



Williamsburg Presbyterian Church
Fourth Sunday in Lent
March 10, 2024

PRAYER FOR PREPARATION

Almighty God, through Jesus Christ you bring salvation to the world. Give us strength to believe in him that we may share in his victory over the power of death and fulfill the purpose for which you have made us, for he dwells with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

THE GATHERING PREPARING TO HEAR THE WORD

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Jackson Black

PRELUDE

Andante Tranquillo, from Organ Sonata No. 3
Gianna Gibson, guest organist

Felix Mendelssohn

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Leader: O give thanks to the Lord, who is good,

All: God's steadfast love endures forever.

Leader: Let the redeemed of the Lord say so,

All: Those God redeemed from trouble and gathered in from the lands.

*HYMN 624

I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art
See the next page for hymn.

TOULON

*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.

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

Leader: This is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, for people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. Let us uncover our sin before the liberating light of Christ.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)**

Holy God, we have taken Christ's sacrifice too lightly. We see his suffering and death, and we do not want to follow the path that leads to the cross. We do not share Jesus' sorrow for our sin. Grant us your forgiveness and the courage to seek the same mind as Christ Jesus. In his name we pray.

A TIME FOR SILENT PRAYER

***KYRIE**

Leader: Lord, have mercy.

People: **Christ, have mercy.**

All: Lord, have mercy

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Leader: Hear the good news: The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, freed and empowered to live as joyful servants of God and one another.

GLORIA IN ABEYANCE DURING LENT

(11:00) SHARING FAITH WITH CHILDREN

Megan Davis

**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)

Almighty God, by the power of the Holy Spirit, open your Word and illumine our darkened world, that we may see clearly and live faithfully by the light of your truth in Jesus Christ. Amen.

I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art 624

1 I greet thee, who my sure Re-deem-er art,
 2 Thou art the King of mer-cy and of grace,
 3 Thou art the life, by which a-lone we live,
 4 Thou hast the true and per-fect gen-tle-ness;
 5 Our hope is in no oth-er save in thee;

my on-ly trust and Sav-ior of my heart,
 reign-ing om-ni-po-tent in ev-ery place:
 and all our sub-stance and our strength re-ceive;
 no harsh-ness hast thou and no bit-ter-ness.
 our faith is built up-on thy prom-ise free;

who pain didst un-der-go for my poor sake;
 so come, O King, and our whole be-ing sway;
 sus-tain us by thy faith and by thy power,
 O grant to us the grace we find in thee,
 Lord, give us peace, and make us calm and sure,

I pray thee from our hearts all cares to take.
 shine on us with the light of thy pure day.
 and give us strength in ev-ery try-ing hour.
 that we may dwell in per-fect u-ni-ty.
 that in thy strength we ev-er-more en-dure.

The original French text, sometimes attributed to John Calvin, seems to be a Protestant reworking of a Roman Catholic hymn, not a typical practice for him. Yet this text and tune (adapted from GENEVAN 124) clearly date from the early years of the Reformed tradition.

FIRST LESSON: *John 3:14-21*

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

PSALM 107:1-3, 17-22 (unison)

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever.

Let the redeemed of the Lord say so,
those he redeemed from trouble
and gathered in from the lands,
from the east and from the west,
from the north and from the south.

Some were sick through their sinful ways
and because of their iniquities endured affliction;
they loathed any kind of food,
and they drew near to the gates of death.

Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble,
and he saved them from their distress;
he sent out his word and healed them
and delivered them from destruction.

Let them thank the Lord for his steadfast love,
for his wonderful works to humankind.
And let them offer thanksgiving sacrifices
and tell of his deeds with songs of joy.

SECOND LESSON: *Ephesians 2:1-10*

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

SERMON

“By Grace”

Rev. John E. Morgan

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***HYMN 187**

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us
See the next page for hymn.

BRADBURY

I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art 624

1 I greet thee, who my sure Re-deem-er art,
 2 Thou art the King of mer-cy and of grace,
 3 Thou art the life, by which a-lone we live,
 4 Thou hast the true and per-fect gen-tle-ness;
 5 Our hope is in no oth-er save in thee;

my on-ly trust and Sav-ior of my heart,
 reign-ing om-ni-po-tent in ev-ery place;
 and all our sub-stance and our strength re-ceive;
 no harsh-ness hast thou and no bit-ter-ness.
 our faith is built up-on thy prom-ise free;

who pain didst un-der-go for my poor sake;
 so come, O King, and our whole be-ing sway;
 sus-tain us by thy faith and by thy power,
 O grant to us the grace we find in thee,
 Lord, give us peace, and make us calm and sure,

I pray thee from our hearts all cares to take.
 shine on us with the light of thy pure day.
 and give us strength in ev-ery try-ing hour.
 that we may dwell in per-fect u-ni-ty.
 that in thy strength we ev-er-more en-dure.

