



Williamsburg Presbyterian Church
Second Sunday in Lent
February 25, 2024

PRAYER FOR PREPARATION

God, your Son Jesus Christ bore the cross for our salvation and was raised from the dead for the redemption of the world. Give us the courage to take up our cross and follow him, that through his grace we may accept the cost of faithful discipleship and receive the joy of everlasting life with Christ. Amen.

THE GATHERING

PREPARING TO HEAR THE WORD

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Michael Savidis

INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS

PRELUDE

A Pleasant Thought

Florence Price

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Leader: Jesus said, If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.

All: For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.

Leader: Jesus, we want to become your followers.

All: We come here today to follow you. Help us -- Guide us -- Save us.

*HYMN 49

The God of Abraham Praise
Hymn appears on the next page.

LEONI

*To all who are able, please stand as we offer God thanks and praise.
Bold type face indicates that the congregation participates in word or song.



1 The God of A-braham praise, who reigns en-throned a - bove,
 2 Your spir - it still flows free, high surg - ing where it will.
 3 Your good - ly land we seek, with peace and plen - ty blest,
 4 You have e - ter - nal life im - plant - ed in the soul;



the An - cient of E - ter - nal Days, the God of love!
 In proph-et's word you spoke of old and you speak still.
 a land of sa - cred lib - er - ty and Sab - bath rest.
 your love shall be our strength and stay, while a - ges roll.



The Lord, the great I AM, by earth and heaven con-fessed,
 Es - tab-lished is your law, and change-less it shall stand,
 There milk and hon - ey flow, and oil and wine a - bound,
 We praise you, liv - ing God! We praise your ho - ly name:



we bow be - fore your ho - ly name, for - ev - er blest.
 deep writ up - on the hu - man heart by your strong hand.
 and trees of life for - ev - er grow with mer - cy crowned.
 the first, the last, be - yond all thought, and still the same!



Shaped by its traditional Jewish tune, this selection of English stanzas conveys the essence of the *Yigdal*, a canticle based on a medieval Hebrew statement of faith about the nature of God and often used in synagogue worship, alternately chanted by cantor and congregation.

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

Leader: Trusting in God's promise of salvation, let us confess our sin and repent.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)**

Merciful God, we confess that we have not been sincere Christians. We claim to follow Jesus but have not taken his path of sacrificial love. We profess to be disciples, but we are not willing to bear the cost of discipleship. We affirm the virtue of self-denial, but we indulge our selfish desires and seek earthly gain. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for sincere repentance through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

A TIME FOR SILENT PRAYER

***KYRIE**

Leader: Lord, have mercy.

People: Christ, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Leader: Hear the good news: God deems as righteous all who trust that Jesus has been raised from the dead for our salvation. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

GLORIA IN ABEYANCE DURING LENT

(11:00) SHARING FAITH WITH CHILDREN

Adrian Williams

**At this time any and all children through the 5th grade
are invited to come forward for Sharing Faith with Children.**

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

Holy Spirit, open our hearts to receive your Word, reveal to us the good news, and enable us to trust in the promise of salvation in Jesus Christ. Amen.

FIRST LESSON: *Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16*

This is the Word of the Lord!
Thanks be to God!

PSALM 22:23-31 (unison)

You who fear the Lord, praise him!
All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him;
stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!
For he did not despise or abhor
the affliction of the afflicted;
he did not hide his face from me
but heard when I cried to him.
From you comes my praise in the great congregation;
my vows I will pay before those who fear him.
The poor shall eat and be satisfied;
those who seek him shall praise the Lord.
May your hearts live forever!
All the ends of the earth shall remember
and turn to the Lord,
and all the families of the nations
shall worship before him.
For dominion belongs to the Lord,
and he rules over the nations.
To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down;
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust,
and I shall live for him.
Posterity will serve him;
future generations will be told about the Lord
and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn,
saying that he has done it.

SECOND LESSON: *Romans 4:13 - 5:5*

This is the Word of the Lord!
Thanks be to God!

SERMON

"Hoping Against Hope"

Rev. John E. Morgan

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***HYMN 819**

Be Still, My Soul
Hymn appears on the next page.

FINLANDIA

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: FROM A DECLARATION OF FAITH** (unison)

In the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus God kept his promises. All that we can ever hope for was present in Christ. But the work of God in Christ is not over. God calls us to hope for more than we have yet seen. The hope God gives us is ultimate confidence that supports us when lesser hopes fail us. In Christ God gives hope for a new heaven and earth, certainty of victory over death, assurance of mercy and judgment beyond death. This hope gives us courage for the present struggle.

