

# WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Knowing Christ, Making Christ Known

## THE PASSION OF OUR LORD

Maundy Thursday, April 17, 2025



When I let  
the room upstairs  
to the people who wanted it  
for Passover

I had no idea  
that the meal they were serving  
would go on  
Forever.



Participants in this service:

Eric Dorville, Jon Frost, Leah Hrachovec

Tim Evers

Kirsten Santos Rutschman

Jon Frost

Mindy Bowman

Amy Flynn

Joe Hrin

Steve Vicker, Zach Vicker

Steve Brown (lead usher), Rex Ebert, Chuck Lambing, Barb Necarsulmer

Rob Necarsulmer, Ana Santos Rutschman, Jerry Shuts, Don Urban

Pastors

Music Director

Organist

Guitar

Flute

Cello

Clarinet

Stations of the Cross

Ushers

*In Manus Tuas, Pater; Nothing Can Trouble; Peace I Leave You •*

*Stay with Me • All You Who Pass This Way*

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**Come Find His Rest**

Music and Lyrics: Erik Dewar; arr. by Dan Forrest, © 2022 Beckenhorst Press, Inc, One License #712543-A

**Adagio for Strings**

Samual Barber, © 1936 Samuel Barber's Estate, Published by G. Schirmer, Inc.

# ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

April 17, 2025

Maundy Thursday

7:30pm

PRELUDE

*In Manus Tuas, Pater; Nothing Can Trouble; Peace I Leave You*

Taizé

WELCOME AND WORDS FOR OUR GATHERING

Pastor Leah Hrachovec

*(please sign and pass the Friendship pad in your pew)*

Tonight, we journey through the passion of Jesus using four of our Stations of the Cross. Following communion, lights will dim, and as we listen to scripture and view the stations, you will be invited to sing choruses and share in responses, cued by a repeated line noted under each station. As the service ends, the sanctuary will be dark as the Christ Candle is removed and remains dark for a few moments. The lights will then be raised so you will be able to leave the sanctuary. Please **leave in silence**, as we wait through Good Friday and Holy Saturday for the breaking forth of Easter's dawn.

CALL TO WORSHIP <sup>1</sup>

Pastor Jon Frost

*Leader: We gather tonight to tell the old, old story:*

**People: a story of bitterness and betrayal, of despair, denial and death.**

*Leader: We gather tonight to tell an even older story prepared before the worlds began:*

**People: a story of love powerful enough to rewrite our endings with the promise of new life.**

*Leader: In the telling of the story, in the breaking of the bread, in the coming of the night,*

**People: we draw near once more to Christ.**

\*GATHERING HYMN

*Were You There When They Crucified My Lord*

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?

Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?

Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble

Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?

Were you there when they pierced him in the side?

Were you there when they pierced him in the side?

Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble

Were you there when they pierced him in the side?

For every time you asked us to stay with you, and we wandered away, forgive us. For every time we fell asleep on the job of being your disciples, forgive us. For every time we boasted of our loyalty, yet crept away, betrayed, or denied you, forgive us. For every time we meet your faithfulness with faithlessness, forgive us. God, your love for us is unfathomably deep. You take all our failures and still love us as friends. May we take the gift of your forgiveness, and share it with the world that you so love...*(let us make our personal silent confessions)*

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*Leader: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.*

**People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!**

## \*RESPONSE

*What Wondrous Love Is This?*

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,

What wondrous love is this, O my soul!

What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss,

To bear the heavy cross for my soul, for my soul, to bear the heavy cross for my soul.

## \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*from A Brief Statement of Faith*

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.

Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, 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.

