



THE
GEORGETOWN
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

WORSHIP

March 26, 2017

Fourth Sunday in Lent

11 a.m.

PRELUDE Aria: My Heart Is Open to the Lord J.S. Bach (1685-1750)
David Workman, trumpet

WELCOME

Leader: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

People: And also with you.

INTROIT I Love the Lord African-American spiritual
arr. Richard Smallwood (b. 1948)

CALL TO WORSHIP

from Ephesians 5

Leader: For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light.
Live as children of light;

**All: for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right
and true.**

Leader: Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the
unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them.

**All: For everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it
says, "Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will
shine on you."**

Leader: Let us worship God.

✦HYMN 182 I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say *Kingsfold*



✦Please stand or sit.

As a courtesy to others, please turn off your cell phone and no flash photography during the service.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: I said I will confess my transgressions to the Lord.

People: And you forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Leader: Let us pray:

People: God of mercy, you sent Jesus Christ to seek and save the lost. We confess that we have strayed from you and turned aside from your way. We are misled by pride, for we see ourselves pure when we are stained, and great when we are small. We have failed in love, neglected justice, and ignored your truth. Have mercy, O God, and forgive our sin. Return us to paths of righteousness through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

(Silent prayer)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Friends, believe the Good News.

People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

✠GLORIA PATRI *(Glory to God, #581)*

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.**

TIME WITH CHILDREN

After Time with Children, ages two years through 5th grade recess with leaders up the center aisle to worship. Children are always welcome to remain in the worship service.

✠HYMN 796 We Come to You for Healing, Lord *Land of Rest*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION *Elder Crystal Espie*

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Isaiah 35:3-6a (pg. 735)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM Wilt Thou Forgive That Sin *Peter Crisafulli (b. 1946)*

GOSPEL LESSON John 9:1-12, 35-38 (pg. 105)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

SERMON *One Thing I Know* Rev. Rachel Landers Vaagenes

✠THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth;
 And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the
 Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, dead and buried; He descended into hell; the third
 day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven and
 sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence
 He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the
 communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of
 the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Prayer focus: Differently-abled people

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.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Wondrous Love

American folk hymn
 arr. Alice Parker (b. 1925)

✠DOXOLOGY (*Glory to God, #607*)

Old Hundredth

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God all creatures
 here below; praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son,
 and Holy Ghost. Amen.

✠PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

✠HYMN 224

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

Rockingham

✠BENEDICTION

(Please be seated after the benediction)

RESPONSE

Amazing Grace

Traditional American melody
 arr. R. Batastini (b. 1942)

POSTLUDE

Chorale: Let There Be Praise and Honour

J.S. Bach

This morning we welcome our Parish Associate, Rev. Katie Francis, to our service. A 2010 graduate of Princeton Theological Seminary, Katie has worked as a pastoral counselor, hospice/hospital chaplain, supply preacher, and parish associate minister. She was ordained at GPC last spring into the ministry of Chaplain at Georgetown University, where she currently serves. She and husband John love to do anything outdoors with their three daughters, Wren (5), Cedar (3½), and Ozette (1) and have been worshipping with us here at GPC for the past couple of years.

About the music: The anthem this morning is a setting of one of John Donne's best known poems titled "A Hymn to God the Father." All three verses of this extraordinary poem are worth knowing, but the last casts a vision of hope: "I have a sin of fear, that when I have spun My last thread, I shall perish on the shore; But swear by thyself, that at my death thy Son shall shine as he shines now, and heretofore; And, having done that, thou hast done; I fear no more."

The flowers in the Chancel today are given to the glory of God by Laura Speer in memory of her aunt, Doris Jakob.

The ushers for March are Martin Crowson, Captain; Judi Crowson, Roy Henwood, Maria Jimenez, Jesus Jimenez, Nancy Kuhn, Donna McGreevy, Tyler McGreevy, Alex Pollock and Victoria Tigwell.

Today after the service visitors and members are cordially invited to join us in the Georgetown Room for Lunch Bunch, hosted this week by the Member Team.

Assisted listening devices may be found at the back of the sanctuary. Each device comes with a headset, but you may bring your own from home.

