



WILLIAMSBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MAUNDY THURSDAY • APRIL 17, 2025

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

THE GATHERING

PREPARING TO HEAR THE WORD

PRELUDE

Metamorphosis
Westminster Ringers

Helman

PASTORAL GREETING

CALL TO WORSHIP* (responsive)

Leader: I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.

People: **O Lord, we are your servants. You have heard our voice and our supplications.
What shall we return to the Lord for all God's bounty to us?**

*HYMN 517

Here, O Our Lord, We See You

MORECAMBE

*CALL TO CONFESSION

Leader: In all humility, and faith in the grace of God, let us confess our sin.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (responsive)

People: **Holy and gracious God, our sin is too heavy to bear. Trusting in your mercy, we lay
before you the truth of who we are.**

Leader: We confess our failure to love as Christ loved (silence)
We confess our covetousness and greed (silence)
We confess our weakness before temptation (silence)
We confess our frailty before the challenges of this world (silence)
Merciful God, forgive us.

People: **Heal us, and make us whole, for the sake of your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, in
whose name we pray. Amen.**

A TIME FOR SILENT PRAYER

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

Here, O Our Lord, We See You 517

1 Here, O our Lord, we see you face to face.
 2 Here would we feed up - on the bread of God,
 3 This is the hour of ban - quet and of song;
 4 Too soon we rise; the sym - bols dis - ap - pear.
 5 Feast af - ter feast thus comes and pass - es by,

Here would we touch and han - dle things un - seen,
 here drink with you the roy - al cup of heaven;
 this is the heaven - ly ta - ble for us spread.
 The feast, though not the love, is past and gone;
 yet, pass - ing, points to that glad feast a - bove,

here grasp with firm - er hand e - ter - nal grace,
 here would we lay a - side each earth - ly load,
 Here let us feast and, feast - ing, still pro - long
 the bread and wine re - move, but you are here,
 giv - ing sweet fore - taste of the fes - tal joy,

and all our wea - ri - ness up - on you lean.
 and taste a - fresh the calm of sin for - given.
 the fel - low - ship of liv - ing wine and bread.
 near - er than ev - er, still our shield and sun.
 the Lamb's great brid - al feast of bliss and love.

These stanzas are selected from a ten-stanza hymn written in 1855 to serve as a monthly post-communion reflection for the members of St. Andrew's Free Church, Greenock, Scotland. They are set to a tune named for both a coastal town and a large bay in northwest England.

***KYRIE** (responsive)

Leader: Lord, have mercy.

People: Christ, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Leader: This saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. Sisters and brothers, believe the gospel: in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

ANTHEM

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

arr. Jeff Wächter

My faith looks up to thee,
O Lamb of Calvary,
Savior divine!
Now hear me while I pray,
Take all my guilt away,
O let me from this day
Be wholly thine!

May thy rich grace impart
Strength to my fainting heart,
My zeal inspire;
As thou hast died for me,
O may my love to thee
Pure, warm, and changeless be,
A living fire!

While life's dark maze I tread,
And griefs around me spread,
Be thou my guide;
Bid darkness turn to day,
Wipe sorrow's tears away;
Nor let me ever stray
From thee aside.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

God of Exodus and Resurrection, you have promised to write your law on our hearts. As we hear the reading of your Word, teach us your law of love, that by the power of your Holy Spirit, we may show forth the light of Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

FIRST LESSON: *I Corinthians 11:23-26*

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

PSALM 116 • HYMN 799

I Love the Lord, Who Heard My Cry

I LOVE THE LORD

SECOND LESSON: *John 13:1-17, 31b-35*

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

SERMON

"Unexpected Grace"

Pastor Pam Hrcir

***HYMN 516**

For the Bread Which You Have Broken

KINGDOM

516 For the Bread Which You Have Broken

1 For the bread which you have bro - ken, for the
 2 By this prom - ise that you love us, by your
 3 With the saints who now a - dore you seat - ed
 4 In your ser - vice, Lord, de - fend us; in our

wine which you have poured, for the words which you have
 gift of peace re - stored, by your call to heaven a -
 at the heaven - ly board, may the church still wait - ing
 hearts keep watch and ward; in the world to which you

spo - ken, now we give you thanks, O Lord.
 bove us, hal - low all our lives, O Lord.
 for you keep love's tie un - bro - ken, Lord.
 send us let your king - dom come, O Lord.

The author of this text, the editor of several Presbyterian hymnals, was the foremost American hymnologist of the early 20th century. Although some of his language in this text echoes early hymns of the church, he is writing here not as a scholar but as a person of deep faith.