## OFFERING/OFFERTORY

*Come Find His Rest*

Dan Forrest

Lynn Green, soloist

*Come weary one, leave thy labors; come, lift thy head, see thy Savior and Friend. His arms are opened wide; O soul, be satisfied. Come find his rest. Take his yoke upon thee, for he is gentle and lowly in heart. So learn from Christ the Lord, thy Portion and thy Reward. Come find his rest. I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Come unto me and rest; lay down, O weary one, lay down your head upon my breast." I came to Jesus as I was, so weary, worn and sad; I found in him a resting place, and he has made me glad.*

## FIRST READING

*Washing Feet; Foretelling Denial*

**Mark 14: 12-21**

## SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

*We will receive the Sacrament by intinction, coming forward to the servers at the front of each section. Dip the bread into the cup, partake of the elements, return to your seat.*

### Invitation

### Prayer of Thanksgiving and Consecration

*Leader: The Lord be with you.*

**People: And also with you.**

*Leader: Lift up your hearts.*

**People: We lift them up to the Lord.**

*Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*

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

.....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 Bread and Cup

### Communion Prayer

## SECOND READING

*Agony, Sleeping and Betrayal*

**Mark 14: 32-42**

*The reading takes place in three parts; singing after each section...*



Stay with me, re-main here with me, watch and pray, watch and pray.

## CLEARING THE CHANCEL

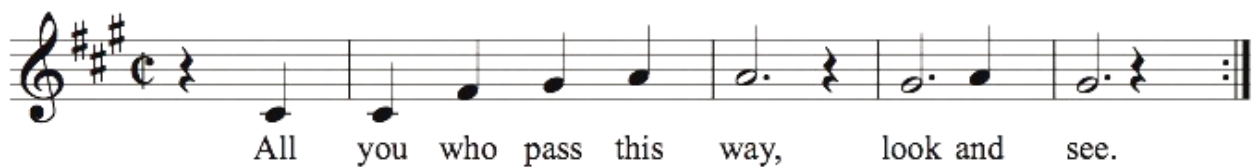
*Adagio for Strings*

Samuel Barber



*“.....they shouted back, “Crucify him, crucify him.”*

**People:** O Lord, when have I joined in the voices of the crowd, in anger, in derision, and missed seeing you right in front of me?

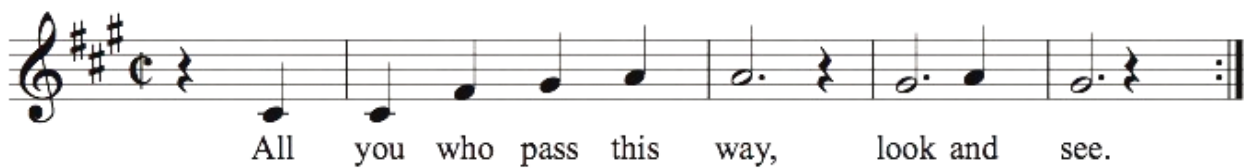






*“.....and they spat on him.....and they mocked him ....”*

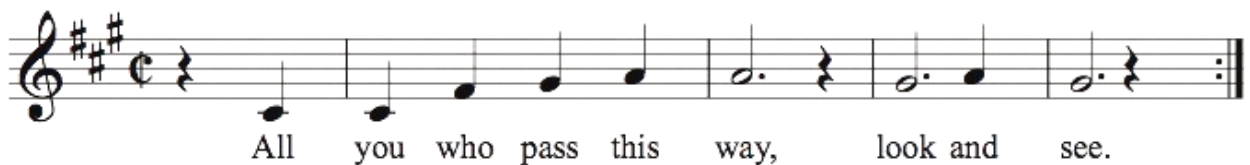
**People:** O Lord, how many times have I mocked you, when I have despised or rejected another one of your beloved children?





*“It was nine o’clock in the morning when they crucified him.”*

**People:** O Lord, how many mornings do I remember what a gift I have been given because you endured this morning for my sake?

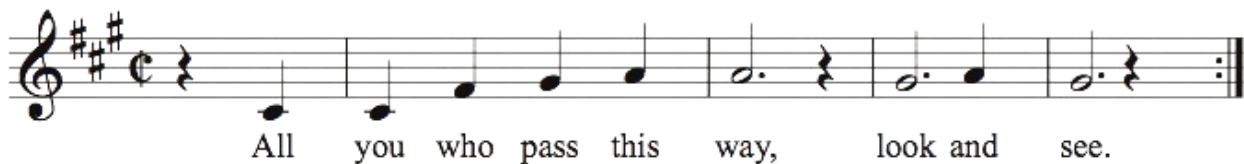






*“Jesus gave a loud cry, and breathed his last.”*

**People:** O Lord, will I confess this night that you are the Son of God, who takes away the sins of the world? When I survey this cross, will I see anew what you have done for me?



