



WILLIAMSBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

EASTER SUNDAY

APRIL 20, 2025

PRAYER FOR PREPARATION

Alleluia! We praise you, O God, for the power of your saving love revealed in the resurrection of our Lord. As you have raised Jesus from the dead give to us the gift of everlasting life, that we may worship you forever; through Christ, our risen Savior. Amen.

THE GATHERING

PREPARING TO HEAR THE WORD

PRELUDE Toccata for Organ Weaver

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH Bill Riffer

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Leader: The risen Christ lives among us, calling us to be a blessing,

All: Calling us to heal and transform the brokenness and the violence of our world.

Leader: The risen Christ lives among us, calling us to be a blessing,

All: Calling us to seek out the lonely and the lost and those who need to experience God's love.

Leader: The risen Christ lives among us, calling us to be a blessing,

All: Calling us to be disciples to the world, blessed, healed, and filled with joyous good news!

*Please in rise in body or in spirit.

Bold type face congregation participates in word or song.

***HYMN 232**

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today
Instrumental arrangement by John Rutter

EASTER HYMN

***THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

***A TIME FOR SILENT PRAYER**

***GLORIA**

Thine Is the Glory

JUDAS MACCABEUS

Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con- quering Son;
end - less is the vic - tory thou o'er death hast won.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the hymn, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are written below the notes.

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

(9:30 AND 11:00) SHARING FAITH WITH CHILDREN

Laura Bechtler

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

Bill Riffer

**Living God, by your Holy Spirit,
open our eyes to see the new light of this day;
open our lips to tell of the empty tomb;
open our hearts to believe the good news;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

FIRST LESSON: Acts 10:34-43

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

232 Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

1 Je - sus Christ is risen to - day,
 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
 3 But the pains which he en - dured,
 4 Sing we to our God a - bove,

our tri - um - phant ho - ly day,
 un - to Christ, our heav - en - ly King, Al - le - lu - ia!
 our sal - va - tion have pro - cured.
 praise e - ter - nal as God's love.

who did once up - on the cross,
 who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Now a - bove the sky he's King,
 Praise our God, ye heav - en - ly host,

suf - fer to re - deem our loss.
 sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!
 where the an - gels ev - er sing.
 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

PSALM 118:1-2, 14-24 (responsive)

Leader: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his steadfast love endures forever!

**All: Let Israel say,
“His steadfast love endures forever.”**

Leader: The Lord is my strength and my might;
he has become my salvation.

**All: There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous:
“The right hand of the Lord does valiantly;**

Leader: the right hand of the Lord is exalted;
the right hand of the Lord does valiantly.”

**All: I shall not die, but I shall live
and recount the deeds of the Lord.**

Leader: The Lord has punished me severely,
but he did not give me over to death.

**All: Open to me the gates of righteousness,
that I may enter through them
and give thanks to the Lord.**

Leader: This is the gate of the Lord;
the righteous shall enter through it.

**All: I thank you that you have answered me
and have become my salvation.**

Leader: The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.

**All: This is the Lord’s doing;
it is marvelous in our eyes.**

Leader: This is the day that the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

SECOND LESSON: John 20:1-18

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

SERMON

“Mary, the First Witness”

Rev. John E. Morgan

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*HYMN 246

Christ Is Alive

TRURO

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH FROM A BRIEF STATEMENT OF FAITH: (responsive)

Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

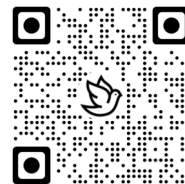
PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (unison)

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

The Strife Is O'er

arr. Michael Costello

Alleluia!

The strife is o'er, the battle done;
Now is the victor's triumph won;
Now be the song of praise begun.

Alleluia!

The powers of death have done their worst,
But Christ their legions has dispersed.
Let shouts of holy joy outburst.

Alleluia!

(Anthem continues on the next page.)

Christ Is Alive!

246

1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands
 2 Christ is a - live! No lon - ger bound to dis - tant
 3 In ev - ery in - sult, rift, and war where col - or,
 4 Wom - en and men, in age and youth, can feel the
 5 Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to

emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with
 years in Pal - es - tine, but sav - ing, heal - ing,
 scorn, or wealth di - vide, Christ suf - fers still, yet
 Spir - it, hear the call, and find the way, the
 this and ev - ery age, till earth and sky and

prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.
 here and now, and touch - ing ev - ery place and time.
 loves the more, and lives, where e - ven hope has died.
 life, the truth, re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.
 o - cean ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

In 1968 Easter fell ten days after the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr., and this text was written to express an Easter hope while mindful of that terrible event. Buoyed by a triple-arched tune, it affirms the presence of a wounded, risen Christ with all who suffer.