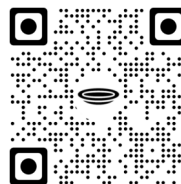
PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

OFFERING

Thank you for your continued faithful stewardship to WPC. May our offerings continue to help us be the light for our neighbors and our siblings in Christ all over the world. Offering envelopes can be found inside the friendship register book. We invite you to make your offering or pledge payment in one of the following ways:

- Place your offering into the plates as you exit the sanctuary
- Visit mywpc.org/offering or scan the QR code at the right to give online
- Mail your offering to the church office at 215 Richmond Road, Williamsburg, VA 23185.



Be Still, My Soul

1 Be still, my soul: the Lord is on thy side.
 2 Be still, my soul: thy God doth un - der - take
 3 Be still, my soul: the hour is has - tening on

Bear pa - tient - ly the cross of grief or pain.
 to guide the fu - ture sure - ly as the past.
 when we shall be for - ev - er with the Lord;

Leave to thy God to or - der and pro - vide,
 Thy hope, thy con - fi - dence let noth - ing shake;
 when dis - ap - point - ment, grief, and fear are gone,

who through all chang - es faith - ful will re - main.
 all now mys - te - rious shall be bright at last.
 sor - row for - got, love's pur - est joys re - stored.

This meditative text seems to be rooted in Psalm 46:10, "Be still and know that I am God," while also reaching forward to 1 Thessalonians 4:17b, "we will be with the Lord forever." Much of the appeal of this hymn comes from its tune, named for the tone poem on which it is based.

LIVING AND DYING IN CHRIST

Be still, my soul: thy best, thy heaven - ly Friend
Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know
Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past

through thorn - y ways leads to a joy - ful end.
his voice who ruled them while he dwelt be - low.
all safe and bless - ed we shall meet at last.

8

The musical score is written for two voices, Soprano and Bass, in a key of three flats (B-flat major or D-flat minor). The time signature is common time (C). The Soprano part begins with a treble clef and the Bass part with a bass clef. The lyrics are written below the staves, with line breaks corresponding to the musical phrases. The score concludes with a double bar line and a final chord in the bass staff.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

O Jesus, Every Moment

Philip Stopford(b. 1977)

O Jesus, every moment be in my heart and mind;
O Jesus, stir my heart with sorrow for my sins;
O Jesus, fill my heart with never-failing love;
O Jesus, sweet Master, never part from me.

O Jesus is my King, my friend, and my love;
O Jesus is my shelter from sinning and from death;
O Jesus, my gladness, my mirror all my days;
O Jesus, my dearest Lord, never part from me.

O Jesus, be forever in my heart and in my mouth;
O Jesus, be forever in my thought and my prayer;
O Jesus, be forever in my quiet mind;
O Jesus, my sweet Lord, do not leave me alone.

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

TALLIS' CANON



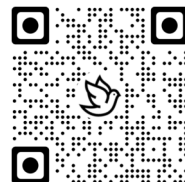
*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

GOING OUT TO BE THE CHURCH

*INVITATION AND THE LORD'S DAY GREETING

We are glad you are worshiping with us today. If you are joining us online, please remember to 'sign' our online friendship register:

- Click on the *Welcome to WPC!* Click here to sign the Friendship Register banner at the top of the website page
- Visit mywpc.org/friendship or scan the QR code at the right to access the online friendship register.



***HYMN 39**

Great Is Thy Faithfulness
Hymn appears on the next page.

FAITHFULNESS

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION*POSTLUDE**

In Quiet Mood

Florence Price

The service of worship concludes after the postlude. The music can be enjoyed or used as an opportunity for prayer. You may remain seated; if you wish to depart, please do so quietly and without disturbing those who choose to stay.

∞ **NOTES ABOUT TODAY'S MUSIC** ∞

Florence Price (1887-1953) was born in Little Rock, Arkansas and began piano studies at an early age before attending the New England Conservatory of Music. She is known as the first African-American woman to have a composition performed by a major orchestra. In addition to symphonic works, she composed for a variety of instruments and chamber ensembles, including a notable body of work for the pipe organ. Today's worship service opens and closes with two of her more introspective, original compositions for the organ.

∞ **THE CHANCEL FLOWERS** ∞

The flowers are given today to the glory of God by Hazel and Don Tillar and in loving memory of Donaldson Tillar, III, killed in action February 27, 1991.

