

Prayers at Gethsemane



April 6, 2023
Holy Thursday

WESTMINSTER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

162/165 East Main Street • Westminster, MD 21157 www.wumcmd.org • 410-848-8325 • 410-876-2124

Attendance — text “HERE” to 443-234-0806.
Visiting?—text “WELCOME” to 443-234-0806.

PRAYER FOR SILENT MEDITATION

O God, your glory is always to have mercy.
Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways,
and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith
to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word,
Jesus Christ your Son,
who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns,
one God, forever and ever. Amen

The Book of Common Prayer, U.S.A., 20th Cent. Alt.

GATHERING

PRELUDE - *What Wondrous Love* - arr. Smith

(Continued on page 2)

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Ken Humbert

(L) We gather with the dirt of the day on our hands, our feet, and our hearts.

(P) We come in need of a Savior.

(L) We gather with the disciples, preparing to come to the table,
yet surprised once again by Jesus.

(P) We come with expectations only to be astonished by Love.

(L) We gather at the table to be fed, in body and spirit.

(P) We come to receive a new commandment.

(L) We gather in awe of the grace demonstrated in Jesus kneeling to serve.

(P) We come seeking the grace to love one another as Christ love us. Amen.

Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, September 2022

* UMH 759 – *Lord God, Your Love Has Called Us Here*

PASTORAL PRAYER AND 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass 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.

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

GOD’S WORD IS READ: John 13: 1-17, 31b -35

REFLECTING ON GOD’S WORD

Pastor Malcolm Stranathan

CONFESSION, PARDON AND PEACE

CONFESSION LITANY AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

(L)and we ask;

(P) forgive us.

(L)The good news, therefore, is this: In Jesus Christ, we are loved and we are forgiven.

(ALL) Thanks be to God!

Written by Moira Laidlaw; Liturgies Online

PASSING OF THE PEACE

* TFWS 2269 – *Come, Share the Bread*

THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING – UMH page 13

GIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

Prayers of Gethsemane

The events of Holy Thursday presented through scripture, narration, dance, poetry and music.

READERS: Scripture, Chris Brown – Narration, Annabelle Dautermann
Psalm 116, 1-2 John 13: 21-30 Matthew 26: 20-75

Poem: *Is It I?* – by Carolyn Scott

Poem: *Gethsemane Sleep* - by David Highfield

Poem: *Spirit vs. Flesh* - by Ronnie Bohn

Anthem: *My God, I Feel Forsaken* – Susan and Lee Dengler

Liturgical Dance: Emily Gibbs, Lee Dugan
(see service note on back page)

SENDING FORTH

*Written by Rev. Dr. Clare McBeth and Rev. Tim Presswood
Church of Scotland's Starters for Sunday*

POSTLUDE - *O Love Divine, What Hast Thou Done* – arr. Powell

*Following the Postlude, feel free to remain seated and use this time for prayer and meditation.
Please leave in silence.*

Service note: Tonight's liturgical dance presented during the anthem, *The Dance of Falling Asleep*, represents the disciples who cannot stay awake when asked by Jesus at Gethsemane. The dance is an excerpt of a longer work choreographed for Kinetics Dance Theatre in Ellicott City, MD. Seven dancers collaborated in January- February of 2023 to explore themes of helplessness, abandonment, safety, belonging, and a renewal of hope in the presence of God.

Poetry and art created by our congregation can be viewed in the Martha Manahan room. Thanks to everyone who participated in this unique expression of our faith.

Some of the items are used in tonight's service:

Children's Sunday School: The tree represents the tree of life, trees in the Garden of Gethsemane, and the cross. The hand-print table cloth represents Jesus' gift to us of his life.

Middle School Sunday School Class: A burnt match stick cross representing Ash Wednesday, the beginning of our Lenten journey.

WUMC – UMYF Jesus Cross (Narthex): The large painting represents Jesus, having come to earth in human form, saving humanity by dying on the cross on Good Friday and resurrecting on Easter Sunday. Scripture assures us that He was present at Creation, He is the Word, and is present at all times. The painting also depicts that Jesus is known through different means, communion being one, and through our lives and the lives of those around us. God's love and saving grace is inclusive and accepting of all.

*Thanks for worshipping with us this evening. We hope you found it meaningful.
Please worship with us again tomorrow evening, Good Friday, at 7pm.*

SERVING IN TONIGHT'S SERVICE

Leading Worship: Rev. Dr. Malcolm Stranathan, Rev. Ken Humbert

Music: Peggy Brengle, CAGO – Organist

Charlotte Young – Piano

Chancel Choir: Kyler Brengle – Director

Readers: Chris Brown, Annabelle Dautermann

Liturgical Dancers: Emily Gibbs, Lee Dugan

Slides: Kyler Brengle

AV Team: David Hughson, Bill Eckles, Kyler

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