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

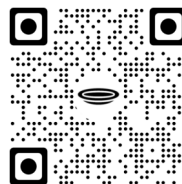
We believe that in the death of Jesus on the cross God achieved and demonstrated once for all the costly forgiveness of our sins. Jesus Christ is the Reconciler between God and the world. He acted on behalf of sinners as one of us, fulfilling the obedience God demands of us, accepting God's condemnation of our sinfulness.

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.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Come, Thou Fount

arr. Craig Courtney

Come, thou fount of every blessing,
Tune my heart to sing thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,
Call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet
Sung by flaming tongues above;
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,
Mount of thy redeeming love.

(Anthem continues on the next page.)

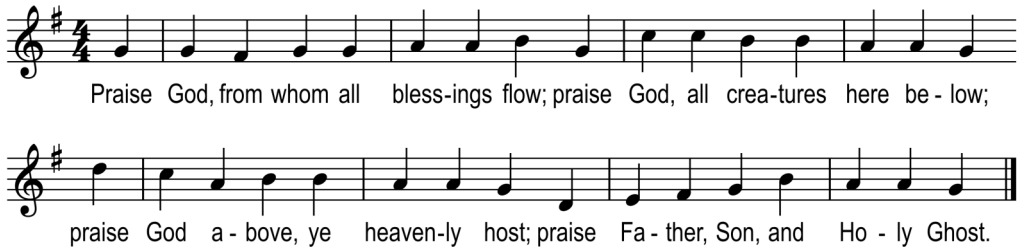
Here I raise my Ebenezer,
Hither by thy help I'm come;
And I hope, by thy good pleasure,
Safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
Wandering from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger,
Interposed his precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor
Daily I'm constrained to be!
Let thy goodness, like a fetter,
Bind my wandering heart to thee:
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
Prone to leave the God I love;
Here's my heart, O take and seal it,
Seal it for thy courts above.

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

TALLIS' CANON



Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here be low;
praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

***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 634**

To God Be the Glory
See the next page for hymn.

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Postludium in G Major

Fanny Mendelssohn/Hensel

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** ∞

This morning's prelude is the closing movement of Felix Mendelssohn's third organ sonata. Mendelssohn, who lived from 1809-1847, was a prolific German composer, pianist, organist, and conductor in the opening of the Romantic period. He championed the music of J. S. Bach, which had fallen out of favor. The crown jewels of Mendelssohn's organ compositions would be his six organ sonatas, each of which consist of multiple movements named for their tempo markings.

Performing our prelude is Gianna Gibson. Gianna, a native of Williamsburg, is an eighth grade home-schooled student. She studies piano and pipe organ under the direction of Rebecca Davy. Besides her love of music, Gianna enjoys drawing, ceramics, observing nature, and video games.

Our postlude is by Felix Mendelssohn's sister, Fanny Hensel. Fanny was a notable composer in her own right, though her career was hampered by societal expectations placed upon women. Her father would write, comparing her future with her brother's, "Music will perhaps become *his* profession, while for *you* it can and must be only an ornament". Felix and Fanny would stay close, championing each other's music. Felix was due to compose the recessional for Fanny's wedding to Wilhelm Hensel, but was unable to attend due to an injury abroad. The problem was not solved by the evening before the wedding, when the family was in the midst of a lavish celebration. She would later write to her brother, "At about 9, Hensel suggested that I should simply do it myself, and I had the impertinence to start right away in front of all those present and was finished around 1, and I do believe it is not bad ... The wedding-eve party was very nice". The resulting composition is Fanny Hensel's *Postludium in G Major*. .

∞ **THE CHANCEL FLOWERS** ∞

The flowers are given today to the glory of God and
in loving memory of his wife, Gladys, by Leon Looney.

