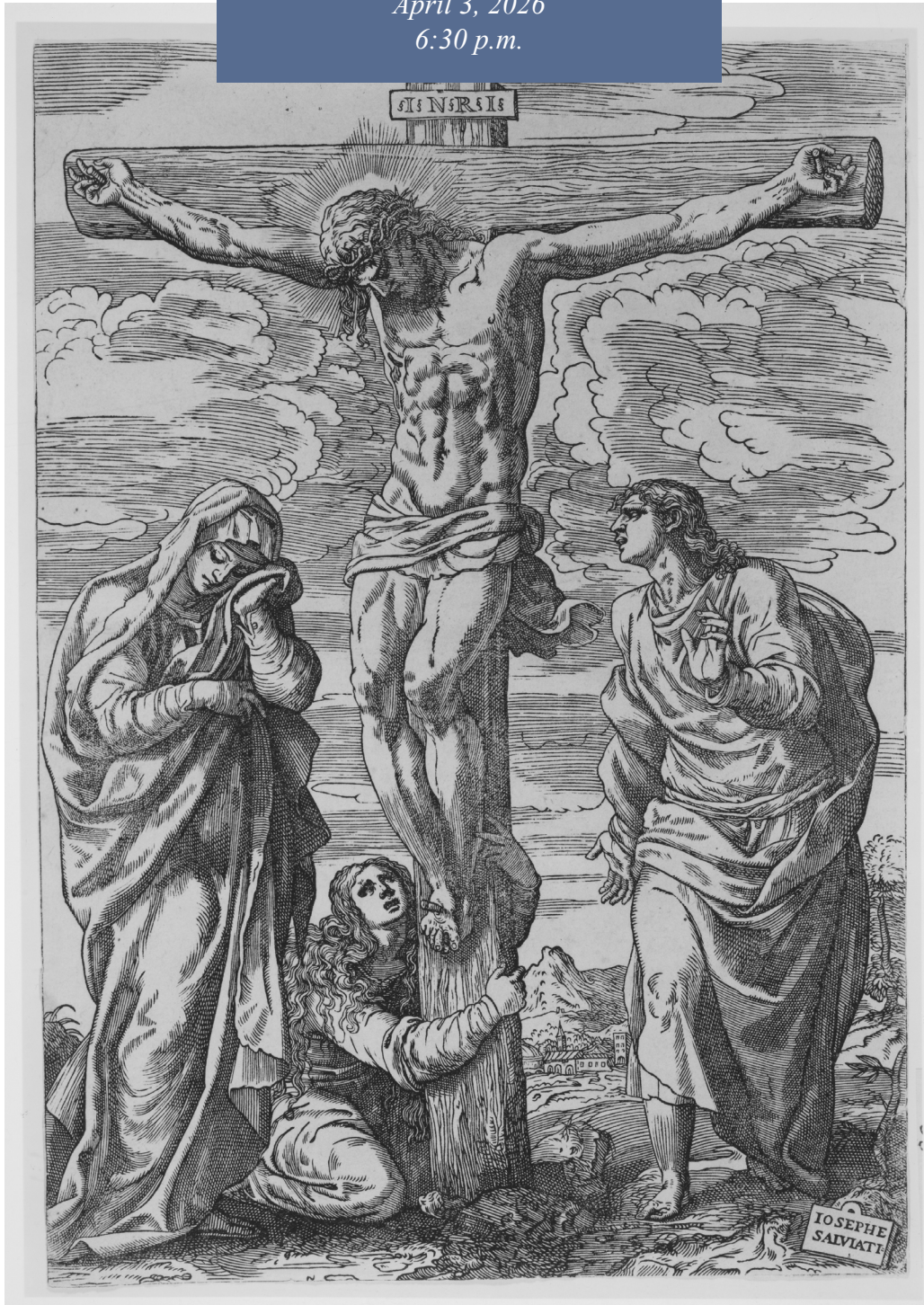


FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
Church of Nashville

GOOD FRIDAY

April 3, 2026

6:30 p.m.



To know Christ, to make Him known and to exhibit His love through worship, education and service.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

WELCOME

Dr. Darren Kennedy

*CALL TO WORSHIP | Isaiah 53:1, 4-5

Leader: Who has believed what we have heard? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?

All: Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we account him stricken, struck down by God and afflicted.

Leader: But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole,

All: And by his bruises we are healed.

