

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 31, 2019 10:15 a.m.

CELEBRATION "Part of the Plan" Sleeth

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Elder Bev Tallmadge

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE "There Is a Fountain" arr. Giamanco

BRINGING IN THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

*CALL TO WORSHIP *The Venerable Bede (672-735 CE)*

Leader Lord God almighty, open wide the door of my heart and illumine it with the grace of the Holy Spirit,

PEOPLE THAT I MAY SEEK WHAT IS PLEASING TO YOUR WILL.

Leader Guide my thoughts and my heart,

PEOPLE AND LEAD MY LIFE IN THE WAY OF YOUR COMMANDMENTS,

Leader That I may always seek to fulfill them,

PEOPLE AND THAT I MAY GRASP THE ETERNAL JOYS OF THE HEAVENLY LIFE, THROUGH JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD. AMEN.

*PRAISE "Open Up the Heavens"

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *Thomas A Kempis (15th Century)*

Lord, I offer to you all my sins and offences, which I have committed before you from that first day I could sin, even to this hour; that you may consume and burn them, one and all, with the fire of your love, and do away with all the stains of my sin, and cleanse my conscience from all offences, and restore me to your grace, fully forgiving me all, and admitting me mercifully to the kiss of peace.

I offer also up to you all that is good in me, though it is very small and imperfect, that you may amend and sanctify it, that you may make it grateful and acceptable to you, and always perfect it more and more.

Silent Reflection

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader Hear the Good News of the Gospel,

PEOPLE IN JESUS CHRIST, WE ARE FORGIVEN.

*GLORIA PATRI No. 579

MINUTE FOR DISCIPLESHIP

PRAISE "In The Garden/There is None Like You"

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

**Happy anniversary to you, happy birthday to you.
The Lord bless and keep you, this coming year too.**

THE WORD

FIRST READING 2 Corinthians 5: 16-21

CHILDREN'S TIME Bill Wetmore

*HYMN "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" No. 376

SECOND READING Luke 15: 11-32

SERMON *Welcome Home* Reverend Mark Gaskill

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE RESPONSE

OFFERTORY "And The Father Will Dance" Hayes

*DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION No. 592

SENDING

*PRAISE "Spoken For"

*BENEDICTION

*RESPONSE "Crown Him with Many Crowns" No. 151 (v.1)

TAKING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

*THE PEACE

Leader: May the grace and peace of Christ be with you.

PEOPLE: AND ALSO WITH YOU.

*POSTLUDE "Postludium" Beethoven

"Leave in peace to serve our Lord and one another."

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LENTEN SEASON ACTIVITIES & WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday afternoons (March 10– April 7)	11:30 a.m.	Soup and Salad Lunch
We will be having Soup & Salad Lunches. Sign-up sheets (look for the black book) are in the narthex for soups, salads, and bread – if you can help provide food for everyone to share, please use the sign-up sheets. If not, come anyway, we look forward to seeing you at this great fellowship time!		
Palm Sunday Sunday, April 14 th	8:00 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:15 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	Worship Service Sunday School Choir Cantata Potluck Lunch *Please sign-up in the black book if you would like to bring food to share.
Maundy Thursday April 18 th	7:30 p.m. *note the time change	Traditional Tenebrae Service
Easter Sunday April 21 st	8:00 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:15 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	Worship Service Sunday School (**No youth or children's Sunday School) Worship Service Easter Brunch *Please sign-up in the black book if you can bring food to share.

All children are welcome here, but we know that a fussy baby is much louder to a parent's ears than to any of ours. If you have need:

- We have a nursery (for children kindergarten and below) down the main stairs and to the left. It is staffed with volunteers, who will gladly care for any little ones who show up at the beginning of the service. If there are none, the volunteers will come up to the sanctuary, the nursery room will remain available. There is also a diaper change station in the Nursery and in both downstairs restrooms.
- We have a speaker in the narthex so that you DIY soothers can listen while you walk the little ones around.

