



Fredonia Presbyterian Church  
March 29, 2026  
Grit & Grace: Resilience  
Palm Sunday



Patrick Martinez, "Promised Land". Photo by Yubo Dong, of studio photography, courtesy of Charlie James Gallery.

From the current exhibition at the Buffalo AKG, *Let Us Gather in a Flourishing Way* explores contemporary Latinx artists' innovations and interventions within established traditions of painting, inviting discussion on a variety of themes and revealing the diversity and expansiveness present within the field.

## Prepare for Worship

Welcome to worship, where God gathers us in the name of love. At FPC, we hope to be challenged by Scripture, comforted by community, and energized by service. If you're new here or it's been a while, we're glad you walked in today. For more, check out the bulletin insert. All people: toddlers, teenagers, Gen Xers, Boomers and beyond, LGBTQIA+ folk, conservative or liberal people, and those with differing abilities and mental health journeys—all—are cherished and affirmed here.

Catch up with one another as you come in! When the **chiming of the hour** sounds, please keep the silence as we prepare for worship.

**Reformed worship** centers around the Word, both the Word of scripture and Christ as the Word incarnate. Worship, then, is our communal and individual response to the Word.

**Bold text** is read by the congregation in one voice.

\*Please rise in body or in spirit.

**Confession** isn't to prove you're pious. It's to help rebuild connections between you and God, you and yourself, you and others, and us and the world.

## Gather

PRELUDE

- Lily Li

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

*Use this moment of silence to gather your heart and mind as we prepare for worship.*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT

- The Choir

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

-Lisa Schultz

One: We gather in a world that does not easily welcome peace--

**All: A world that resists love.**

One: We gather in a world that is fragile--

**All: And still, we are here.**

One: We gather with what we have

**All: not perfection, but presence.**

One: Take what is in your hands

**All: a branch, a palm, a sign of life.**

One: Today we remember a procession--

**All: not of strength, but of courage.**

One: Not a moment of triumph--

**All: but a story that remains resilient. Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest!**

\*HYMN NO. 197 *Hosanna, Loud Hosanna*

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

*In lieu of passing the plates, please use this time to consider your gift to the church.*

UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

One: God of the road, we remember how it began with branches in the air, voices raised, a parade of hope. Hosanna! It felt like a party. Like everything might finally change. Hosanna!

**All: Hosanna! So now we bring these gifts to you. Take what we offer, these gifts, these lives, and use them for a love that does not give up. A love that keeps showing up. A love that walks the whole road—even when it is hard. We give with gratitude. We give with grit. We give trusting that love will make us resilient. Amen.**

HYMN NO. 606 *Doxology*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God all creatures here below; praise God above, ye heavenly host; \*praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.** \*Or *Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost*

CALL TO CONFESSION AND SILENT CONFESSION

curated by Elizabeth English

*(You are invited to share your wrongdoings and sorrows with God).*

**Scripture:** Our pastor (usually) follows the Revised Common Lectionary, an ecumenical, Biblical reading program. This helps the Holy Spirit move into places we might otherwise miss.

**Our Choir:** Anyone can join the choir. They practice Sunday mornings at 9:30. Just show up!

**The Lord's Prayer:** We use "debts and debtors" in the Lord's Prayer. If you're more comfortable with the "trespass" language, please use it. Or if this prayer is meaningful to you in a different language, pray it that way. We all get to "Amen" together.

**Communion:** Served on 1<sup>st</sup> Sundays. Anyone, regardless of age or membership, is invited to partake. We use non-alcoholic grape juice. Gluten free bread is available with its own cup. If you're nervous, just ask someone. You can't mess this up (although sometimes, we do make a mess and that's okay too!)

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of steady love, when things go wrong, we confess that we get tired. We lose heart when things don't change. We turn away when the road gets hard. We want joy without the journey, hope without the cost. But you, you keep showing up, showing us how.**

**So call us into a deeper love and help us show up with a hope that refuses to quit. Amen.**

#### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: We are forgiven, healed, and made whole. May all God's people say,  
**All: Amen**

#### SUNG RESPONSE TO THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

HYMN NO. 582 *Glory God*

### Word

#### PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

HEBREW SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 50:4-9

#### CHORAL ANTHEM

#### MOMENT WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES: FOOD ROUND UP

HYMN NO. 188 *Jesus Loves Me*

*Children 3-12 are invited to attend Fred Kids! A time for faith-formation and fun.*

#### GOSPEL: Matthew 21:1-11

One: The Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God**

#### SERMON

#### MUSICAL REFLECTION

- Lily Li

### Engage

#### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & 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. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and power and the glory forever. Amen.**

**Offering:** Giving does not buy you God's love—that is free. Giving simply helps keep our heat on, our ministries going, and our staff, paid.

An offering plate is found at the front of the sanctuary. You may also mail or PayPal a donation.

We affirm our faith together because as diverse as we are, as differently as we vote, as many interests as we have, we have these beliefs that we share.

**Benediction** is a fancy word for blessing.

#### Worship Notes

Music is printed and recorded under the CCLI #CSPL121737 & 11497292

#### \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *A Brief Statement of Faith*

**In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.**

**Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

\*HYMN NO. 196 *All Glory, Laud, and Honor*

#### \*CHARGE & BLESSING

#### \*SHARE THE PEACE OF CHRIST

**Go now in peace, go now in peace, May the love of God surround you everywhere, everywhere you may go.**

#### Worship Leaders

Pastor, The Rev. Holly Clark-Porter  
Parish Associate, The Rev. Zoe Milliman

Director of Music, Lily Li  
Childcare Staff: Reece Lehnen  
Liturgist, Lisa Schultz  
Fred Kids teacher, Katie Sanders

Clerk of Session, Rey Spangler  
Session: Janine Scaccia, Betsy White, Kristi Leone, Trish Lehnen, Rey Spangler, Matthew Carman  
Admin. Response Team: Rey Spangler, Matthew Carman, Betsy White  
Deacons of the Month for March  
Melissa Chwojidak and Sandi Askin

**ALL ARE WELCOME** to a time of fellowship from 11:30-12:15 after the service today in the Fellowship Hall.

Find announcements and the prayer list at [fredoniapres.org/worship-spirituality](http://fredoniapres.org/worship-spirituality) or a handful of printed ones can be found in our lobby or on our.

Give a Secure Donation using the **PayPal QR Code**. Use the drop down to give to a **certain fund**.

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