

PRAYING LIKE JESUS IN LENT



WILLIAMSBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
3RD SUNDAY IN LENT
MARCH 23, 2025

PRAYER FOR PREPARATION

Your glory and power, O God, surround us in the sanctuary. We lift up our hands and call on your name. We are your people, thirsty for the living water you alone can give. When we consider how you have helped us, giving us a spring that gushes up to eternal life, we cling to you, singing praises with joyful lips; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

THE GATHERING PREPARING TO HEAR THE WORD

PASTORAL GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. John E. Morgan

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Laurie May

MINUTE FOR MISSION: Presbyterian Women's Mission Luncheon

Allen Hogge

PRELUDE

Pastorella

J. S. Bach

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Leader: Everyone who thirsts:

**All: Come to the waters,
seek the Lord,
repent and return
so that you may live.**

Leader: All who are hungry for righteousness:

(Call to Worship continues on the next page.)

*Please rise in body or spirit. The people's responses are in **bold type**.

**All: Come to the waters,
 seek the Lord,
 repent and return
 so that you may live.**

Leader: All who need the help of God:

**All: Come to the waters,
 seek the Lord,
 repent and return
 so that you may live.**

***HYMN 415** Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy

RESTORATION

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

Leader: The Scriptures call us to turn from sinful ways and return to God, who offers mercy and pardon. Trusting in that mercy, let us call upon God who is near.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (unison)

**Holy God,
 we confess that we have grown complacent
 in our response to you.
You set before us a rich feast of blessing,
 but we are drawn to lesser things that cannot satisfy.
You call us to attend to urgent needs in the world,
 but we indulge our own desires.
Our ways are not your ways;
 our thoughts do not ascend to your thoughts.
Forgive us when we fall short of your claim upon our lives.
Disturb our complacency and quicken our desire
 for a more fruitful life.
Be patient, we pray, as we amend who we are,
 in the hope of becoming who you intend us to be.
We ask this in the name of our Savior,
 your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

A TIME FOR SILENT PRAYER

***KYRIE** (responsive)

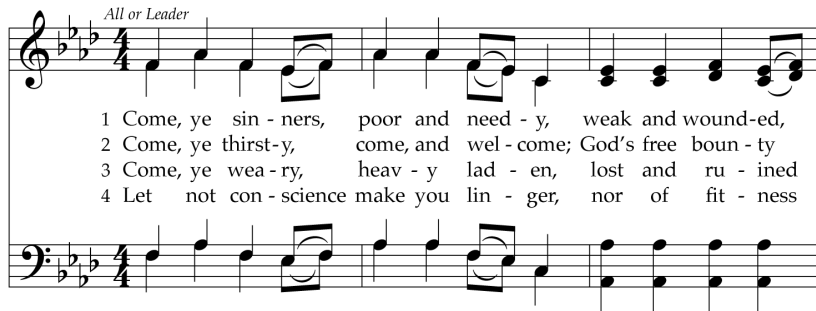
Leader: Lord, have mercy.

People: Christ, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy

415 Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy

All or Leader

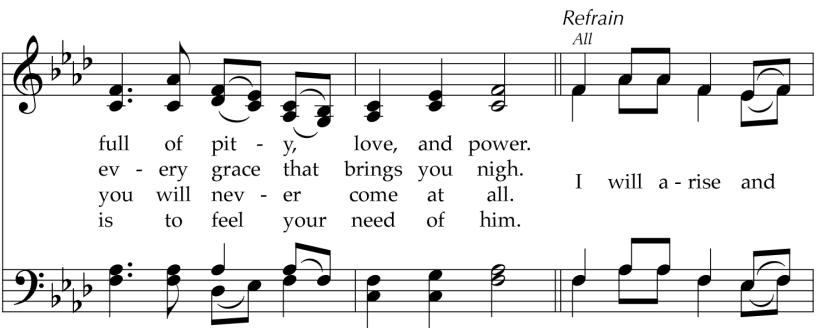


1 Come, ye sin - ners, poor and need - y, weak and wound-ed,
2 Come, ye thirst-y, come, and wel - come; God's free boun - ty
3 Come, ye wea - ry, heav - y lad - en, lost and ru - ined
4 Let not con - science make you lin - ger, nor of fit - ness