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To God Be the Glory

1 To God be the glo - ry; great things he has done!
2 Great things he has taught us; great things he has done,

So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
and great our re - joic - ing through Je - sus the Son;

who yield - ed his life an a - tone - ment for sin,
but pur - er and high - er and great - er will be

and o - pened the life - gate that all may go in.
our won - der, our trans - port, when Je - sus we see.

(refrain on the next page.)

This American gospel song became popular in England in the late 19th century, then returned to this country in the mid-20th century with the Billy Graham crusades. Its continuing popularity may well be due to the freedom from subjective considerations in its praise of God.

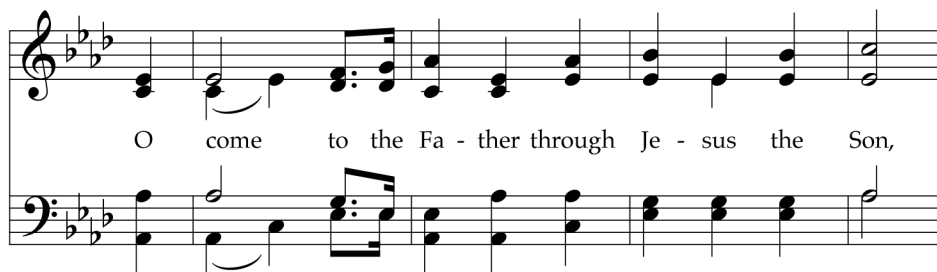
Refrain




Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice!



Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the people rejoice!



O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,



and give him the glory: great things he has done!

☞ **THOSE SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY** ☞

PASTORS

John E. Morgan, Pastor/Head of Staff
Pam Hrcir, Associate Pastor

MUSIC MINISTRY

Norman Elton, Organist and Assistant Director of Music
Gianna Gibson, guest organist
Linda Poinsett, guest Chancel Choir director
Chancel Choir

LITURGIST

Jackson Black

SHARING FAITH WITH CHILDREN

Megan Davis

GREETER

9:30am Cheryl Roettger
11:00am Susan White, Dick Hubbard

USHERS

9:30am Matt Underwood, Pat Underwood, Anne Nicastro, Nick Nicastro
11:00am Bob Bolstad, Megan Davis, Sarah Houghland

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOST

Sue Rennagel, Sarah Smith, Terry Backus

***WILLIAMSBURG LANDING USHERS**

Doris Gilfillan, Linda Eichhorn

***WINDSOR MEADE USHER**

Paul Hotinger

AUDIO AND VIDEO TECHNICIANS: Dave McLain and John Schoenberger

*Satellite campuses

☞ 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, March 10 – Saturday, March 16

Pastor Pam Hrnrcir • phrnrcir@mywpc.org • 757-508-4668

The WPC Family extends its deepest Christian sympathy and prayers to:

- The family of WPC member, Barbara Elizabeth Williamson Benson, who died on Saturday, March 2, 2024. Pastor John E. Morgan officiated a memorial service Friday, March 8, 2024, at R. Hayden Smith Funeral Home in Hampton, VA. A reception followed the service.

Please pray for:

- Tom Cobb, Lynn Curtin, Carole McNeel, Bob Siclari, Ellie Thuermer, Stephen Custer.
- 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 ↻

