

WILLIAMSBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MARCH 26, 2023 • FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

PRAYER FOR PREPARATION

Lord God, Great I Am, you are resurrection and life. As we worship you this day show us who we are: bearers of good news, messengers of resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE GATHERING PREPARING TO HEAR THE WORD

PASTORAL GREETING AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

MINUTE FOR MISSION: One Great Hour of Sharing

Judy Austin

PRELUDE

Lonesome Valley
Westminster Ringers, Carolyn Koerner, flute

arr. Morris

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: O mortal, can these bones live?

All: **Only the Lord God knows.**

Leader: O people, hope in the Lord.

All: **With the Lord there is steadfast love
and great power to redeem.**

*HYMN 610

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

AZMON

*CALL TO CONFESSION

Leader: To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. Trusting in the Spirit of God, let us confess our sin.

*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.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)**

O Lord, if you held our sin against us, who could live, who could stand? We seem to have more faith in death than hope in your promise of life. We seek peace through war and find security in weapons. We abandon the hungry, sick, and dying, and pursue wealth by making others poor. And even so, you love us; still there is forgiveness with you! Therefore we worship you; for you alone, O Lord, can save us from death and redeem us from our sin. Amen.

A TIME FOR SILENT PRAYER

***KYRIE (Responsive)**

Leader: Lord have mercy.

People: Christ have mercy.

All: Lord have mercy.

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Leader: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord! If Jesus Christ dwells in you, the Spirit of God will be your life and the grace of God will be your righteousness. And if the Holy Spirit dwells in you, then God, who raised Jesus from the dead, will also give life to your mortal bodies. Friends, this is the good news of the gospel: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.

***GLORIA IN ABEYANCE DURING LENT**

(11:00) SHARING FAITH WITH CHILDREN

Jodie Davis

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (Unison)

O Lord, we wait for you, and in your Word we trust. By the power of your Spirit, set our hearts and minds on the source of life and peace: Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

FIRST LESSON: *Romans 8:6-11*

PSALM 130 (Unison)

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord.

Lord, hear my voice!

Let your ears be attentive

to the voice of my supplications!

If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities,

Lord, who could stand?

But there is forgiveness with you,

so that you may be revered.

I wait for the Lord; my soul waits,

and in his word I hope;

my soul waits for the Lord

more than those who watch for the morning,

more than those who watch for the morning.

O Israel, hope in the Lord!

For with the Lord there is steadfast love,

and with him is great power to redeem.

It is he who will redeem Israel

from all its iniquities.

SECOND LESSON: *Ezekiel 37:1-14*

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

SERMON

God's Spirit Within You

Pastor John E. Morgan

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***HYMN 286**

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

TRENTHAM

1 Breathe on me, Breath of God;
fill me with life anew,
that I may love what thou dost love,
and do what thou wouldst do.

2 Breathe on me, Breath of God,
until my heart is pure,
until with thee I will one will,
to do and to endure.

3 Breathe on me, Breath of God,
till I am wholly thine,
until this earthly part of me
glows with thy fire divine.

4 Breathe on me, Breath of God,
so shall I never die,
but live with thee the perfect life
of thine eternity.

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: FROM A BRIEF STATEMENT OF FAITH** (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.

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 now be found inside the friendship register book.

We invite you to make your offering or pledge payment in one of the following ways:

- **You may place your offering in the plates as you exit the sanctuary.**
- Click the “Make Online Offering” button below the video window on the watch worship services page (www.mywpc.org/streaming/).
- Scan the QR code at the right to access the online offering form.
- Mail your offering to the church office at 215 Richmond Rd., Williamsburg, VA 23185.



OFFERTORY

Be Not Afraid

Craig Courtney

Be not afraid: for I have redeemed you;
Be not afraid: I have called you by name
When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;
When you pass through the floods, they will not sweep o'er you;
When you walk through the fire, you will not be consumed;
You are mine, you are precious in my sight.