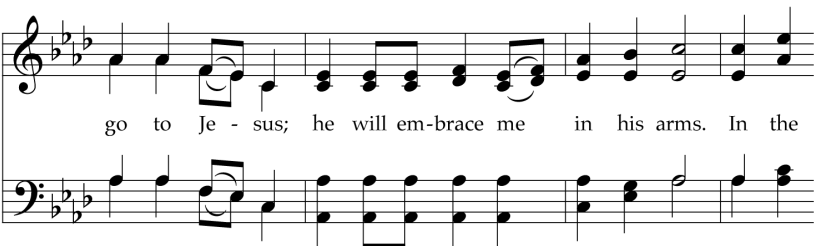


sick and sore; Je - sus read - y stands to save you,
glo - ri - fy, true be - lief and true re - pen - tance,
by the fall; if you tar - ry till you're bet - ter,
fond - ly dream; all the fit - ness he re - quir - eth

Refrain
All



full of pit - y, love, and power.
ev - ery grace that brings you nigh. I will a - rise and
you will nev - er come at all.
is to feel your need of him.



go to Je - sus; he will em-brace me in his arms. In the



arms of my dear Sav - ior, O there are ten thou-sand charms.

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Leader: God's love is sure and steadfast,
always providing a way out,
a way through,
a way back to God.

Through the waters of baptism,
we have died with Christ and are raised with him.
With gratitude, in faith, let us walk the way of Christ.

GLORIA IN ABEYANCE DURING LENT

(11:00) SHARING FAITH WITH CHILDREN

Jim Kirkpatrick

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

Laurie May

**We seek you in your word, O God,
as though we are searching for water in a dry and
weary land. By the power of your Holy Spirit,
may this word be to us a rich feast,
satisfying the soul.**

**Then with our mouths, we will praise you;
and with our lives, we will bless you,
our Host and our Hope. Amen.**

FIRST LESSON: *Luke 13:4-9*

Laurie May

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

PSALM 63:1-8 (unison)

**O God, you are my God; I seek you;
my soul thirsts for you;
my flesh faints for you,
as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.
So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary,
beholding your power and glory.
Because your steadfast love is better than life,
my lips will praise you.**

(Psalm continues on the next page.)

So I will bless you as long as I live;
I will lift up my hands and call on your name.
My soul is satisfied as with a rich feast,
and my mouth praises you with joyful lips
when I think of you on my bed
and meditate on you in the watches of the night,
for you have been my help,
and in the shadow of your wings I sing for joy.
My soul clings to you;
your right hand upholds me.

SECOND LESSON: *Isaiah 55:1-9*

SERMON

"Come to the Waters"

Rev. John E. Morgan

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***HYMN 739**

O for a Closer Walk with God

CAITHNESS

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: FROM A BRIEF STATEMENT OF FAITH, LINES 58-71** (unison)

The same Spirit


who inspired the prophets and apostles
rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,
engages us through the Word proclaimed,
claims us in the waters of baptism,
feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,
and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church.

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.

O for a Closer Walk with God 739



1 O for a clos - er walk with God, a
2 Re - turn, O ho - ly Dove, re - turn, sweet
3 The dear - est i - dol I have known, what -
4 So shall my walk be close with God, calm



calm and heaven - ly frame, a light to shine up -
mes - sen - ger of rest! I hate the sins that
e'er that i - dol be, help me to tear it
and se - rene my frame; so pur - er light shall



on the road that leads me to the Lamb!
made thee mourn and drove thee from my breast.
from thy throne, and wor - ship on - ly thee.
mark the road that leads me to the Lamb.

Merely longing for a restored relationship with God is not enough; real repentance requires amendment of life (stanza 3). The similarity of stanzas 1 and 4 suggests both continuity and improvement. This tune was one of the new common tunes in the Scottish Psalter of 1635.

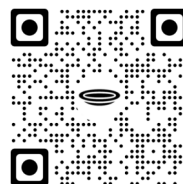
PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (unison)

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

Just As I Am

arr. Howard Helvey

Just as I am, without one plea,
But that thy blood was shed for me,
And that thou biddest me come to thee,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, though tossed about
With many a conflict, many a doubt,
Fightings and fears within, without,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, thy love unknown
Has broken every barrier down;
Now to be thine, yea, thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

DOXOLOGYPraise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise God, all crea-tures here be-low; praise
 God a-bove, ye heaven-ly host; praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

The image shows a two-staff musical score in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The top staff is the treble clef and the bottom staff is the bass clef. The lyrics are written below the notes. The music consists of a series of chords and simple melodic lines.

