



DOWNTOWN
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

We live into
Jesus' inclusive call
to love every person,
care for creation,
and work for
God's justice



Celebration of Worship

April 6, 2025, 11:00 AM

Fifth Sunday in Lent

[Click Here to Watch](#)

*If you have a joy or concern you would like to have lifted in prayer today, please complete a **Prayer Request Card**, including the name of the person (and pronunciation) or event, and additional information you'd like to share. Prayer Requests will be collected in baskets during the **hymn following the sermon** to share with the pastor and/or Deacons.*

Prelude

Aurora

Gabriel Fauré

Words of Welcome

The Rev. John Odom

Announcements

Chime

Introit

Day by Day

Martin How

"Day by day, dear God of thee three things I pray.

To see thee more clearly, love thee more dearly, follow thee more nearly, day by day."

Text: Prayer of St. Richard of Chichester

Time with Our Children and Youth

*Call to Worship *(Adapted from Psalm 57)*

Pat Tweet

Leader: Our hearts are steadfast, God, steadfast.

People: We will sing and make music. We will thank you, Adonai, among the peoples; We will make music to you among the nations.

Leader: For your grace is great, all the way to heaven, and your truth, all the way to the skies.

People: Be exalted, God, above heaven!

May your glory be over all the earth!

*Invocation (Unison)

People: Almighty God, our redeemer, in our weakness we have failed to be your messengers of forgiveness and hope in the world. Renew us by your Holy Spirit, that we may follow your commands and proclaim your reign of love; through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

(reprinted with permission from *Liturgical Year*, 1992, Westminster/John Knox Press)

*Hymn

Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom
(Music may be found on page 8.)

MADELEINE

Prayer for Transformation and New Life

Leader: From lack of reverence for truth and beauty;
from a calculating or sentimental mind;
from going along with mean and ugly things;

People: O God, deliver us.

Leader: From cowardice that dares not face truth;
laziness content with half-truth;
or arrogance that thinks we know it all;

People: O God, deliver us.

Leader: From artificial life and worship;
from all that is hollow or insincere;

People: O God, deliver us.

Leader: From trite ideals and cheap pleasures;
from mistaking hard vulgarity for humor;

People: O God, deliver us.

Leader: From being dull, pompous, or rude;
from putting down our neighbors;

People: O God, deliver us.

Leader: From cynicism about others;
from intolerance or cruel indifference;

People: O God, deliver us.

Leader: From being satisfied with things as they are,
in the church or in the world;
from failing to share your indignation about injustice,

People: O God, deliver us.

Leader: From selfishness, self-indulgence, or self-pity;

People: O God, deliver us.

Leader: From token concern for the poor,
for lonely or loveless people;
from confusing faith with good feeling,
or love with wanting to be loved;

People: O God, deliver us.

Leader: For everything in us that might hide your light,

People: O God, deliver us.

Words of Grace

Leader: Do not fear, says God, for I have redeemed you.
I have called you by name; you are mine. God is doing a new thing;
now it springs forth! By the grace of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

People: We will live in the newness of life! Thanks be to God.

Scripture

Isaiah 43:18-21

Music for Reflection

Into a Time

Adolphus Hailstork

*"Into a time of turmoil, we bring our sense of peace;
Into a time of doubt, we bring our gift of faith;
Into a time of fear, we bring our light of hope;
Into a time of loss, we bring our treasured memories;
Into a time of silence, we bring our uplifted voices;
Singing a song of wonder, awe, mystery, courage; Singing life itself.
Into this time, we come singing life itself. "*

Text: The Rev. Randolph W.B. Becker

Scripture

Luke 7:36-50

Sermon

"Picturing Faith"

Rev. Odom

*Hymn

A Grateful Heart

ROCKINGHAM

(Music may be found on page 9.)

Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People

† Prayer of Jesus

Our Creator, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Spirit 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 Spirit, and
the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory Music

Ubi Caritas

Ola Gjeilo

*"Where there is charity and love, God is there.
The love of Christ has gathered us together,
Let us rejoice and be glad in it. Rejoice!
Let us revere and love the living God.
And with a sincere heart let us love one another."*
Text: Anonymous Medieval

*Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Let songs rise up from earth below;
Let stars and galaxies enthrone;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One! Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn

Come, Behold! The Feast of Heaven

LLANFAIR

(Verses 1-3, Music may be found on page 10.)