The three sad days have quickly sped,
He rises glorious from the dead.
All glory to our risen Head!
Alleluia!

Lord, by the stripes which wounded you,
From death's sing free your servants too
That we may live and sing to you.
Alleluia!

***DOXOLOGY** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow. Praise God, all crea-tures here be - low.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise God a - bove, ye heaven-ly host.

Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

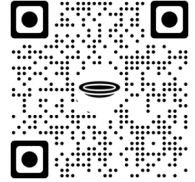
***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

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 826

Lift High the Cross
Instrumental arrangement by Hal Hopson

CRUCIFER

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Toccata from Symphony V

Widor

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.

✧ THE CHANCEL FLOWERS ✧

The flowers are given today to the glory of God and
in memory of her mother Ruth Bathe
by Ellen Peters.

Lift High the Cross

826

Refrain

Descant

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim

till all the world a - dore his sa - cred name. *Fine*

till all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.

1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our Sav - ior trod,
 2 All new - born ser - vants of the Cru - ci - fied
 3 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,
 4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

to Refrain

the Lamb vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.
 bear on their brow the seal of Christ who died.
 your death has brought us life e - ter - nal - ly.
 praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry.

This majestic hymn celebrates the paradox that for Christians a means of painful death has been transformed into a symbol of renewed life; a sign of defeat has become an emblem of victory. With the cross traced on our foreheads at Baptism we are marked as Christ's own forever.

THOSE SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

PASTORS

John E. Morgan, Pastor/Head of Staff

Pam Hrcir, Associate Pastor

MUSIC MINISTRY

Christopher Bechtler, Director of Music

Norman Elton, Organist and Assistant Director of Music

WPC Chancel Choir

Members of Joyful Ringers handbell choir

Chris Hammiel, trumpet

Chris Dudley, trumpet

Cooper Johnson, horn

Jordan Witt, bass trombone

Lisa Farrell, percussion

PROGRAM STAFF

Melody Dillon, Director of Children and Family Ministries

LITURGIST

Bill Riffer

GREETER

8:00am Dick Hubbard, Molly Lawrence

9:30am Diane Schwarz, Anne Nordin

11:00am Tom Moul, Bruce Powell

USHERS

8:00am Gary Davis, Jodie Davis, Audrey Davis, Megan Davis, Rebecca Caprio

9:30am Matthew Underwood, Pat Underwood, Rick Murray, Pat Murray, David Littell

11:00am Ruth Cobb, Donna Powell, Shanna Due, JD Due, Rebecca Caprio

SHARING FAITH WITH CHILDREN

Laura Bechtler

***WILLIAMSBURG LANDING USHERS**

Terry Backus and Linda Eichhorn

***WINDSOR MEADE USHER**

Ray Whitney

AUDIO AND VIDEO TECHNICIANS: Roy Knox and John Schoenberger

*Satellite campuses

WPC Elders, Deacons & Staff

SESSION: CLASSES OF 2025, 2026, 2027

Moderator: John E. Morgan

Clerk of Session: Diane Schwarz

Administration: Faith Shartzler* (25), Sarah Houghland (25), Margie Newcomer (26), Larry Pulley (26)

Christian Education: Sallie McLain* (25), Kelly Kirkpatrick (26), JD Due* (26), Kathryn Hall (27)

Christian Outreach: * Jim Winthrop* (25), Joseph Kinard (27)

Communications: Ellen Peters (27)

Facilities: Dale Trowbridge* (25), Jerry Howell (26), Ric Cheston (27)

Resources: Elaine McBeth (25), Jay Eaton (26), Marc Moyers (27)

Worship: Becky Mckinley* (27)

ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE:

Hank Vernon* (25), Jim Austin (26), Joseph Kinard (26), Martha Squire (27), Al Thomas* (25)

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: CLASS OF 2024-25

Moderator: Jerry Howell*, Ric Cheston**, Roban Graham, Ellen D'Orsogna, Jay Hardy, Dave McLain, Bev Whitley

**Moderator **Second Chair*

BOARD OF DEACONS: CLASSES OF 2025, 2026, 2027

Moderator: Copper Perry (25) **Vice-Moderator:** Eric Beckhusen (26)

Pastoral Advisor: Pam Hrcir, Associate Pastor

Secretary: Jo Ann Youhas (25)