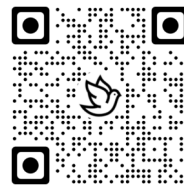
***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

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 65***Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

CWM RHONDDA

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION*POSTLUDE**

Christus, Der Uns Selig Macht

J. S. Bach

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.

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah 65

1 Guide me, O thou great Je - ho - vah, pil - grim through this
2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun-tain, whence the heal - ing
3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land. I am weak, but thou art might - y. Hold me
stream doth flow. Let the fire and cloud-y pil - lar lead me
fears sub - side. Death of death, and hell's de - struc-tion, land me

with thy power - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,
all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - erer, strong de - liv - erer,
safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs of prais - es, songs of prais - es

feed me till I want no more; feed me till I want no more.
be thou still my strength and shield; be thou still my strength and shield.
I will ev - er give to thee; I will ev - er give to thee.

Few Welsh hymns are as well known or loved as this 18th-century text that did not gain its popular tune until the early 20th century. In both its original text and in English translation, it is a stirring hymn of pilgrimage filled with vivid imagery from Hebrew Scripture.

🌀 NOTES ABOUT TODAY'S MUSIC 🌀

This morning's organ music features the work of J. S. Bach (1685-1750). Our prelude is a gentle section from a larger work. These movements are often named after their tempo (speed) marking or by the mood they convey. Our postlude conveys a markedly different character. It is based on a hymn whose text translation reads: *Christ, who makes us blessed, and who had done no evil, for us was taken at midnight like a thief, led before godless people, and falsely accused, jeered, mocked, and spat upon, as the Scripture says.* The musical treatment portrays anger and bitterness. The piece is in the form of a canon, with the melody appearing twice, overlapping each other. Bach uses this form, with one melody "leading" the other, to portray Christ being led away.

🌀 THE CHANCEL FLOWERS 🌀

The Chancel Flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of their husband, Dad and Grandpa, Sandy Campbell, and in celebration of the birth of Luke Campbell Ongstad, son of Mike and Nancy Campbell Ongstad by the Campbell family.

🌀 THOSE SERVING TODAY 🌀

PASTOR

John E. Morgan, Pastor/Head of Staff

Pam Hrcir, Associate Pastor

MUSIC MINISTRY

Christopher Bechtler, Director of Music Ministries

Norman Elton, Organist and Assistant Director of Music

WPC Chancel Choir

LITURGIST

Laurie May

SHARING FAITH WITH CHILDREN

Jim Kirkpatrick

GREETERS

9:30am Diane Schwarz, Jan Russell

11:00am Tom Moul, Anne Nordin

USHERS

9:30am Matthew Underwood, Pat Underwood, Karen Lauritzen, Wray Russell

11:00am Gene D'Orsogna, Ellen D'Orsogna, Megan Davis, Rebecca Caprio

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOST

Sarah Dulaney, Julia Smith, Karol Sibley

***WILLIAMSBURG LANDING USHER**

Linda Eichhorn

***WINDSOR MEADE USHER**

Carl Stein

AUDIO AND VIDEO TECHNICIANS: Roy Know and John Schoenberger

*Satellite campuses

☞ CHILDREN'S STATEMENT ☞

Children are welcome at WPC! We have Sunday School for all ages at 9:30am and a nursery for children ages 3 and below during both services. We also have children's worship bags and sensory objects available to be borrowed while in the building. Please ask an usher if you need assistance in locating anything.

The way we welcome children in church directly affects the way they respond to The Church, to God, and to one another. Let them know, and let us show them, that they are at home in this house of worship. Parents, feel free to sit near the front where children can see, explain the parts of the service to them, and invite them to learn by watching and copying. And relax, God put the wiggle in children, so don't feel you have to suppress it in God's house. All are welcome!

☞ 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 (handbellringer2@gmail.com). 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. During the week, please call the church office.

Sunday, March 23 – Saturday, March 29 • Pastor Pam • phrncir@mywpc.org • 757-508-4668

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

- The family of WPC member Linda W. Gustafson, wife of Rev. Dr. Robert (Bob) Gustafson, who went home to be with our Lord on Sunday, March 16, 2025. Arrangements are pending.