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Williamsburg Presbyterian Church welcomes all who believe in Jesus Christ to share the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper with us today. We receive the elements by means of intinction, taking a piece of bread and dipping it into the cup. For those who desire an individual serving, regular or gluten free, they will be on a table in front of the baptismal font and on the small tables located in the balcony. If you are seated on the main floor of the sanctuary, you are invited to come forward to the chancel area by way of the center aisle and return to your pews by the side aisle. If you are sitting in the balcony, an usher will guide you to the sacrament. If you are unable to come forward easily, please signal to one of the ushers or elders so the communion elements can be brought to your seat.

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S SUPPER

Jesus took the ordinary elements of our lives— water, wine, and bread— and made them holy. He washed the feet of his disciples, showing us how to love each other in service. He fed his disciples, calling them to remember him. He feeds us through brokenness, offering us the feast of abundance that comes in broken pieces, broken bodies, hearts broken open in love. At this table, Christ will take our brokenness and make it holy. May we remember the way love is given in broken pieces this night.

PRAYER OF GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Pastor: Eternal God...

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING OF THE MEAL

COMMUNION HYMN

Drop, Drop, Slow Tears

Orlando Gibbons
(1583–1625)

Drop, drop slow tears, and bathe those beauteous feet,
Which brought from heaven the news and Prince of Peace.

Cease not, wet eyes, his mercies to entreat;
To cry for vengeance sun doth never cease.

In your deep floods drown all my faults and fears,
Nor let his eye see sin, but through my tears.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (unison)

Lord God, we give thanks for your mercy— welcoming us home from wandering, clothing us with your loving-kindness, and feeding us from your abundant table. Prepare a place for us in your holy realm, where the lost are found, heaven and earth embrace, and the dead are raised to new life; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

STRIPPING OF THE TABLE

The Table represents Christ, and the removal of the vessels is symbolic of the humiliation of Christ. Scripture is read as the items are removed and carried out of the sanctuary.

The Removal of the Bread – *Psalm 22:1-8*

The Removal of the Cup – *Psalm 22:9-11, 14-15*

The Removal of the Cloth – *Psalm 22:18-20, 24*

ENTRANCE OF THE CROWN OF THORNS

ORGAN REFLECTION

Elegy on *Eventide*

Lehenbauer

DISMISSAL

The Maundy Thursday service ends in silence.

**This evening's worship service continues tomorrow with our
Tenebrae worship service at 7pm.in our sanctuary.**

"Maundy" is derived from John 13:34, *Mandatum novum do vobis ut diligatis invicem sicut dilexi vos:*
I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you.

This is Jesus' final lesson in charity, humility and friendship.

🌀 NOTES ABOUT TODAY'S MUSIC 🌀

This evening's prelude is an original handbell composition entitled *Metamorphosis*. The selection is based on the tune of a Gregorian chant, *Dies Irae*. The chant's text describes the Last Judgement, and is included in the Roman Catholic Requiem Mass (Mass for the Dead). The tune features prominently in Western music, including Holst's *The Planets* and Saint-Saens' *Danse Macabre*, and is woven into countless movie scores including *Citizen Kane*, *Star Wars*, and *Frozen*. This handbell setting by Michael Helman includes a number of variations on the tune, each growing more complex. After reaching its musical climax, the piece turns joyful, representing the peace found in heaven and a preview of Easter morning.

🌀 UPCOMING WORSHIP SERVICES 🌀

All are invited to join us for our worship services.

Good Friday • April 18

Good Friday Family Service at 5pm in Stevenson Hall.

Tenebrae Worship Service at 7pm in our sanctuary.

Easter Sunday Morning • April 20

Easter Worship Services are at 8, 9:30*, and 11am** in our sanctuary.

The sermon "*Mary, the First Witness*" is based on John 20:1-18.

*Service is live-streamed on mywpc.org.

**Service is broadcast on FM93.5 The Burg and AM740.

Please note the following changes for Sunday morning:

- Sunday School classes will not be held.
- Childcare will not be available.
- Coffee Fellowship will not be held.

THOSE SERVING THIS EVENING

John E. Morgan, Pastor

Pam Hrnccir, Associate Pastor

MUSIC MINISTRY

Christopher Bechtler, Director of Music Ministries

Norman Elton, Organist and Assistant Director of Music

Westminster Ringers under the direction of Norman Elton

WPC Chancel Choir

GREETER

Dick Hubbard, Rebecca Caprio

USHERS

Matthew Underwood, Pat Underwood

COMMUNION SERVERS

Elders and Deacons

AUDIO AND VIDEO TECHNICIANS

Dick Sahlen and John Schoenberger