CARE TEAMS

Care Connections: Harold Herring (25), Jennifer LaDow (26), Suzanne Stuart (27)

Grief: Copper Perry (25), Bev Whitley (27)

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

Patriot's Colony: Sue Rennagel (25)

Williamsburg Landing: Doris Gilfillan(26), Carolyn Lodzieski (26)

Windsor Meade: Happy Simmons (25), Martha Burian (26)

MINISTRY TEAMS

Celebrations and Concerns: Sarah Horner (25), Laura Osman (27)

Christian Fellowship: Happy Simmons (25), Sue Rennagel (25), Sarah Dulaney (25), Jim Carey (27)

Flower Sharing: Laura Bechtler (25): Leigh Sutherland (26), Carol Thomas (26)

New Member: Deborah Rockafellow (25), Eric Beckhusen (26), Rodney Lawrence (27)

Memorial Receptions: Rebecca Caprio (26), Jo Ann Youhas (25), Karen Lauritzen (27), Julia Smith (27)

Memorial Services: Ford Mosely (27), Jack Lassiter (27), Kathy Chambers (27), Dave Littell (25)

STAFF

Pastoral Staff: John E. Morgan, Pastor/Head of Staff; Pam Hrcir, Covenant Pastor for Congregational Care

Program Staff: Melody Dillon, Director of Children and Family Ministries

Music Staff: Chris Bechtler, Director of Music; Norman Elton, Organist, Assistant Director of Music; Rebecca Elton, Carol Choir Director

Administrative Staff: Stephen Foster, Director of Finance and Administration; Vanessa Gamble, Church Secretary; Martha Reier, Administrative Assistant; Sherry Volk, Director of Communications; Barbara Walker, Accounting Assistant

Facility Staff: Elbert Fleming, Facility Manager; Hugh Jamerson, Sexton

Audio Booth: John Schoenberger, Technician

☞ 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, April 20 – Saturday, April 26 • Pastor Pam • phrncir@mywpc.org • 757-508-4668

Please pray for:

- Denny Yeignst, Bob Siclari, Wolf Koenig, Nell Stowe, Carole McNeel, and families who have recently lost loved ones.

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.

⌘ ANNOUNCEMENTS ⌘

- **Help flower the Cross:** Today, Easter morning, a white cloth has been draped over the cross outside by the Richmond Road sanctuary doors, symbolizing the resurrected Christ. Please help us to decorate the cross this morning with flowers you have brought or with the flowers provided to decorate the cross. The decorated cross is the perfect setting for a family picture.
- **DON'T MISS the annual Local Mission Luncheon, sponsored by Presbyterian Women (PW) on April 27 at Noon in Stevenson Hall.** This year's luncheon will raise awareness and monetary support for Edmarc, the nation's first hospice for children, founded by Suffolk Presbyterian Church members in 1978. Enjoy a FREE luncheon hosted by PW Circles, followed by a short program by Debbie Stitzer-Brame, Edmarc's Executive Director. Learn how Edmarc's family-centered, compassionate services for seriously ill children and their families provide strength, comfort, and hope for the journey. Registration is available in the Welcome Lobby, online at mywpc.org/edmarc, or by calling the Church Office. Monetary donations will be accepted at the Luncheon or by the Church office (make checks payable to Williamsburg Presbyterian Church, Memo line: PW Local Mission) and online at mywpc.org/edmarc
- **The Flourish Tree is ready to bloom! With the arrival of Easter and vibrant spring growth all around us, our "flourish tree" wall graphic in the Welcome Lobby at the back of the church is ready for the season.** Inspired by nature, please pick up a flower from the basket and add it to the tree with your response to the question, "*Where is God blossoming in your life and in the world?*"
- **Explore Paul's journey with the Adult Fellowship Class:** Are you watching the fascinating story of the spread of Christianity through Paul and other early missionaries on the Amazon Prime series called "Discovering Apostle Paul"?

Beginning on April 27 the Fellowship Class will lead a part-lecture, part-discussion study of Paul's journey, but rather than watch a show you can participate with others in an exploration that promises to provide insights into the lives and history of biblical figures and places! A typical Sunday morning you will find in attendance about 30 friendly adults ready to dive into an insightful study led by a prepared guide. You can attend each week or jump in anytime!

Come along as the class discovers how the encounter with Jesus changed Paul's life and how it impacted the entire world with the 'good news' message of Jesus Christ. The class meets every Sunday at 9:30am in Room 009 on the lower level.

Have questions or want to know more? Please contact one of the class coordinators: Larry Pulley* or Allen Hogge*.