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

1 *Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther;
 2 Sum - mer and win - ter, and spring - time and har - vest,
 3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,

there is no shad - ow of turn - ing with thee.
 sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove
 thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide,

Thou chang - est not; thy com - pas - sions they fail not.
 join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness
 strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row:

As thou hast been thou for - ev - er wilt be.
 to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
 bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

**Or "Great is thy faithfulness, O God, Creator."*

Written as a meditation on Lamentations 3:22–23, this text is one of the few hymns among the 1200 poems by this Methodist writer and pastor that has gained much currency. The tune that appears here was composed especially for these words, and the pairing has proved enduring.

CREATION AND PROVIDENCE

Refrain



Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Great is thy faith - ful - ness!
 오 신 실 하 신 주 오 신 실 하 신 주



Morn - ing by morn - ing, new mer - cies I see.
 날 마 다 자 비 를 베풀 시 며



All I have need - ed thy hand hath pro - vid - ed.
 일 용 할 모 든 것 내 려 주 시 니



Great is thy faith - ful - ness, Lord un - to me!
 오 신 실 하 신 주 나 의 구 주

∞ THOSE SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY ∞

PASTORS

John E. Morgan, Pastor/Head of Staff

Pam Hrcir, Covenant Pastor for Congregational Care

MUSIC MINISTRY

Christopher Bechtler, Director of Music

Norman Elton, Organist and Assistant Director of Music

Chancel Choir

LITURGIST

Michael Savidis

SHARING FAITH WITH CHILDREN

Adrian Williams

GREETER

9:30am Audrey Davis

11:00am Ann Schulte, Terry Backus

USHERS

9:30am Matt Underwood, Pat Underwood, David Littell, Rebecca Caprio

11:00am Kirk Lovenbury, Megan Davis, Bob Bolstad, Ric Cheston

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOST

Happy and Ralph Simmons, Karol Sibley

***WILLIAMSBURG LANDING USHERS**

Dottie Teubner, Linda Eichhorn

***WINDSOR MEADE USHER**

Paul Hotinger

AUDIO AND VIDEO TECHNICIANS: Mike Squire and John Schoenberger

*Satellite campuses

❧ WPC Elders & Deacons ❧

SESSION: CLASSES OF 2024, 2025, 2026

Moderator: John E. Morgan Clerk of Session: Diane Schwarz

Administration: Faith Shartzer* (25), Sarah Houghland (25), Margie Newcomer (26), Jaynelle Oehler (24), Larry Pulley (26)

Christian Education: Sallie McLain* (25), Kelly Kirkpatrick (26), JD Due (26)

Christian Outreach: Kay Allen* (24), Karen McKee (24)

Communications: Laura Hild* (24), Martha Squire (24)

Endowment Committee: Al Thomas* (25), Jim Austin (26), Joseph Kinard (26), Martha Squire (24), Hank Vernon (25)

Facilities: Dale Trowbridge* (25), Jerry Howell (26)

Resources: Tommy Michaels* (24), Elaine McBeth (25), Jay Eaton (26)

Worship: Jim Winthrop* (25)

**Moderator*

BOARD OF DEACONS: CLASSES OF 2024, 2025, 2026

Moderator: Janie Moyers (24) **Vice-Moderator:** Copper Perry (25)

Pastoral Advisor: Pam Hrcir, Associate Pastor

Secretary: Jo Ann Youhas (25)

Care Teams

Care Connections: Margie Ambrose (24), Jennifer LaDow (26), Lee Saxton (26)

Grief: Copper Perry (25) Dave Littell (25)

Welcoming a Child, Illness, Surgery, Hospice (WISH): Linda Eichhorn (24), Harold Herring (25)

Brookdale and Other Asst. Living: Robin Sabo (26)

Patriot's Colony: Sue Rennagel (25)

Williamsburg Landing: Joane Bozek (24) Doris Gilfillan(26)

Windsor Meade: Shirley Randolph (24), Happy Simmons (25)

Ministry Teams

Celebrations and Concerns: Dougie Winthrop (24), Phoebe Williams (24), Sarah Horner (25)

Christian Fellowship: Happy Simmons (25), Sue Rennagel (25), Nate Green (24), Sarah Dulaney (25)

Flower Sharing: Joane Bozek (24), Laura Bechtler (25): Leigh Salud (26), Carol Thomas (26)

New Member: Nancy Archibald (24), Deborah Rockafellow (25), Eric Beckhusen (26), Martha Burian (26)

