

MORNING WORSHIP

Maundy Thursday

In Preparation for Worship

The grass never sleeps.

Or the rose.

Nor does the lily have a secret eye that shuts until morning.

Jesus said, wait with me. But the disciples slept.

The cricket has such splendid fringe on its feet,

and it sings, have you noticed, with its whole body,

and heaven knows if it even sleeps.

Jesus said, wait with me. And maybe the stars did, maybe

the wind wound itself into a silver tree, and didn't move,

maybe

the lake far away, where once he walked as on a

blue pavement,

lay still and waited, wild awake.

Oh the dear bodies, slumped and eye-shut, that could not

keep that vigil, how they must have wept,

so utterly human, knowing this too

must be part of the story.

— "Gethsemane," Mary Oliver

Welcome

Rev. Lynette Sparks

Opening Voluntary "Vater unser" (Our Father)

Lee Copenhaver, Cello

Arvo Pärt (b. 1935)

++Call to Worship

John Nienhuis

Beloved people of God: This is the day when Christ,

our Passover Lamb,

surrendered himself to those who would kill him,

setting us free from sin and death forever.

This is the day when Christ, the bread of heaven,

shared a holy meal with his followers,

offering a feast of abundant life and grace for all.

May we never forget Christ's example.

May we never forget the full extent of his love.

++Hymn 223 "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

Hamburg

Prayer of Confession

Rev. Jen Porter

O God, in the breaking of the bread and the pouring of the cup,

we become aware of your self-giving love; we see our own

failures to live as people fed by you. In a world hungry for food

and thirsty for compassion, we are often stingy or indifferent.

We exclude others from our tables and share only with those like

us. In your mercy, forgive and cleanse us. Give us glad and

generous hearts, so that we may serve you freely...

Silent Prayer

++ Stand in body or in spirit

Bold text is spoken by the congregation

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Assurance of God's Grace

In word, in deed, in love that never quits, Jesus Christ has done for us

what we could never do for ourselves. This is good news.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

Ministry of Music "A Love so Fierce and Free" David Ashley White (b. 1944)

The Shadow of Weakness: Matthew 26:1-4, 14-16 Mark Ogland-Hand

The Shadow of Betrayal: Matthew 26:20-25 Erin Molhoek

Music Response "Ave verum corpus" (Hail, True Body) W.A. Mozart (1756-1791)

Translation from Latin:

Hail, true Body, born of the Virgin Mary, having truly suffered,

sacrificed on the cross for mankind, from whose pierced side water and blood flowed:

Be for us a sweet foretaste in the trial of death!

Sanctuary Choir

The Sacrament of The Lord's Supper

We invite you to come forward to receive the communion elements and partake

of them immediately as you receive them. Please take your used cups with you as

you return to your seats and place them in the cupholders in the back of your

pew. If you would like the elements brought to you, please raise your hand and a

server will bring them to you. All bread is gluten-free. Children are welcome to

participate in this sacrament.

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

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 sins, as we forgive

those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation, but

deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and

the glory forever. Amen.

The Words of Institution

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

Communion Music

"Cello Suite No. 2 in D minor, BWV 1008" J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

IV. Sarabande

Lee Copenhaver, Cello

Communion of the People

Prayer of Response

God of grace, we give you thanks for the feast we have shared

through the celebration of this sacrament. As you have

nourished us with love, let our lives proclaim your great love

for the world, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

++Hymn of Response 205 "Ubi caritas" Ubi caritas

The Shadow of Desertion: Matthew 26:30-35 Elder Ben Boerkoel

Music Response "Prelude in E-flat minor, Op. 34 No. 14" D. Shostakovich

(1906-75)

The Shadow of Temptation: Matthew 26:36-46 Mary Dirkse

Music Response "In monte Oliveti" Anton Bruckner (1824-96)

Translation from Latin:

On the Mount of Olives he prayed to the Father: "Father, if it be possible,

let this cup pass from me: let your will be done."

Sanctuary Choir

The Shadow of Judgment: Matthew 27:15-26

++Hymn 228 "Were You There" Were You There

The Shadow of Death: Matthew 27:33-50

Music Response "Indodana" Xhosa hymn

arr. Michael Barrett & Ralf Schmitt

Translation from isiXhosa:

The Lord has taken his son who lived among us.

The son of the Lord God was crucified. We weep, Father Jehovah.

Sanctuary Choir

The Shadow of the Tomb: Matthew 27:57-60

Music Response "Spiegel im Spiegel" (Mirror in the Mirror) Arvo Pärt

Lee Copenhaver, Cello

Stripping of the chancel.

THE FALL OF DARKNESS

Prayer of Supplication

Though the Christ Candle is removed from our presence, the Light is not

extinguished. We wait in darkness for the Resurrection.

Depart in Silence

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Lent 2025: On the Way



The Dawn of Justice, Lisle Gwynn Garrity | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Preacher Rev. Lynette Sparks, Senior Pastor

Liturgists Rev. Jen Porter, Associate Pastor
 John Nienhuis
 Mark Ogland-Hand
 Erin Molhoek
 Ben Boerkoel, Elder for Children & Families
 Mary Dirkse

Musicians..... Robert Ragoonanan, Minister of Music
 Janlee Richter, Music Ministry Associate
 Lee Copenhaver, Cello
 Sanctuary Choir

Welcome to Westminster

MEMBERSHIP

If you have questions about the life of the church or becoming a member, please email Crystal Hovey at crystalh@wpcgr.org. More information about worship and updates from the church can be found at westminstergr.org. You are welcome and celebrated here!

ACCESSIBILITY

For T-loop hearing assistance, set your hearing aid to T.

We have accessible, all-gender, companion bathrooms available off of the Dining Room.

YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS

For more information about youth or young adult ministry, please contact our Minister with Youth and Young Adults Kat Hand at kath@wpcgr.org.

AHEAD IN WORSHIP

April 18, 12:00 p.m.

Community Good Friday Service
Park Congregational Church
 Scripture, Music, and Prayers
 Ecumenical Choir

April 20, 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.

Easter Sunday
The Way of Resurrection
 Rev. Lynette Sparks
 Luke 24:1-12
 Jonathan Ruffer & Dylan Griffor, Trumpets
 Kia Weeldreyer, Timpani
 Sanctuary Choir

April 27, 10:00 a.m.

Second Sunday of Easter
 Rev. Kyle Kooyers
 Josh Leckrone, Baritone
 Kirk Singers & Sanctuary Choir



Matthew 25:31-46 calls all of us to actively engage in the world around us, so our faith comes alive and we wake up to new possibilities. Convicted by this passage, the Presbyterian Church (USA) decided to act boldly and compassionately to see our neighbors through Jesus' eyes and serve those who are marginalized or in need, by building congregational vitality, dismantling structural racism, and eradicating systemic poverty.

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MAUNDY THURSDAY

APRIL 17, 2025

7:30 P.M.