

Maundy Thursday

April 17, 2025



About the Prelude

The Prelude is a musical offering to help move the hearts and minds of the gathering community from the daily struggles of life to the worship of God.

On the cover

On the Thursday before Easter, called Holy or Maundy Thursday, four events are remembered: the Last Supper, the Foot-Washing of the Apostles by Jesus, the prayer of Christ in Gethsemane, and the Arrest of Jesus.

Each of these events can be found in icons, and especially on church walls as part of the iconostasis, but the 15th Century Russian icon here groups the four events together.

Learn more about this artwork by scanning the QR code:



GATHERING

(Silence during the Prelude is requested in preparation for worship.)

PRELUDE

Johannes Brahms

"O Sacred Head, Now Wounded" Op. 122 No. 9 (Hymn #221)

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Let us worship God!

(Those who are able may stand.)

**On this day, Christ, the Lamb of God,
gave himself into the hands of those
who would slay him.**

**On this day, Christ gathered with his disciples
in the upper room.**

**On this day, Christ took a towel
and washed his disciples' feet,
giving us an example that we should do to others
as he had done for us.**

**On this day, Christ, our God,
gave us this holy feast,
that we who eat this bread and drink this cup
may here proclaim his holy sacrifice
and be partakers of his resurrection,
and at the last day may reign with him in heaven.**

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

**Holy God, source of all love,
on the night of his betrayal
Jesus gave his disciples a new commandment,
to love one another as he loved them.
Write this commandment on our hearts;
give us the will to serve others
as he was the servant of all,
who gave his life and died for us,
yet is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. Amen.**

CALL TO CONFESSION

The proof of God's amazing love is this:
While we were sinners, Christ died for us.
**Because we have faith in him,
we dare to approach God with confidence.**

In faith and penitence
let us confess our sin before God and one another.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**You call us to be your voices in this world
and we stay silent.
You call us to be your hands in this world
and we keep them hidden.
You call us to be your feet in this world
and we go our own way.
When we meet those who are doubting
and say nothing, forgive us.
When we meet those who need your touch
and do nothing, forgive us.
When we are called to take up your cross
and carry nothing, forgive us.
Breathe life into these bones;
bring freedom to these lives
that we might declare
with heart and soul and voice
that you are our Lord and our God. Amen.**

(Silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

After Jesus had washed the disciples' feet,
he said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you?
If I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet,
you also ought to wash one another's feet.
For I have set you an example,
that you also should do as I have done to you."

Friends, hear and believe the good news of the gospel:
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.
Thanks be to God!

*Call to and Prayer
of Confession*

A call to confession expresses God's initiative in calling for repentance and promising forgiveness in Christ. As members of Christ's body, we confess the reality of sin, captivity, and brokenness in personal and common life and ask for God's saving grace.

Assurance of Pardon

A declaration of forgiveness proclaims the good news of God's mercy and offers the assurance of pardon in Jesus' name. The liturgist pours water into the font, which reminds us of the grace and cleansing of our Baptism, and the baptismal call to new life in Christ.

***The Peace**

**Since God in Christ has forgiven us,
let us also forgive one another.**

The peace of Christ be with you. And also with you.

*(Please exchange the peace with the words,
“The peace of Christ be with you.”)*

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

Hear the Word of God! **Our ears are open.**

Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14

(Old Testament, page 58 in your pew Bible)

Psalms 116

Philip W.J. Stopford

In the Land of the Living

I love the Lord,
for he has heard the voice of my supplication,
because he inclined his ear to me
on the day I called to him.
The snares of death encompassed me;
the pains of hell took hold of me;
by grief and sorrow was I held.

I will walk before the Lord
in the land of the living.

Then I called upon the name of the Lord:
“O Lord, I beg you, deliver my soul!”
Gracious is the Lord, and righteous;
our God is full of compassion.
The Lord watches over the simple;
I was brought very low and he saved me.
Turn again to your rest, O my soul,
for the Lord has been gracious to you.

I will walk before the Lord
in the land of the living.

This powerful and stirring setting of Psalm 116 by British church musician and composer, Phillip Stopford, features soaring vocal lines and a reflective accompaniment. Stopford (b. 1977) continues to compose prolifically for choirs and his anthems have become some of the most popular written for sacred worship and concert today.

For you have delivered my soul from death,
delivered my soul, delivered my soul from death,
my eyes from tears, and my feet from falling;
my eyes from tears, and my feet, my feet from falling,
in the land of the living.

John 13:1-17, 31b-35

(New Testament, pages 107 and 108 your pew Bible)

SERMON

“Love Alone Is Credible”

Will Wellman

(A moment for meditation)

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**We believe that at the Lord’s Supper
the community of believers is renewed
by the memory of Christ’s life and death,
by his real presence in the power of the Holy Spirit,
and by the promise of his coming again.
Christ makes himself known to us
in the breaking of bread.**

**He offers us his body broken for our sake,
and his blood shed for the forgiveness of our sins.
We accept his promises and gifts,
and depend on his life to sustain ours.**

**In turn, we offer ourselves
in thanksgiving to the risen Lord,
who has conquered death.
So we celebrate his victory here and now,
and anticipate the joyous feast in his coming kingdom.
Reunited around one loaf and cup,
we receive strength and courage to continue
our pilgrimage with God in the world.**

(From A Declaration of Faith)