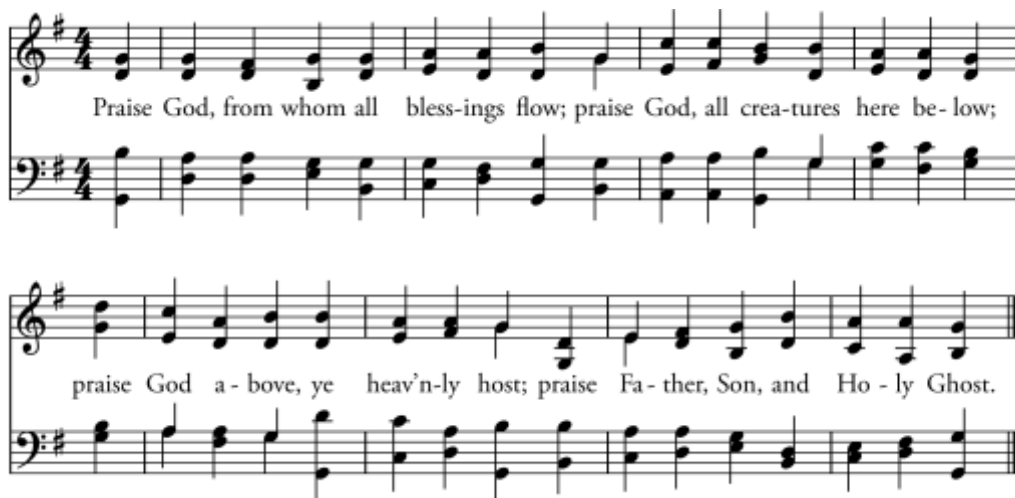
My love for you is everlasting,
My love for you shall have no end.
When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;
When you pass through the floods, they will not sweep o'er you;
When you walk through the fire, you will not be consumed;
You are mine, you are precious in my sight.

—Based on Isaiah 43:1–4

***DOXOLOGY**

All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night

TALLIS' CANON



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

praise God a - bove, ye heav'n-ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

GOING OUT TO BE THE CHURCH

***INVITATION AND 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 the "Sign Friendship Register" button below the video window on the watch worship services page (www.mywpc.org/streaming/).
- Scan the QR code at the right to access the online friendship register.



1 Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heaven, to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling;
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion;
pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation;
enter every trembling heart.

2 Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit
into every troubled breast;
let us all in thee inherit;
let us find the promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning;
Alpha and Omega be;
end of faith, as its beginning,
set our hearts at liberty.

3 Come, Almighty, to deliver;
let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never,
nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.

4 Finish then thy new creation;
pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation
perfectly restored in thee:
changed from glory into glory,
till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise.

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Dry Bones
Westminster Ringers

arr. Boersma

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 postlude, *Dry Bones*, is a spiritual based on today's reading from Ezekiel. It was written by African-American composer and author James Weldon Johnson, and was first recorded by the Famous Myers Jubilee Singers in 1928. Each stanza depicts the various bones of the body, concluding with the command, "Hear the word of the Lord".

∞ THE CHANCEL FLOWERS ∞

The flowers this morning are given today to the glory of God and in honor of our five grandchildren by Gini and Sandy Campbell.

⌘ THOSE SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY ⌘

PASTORS

John E. Morgan, Pastor/Head of Staff

Pam Hrnclir, Covenant Pastor for Congregational Care

MUSIC MINISTRY

Christopher Bechtler, Director of Music Ministries

Norman Elton, Organist and Assistant Director of Music

Westminster Ringers under the direction of Norman Elton

Chancel Choir

LITURGIST

Kathy Matsushima

GREETER

9:30am Faith Shartzter

11:00am Bruce Powell and Dick Hubbard

USHERS

9:30am Lynn Newcomer, Pat Underwood, Matt Underwood, David Littell

11:00am Donna Powell, Gene D'Orsogna, Ellen D'Orsogna, Pat Murray, Rick Murray

SHARING FAITH WITH CHILDREN

Jodie Davis

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOST

Sue Rennagel, Jim Winthrop, Ann Schutte

***WILLIAMSBURG LANDING USHERS**

Dottie Teubner

***WINDSOR MEADE USHERS**

Paul Hotinger

AUDIO AND VIDEO TECHNICIANS: Duncan McIver and John Schoenberger

*Satellite campuses

❧ SUPPORT FOR OUR MEMBERS ❧

- **Stephen Ministry offers help, hope, healing:** Are you going through a difficult time? A Stephen Minister can help. Stephen Ministers are members of our congregation who listen, care, encourage, and provide emotional and spiritual support to people going through difficult times or crisis. To learn how you can receive a Stephen Minister's confidential care, please contact pastor Pam Hrnir (phrnir@mywpc.org). Learn more about this ministry at mywpc.org/stephen.
- **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).

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 26 – Saturday, April 1

Pastor John E. Morgan

jmorgan@mywpc.org; (757-903-7800)

Please pray for:

- Eleanor Suddath, Barbara Smith, Lynn Sivells, Craig, Evelyn Sailor, Jackie Bowlin, Neal Bowlin, Steve Custer, Kathy Kruschwitz, Mary Voorhess, Richard Friesse, Jean Young, Rice Trolan, Bonnie Jefferson and Don Swain
- 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 war in Ukraine and the recent Turkey-Syria Earthquake.