Worship Service Notes

MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE

Thursday, April 18th, Maundy Thursday -- a tenebrae service will be offered at 7:30PM, the word "**tenebrae**" comes from the Latin meaning "darkness." Please note that the time for the service has changed to 7:30 PM, to ensure that the service will be after the sun has set. Please join us during this solemn and inspirational service as we recall the events leading to the crucifixion of our Savior.

GSPC'S PHONE NUMBER

Session approved cancelling the phone line #301-843-1335 for GSPC. Cancelling the number is a cost cutting measure for the church. Back in the day the additional line was a way to cut long distance charges, today long distance charges are a thing of the past. As a result there is no reason to pay for two phone lines when one is enough – less is more in this case☺ Therefore the only phone number for the church is #301-645-4134.

Announcements continued on next page.

UNITED WAY EGGSTRAVAGANZA

The United Way of Charles County is hosting an Easter Egg hunt at the Charles County Fairgrounds on April 13, 2019 from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. There will be a hospitality tent sponsored by the Faith communities of Charles County, which is an opportunity for GSPC folks to do some volunteering and outreach to the community. Information on volunteer spots will be coming via email, but please consider at least attending the event and representing our church family.

CHILDREN IN CHURCH

Church is a place for all of God's children, especially the little ones. We have a nursery for children up to age 5. Our hope is that as children grow they will learn to participate in the worship experience, but we understand that sitting still for an hour might be a bit of a challenge. We have an activity table in the back of the sanctuary, where we have things to color and puzzles to work, while still being a part of our worshiping community. We encourage you to keep your kids with you for the first part of the service until children's time, after which they will be dismissed to the activity table, where they can sit quietly, or collect an activity basket and return to their seat. The table will be supervised by an adult volunteer, but we ask for parent's cooperation in helping the kids learn to be a part of our congregation.

LILIES FOR EASTER

During Lent, you will again have the opportunity to provide lilies for Easter Day. Plants will cost **\$15 per pot**; checks should be payable to Georgia Henry. Order envelopes will be available in the Sunday bulletins on March 31, and April 7 and 14 and may be placed in the collection plate. The last Sunday to order is **April 14**. Plants may be taken after the Easter morning services. When ordering, please indicate if the plants are in memory of or in thanksgiving for a loved one or other blessing. Contact Georgia Henry with questions – 301-843-6076 or gghenry4@aol.com.

NURSERY VOLUNTEERS FOR PALM SUNDAY & EASTER

Friends from the local Jewish Congregation who for many years tended our nursery on days of special services are currently unable to do so and the GSPC volunteers on the Nursery rotation were not scheduled for April 14, the date of the Choir Cantata or on Easter, April 21. Please let Georgia Henry (301-843-6076, gghenry4@aol.com) know if you are willing to volunteer on either of these dates or if you can recommend someone to hire as one of our members will cover the cost for that if needed. Thank you.

FIRST READING

2 CORINTHIANS 5: 16-21

¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! ¹⁸All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. ²⁰So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

SECOND READING

LUKE 15: 11-32

¹¹Then Jesus said, "There was a man who had two sons. ¹²The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. ¹³A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. ¹⁴When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. ¹⁶He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. ¹⁷But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! ¹⁸I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; ¹⁹I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.'" ²⁰So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. ²¹Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' ²²But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; ²⁴for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate.

²⁵"Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. ²⁷He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' ²⁸Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. ²⁹But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' ³¹Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³²But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'"

We are pleased that you have chosen to worship with us today.
There are fellowship pads at the end of the row, please pass them, and sign them, so that you can learn the names of those who are sitting near you and so that they can know yours as well. Provide other information as desired. After the service, talk to old friends and meet some new ones.

We have snacks and coffee downstairs.

We have a platform lift for anyone who doesn't do well with stairs, see an usher for assistance.

*Please be mindful that as we prepare for worship
we are entering sacred space and sacred time.*

Please turn off cell phones and refrain from using other electronic media.