Readings are from the New Revised Standard Version translation of the Bible unless otherwise indicated. Blue Bibles may be found at the end of each pew.

Children's Ministries

During the service, Children's Worship continues after Time with Children.

- 2s-Kindergarten grade, escorted by leader upstairs to the West Worship Room for *Young Children & Worship*
- 1st-5th grade, to Chapel for *Children's Church*

YCW children should be collected upstairs by their parents immediately after the service. Children's Church dismisses into the Georgetown Room. All children are welcome to remain with their families in the service and age-appropriate worship bags are available in the narthex.

WELCOME

Our congregation has been welcoming members and visitors to worship on the Lord's Day since March 16, 1780. If you are visiting this morning, we extend a special welcome to you and invite you to introduce yourself to one of the pastors or speak with an usher if you have any questions. If you are looking for a church home and would like to talk with one of the pastors, please fill out the fellowship pad in the pew today or call the church office.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

2017 Stewardship Campaign

We're pleased to report that we now have 181 pledges toward our goal of 200 pledges. Many thanks to you who have already made your gift for "God's glory alone" as we celebrate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. S.D.G. We ask that those of you still considering your pledge, mail or bring it to the church, email it to bookkeeper@gtownpres.org, go online at gtownpres.org, or call 202-338-1644. Your giving is essential to our growing ministries at GPC. Please make your commitment today!

Adult Issues

**9:45 a.m. in the Washington Room
April 2, 9 and 23**—Prof. David Little (Harvard Divinity School, Ret.) will discuss "Religion and Human Rights: New Challenges" based on his recent book, *Essays on Religion and Human Rights: Ground to Stand On*. There will be no class on Easter Sunday, April 16.

Holy Week Schedule

**Palm Sunday – April 9
11 a.m. Sanctuary**

**Maundy Thursday – April 13
7 p.m. Georgetown Room**
Simple supper, service and sacrament

**Good Friday – April 14
Noon at St. John's Episcopal
Ecumenical Service**

7 p.m. Sanctuary
Solemn service of lamentation

**Easter – April 16
9:30 and 11:15 a.m. Sanctuary**
Identical festive services with choir and brass

Easter Flower Dedications

To contribute to our Easter Flowers, please fill out a donation envelope (found in the pews) and place it in the offering plate or return it to the church office. The deadline for flower dedications in the Easter bulletin is **April 10**.

Maundy Thursday

April 13 at 7 p.m.

On Maundy Thursday, we commemorate the Last Supper in a joint evening meal and worship service. At 7 p.m. we gather around the table in the Georgetown Room for a simple supper and worship service as we sing, pray, and share in communion. All ages are welcome to this service.

One Great Hour of Sharing

From Lent 1 to Palm Sunday join us in giving and prayer with the OGHs “sharing calendar,” available in the entryway. Get interactive with our mission partners at pcusa.org/oghsmap.

GPC Flower Ministry Message

During Lent, the Chancel flowers incorporate more branches and greens to honor this period of austerity and simple reflection. With Easter comes the Resurrection message and bright flowers.

Happy Birthday

March 26	Bill Krokowski Anne McCraw
March 27	Michael Baly Frances Norris Doris Rogers
March 28	Hannah Kennedy Ian McDonald ChrisThompson
March 29	Doug Elliott
March 30	Karla Address David Bernabucci
March 31	Justin Brown Alexander Martens
April 1	Jayden Thomas
April 2	Katherine Buckley Diane Whatley

New Member Conference

Saturday, April 8, 9 a.m. – noon

Join us at our next New Member Conference to review the basics of Christianity and the Reformed Tradition, discuss what Presbyterians believe, and learn how this all comes together at GPC. New members will be introduced to the congregation on **Sunday, April 23**. For more information or to sign up, please email the church office at mec@gtownpres.org.

Young Children and Worship Workshop

Saturday, April 15, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

YCW is one of the most transformative ministries in our church. For kids and leaders alike, it opens hearts and minds up to the wonder of the story of Jesus. The workshop is for those who want to learn more. **OPEN TO ALL**. Capped at 15. RSVP to Rev. Vaagenes.