BENEDICTION and REMOVAL OF THE PASCHAL CANDLE

DEPART IN SILENCE

<sup>1</sup> Portions of this liturgy are adapted from liturgy by Carol Holbrook Prickett, *Presbyterian Outlook*.

## **GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 18**

**Good Friday** at noon – a 40-minute service led by Pastor Leah Hrachovec, Chris Clark, and Kathy Smedley and commemorating the hours Jesus hung on the cross. This service includes readings, music, responses and prayers.

## **HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 19, EASTER VIGIL**

**Holy Saturday Easter Vigil** – using the music of Taizé, led by Pastor Jon Frost, this service at 5:00 p.m. in the chapel lingers in the darkness of the day before Easter – music with guitar, clarinet, and flute; prayers; readings; and communion.

## **EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 20**

### **WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

#### **Sanctuary**

|         |   |
|---------|---|
| 6:00AM  | Sunrise service with communion by intinction  |
| 8:15AM  | Traditional service with choir, brass and bell choir  |
| 9:30AM  | Traditional service with choir, brass and bell choir; children's programming, live stream; overflow |
| 11:00AM | Contemporary service with worship band; children's programming, live stream; overflow               |

**9:30 Service: Nursery care provided for children 4 and under**

**11:00 Service: Nursery care provided for children 4 and under**

**WeeConnect and KidsConnect will have special activities  
at both the 9:30 and 11:00 am services**

## IT IS FINISHED

This haunts the world:  
Love crossed out,  
    Hammered, thorned,  
        As if beauty, or truth,  
Or holiness,  
    Could ever be broken,  
Smudged out forever.

What is finished  
    Is evil's dream  
        To nail hope down.

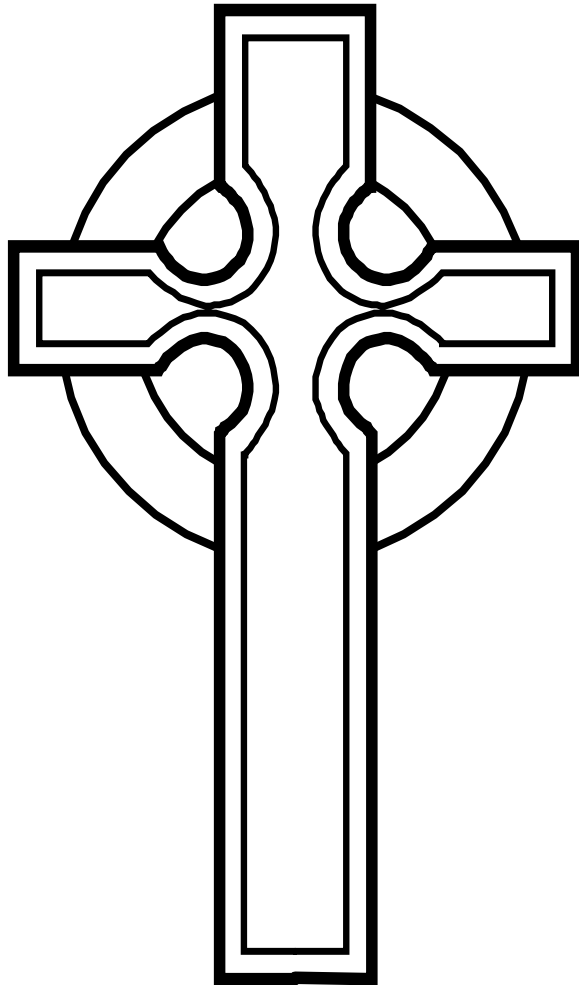
There are plenty of crosses  
Still--

Tears, pain, sorrow, fear,  
    Hearts speared, aching.

And this, too,  
Wonder of wonders,  
Love.

The thing that  
never  
dies.

--Timothy Haut, Deep River, CT



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