🌀 ANNOUNCEMENTS 🌀

- Rachel Hébert, Associate Pastor for Community Care, and Adrian Williams, Director of Christian Education, and our middle school youth are attending a retreat at Massanetta Springs.
- **The Cross on Richmond Road during Lent: Did you notice the cross in front of the sanctuary today? It is currently draped with a purple cloth.** For many centuries purple has represented the message of repentance and thus has been the color of Lent. On Easter morning we will drape a white cloth over the cross, symbolizing the resurrected Christ. Hallelujah! Please help us to decorate the cross on Easter morning by bringing flowers of your choosing. Flowers will also be available to decorate the cross.
- **One Great Hour of Sharing reaches out to bring relief and hope to a needy world.** Your gifts to this special offering help alleviate hunger and help provide shelter, blankets, water, diapers, and more. We see images of those in despair in Ukraine, in Syria, and Turkey. The needs are great. Jesus calls us to provide for “those who have the least.” Please help make a difference. If we all do a little, it adds up to a lot! Envelopes are provided in the bulletin. Checks may be written to WPC with One Great Hour of Sharing” on the memo line or give to special offerings on mywpc.org.
- **Local Mission Luncheon, April 16, following 11am worship. All are invited! Enjoy a free lunch, provided by Presbyterian Women, and a short, informative program, “Feed My Sheep: Let’s Give Our Kitchen a Hand.”** Joe Avellar, Kitchen Committee and Outreach Ministry member, will discuss the Kitchen’s history, the myriad ministries and missions it supports, and ideas for boosting its capacity to meet current and future needs. Pre-registration is requested. Sign up in the back lobby between services or call the Church Office. Learn more, make an online gift, or register to attend at www.mywpc.org/kitchen.
- **Join us for a wonderful concert with A Cappella Choir, Descant, and The Quartette from Austin College (a PCUSA school) in Sherman, Texas. Under the direction of Dr. Wayne Crannell, the choirs will perform in our sanctuary on Saturday, April 1 at 7pm.** All performances are open to the public. The program will include sacred & secular works including folk songs and spirituals. The choir will sing at our worship services on Sunday, April 2.
- **We are still in need of host families for members of the choirs traveling from Austin to sing at WPC.** A host family will pick up 2-4 students after the concert, feed them breakfast in the morning, and deliver them back to the church by 8:00am. If you are interested in hosting a handful of students, please contact Chris Bechtler (cbechtler@mywpc.org) or Rachel Hébert (rhebert@mywpc.org).
- **WPC’s Afghan Family Update:** The past 16 months WPC has been sponsoring a refugee family from Afghanistan. The family arrived with very little. WPC provided an apartment, furnishings, rides, tutoring and friendship. The father is working two jobs and is able to pay a portion of the rent, all the utilities, food and clothing. The children are thriving in school. The mother is immersed at Literacy for Life taking up to 6 hours of English per week.

The children love soccer and are playing on Legacy Soccer’s rec teams at WISC. We need some volunteers to drive the children to Wednesday evening practices and Saturday’s games. The games are fun to watch and it’s a great way to get to know the family. If you like to drive to and from Soccer and for more information, please contact *Kay Allen.

- **Coffee Fellowship, Usher, and Greeter 2nd Quarter Sign Ups in Stevenson Hall TODAY!**
Have you been looking for an opportunity to get involved in the Sunday morning action at WPC? Please stop by the tables in Stevenson Hall today through April 2 to learn more and sign up to host Coffee Fellowship, Usher, or Greet for the months of April, May, and June. No previous experience necessary and all ages are welcome!
- **Glorious Easter Morn AT WPC** - Envelopes to order a Lily for a donation of \$15.00 each are in the Friendship Registers and in the Welcome Center. You may also place your order and pay on-line at www.mywpc.org/lilies. **Orders must be turned in by Monday, March 27.** Lilies may be picked up AFTER the 11:00 Easter service or on Monday, April 10 from 10:00am to 2:00pm. (The church office will be closed on April 10, but *Ruth Cobb will be on hand to assist.)
- **The WPC Book Club will meet on Monday, March 27, 2023, at 2 pm in the WPC Library** (and on Zoom) to discuss Empress Dowager Cixi: The Concubine Who Launched Modern China, by Jung Chang. For a list of books chosen for the 2022-2023 season, or to request the Zoom link, please contact *Ellen Peters.
- **Presbyterian Men's Fellowship Meeting on April 1, 2023: Our speaker for April will be Larry Snyder Jr., Fire Chief for the City of Williamsburg.** We begin at 8:00 a.m. in Stevenson Hall with fellowship and breakfast. All men and women of the Williamsburg community and guests are welcome. Please make your reservations by Wednesday, March 29th, at the church Welcome Center, or online. A donation of \$10.00 will be requested at the breakfast.
- **Saturday, April 1, at 10am, the Christian Education Ministry will be hosting an Easter Egg Hunt for WPC Families!** We will have two areas set up at the Kirkpatrick home: one for the younger children, and a separate area for older children. There will also be a snack after the hunt! **There is no fee, but registration is required so we can prepare.** Please go to mywpc.org/eggs or the online calendar to learn more and register.
You can still participate even if you don't have any kids! Please consider donations of colored plastic Easter eggs (filled or unfilled) and candy or treats. There is a box in the Welcome Center for donations. Thank you in advance for supporting this event.
- **Food donations needed in our area.** In February, the Williamsburg House of Mercy distributed food to 3,984 individuals. As a result, their shelf-stable food stock is running very low. They are making every effort to continue twice-a-week food distribution, but are asking for help from our community. Also, it seems Grove Christian Outreach Center is in need of donations of **cereal**. If you are able to donate non-perishable food to either of these worthy organizations, please contact *Jim Kirkpatrick.