ST. MATTHEW PASSION

Chorus, Children's Chorus

Come, ye daughters, share my wailing. See ye!
 The Bridegroom see! Whom? See him! A lamb is he.
 How? O Lamb of God, most holy,
 the bitter cross thou hast taken.
 At all times meek and lowly,
 though by thy children forsaken see it!
 His patience mild. What? Look!
 Upon our guilt. Ah, where?
 The sins of man thou art bearing,
 else were we left despairing.
 Have mercy on us, O Jesu.
 Look on him, for love untold,
 he himself the cross is bearing.
 Come, ye daughters, share my wailing.
 See ye! The Bridegroom see! See him! A lamb is he.
 Whom? How? A lamb is he.

Narrator, Jesus

When Jesus, then, had finished all these sayings,
 he said to his disciples:
 Ye know that after two days is the Passover,
 and the Son of Man shall then be delivered up
 that he be crucified.

Chorale

Ah, dearest Jesu, how hast thou offended,
 that such a bitter judgement has been handed?
 Where is thy guilt, in what the great transgression
 for thy confession?

Narrator

Now on the first day of the feast of unleavened bread
 came the disciples to Jesus, and said unto him:

Chorus

Where? Where? Where will thou, Master,
 that the feast of the passover be prepared thee?

THE LAST SUPPER

Narrator, Jesus, Chorus

He said: Go into the city to such a man, and say to him:
The Master saith: My time is at hand;
I will keep the Passover here with my disciples.
The disciples hearken'd and did as Jesus had appointed.
And made ready there the Passover.
And when evening came,
he sat at the table with the twelve.
And as they did eat, he sayeth:
Verily I say to you, it is one of you who shall betray me.
Then were they exceeding sorrowful,
and began every one of them to question and say unto him:
Lord, is it I?

Chorale

'Tis I, my sin repenting, my hands and feet consenting,
should take the bonds of hell.
The scourge and thongs which bound thee,
and all the wrongs around thee,
are merit of my sinful soul.

Narrator, Jesus, Judas

He answered to them and said:
Who dippeth his hand with me in the dish,
shall the same betray me.
The Son of man goeth on his way
as of him it has been written:
but woe unto that man
by whom the Son of man shall be betrayed!
For him it were better, yea;
it were better for him if he had not been born.
Then came unto him, Judas,
he which betrayed him, and said: Lord, is it I?
He said to him: thou sayest.
And as they were eating, he took of the bread:
blessing it, he brake it, and gave the disciples, and said:
Take ye, eat ye. This is my body.
And he took the cup, and blessing it,
he gave it them and said: Drink ye, all of it;
this is my blood of the new testament.
Know ye, this blood is shed for many for remission of sins.
I say to you, that from this day henceforth,
no more will I drink the fruit of the vine,
until that day when I drink it anew
with you within my Father's kingdom.

Narrator, Jesus

And when they had sung a hymn of praise together,
they went out unto the Mount of Olives.
Then said Jesus to them:
This very night all ye shall be offended because of me;
for it is written: Yea, lo, I will smite the Shepherd,
and the sheep of the flock, shall be scattered abroad.
But after I am arisen, then I will go before you to Galilea.

Chorale

Remember me, my Saviour, my Shepherd, lead me home.
Thou fount of every goodness, from which my good has come.
Thy mouth has oft refreshed me with milk and honey'd food.
I rest me in thy spirit, and joy in heaven's good.

Narrator, Peter, Jesus

Peter then gave him answer, and said to him:
Though all men shall be offended because of thee,
yet will I, Lord, be never offended.
Jesus said to him:
Verily, I say to you, this very night,
ere yet the cock croweth, even thou wilt thrice deny me.
Peter said to him:
Lord, even though I should die with thee,
yet will I never deny thee.
And likewise also said all the others.

Chorale

I'll stand here close beside thee,
do not thou me forsake.
Nor will I ever leave thee,
ev'n when thy heart shall break.
And when thy lingering paleness
by thorns of death is pressed,
into my arms I'll take thee,
and hold thee to my breast.

AT GETHSEMANE

Narrator, Jesus

Then came Jesus with them
unto a garden called Gethsemane,
and said to his disciples:
Sit ye here, while I go yonder and pray.
He took with him Peter and both the sons of Zebediah
and began to be sorrowful and heavy.
Then said Jesus to them:
Ah, my soul is full of sorrow even unto death.
Tarry here and watch with me.