Memorial Receptions: Nancy Moseley (24), Jo Ann Youhas (25), Janie Moyers (24), Rebecca Caprio (26)

Memorial Services: Terry Backus (24), Lynn Newcomer (24), Nancy Miller (24), Duncan McIver (26)

❧ SUPPORT FOR OUR MEMBERS ❧

- **In need of one-on-one prayer? Please look for a Stephen Minister in the Fellowship Hall or the church foyer after the morning services. They will find a private place to talk and pray with you. Just look for the blue Stephen Ministry name tags.**
- **Monthly grief support group** meets the first Wednesday of the month at 10am in room 220 on the second level. During this meeting we check in with one another and occasionally watch videos about a specific grief topic. All are welcome to attend.

❧ PRAYER CONCERNS, JOYS, & TOUCH NOTES ❧

To share a joy or concern, please visit www.mywpc.org, select GET CARE on the menu bar, then PRAYER REQUEST from the drop-down menu. Complete the form and click SEND REQUEST on the bottom of the form. Per your instructions, your request will be shared with our pastors, prayer chain or will be included in the worship bulletin. If the internet is not available to you, please call the church office (757) 229-4235 with your request. The Prayer Chain Coordinator is: Jo Ann Youhas (handbellringer@cox.net). Please notify Jo Ann when you would like to remove your name from the prayer chain.

If you are in need of a pastor after hours or on the weekend with an emergency request, please contact the Pastor-on-Call listed below for this week. To reach a Pastor during the week, please call the church office.

Sunday, February 25 – Saturday, March 2

Pastor Pam Hrnclir • phrnclir@mywpc.org • 757-508-4668

Please pray for:

- Tom Cobb, Ryan Cahill, son of Tom Cahill and Susan Cherney, who is recovering from major open heart surgery, Lynn Curtin, Carole McNeel, Bob Siclari, Ellie Thuermer, Stephen Custer. John Richardson, Peace for Nancy (Tom) Moul's brother, Richard Friese, who is declining with brain cancer.
- Those who have recently lost loved ones, those recovering from various surgeries and our sick and shut-ins who are at home or facility bound.
- Those serving our country in the military services and their families.
- Those affected by the wars in Gaza, Israel and Ukraine.

❧ ANNOUNCEMENTS ❧

- **Mid-Week Lenten Services:** Please note the new time, **Wednesdays at Noon in Stevenson Hall. This is the only Lenten service offered this year.** Bring your lunch or order a boxed lunch at mywpc.com/lentlunch or stop by the church Welcome Center and complete an order form. **Orders must be placed by Sunday evening.**
- **The Upper Elementary Sunday School Class (Grades 3, 4 and 5) is currently collecting food to support The Grove Christian Outreach Center.** We began this mission project in 2016 and collected 81 pounds of food which in turn served over 100 meals. Since that time our largest collection weighed in at 509 pounds! With your help, our goal is to continue to increase our donation and provide even more meals. We will be collecting donations in our classroom every Sunday from now through mid-March. **Suggestions for donations include nonperishable foods such as canned fruit and vegetables, canned meat and fish, nuts, soups, pasta, breakfast foods and peanut butter.** Thank you for your support in making this project a success.
- **The WPC Book Club will meet on Monday, February 26, 2024,** at 2 pm in room 220 located on the second floor (and on Zoom) to discuss *West with Giraffes*, by Lynda Rutledge.
- **The WPC Men's Monthly Fellowship will not be held in March on the first Saturday.** Instead The Williamsburg United Methodist Church Churchwide Fellowship is host our Men's Fellowship on Saturday, March 16, 2024, 8:30am. The guest speaker is Ellen Cummings, the founding member and first President of the Abukloi Foundation. If you plan to attend, please register on the WPC website by Wednesday, March 14, 2024. A \$10 donation will be collected at the breakfast.
- **Shhh!! The Easter Bunny is making a special trip to WPC to visit our WPC Families! On Saturday, March 23, at 10am,** The Christian Education Ministry will be hosting a private (just for WPC Families!) **Easter Egg Hunt!** We will have two areas set up at the church, one for the younger children (preschool through 2nd grade) to search for those special eggs, and a separate area for older children (3rd through 5th grade). There will also be snacks and fun activities in Stevenson Hall after the hunt! Registration will be required for this event. Please go to www.mywpc.org/calendar to register (there is no fee to attend). *Contact Jodie Davis with any questions.
- **The Easter Bunny needs a little help from our WPC congregation!** Since this is the Easter Bunny's busy time, the Christian Education Ministry and WPC Families would like to ask the congregation for a little help with our March 23 Easter Egg Hunt! We are in need of donations of colored plastic Easter eggs and/or candy or treats for this event (places like Target and Walmart sell the plastic eggs with the candy and treats already inside, if you would like to save a few steps!). Donations can be left in the box in the Welcome Center.