Service of Holy Communion

The Invitation

The Story



The Prayer

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: And Also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to God.

Leader: Let us give thanks to God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Music at Communion

Selected Partita Movements

G.P Telemann

Unison Prayer

All: In gratitude, in deep gratitude for this moment, this meal, these people, we give ourselves to you. Take us out to live as changed people because we have shared the Living Bread and cannot be the same. Ask much of us, expect much of us, enable much by us, encourage many through us. So God, may we live to your glory, both as inhabitants on earth and citizens of the commonwealth of heaven. Amen.

*Hymn

Come, Behold! The Feast of Heaven

LLANFAIR

(Verse 4, Music may be found on page 10.)

*Benediction

Choral Response

Amen

Justin Wallace

*Passing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

Thank you to. . .

Liturgist: Pat Tweet

Chancel Choir Members

Soprano: Nicole Knickerbocker, Lindsey Puc, Carolina Sullivan,

Joan Sussman

Alto: Cecelia Allchin, Isabella Apodaca, Leah Rosenman

Tenor: Olivia Anderson, Jason Cloen, Mark Darling, Evan McMahon

Bass: Rob Brown, John DeHority, Elijah Gebers,

Alan Jones, Stephen Lloyd, Sumner Tessier

Live Stream Team: Don Fairman, David McDowell, Jim Parks, Sally Allison

All music and musical texts in this bulletin are reprinted with permission

This Week at Downtown United Presbyterian Church

Sunday, April 6

9:45AM Sunday Forum-Leap of
Faith Team

10:00AM Choir Warm-up

10:45AM Nursery

11:00AM Worship - Rev. John Odom

11:15AM Sunday School

12:00PM Refreshments, Sanctuary

Tuesday, April 1

10:30AM Bible Study via Zoom

6:30PM Deacons Meeting via Zoom

Wednesday, April 9

7:00PM Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, April 10

5:00PM Finance Team Mtg via Zoom

7:30PM Property Team Mtg via Zoom

Friday, April 11

2:00PM Gene Wolfarth Mem'l Service

Saturday, April 12

1:30PM Fran McDowell Mem'l Service

Sunday, April 13

Palm Sunday

10:00AM Choir Warm-up

10:45AM Nursery

11:00AM Worship - Rev. Val Fowler

11:15AM Sunday School

12:00PM Refreshments in the Sanctuary

Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom 174

1 Come and seek the ways of Wis-dom, she who danced when
 2 Lis - ten to the voice of Wis-dom, cry - ing in the
 3 Sis - ter Wis - dom, come, as - sist us; nur - ture all who

earth was new. Fol - low close - ly what she teach - es,
 mar - ket - place. Hear the Word made flesh a - mong us,
 seek re - birth. Spir - it - guide and close com - pan - ion,

for her words are right and true. Wis - dom clears the
 full of glo - ry, truth, and grace. When the word takes
 bring to light our sa - cred worth. Free us to be -

path to jus - tice, show - ing us what love must do.
 root and rip - ens, peace and righ - teous - ness em - brace.
 come your peo - ple, ho - ly friends of God and earth.

Drawing on numerous scriptural images of Wisdom (Greek: *Sophia*), especially in Proverbs, this text offers an alternative perspective on Trinitarian theology. The Wisdom tradition has played a role in Christian mysticism for centuries, as witnessed by the Hagia Sophia in Istanbul.

TEXT: Ruth Duck, 1993
 MUSIC: Donna Kasbohm, 1995
 Text © 1996 The Pilgrim Press
 Music © 1997 The Pilgrim Press

MADELEINE
 8.7.8.7.8.7

A Grateful Heart

(Psalm 111)

652

1 A grate - ful heart is what I bring, a song of
 2 Your name is known in all the lands. You feed the
 3 With sav - ing love you set us free, and still you

praise, my of - fer - ing. A - mong the saints I
 poor with gen - tle hands. Your word is true, your
 dwell in mys - ter - y with wis - dom none can

lift my voice: in you, O God, I will re - joice.
 works are just; in you, O God, the faith - ful trust.
 com - pre - hend. Your praise, O God, will nev - er end.