- Chris Bechtler, Director of Music, is spending time with family.
- **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/lentlunch or stop by the church Welcome Center and complete an order form. **Orders must be placed by Sunday evening.**
- **FISH Food Collection: Our next FISH collection will be Sunday, March 17.** FISH currently needs vegetable oil, flavored oatmeal, pancake mix, brownie/cake mix, as well as mayonnaise, grape jelly, canned pastas (ravioli), beef stew, shampoo, laundry detergent, deodorant, and feminine hygiene products. We also welcome donations of hotel toiletries. Please place your donations in or near the red shopping cart located by the rear entrance.
- **One Great Hour of Sharing reaches out to bring relief and hope to a needy world.** Your gifts to this special offering helps to provide food, shelter, water, and more to those who are suffering. We see images of those in despair in Ukraine, Syria, The Middle East, and here at home. The needs are great. Jesus calls us to provide for “those who have the least.” Please help make a difference. Envelopes are available for your gifts. Checks may be written to WPC with “One Great Hour of Sharing” on the memo line. Or you may give to special offerings on the mywpc.org website.
- **Holy Land Trip 2025:** You have been hearing about the wonderful trip members of WPC took to visit the Holy Lands in 2023. We would like to share this life-changing experience with others. Team Leaders *Pastor John, Ellen Peters, and CW Stacks* are planning a trip for the Spring of 2025. We know that right now there is a lot of tension in Israel, but we hope the situation will calm down by the time we travel. Sunlight Tours has offered a generous full refund policy if the trip has to be canceled by Sunlight Tours or if for safety reasons you need to cancel. Consider being a part of this unique and meaningful trip. **Tour leaders, Ellen Peters and CW Stacks, will be available in Stevenson Hall during Coffee Fellowship on March 17 & 24 to answer questions.** Visit mywpc.org/holyland for more information and to find a link to a video of the presentation the 2023 group shared with our members after their return. You can also view the video directly on our YouTube channel at mywpc.org/holyland2023.
- **At the end of our Lenten journey is a Glorious Easter Morn.** As we look ahead to the promise that is ours at the end of this journey, the Worship Ministry invites you to **donate an Easter Lily** in Honor or in Memory of someone while helping to beautify our church on Easter Sunday.
A donation of \$17 per lily is requested. You may place your order using the envelope in the bulletin today or pay on-line at www.mywpc.org/lilies from **now until Sunday, March 17.** After today envelopes for ordering will be available in the Church Welcome Center and also in the friendship pads until Sunday, March 17.
- **The Fellowship Breakfast sponsored by the Men, normally held on the first Saturday,** is being hosted this month by the **Williamsburg United Methodist Church Churchwide Fellowship on Saturday, March 16, 2024, 8:30am.** Women and Men of WPC are invited to attend. 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 13, 2024.** A \$10 donation will be collected at the breakfast.

- **The WPC Book Club** will meet on **Monday, March 25, 2024, at 2 pm** in Room 220 (and on Zoom) to discuss *The Displacements*, by Bruce Holsinger.
- **The Story of DANIEL at the Sight & Sound Theater:** Have you ever wondered what it would be like to experience first-hand the stories of the Bible? Now is your chance! You are invited to immerse yourself as if you were there when we travel via motorcoach to this most unique experience scheduled **for October 9-10, 2024**. It will be held at the beautiful **Sight & Sound Theater** in Lancaster, PA. From the fiery furnace to the infamous den of lions, **the Story of DANIEL** is a spectacular theatrical experience for the whole family. Witness one of the Bible's most hope-filled stories as it comes to life.

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 mywpc/daniel to register. Questions? Please contact *Janie Moyers.

ALL-INCLUSIVE TRIP COST INCLUDES (per person):

- Motor coach 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

***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, MARCH 10

- 9:30am **In-person Worship / Sanctuary; Live-Stream Worship; visit mywpc.org to access**
10:30am Fellowship Coffee Hour / Stevenson Hall
11:00am **In-person Worship / Sanctuary; Broadcast on FM93.5 The Burg and AM740 or wmbgradio.com**
5:30pm Youth Group / CE Wing

MONDAY, MARCH 11

- 1:00pm Caregiver Support Group / Rm 123
1:00pm Presbyterian Women's Circle 3—Miriam / Stevenson Hall
5:15pm Communications Ministry / Zoom
6:00pm WYO Rehearsal / Stevenson Hall, Choir Rm, LL049
7:00pm Hunger and Homeless Meeting / LL10
7:00pm Williamsburg Choral Guild Rehearsal / Choir Rm

TUESDAY, MARCH 12

- 10:00am Adult Bible Study / Rm 220
1:00pm In-person Staff Meeting / Stevenson Hall
1:30pm Kirk Krafters / Church Library
5:30pm Resources Ministry Mtg / Rm 255
6:00pm Stephen Ministry Mtg/Training / Rm 220 and LL010
6:30pm Presbyterian Women's Circle 5—Eunice, Rm 222
7:00pm AA Williamsburg Big Book Study / LL009 and LL049
7:00pm Incoming Elders and Deacons Training / Stevenson Hall

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13

- 7:30am Men's Bible Bacon Study / Stevenson Hall
10:00am Presbyterian Women's Circle 14 / Rm 220
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, MARCH 14

- 12:00pm Organ Lessons / Sanctuary

FRIDAY, MARCH 15

SATURDAY, MARCH 16

- 8:30am Fellowship Breakfast sponsored by the Men at Williamsburg United Methodist Church / Rm 174

☞ NEXT SUNDAY IN WORSHIP ☞

March 17, 2024 • 5th Sunday in Lent

The sermon is based on John 12:20-33.

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

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