- **Earthcare Picnic at York River State Park: Sign up now! Saturday, May 3 • 12-3pm.** Join the picnic potluck sponsored by the Earth Care committee to personally enjoy God's bounty of living water that is the York River. This is a family-friendly event that will include a ranger talk and tour of the Living Shoreline project in the park. Stay and take advantage of kayaking opportunities in the marshes.

The picnic will begin at noon, followed by a guided ranger talk and tour of the Living Shoreline project. Our Earth Care team will supply sandwiches, fruit and vegetable trays, and water. Optionally, we invite participants to bring any sides or desserts to share. Click below to learn more and register. Contact Bev Whitley* or the Church Office with any questions.

- **Response to Hurricane Helene: A Mission Trip has been planned for May 15-18, 2025.** Hurricane Helene struck the western part of North Carolina in late September 2024. Residents in the path continue to recover from the devastating storm, and now WPC family members have the opportunity to help in person. We are putting together a team of volunteers to travel to Montreat/Black Mountain, NC in May.

Our team will work with Black Mountain Presbyterian Church, possibly clearing downed trees, performing home repairs, and clearing away trash and debris. To learn more about the mission trip and how to participate, or contact trip coordinator Jim Kirkpatrick.*

- **Faithful in the Fairways Women's Golfing Group Returns Friday, April 18, 2025, 10:00am. It's that time of year again! Faithful in the Fairways is kicking off the season with 9 holes and lunch at Williamsburg National.** We will play the Jamestown on Friday, April 18 at 10am and then gather for lunch and a time of fellowship.

If you signed up last year, you should see an email soon and we will play several times over the summer. If you'd like to join us, please contact Copper Perry* to add your name to the list. Hope to see you out there!

- **The WPC Book Club will meet on Monday, April 28, 2025,** at 2 pm in Room 220 (and on Zoom) to discuss *Good Night, Irene*, by Luis Alberto Urrea.
- **Our next Orientation Luncheon is scheduled for Sunday, June 8, 2025, immediately after the 11:00am worship service.** Come and enjoy great food and great conversation with members and staff as you get to know the people and ministries of WPC. If the Holy Spirit is nudging you to become a part of this church community, reach out to Pastor Pam (phrncir@mywpc.org) after the service.
- **All children 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.
- **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.

🌀 UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENT 🌀

An Opportunity from HART, May 4 • 2:30 - 4pm • St. Martin's • 1333 Jamestown Road: Join Historic Area Religions Together (HART) for an afternoon of storytelling, solidarity-building, and dialogue. We'll explore how the shared values of our religious traditions can empower us to stand up for ourselves and others, combat bullying, and promote kindness, fairness, and respect for human dignity in our community. We'll leave with renewed hope and connection and ideas for next steps to keep moving forward with this essential work. Space is limited! Learn more and RSVP at:

RSVP for HART Multifaith Dialogue Kickoff Event

You may also contact the Church Office to register for the event.

↻ THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE OF EVENTS ↻

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 20

- 8:00am In-person Worship / Sanctuary
9:30am In-person Worship* / Sanctuary
11:00am In-person Worship** / Sanctuary

MONDAY, APRIL 21

**The Church Office will be closed for the Easter Monday Holiday.
We will reopen on Tuesday, April 22 at 9am.**

- 1:00pm Caregiver Support Group / Rm 123
5:00pm Kirk Connections Late Spring and Summer Submission Deadline

TUESDAY, APRIL 22

- 10:00am Adult Bible Study / Rm 220
2:00pm From His Hands Motel Ministry Meal Prep / Kitchen
6:30pm UKirk Dinner & Dialogue
7:00pm AA Williamsburg Big Book Study / LL009 and LL049

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23

- 7:30am Men's Bible & Bacon Study / Stevenson Hall
9:30am Presbyterian Women's Coordinating Team / Rm 220

THURSDAY, APRIL 24

- 9:00am Sanctuary Cleaning
4:30pm Carol and Junior Choir Rehearsal / Youth Choir Rm
6:00pm ARC W&M Literacy Program / Rm LL049
6:00pm Session Mtg / Stevenson Hall
7:30pm Westminster Ringers / Bell Rm

FRIDAY, APRIL 25

- 10:30am Soul Feast Class / Rm 220

SATURDAY, APRIL 26

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

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

↻ NEXT SUNDAY IN WORSHIP ↻

April 27, 2024 • 2nd Sunday of Easter

Pastor Pam's sermon will be based on John 20:19-31.