Please pray for:

- Denny Yeignst, Bob Siclari, Wolf Koenig, Nell Stowe, Carole McNeel

Please pray for those:

- Recovering from various surgeries, who are homebound, who have family and friend concerns, affected by the recent airplane tragedies, affected by the fires in California, still affected by Hurricanes Helene and Milton, attending and serving in the school systems, serving our country in the military services and their families, serving our country in leadership roles, affected by the possibility of job loss, homelessness and hunger, affected by the wars in Gaza, Israel, Sudan, and Ukraine.

☞ CONGREGATIONAL MEETING • SUNDAY, APRIL 6, 2025 ☞

The Nominating Committee requests a Congregational Meeting of the WPC congregation for the purpose of electing WPC member David McLain, III, to serve as Deacon to fulfill a one-year term, will be held on Sunday, April 6, 2025, immediately following our 9:30am worship service. All members of WPC are invited to attend.

☞ ANNOUNCEMENTS ☞

- Sherry Volk, Director of Communication is spending time with family Monday, March 24-Tuesday, April 1.
- **You are invited to participate in the 5th annual WPC mulching party, to be held Friday, March 28, from 9am-noon, sponsored by the Facilities Ministry.** This event is held every spring to spruce up the church grounds as part of the Easter season. Volunteers are needed to help spread mulch, and/or rake the beds and/or clean the sidewalks. Wheelbarrows and mulch will be provided- you only need to bring a rake and/or a broom. So come out if you can, and enjoy the benefits of some exercise, fresh air and fellowship for a few hours. (PS- No heavy lifting required and no experience necessary-we will provide on-the-job training!) Hope to see you there. Questions? Contact Fred Whitley*.
- **All are invited to an upcoming 3-week yoga series led by WPC member Amy Beckhusen.** This will be a gentle Hatha yoga practice using postures and breath to balance the body, mind, and spirit and is suitable for everyBODY. These sessions will take place in Stevenson Hall from 5:30-6:30pm on Sunday evenings: March 30, April 6, and April 13. RSVPs are requested but not required by emailing Amy Beckhusen* or signing up in the Welcome Center. Please bring a yoga mat, towel, or blanket to make your practice more comfortable.
- **At the end of our Lenten journey is a Glorious Easter Morn...** As we look ahead to the promise that is ours, the Worship Ministry invites you to donate an Easter Lily in Honor of or in Memory of someone while helping to beautify our church on Easter Sunday.
A donation of \$17.00 per lily is requested. You may place your order by using an envelope or pay on-line at www.mywpc.org/lillies from now until Tuesday, April 8. Envelopes for ordering are in the Welcome Center and in the Fellowship Pads.
- **Mid-week Lenten services continue:** The theme is "*Jesus Prays*," based on a segment of From Wilderness to Glory by N.T. Wright. **Noon services will be held on March 26 and April 9 in Stevenson Hall.** Join Pastor John and Pastor Pam for a time of worship, followed by fellowship over lunch. Bring a brown bag lunch or pre-order a box lunch at mywpc.org/lentlunch or in the Welcome Center. The deadline for lunch orders is the Monday morning before each noon service. **The Wednesday Lenten services on April 2 will be held at 7pm in the Sanctuary.**
- **Our Lenten Devotional for this year is titled "*Local Pilgrim: A Wandering, Wondering Daily Devotional*."** New this year is the option to receive the devotional daily as an email or text message. **Sign up for the daily devotionals at mywpc.org/lent-devotionals.**
- **All kids are invited to sign up for Camp Hanover!** Sleepaway camp options are available for rising 2nd-12th graders throughout the summer and you can register for whatever week works in your schedule. Groups are organized by age and each group gets to choose their own activities for the week. WPC is offering a \$200 scholarship for all campers with additional funding available. We know camp can be expensive and we are committed to making sure that every child that wants to can go to camp. Email Melody Dillon with questions or scholarship requests.