This paraphrase of Psalm 111 preserves the psalm's quality of providing a general list of God's praiseworthy characteristics rather than giving thanks for a particular act of deliverance. In the original text these attributes are organized as an acrostic on the Hebrew alphabet.

TEXT: David Gambrell, 2009

MUSIC: *Second Supplement to Psalmody in Miniature*, 1783; harm. Edward Miller, 1790

Text © 2011 David Gambrell (admin. Presbyterian Publishing Corp.)

ROCKINGHAM

LM

Come, Behold! the Feast of Heaven 511

1 Come, be - hold! the feast of heaven
 2 All is read - y, come at - tend Al - le - lu - ia!
 3 All who trust in God be - long
 4 As the Lord our God has willed,

has to mor - tal flesh been given.
 as the Lord's in - vit - ed friend; Al - le - lu - ia!
 at this ban - quet with this throng.
 here the hun - gry soul is filled;

Hear the Word of God de - clared:
 come from north, west, south, and east; Al - le - lu - ia!
 Share the mys - tic ho - ly food;
 here the wea - ry are re - freshed.

"Come! the ban - quet is pre - pared."
 cel - e - brate the joy - ful feast. Al - le - lu - ia!
 taste and see: the Lord is good.
 All who share God's feast are blessed.

Though rightly viewed as a meal of remembrance, the Lord's Supper is also an occasion of anticipation. This text draws on abundant biblical imagery to evoke the fulfillment of Jesus' promise to share the feast anew "in the kingdom of God" (Matthew 26:29/Mark 14:25/Luke 22:16).

We live into Jesus' inclusive call to love all people, care for creation, and work for God's Justice.

Welcome Visitors!

Nursery Care for children up to 2nd Grade is available in the Library

Children not in nursery care will be invited forward during the "Time with Our Children and Youth" for a brief time with the pastor, and then will be taken up to their Sunday School room by their teacher. Parents are welcome to come up with their kids if they would like.

You may place your offering in the offering plates as they are passed. If you would like to donate online you can use the QR code to the right to make your contribution to the church.



† **We seek** to use diverse images and liberating language about divine presence in our services of worship. Please feel free to adapt the words in hymns and prayers as needed so that they express your faith.

This is a Hearing Loop equipped sanctuary – please switch your hearing aid to the "T" (telephone) position.

* **An asterisk indicates** "please rise in body or spirit."

We hope you will join us after worship for conversations and refreshments! Cookies and drinks are available in the front of the sanctuary.

Joys and Concerns– If you have a joy or concern that you would like to lift in prayer today, please complete a Prayer Request card (available by the worship bulletins) naming the person(s), situation or event, and any other information that you would like to be shared. The prayer requests will be collected during the hymn following the sermon and provided to the pastor.

The Downtown Church Staff

Cheryl Bittle, Weekend Receptionist
Jason Cloen, Associate Musician
Eileen Dietsch, Director of Operations
Alan Jones, Associate Musician
Kristie Jones, Office Administrator
David Mear, Business Manager
Moses Nhial, Maintenance
Andrea Piccone, Bookkeeper
& Receptionist Coordinator

Tyrone Reeve, Maintenance
Robin Sheikh, Sunday School Teacher
Michael Stagles, Maintenance Lead
Joseph Taylor, Maintenance Supervisor
Ed Verna, Maintenance
Lee S. Wright, D.M.A.,
Director of Music Ministry

Parish Leaders

Mary Rees and Pat Tweet - Clerks of Session
Cindy Hamilton, Jacque Hancock - co-Moderators of Deacons

Session

The Rev. Val Fowler,
Moderator
Nancy Brown
John DeHority

Lea Kone
Bob Richane
Sally Allison
Sam King

Jim Vesper
Pat Tweet
Mary Rees

Deacons

Bob Carlisle
Andrea Folan
Helen Ganotis
Cindy Hamilton

Jacqueline Hancock
Elizabeth Katz
Stephen Lloyd
Grania Marcus
Sandy Morales

Becky Parks
Susan Richane
Kelley Sheils
Marilyn Terpening

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