



April 6, 2023 | 7:30 p.m.

WESTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



MAUNDY

THURSDAY

THE *Celebration* OF *Worship*

WE GATHER TOGETHER

Prelude

Chorale Prelude on *Valet will ich dir geben*

Gilles Maurice Leclerc**

Introit

And Can It Be?

Dan Forrest

And can it be that I should gain an interest in the Savior's blood?
Died he for me, who caused his pain? For me, who him to death pursued?
Amazing love! How can it be that thou, my God, should die for me?

He left his Father's throne above, so free, so infinite His grace;
Emptied Himself of all but love, and bled for Adam's helpless race;
'Tis mercy all, immense and free; for, O my God, it found out me.

No condemnation now I dread; Jesus, and all in Him is mine!
Alive in him, my living head, and clothed in righteousness divine,
Bold I approach the eternal throne, and claim the crown, through Christ my own. Amen.

***Call to Worship**

Leader: A table is set before us.
A feast is prepared for us.

People: **The Lord calls us to this supper of remembrance.
As we break the bread and share the cup,
our understanding may fail us.**

Leader: But we will never forget Christ's example.

People: **We will never forget the full extent of his love.**

***Opening Hymn No. 223**

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

HAMBURG

- 1 When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.
- 3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down;
did e'er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown?
- 4 Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small;
love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.

*Prayer for Pardon

Leader: Our God is not a cruel parent.
Our God seeks to be in relationship with us.
Our God loves us enough to take on our form and live among us.

People: **God will not turn us away when we confess with open hearts.**

All: **Dear God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, too deep to undo.
Forgive what our lips tremble to name and what our hearts can no longer bear.
Set us free from a past we cannot change; open us to a future in which we can
be changed. Grant us grace.**

*Assurance of Pardon

Leader: God offers forgiveness and welcomes us
to the table of grace and plenty where all the faithful gather.
This is the Good News that brings new life.

People: **We thank God for it.**

WE SHARE IN THE SACRAMENT OF GOD'S GRACE

Invitation to the Lord's Supper

Anthem

The Upper Room

Don Besig and Nancy Price

There in a quiet upper room they gathered together once again.
The Master stood among the twelve he called his closest friends.
"Soon I must leave you," said the Lord. "My Father will call me from this place.
Although you may not understand, my life is in his hands. I must obey."
They sat in the silence, tears in their eyes. He spoke once again to ease their minds:
"Be not afraid. Do not despair. When you need me I will always be there."
"Come sit beside me," said the Lord. "For here at this table we are one.
Come share this simple meal with me, and show that you believe I am God's son.
This bread is my body broken for you. This cup is my blood which is shed for you.
Take, now and eat, take, now and drink. Do this always in remembrance of me."
"Walk in my footsteps," said the Lord. "Be steadfast in everything you do, and
keep me always in your heart, though we may be apart I am with you."

The Celebration of the Eucharist

WE WITNESS JESUS' PASSION

The Shadow of Betrayal

Luke 22:39, 47-53

Song

Stay with Me

Congregation and choir will repeat:
Stay with me, remain here with me.
Watch and pray. Watch and pray.
Vinay Thomas, baritone

The Shadow of Denial

Luke 22:39, 54-62

The Shadow of Unjust Accusation

Luke 23:13-25

Anthem

Thy Will Be Done

Craig Courtney

Our cup was filled with darkness. Our cup was filled with death. Christ took our cup and drank it, and gave us life, and gave us hope, gave us himself. My father, let this cup pass from me; yet not my will, O Lord, yet not my will, but thine be done. In blackest night we hear him in dark Gethsemane. Pleading with the father for one more way, for one more hope, for one more day. Then they took our Savior and led him to a tree; and there they broke his body, poured out his life, put him to death to rise again!

The Shadow of Death

Mark 15:33-39

The Shadow of Crucifixion

Luke 23:32-43

The Shadow of Death

Luke 23:44-49

Anthem

Were You There

WERE YOU THERE

Rich Williams, soloist

Please depart from the service in silence.

**Ottawa native Gilles Maurice Leclerc composed his prelude on the hymn “Valet will ich dir geben” in 1994. Text and tune were written in 1613 in the town of Fraustadt, Germany, after two thousand people had died from bubonic plague. The text looks through death to life everlasting: “I shall say farewell to you, O wicked, false world ... To live in heaven is good, and on this rests my desire; there will God reward well him who serves Him here.” This quiet, meditative composition is reminiscent of a lullaby, perhaps suggesting the peace that comes with death.

—Sara Kyle



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