Chorus

Ah, woe! What trembling fills his tortured breast!
How sinks his heart! How pale his face oppressed!
Ah, what has brought on thee this tribulation?
Before the Judge he must appear,
there is no help, no comfort near.
'Tis my own sinning, naught of thy transgression!
Such agonies doth hell awaken:
He must for others' sin be taken.
'This I, Lord Jesus,
all the anguish own here which you atone here.
Ah, if my love thy stay could be, my Savior,
could calm thy fear or share it, could make it less,
or help to bear it, how gladly,
how gladly would I watch with thee!
I would be with my Jesu watching,
so slumber, all my sins and stay!
Even my death, ransom finds in his last breath,
his sorrow maketh sure my gladness.
The griefs that he for us endureth, how bitter,
yet how sweet are they.
I would be with my Jesu watching.
So slumber, all my sins, and stay!

Narrator, Jesus

And he went a little farther,
and falling upon his face,
he prayed and said:
My Father, if possible,
wilt thou let pass this cup from me;
yet, not as I will, but as thou wilt.
And he came to his disciples
and found them sleeping, and said to Peter:
What, could ye not even watch with me one hour?
Watch ye, and pray, that ye enter not into temptation.
The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.
Again he went away, prayed, and said:
My Father, if it must be,
that this cup may not pass from me,
except I drink it, then let thy will be done.

Chorale

What God hath willed will always be.
His will is best, most surely.
An ever present help is he,
if faith be fixed securely.
Our help in need, all good, all wise,
rebukes, with kindness ever.
who trusts in God, on him relies,
will be forsaken never.

THE ARREST

Narrator, Jesus, Judas

And again he came and found them sleeping,
for their eyes were heavy with sleep.
And he left them, and again went away
and prayed the third time, saying again the same
words.
Then came he to his disciples, and said unto them:
Ah! Are ye still resting and sleeping?
Lo, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man
to the hands of sinners now shall be betrayed.
Then arise! Let us be going.
Look ye, he is come who doth betray me.
And as he yet spoke came Judas,
who was one of the twelve disciples,

and with him came a great array, with swords and
with staves,
who were sent by the priests and the elders of the
people.
Now this same Judas, who betrayed him,
had given to them a sign, and said:
Whosoever I shall kiss is he; him take ye.
And straightway came he to Jesus and said:
All hail to thee, O Master!
And kissed him, Jesus said unto him:
My friend, wherefore art thou come?
And thereupon they came,
and laid their hands on Jesus, and took him.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

MEDITATION

Dr. Ryan Moore

JESUS BEFORE CAIPHAS

Narrator, Jesus, Judas

And they that had so laid hold on Jesus
led him away unto the high priest, Caiphas; and with him
were the scribes and the elders assembled all together.
Peter also followed after him afar off, unto the court of the
high priest's palace; and went therein, and sat with the guards
and servants, that he might see how all would be ended.
Then did the priests conspire with the elders, and all of the
council how that they might false witness bring on Jesus,
That he might be put to death. But found they none.

Narrator, High Priest, Jesus, Chorus

And then the high priest gave him an answer thus, and said:
I adjure thee, here before the living God,
that thou do tell us if thou be the Christ, the Son of God.
Jesus saith to him:
Thou sayest, yet I say to you, hereafter when ye see him,
ye shall see in that time the Son of Man
sitting on the right hand of power,
and coming in the clouds of heaven.
Thereupon the high priest tore his robes asunder, and said:
He hath spoken blasphemy! What need we further witness?
Truly, ye all have heard the blasphemy that he has spoken.
What think ye now?
They answered to him, and said: Of death this Man is guilty.

Narrator, Chorus

Then mocked they at him, and they spat on him,
and struck him with their fists.
Others among them smote and slapped him in his face,
and shouted: Thou prophet!
Now tell us, thou Christ, by whom thou art struck!

Chorale

Who was it so did strike thee, my Lord,
and who requite Thee this fierce and cruel blow?
For thou wert no offender, as we to sin surrender.
No evil didst thou ever know.

Aria

Thy mercy, Lord, my God, see thou my tears are flowing.
Look on me, heart and eyes so cry to thee,
cry to thee bitterly. Thy mercy, Lord.