Birth Announcements

Congratulations to Jessie and Louis Sterchi on the birth of their daughter, Reed Wallis Sterchi, born on March 18. Big sisters are Prater (4) and Leigh (2).

Congratulations to Alice and Spencer Smith on the birth of their son, Thomas Charles “Charlie” Smith, born on March 21. Big brother David is three years old.

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, March 26

- 11am Worship
11:15am Young Children & Worship
11:15am Children's Church
12pm Lunch Bunch
4pm Yoga
4pm G'town Sunday Dinner
5pm Youth Group

Tuesday, March 28

- 9:30am Staff meeting

Wednesday, March 29

- 10am ¿Question Mark? Bible Study
7:30pm ¿Question Mark? Bible Study

Sunday, April 2

- 9am Choir rehearsal
9:15am Nursery opens
9:45am Children's Music
9:45am Adult Issues
10am Sunday Morning Bible
11am Worship-Lord's Supper
11:15am Young Children & Worship
11:15am Children's Church
12pm Lunch Bunch
4pm Yoga
4pm G'town Sunday Dinner
5pm Youth Group

Daily Readings

- Sunday** John 4:5-42
Monday Genesis 24:1-27
Tuesday Genesis 29:1-14
Wednesday Jeremiah 2:4-13
Thursday 1 Samuel 16:1-13
Friday Psalm 23
Saturday Ephesians 5:8-14
Sunday John 9:1-41

Church Staff

Senior Pastor

Rev. Dr. Camille Cook Murray
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Associate Pastor/Christian Education

Rev. Rachel Landers Vaagenes

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Associate Pastor/Mission

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Georgetown Presbyterian Church is a founding member and supporter of the Reformed Institute of Metropolitan Washington.

OUR HISTORY

The Georgetown Presbyterian Church began in 1760 as a small group of worshipers and organized into a church in 1780 under the eminent Stephen Bloomer Balch, Revolutionary War soldier and pupil of religious leader John Witherspoon. It was the first Presbyterian Church in what was to become modern-day Washington, DC, and is the oldest DC church of any denomination with an unbroken ministry. Until long after the national capital was established, many of Washington's baptisms, weddings and funerals were solemnized in our church. People of all denominations worshiped with us, including many leaders of the young republic.

In 1782 our congregation erected the first – and for many years the only – Protestant church building in Georgetown. Additions were made in 1794 with Thomas Jefferson among the contributors. A rare charter, still in effect, was granted in 1806 to “the Presbyterian Congregation in George Town” by an act of Congress signed by President Jefferson. In 1810 our seal, with its seven stars and Bible, was given to the church by the superintendent of the Mint. In 1821, President Monroe laid the cornerstone for the beautiful Bridge Street building which was moved fifty years later to our present site, where President Grant laid the cornerstone. This is the building which we have since restored and in which we now worship.

Our church pioneered in both the religious and cultural life of this community. In 1781, Dr. Balch became headmaster of the Columbian Academy to which George Washington sent his nephews and wards, and later a school for girls was founded. Dr. Balch wrote the first book published in the District of Columbia and he helped found the first public library. Out of our church and under Dr. Balch's broad-minded leadership, Episcopal, Methodist and Presbyterian churches were established in Washington and Maryland.

Our church bell tolled all day when President Washington died. In our church George Washington Parke Custis, grandson of Martha Washington and father-in-law of Robert E. Lee, delivered a speech on Napoleon's defeat. Memorial services for President William Henry Harrison were conducted here in 1841. During the Civil War, our building became a hospital for both Union and Confederate soldiers, including casualties from the Second Battle of Manassas and the Battle of Fredericksburg. In these and in other ways, this church identifies with the history of the nation it continues to serve.

THE GEORGETOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rev. Dr. Camille Cook Murray, Senior Pastor

Rev. Rachel Landers Vaagenes, Associate Pastor for Christian Education

Rev. Christopher Chatelaine-Samsen, Associate Pastor for Mission

Rev. Katie Francis, Parish Associate

Mark Willey, Director of Music

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