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Today's Volunteers: *Greeters:* John Tipsword (8:00), Anne Creveling (10:15);
Ushers: Ron and Lou Ann Gallegos (10:15); *Readers:* Terri Tipsword (8:00), Sally Brandt and Liz Carroll (10:15); *Nursery Volunteers:* William and Christine Buntz; *Coffee Hour:* Janice and Charlie Eargle/Lenten Lunch

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TODAY

Worship Service at 8:00 a.m.
Sunday School at 9:00 a.m.
Worship Service at 10:15 a.m.
Lenten Luncheon at 11:30 a.m.

THIS WEEK

Mon. (April 1): 10:30 a.m. – Crafters
Tues. (April 2): 9:30 a.m. – Women's Bible Study
Thurs. (April 4): 5:30 p.m. – Celebration Ringers
7:00 p.m. – Adult Choir

COMING SOON

Lenten Soup and Salad Lunch Sunday, April 7 at 11:30 AM
Choir Cantata on Palm Sunday, April 14th at 10:15 AM
Potluck Lunch on Palm Sunday, April 14th
Maundy Thursday Service of Holy Communion & Tenebrae on April 18th at 7:30 PM
Easter Sunday, April 21st
Easter Brunch following the 10:15 Worship Service



GOOD SAMARITAN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*Reverend
Mark W. Gaskill*

Post Office Box 925, Waldorf, Maryland 20604-0925

(301) 645-4134 / (301) 843-1335

E-mail: gspc@comcast.net

Website: GoodSamPC.org

Twitter: [@GSPresbyChurch](https://twitter.com/GSPresbyChurch)

SESSION MEMBERS (CLASS)

Grover Baldwin (2019)	John Holmes (2020)
Holly Banks (2021)	Megan Howell (2020)
Margaret Beigel (2019)	Stephen Lehrter (2020)
Jill Buntz (2019)	Beverly Tallmadge (2021)
Loann Burian (2020)	Jack Tuttle (2021)
Jack Crews (2019)	Sandy Webb (2021)

“Open Up the Heavens”

We've waited for this day; we've gathered in Your name. Calling out to You.
Your glory like a fire, awakening desire, will burn our hearts with Truth.
You're the reason we're here. You're the reason we're singing.

(CHORUS)

Open up the heavens. We want to see You.

Open up the floodgates, a mighty river

Flowing from your heart, filling every part of our praise.

Your presence in this place, Your glory on our face, we're looking to the sky.
Descending like a cloud, You're standing with us now; Lord, unveil our eyes.
You're the reason we're here. You're the reason we're singing.

Show us, show us Your glory. Show us, show us Your power.

Show us, show us Your glory, Lord.

Show us, show us Your glory. Show us, show us Your power.

Show us, show us Your glory, Lord_____.

We want to see You. We want to see You.

“In The Garden /There Is None Like You “

I come to the garden alone
While the dew is still on the roses
And the voice I hear, falling on my ear
The Son of God discloses.

Chorus

There is none like You,

No One else can touch my heart like You do.

I could search for all eternity long and find

There is none like You.

You speak and the sound of Your voice,
Is so sweet the birds hush their singing.
And the melody that You gave to me
Within my heart is ringing!

And You walk with me Lord and You talk with me.
And You tell me I am Your own (I am Your own).
And the joy we share as we tarry there
None other has ever known.

“Spoken For”

Take this world from me. I don't need it any more.
For I am finally free. My heart is spoken for.

Oh and I praise You. Oh and I worship You.
Covered by a love divine, child of the risen Lord.
To hear You say, “This one's mine.”
My heart is spoken for.

Now I have a peace that I've never known before.
I find myself complete. My heart is spoken for.

By the power of the cross You have taken what was lost
And made it fully Yours.
And I have been redeemed by You who spoke to me.
Now I am spoken for.

Take this world from me
Don't need it any more.