JESUS BEFORE PILATE

Narrator, Pilate, Pilate's Wife, Chorus

Now upon the feast the governor was accustomed to release thereon one prisoner unto them, whomever they wanted. Now at that time, and among the other prisoners, was a most notorious man, whose name was Barabbas. And when they were gathered together, Pilate said unto them: Whom will ye that I release unto you, Barabbas or this Jesus, of whom 'tis said: He is Christ? For he knew full well that it was for envy that he had been delivered. And while he sat on the judgment seat, then did his wife send him a message, saying: Have thou nothing to do with that righteous man, for I have suffered much this day in a dream because of him. Still did the high priests argue, and the elders, falsely to inflame the people, that thereby Barabbas be released, and that Jesus be crucified. And the governor again returned to the people, and asked them: Now, which of the two will ye that I release to you? They shouted: Barabbas! Then Pilate said unto them: And what shall I do, then, with Jesus, of whom one sayeth he is Christ? Again they shouted: Let him be crucified!

Chorale

What wonders rare this punishment doth offer!
The Shepherd for his sheep content to suffer,
the Lord of Righteousness
pays full deliverance for guilty servants.

Aria

For love now is my Savior dying,
Of mortal sin he knoweth naught.
May the everlasting torment
on the Day of Judgment wrought,
not on my poor soul be lying.

Narrator, Chorus, Pilate

But crying out all the more, they shouted:
Let him be crucified!
When Pilate, therefore, had seen he prevailed nothing,
but that rather arose a tumult, he took water,
and washed his hands before them all and said:
I am innocent of the blood of this just man; see ye to it!
Then together all the people answered; and said:
His blood be on us, on us and on our children!
And Pilate then set Barabbas free, but Jesus he had scourged:
And then he delivered him, that they might crucify him.

AT GOLGOTHA

(Congregation please stand)

Narrator, Jesus, Chorus

Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land, until the ninth hour. And about the ninth hour, Jesus cried aloud, and said: Eli, lama asabthani? That is: My God, my God, ah, why, why hast thou forsaken me? Some of them who stood and watched him, when they had heard him, turned and said: He calleth for Elias. And straightway one of them did run, and took a sponge; and filling the sponge with vinegar, he put it upon a reed, and gave him to drink. The others spoke among them. Wait, wait and see now if Elias cometh and will save him. And again did Jesus cry aloud, and was gone.

Chorale

When comes my hour of parting, then part thou not from me.
When shades of death are darkening, thy steps my guide shall be.
When anxious fears shall rend me, and close my heart enchain,
oh then do thou befriend me through thine own grief and pain.

(Congregation please be seated)

Aria

Come, my heart, and make thee clean,
that my Jesus I may bury. Enter thou, whom I adore.
Evermore, evermore here in sweetest rest to tarry.
World, away! Let Jesus in.

Chorus

Here bide we still with tears and weeping,
and call to thee in death now blest.
Rest thou softly, softly rest.
Rest, thou weary body sleeping.
Rest thou softly, rest thou well.
See in grave and stone a grace for the anxious,
the despairing: Heaven's pillow, comfort bearing,
and the soul's sweet resting place.
Rest thou softly, softly rest.
Come, my joy! Slumber doth mine eyes embrace.
Here bide we still with tears and weeping,
and call to thee in death now blest.
Rest thou softly, softly rest.

CLOSING PRAYER

Thank you, loving God, for sending to us your Son, Jesus, for his redeeming death that we commemorate this night, that we might stand forgiven at the cross. Thank you, loving God, for sending to us your Son, Jesus, to whom we belong—body and soul, in life and in death—and who bore our infirmities, carried away our sorrows. Thank you loving God, for sending to us your Son, Jesus, who became sin for us and suffered the punishment due to us, that we might stand forgiven at the cross. Amen.

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

** Those who are able, please stand.*

PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

Ryan Moore, PhD – *Pastor*
Darren Kennedy, PhD – *Associate Pastor for Discipleship*
Raphael Bundage, DMA – *Director of Music*
Rhonda Swanson, MM – *Assistant Organist*
Jesus – Won Cho
Narrator – Bradley Diamond
Sanctuary Choir
Soloists – Claire Paschal, Sara Crigger, Greg Thomas, Ryan Bede, Chris Simonsen
Orchestra – David Davidson, Concert Master
Nashville Childrens Orchestra – James Wells, Mary Bond, Directors

We express appreciation to Patrick Spiesser of Richards Fowkes & Co, pipe organ builders, with thanks for his artistry and dedication in restoring the FPC portative organ.