More information about the events and announcements listed above can be found on our website at mywpc.org/news/ or on the church calendar.

***Contact information can be found in our online directory.
You may also contact the church office at 757-229-4235.**

✧ MID-WEEK LENTEN AND HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SERVICES ✧

Services on Wednesday afternoon or evening and Sunday morning are a wonderful way to prepare our hearts and minds for the Passion and Resurrection of Easter Week. Worship services at Williamsburg Presbyterian Church are open to all and we encourage you to invite your family and friends to join us.

✧ MID-WEEK LENTEN SERVICES ✧

- Join us for Mid-week Lenten worship services which continue through March 29 at 7pm in the sanctuary. Our pastoral staff will teach and lead a spiritual practice prior to the worship service at 6:30pm in either Stevenson Hall or the Sanctuary.

✧ WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES DURING HOLY WEEK ✧

- **April 2 Passion Sunday** services at 9:30* and 11am+
- **April 6 Maundy Thursday** service at 7pm* • Celebrations of the Lord's Supper
- **April 7 Good Friday** service at 7pm*
- **April 9 Easter Sunday** services at 8, 9:30* and 11am

*Service will be in-person and live-streamed on mywpc.org.

+Service will be in-person and broadcast on FM93.5 The Burg and AM740.

✧ OUR WEEKLY CALENDAR OF EVENTS ✧

SUNDAY, MARCH 26—5TH SUNDAY IN LENT

Youth Retreat at Massanetta Springs

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

12:00pm New Member Orientation Luncheon / Stevenson Hall

MONDAY, MARCH 27

9:30am Disciple Class / LL010

10:30am Sanctuary Ringers / Bell Rm

1:00pm Caregiver Support Group

2:00pm WPC Book Club / Church Library

6:00pm UKirk Dinner Dialogue / UKirk Rm

6:30pm Williamsburg Choral Guild Rehearsal / Sanctuary

TUESDAY, MARCH 28

10:00am Disciple Class / LL010 and Zoom

1:00pm Staff Mtg / Zoom

7:00pm Howard Thurman Devotional Study / Zoom

7:00pm AA Wmsbg., Tuesday Night Big Book Study / LL049

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29

6:00pm Genesis Bell Ringers Rehearsal / Bell Rm

6:30pm Lent Spiritual Practice / Stevenson Hall

7:00pm Mid-Week Lenten Worship / Sanctuary

7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal / Choir Rm

7:30pm Belonging to God—Questions with Kids / Children's Choir Rm.

THURSDAY, MARCH 30

9:00am Sanctuary Closed for Cleaning

4:30pm Carol and Junior Choir Rehearsals / Children's Choir Rm

7:30pm Westminster Ringers / Bell Rm

FRIDAY, MARCH 31

SATURDAY, APRIL 1

8:00am Presbyterian Men's Monthly Fellowship Breakfast with
Guest Speaker Larry Snyder, Jr., Fire Chief for the City of Williamsburg.

10:00am WPC Families Easter Egg Hunt and Spring Fling!

7:00pm Austin College Choir Concert / Sanctuary

✧ Next Sunday in Worship ✧

April 2, 2023 • Passion Sunday

Celebration of the Lord's Supper will be served at all worship services.

The sermon, *Obedient to the Point of Death*, is based on Philippians 2:5-11.

***9:30am service is live-streamed on mywpc.org. **11:00am service is broadcast on FM93.5 The Burg and AM740**