Trip to See Daniel at Sight & Sound Theatre, Lancaster, PA

The trip includes show ticket, meals (including a dinner at an Amish Smorgasbord), transportation, and overnight stay at a hotel a short distance from the theater. All-inclusive cost is \$330.00 per person single occupancy; \$280.00 per person double occupancy. Costs are based on 45 participants. A minimum deposit of \$150 per person is due by Monday, April 15 with final payment due by Thursday, July 1, 2024. Seats are limited. Visit the church calendar to register. Questions? Please contact *Janie Moyers.

ALL-INCLUSIVE TRIP COST INCLUDES (per person):

- Motorcoach bus to Lancaster, PA and return trip to Williamsburg, VA and all transport, including to the dinner and show
- One dinner - Miller's Smorgasbord, Wednesday, October 9
- Ticket to The Story of Daniel at Sight & Sound Theatre, Wednesday, October 9
- One night accommodation at the Best Western Plus Revere Inn & Suites, Paradise, PA.
- Breakfast at the hotel, Thursday, October 10
- One boxed lunch

Learn more at mywpc.org/daniel

Contact information can be found in our online directory.

You may also contact the church office at 757-229-4235

More information about the events and announcements listed above can be found on our website at mywpc.org/news/ or on the church calendar.

UPCOMING WORSHIP INFORMATION

- Our Ash Wednesday worship service held on February 14, 2024, marked the beginning of The Season of Lent and the mid-week worship services during Lent. **New this year at WPC is a weekly Wednesday Luncheon and Lenten service at 12pm in Stevenson Hall.** Join Pastor John and Pastor Pam for a time of worship and afterwards fellowship over lunch. Our meditations will be adapted from "*Meeting Jesus at the Table*" by Cynthia Campbell and Christine Fohr. We will start with a brief service which will conclude by sharing the Lord's Supper – breaking bread and sharing the cup with Christ and one another. Then we will meet Jesus at the table by eating lunch together. You can bring a brown bag lunch or order a lunch ahead of time on our website or in the Welcome Center.
- Join us for worship each **Sunday in Lent at 9:30am and 11am** in the sanctuary. The 9:30am service is live-streamed on our website and the 11am service is broadcast on FM93.5 The Burg and AM740.
- Services Wednesday afternoon and Sunday morning are a wonderful way to prepare our hearts and minds for the Passion and Resurrection of Easter Week. Worship services at WPC are open to all and we encourage you to invite your family and friends to join us.

✧ THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE OF EVENTS ✧

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25

9:30am In-person Worship / Sanctuary; Live-Stream Worship; visit mywpc.org to access
10:30am Fellowship Coffee Hour & New Member Reception/ Stevenson Hall
11:00am In-person Worship / Sanctuary; Broadcast on FM93.5 The Burg and AM740 or wmbgradio.com
12:00pm Open Door Concert • The Baltimore Consort
4:00pm Youth Group / CE Wing
5:30pm

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26

1:00pm Caregiver Support Group / Rm 123
2:00pm WPC Book Club /
7:00pm Williamsburg Choral Guild Rehearsal / Choir Rm

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27

10:00am Adult Bible Study / Rm 220
1:00pm Staff Meeting / Zoom Rm 220
7:00pm AA Williamsburg Big Book Study / LL009 and LL049

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28

7:30am Men's Bible & Bacon Study / Stevenson Hall
9:30am Presbyterian Women's Coordinating Team / Stevenson Hall
12:00pm Mid-week Lenten Worship Service and Luncheon / Stevenson Hall
6:00pm Genesis Ringers Rehearsal / Bell Rm
7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal / Choir Rm

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29

9:00am Sanctuary Cleaning
4:30pm Carol and Junior Choir Rehearsals / Children's Choir Rm
7:30pm Westminster Ringers / Bell Rm

FRIDAY, MARCH 1

SATURDAY, MARCH 2

✧ NEXT SUNDAY IN WORSHIP ✧

March 3, 2024 • 3rd Sunday in Lent

The sermon, "Revive Your Soul" is based on Psalm 19.

***9:30am service is live-streamed on mywpc.org.**

****11:00am service is broadcast on FM93.5 The Burg and AM740**