THE EUCHARIST

***PREPARATION OF THE LORD’S TABLE**

***INVITATION**

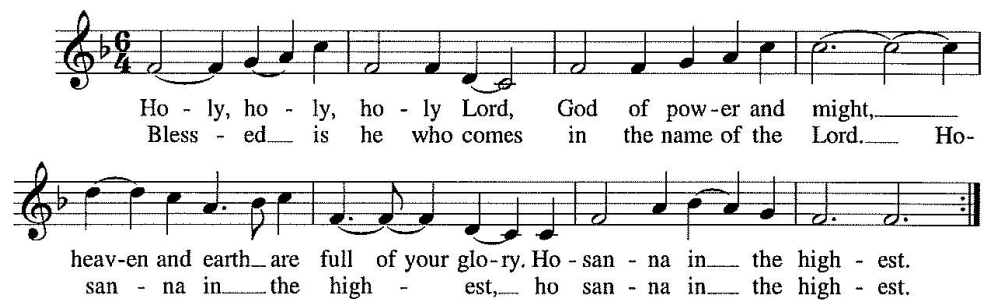
The bread served in
today's communion
is gluten-free.

*GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

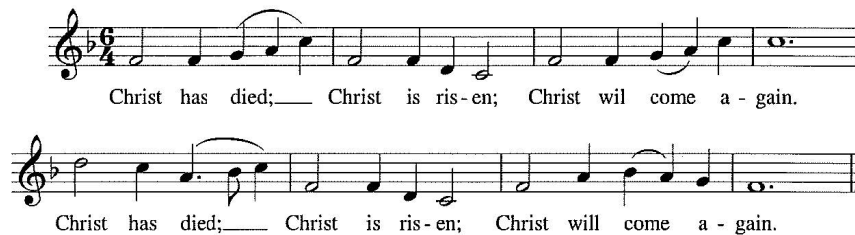
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.
It is truly our greatest joy...
calling us again to turn to your ways.

Therefore we praise you,
joining our voices with the celestial choirs,
and with all the faithful of every time and place,
who forever sing to the glory of your name:



(The congregation may be seated.)

You are holy, O God of majesty...
that our lives may proclaim the One crucified and risen.
Great is the mystery of faith:



Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us...
we will feast with you at your table in glory.

Through Christ,
all glory and honor are yours, almighty Father,
with the Holy Spirit in the holy church,
now and forever.



THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

(The people will move to the Communion stations as directed by the ushers. The celebrant will give each worshiper the bread. The worshiper dips the bread in the cup and partakes. An appropriate response is "Amen" or "Thanks be to God." Please return to the pews, using the side aisles.)

Music during Communion

Anthem

Ubi Caritas

Victor Johnson

Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.

Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor.

Exsultemus et in ipso jucundemur.

Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero.

Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.

Where charity and love are,
God is there.

The love of Christ has
gathered us together.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.
And from a sincere heart let us
love one another.

Where charity and love are,
God is there.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

SENDING

***HYMN 202**

O WALY WALY

An Upper Room Did Our Lord Prepare

STRIPPING OF THE CHANCEL

(The final act of this service is the stripping of the Chancel. The stark, unadorned church reflects Jesus' abandonment during the night in the Garden of Gethsemane. As we depart the Sanctuary this evening in silence, we move from the celebration of the Lord's Supper to the crucifixion and death of Jesus. Symbolically, Jesus Christ, stripped of his power and glory, is now in the hands of his captors.)

(Please depart the Sanctuary in silence.)

**(Those who are able may stand.)*

Welcome

Westminster Presbyterian Church welcomes you to share our common journey to become more faithful disciples of Christ. Any who are interested in joining us in this journey are invited to contact Rev. Heidi Hudnut-Beumler by email at hhudnutbeumler@nashvillewpc.org or 615.292.5526 in the church office.

Today @ Westminster

Worship Leaders

Preaching

Rev. Will Wellman
Director of Theology and Community Initiatives

Liturgist

Rev. Ashley Higgins
Associate Pastor for Young Families

Music

Laudate Choir

John Semingson
Director of Music Ministries

Dale Nickell
Organist and Associate Director of Music Ministries

Mask Policy

Westminster Presbyterian Church, Nashville is mask optional.

Hearing Assistance

We offer personal FM Receivers with an earpiece, located in the Narthex and in the Parlor on the Welsh dresser. Instructions can be found at each location.

Large Print Hymns

Looking for large-print hymns? They can be found in the Narthex at the Sanctuary entrance or in the Parlor on the Welsh dresser.

Recorded Worship Services

To watch a service at a later time, go to www.nashvillewpc.church and scroll down to the Worship Service Archive. Click on the service you would like to view.

Dial-a-Sermon

Dial 629.206.1073 after 10:15 AM each Sunday morning to listen to the sermon. The sermon will be available all week.

Childcare

Childcare is available on Sundays from 8:15 AM to 12:00 PM.

Nursery - Room 146

Toddlers - Room 152

2s and 3s - Room 151

Copyright Information

The music used in the service this morning is copyrighted under Christian Copyright Licensing International, Inc., No. 1121525.

Our Mission

Ordinary people testifying to the extraordinary light found in our Lord Jesus Christ.

"For it is the God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness,' who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us."

(2 Corinthians 4:6-7)



Holy Week Schedule

April 18 – Good Friday

Choral Service of Darkness

7:00 PM

Westminster Choir

April 20 – Easter Sunday

7:30 AM Worship Service

Holy Communion

Brass Ensemble

Laudate Youth Choir

9:15 AM Worship Service

Brass Ensemble

Westminster Choir

11:00 AM Worship Service

Brass Ensemble

Westminster Choir

MINISTRY TEAM



Donovan Drake
Pastor
ddrake@nashvillewpc.org



Sophie Maness
on sabbatical
Executive Director of Children's
& Community Life Ministries
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Guy D. Griffith
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