SPECIAL GUESTS



Korean-Canadian bass Won Cho is internationally recognized for the depth and beauty of his voice, his compelling dramatic presence, and his versatility across concert and operatic repertoire. He has appeared with leading opera houses and orchestras throughout the United States, Canada, Europe, the Middle East, Asia, and his native Korea, earning praise for his rich, resonant tone and commanding performances. Recent roles include performances in *Turandot*, *Roméo et Juliette*, *Rigoletto*, and *Die Zauberflöte*.



Brad Diamond is a tenor recognized for his musicianship and style, with a performance career spanning more than twenty-five years across opera, operetta, oratorio, recital, and chamber music. He has appeared in leading roles such as Almaviva in *The Barber of Seville* with companies including Lyric Opera Cleveland and Florentine Opera, Prince Ramiro in *La Cenerentola* with Indianapolis and Nashville Opera, and Tonio in *La Fille du Régiment*, while also performing extensively as an oratorio specialist with organizations across the United States and Canada.

EASTER DAY | *Sunday, April 5*

6:30 a.m. Sunrise Service | Sullivan Gardens

8:00, 9:30*, 11:00 a.m. | Sanctuary

7:00–10:45 a.m. Easter Breakfast | Courtenay Hall

A joyful morning of worship proclaiming the heart of the Gospel: Jesus Christ is risen from the dead. The tomb is empty, and he promises new life for all creation. Once an instrument of suffering, the cross is transformed into a symbol of victory. Bring flowers from home to help “flower the cross” as you enter worship—a beautiful symbol of resurrection. Nursery care for ages 0–3 opens at 7:45 a.m. No Sunday School.

**Service will be livestreamed.*

STAY CONNECTED

*Stay informed about FPC by:
reading our weekly email, Parish News,
or seasonal print newsletter, First News.*

*To sign up, email
communications@fpcnashville.org
or update your subscriptions at:
fpcnashville.org/my-subscriptions.*

UPCOMING EVENTS

Apr. 6 | Church Office Closed for Easter Monday
Apr. 7 | 4:30 p.m. | The Space Between: Holding both Hope and Heartache
Apr. 8, 22 | 12:30–2:30 p.m. | Winter Mahjong Play
Apr. 8, 15, 22, 29 | 6:00–8:00 p.m. | Spring Mahjong Lessons
Apr. 13, 20, 27; May 4, 11, 18 | 9:30–11:00 a.m. | Intergenerational Esther Women’s COB
Apr. 29 | 6:00 p.m.–8:00 p.m. | Spring Mahjong Play
May 4 | 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. | PW Handiwork Drop-in
May 12 | 10:30 a.m. | Presbyterian Women Spring Gathering
May 13, 27 | 6:00–8:00 p.m. | Evening Mahjong Open Play
May 17 | Kirkin’ Sunday

CHILDREN & FAMILIES

Apr. 12 | 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. | Bible Milestone (4 yrs. & 3rd Grade)
Apr. 19 | 9:45 a.m. | Missions Milestone (4th-5th Grade)
Apr. 26 | 11:00 a.m. | Confirmation Sunday
June 23-25 | 5:00-7:45 p.m. | Amazing VBS!

FIRST FRIENDS

Apr. 16 | 12:00 p.m. | Luncheon
Apr. 21 | 2:30 p.m. | Book Club: Connie: A Memoir
Apr. 28 | Day Trip: Home of Helen Keller
May 7 | 10:30 a.m. | Natchez Trace Picnic on the Parkway
May 19 | 2:30 p.m. | Book Club: Sipsworth
May 21 | 12:00 p.m. | Luncheon: Mission Presentation from Matthew 25

MISSIONS

Apr. 14 | 4:30–7:30 p.m. | Nueva Vida Service Project
Apr. 15 | 11:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. | Blood Drive
Apr. 19 | 4:30–6:30 p.m. | Matthew 25 Meal
July 18-25 | Family Mission Trip
Sept. 14-25 | Kenya Mission Trip

RECREATION

Apr. 11, 18, 25; May 2, 9, 16 | 8:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. | Soccer Saints
Wednesdays | 5:30–8:00 p.m. | Pickleball (Except May 6)

YOUTH

Apr. 19 | 2:00–3:30 p.m. | Senior Blessing
Apr. 26 | 9:45 a.m. | Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast
May 3 | 8:30 a.m. | Youth Sunday
Jun. 1-5 | Pilgrimage to Yosemite (Seniors)