- **Volunteers Needed! Sign up to provide meals for our Youth Group on Sunday evenings at 5:30pm. You cook, pick up, or assemble simple meals and feel free to bring desserts, too!** The kitchen will be available if you need to prep, warm food or set-up. This is a great opportunity for a PW Circle, a Sunday School class or bible study group, a couple, or just a few friends to provide a meal for our youth. Please consider to help make a difference in the lives of our Youth Group! We average around 10 youth and 2-4 staff and volunteers. **To sign up to provide a meal, please visit <https://mealtrain.com/87ylvn>.** Questions? Contact Cory Cathcart, Director of Youth, College and UKirk Ministries (gcathcart@mywpc.org) or Melody Dillon, Director of Children and Family Ministries (mdillon@mywpc.org)
- **The WPC Book Club will meet on Monday, March 24, 2025**, at 2 pm in Room 220 (and on Zoom) to discuss *Dinners with Ruth: A Memoir on the Power of Friendships*, by Nina Totenberg.
- **Williamsburg Landing Church Ushers Needed:** At Williamsburg Landing, our church service is streamed every Sunday for residents who have no way to attend our church in person. Volunteers are needed to serve as ushers at Williamsburg Landing. Ushers welcome all who attend the service, operate the computer to show the service on the big screen, hand out bulletins, and help all feel glad to worship God together. **Please contact Linda Eichhorn* to volunteer.**

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.

☞ THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE OF EVENTS ☞

SUNDAY, MARCH 23

- 9:30am-12pm Nursery open during both worship services
9:30am Sunday School / Christian Education Wing
9:30am In-person Worship / Sanctuary; Live-Stream Worship; visit mywpc.org to access
11:00am In-person Worship / Sanctuary; Broadcast on FM93.5 The Burg and AM740 or wmbgradio.com
4:30pm Youth Choir Rehearsal / Choir Rm
5:30pm Youth Group / CE Wing

MONDAY, MARCH 24

- 1:00pm Caregiver Support Group / Rm 123
2:00pm WPC Book Club / Rm 220
6:30pm Williamsburg Choral Guild Rehearsal / Sanctuary

TUESDAY, MARCH 25

- 10:00am Adult Bible Study—Christian Believer: Knowing God with Heart and Mind / Rm 220
6:00pm The Arc Yogo / Stevenson Hall
6:30pm UKirk Dinner & Dialogue / UKirk Rm LL012 and LL011
7:00pm Class of 2028 Elders Training / Rm 220
7:00pm Deacon Training / LL009
7:00pm AA Williamsburg Big Book Study / LL009 and LL049

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26

- 7:30am Bible and Bacon Study / Stevenson Hall
9:30am Presbyterian Women's Coordinating Team Mtg / Rm 220
12:00pm **Lenten Mid-week Service and Luncheon / Stevenson Hall**
6:00pm Joyful Ringers Rehearsal / Choir Rm
7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal / Choir Rm

THURSDAY, MARCH 27

- 9:00am Sanctuary Cleaning
4:30pm Carol and Junior Choir Rehearsal / Choir Rm
6:00pm The Arc Art W&M Literacy / Stevenson Hall
7:00pm Session Mtg / Rm 220
7:30pm Westminster Ringers / Bell Rm

FRIDAY, MARCH 28

- Handbell Festival—Mechanicsville, VA
12:00pm Organ Recording / Stevenson Hall

SATURDAY, MARCH 29

- Handbell Festival—Mechanicsville, VA

☞ **UPCOMING WORSHIP SERVICES**

March 26, 2025 • Mid-Week Lenten Service

Pastor Pam Hrcir's sermon will be based on John 17:9-19

March 30, 2025 • 4th Sunday in Lent • Youth Sunday

Please join us in worship for the annual service developed by our high school youth.

✧ UPCOMING WORSHIP INFORMATION ✧

- The season of Lent began with our Ash Wednesday. Our Wednesday Lenten worship services will continue next week at **7pm in our sanctuary on March 19 and April 2 and at Noon in Stevenson Hall on March 26 and April 9. You may order box lunches online or in the Welcome Center for the noon services in Stevenson Hall or bring your lunch.**

Holy Week begins with our regular 9:30 and 11am service on Palm Sunday, continuing with the Maundy Thursday communion service at 7pm, Good Friday Family Service at 5pm and Tenebrae service at 7pm.

Easter services are at 8, 9:30, and 11am in our sanctuary.

Our Sunday School classes will not be held on Easter Sunday.

Our Church Office will be closed on Easter Monday and will reopen on the following Tuesday.

If you would like to learn more about Williamsburg Presbyterian Church visit our website located at mywpc.org.

- Our 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.