

J.J. White Memorial Presbyterian Church (PCUSA)



Rev. Cassie Alston, Pastor

Jennifer Sanders, Director of Music Ministry

Glenn Sanders, Choir Director

Corner of Third and Delaware Streets

110 Third Street

McComb, Mississippi 39648

(601) 684-4189



J. J. White Memorial Presbyterian Church

Maundy Thursday

April 17, 2025 • 6:00 PM

Gathering

Prelude

Darkest Hour

arr. Joel Raney

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Cassie Alston

***Call to Worship**

Jesus said: I give you a new commandment, that you love one another.

Just as Christ has loved us, let us love one another.

Beloved people of God:

This is the day when Christ, our Passover Lamb, surrendered himself to those who would kill him,

setting us free from sin and death forever.

This is the day when Christ, our Teacher and Lord, knelt down to wash the disciples' feet,

showing us how to love and serve one another.

This is the day when Christ, the bread of heaven, shared a holy meal with his followers,

offering a feast of abundant life and grace for all.

***Hymn No. 774**

Bread of the World in Mercy Broken

EUCCHARISTIC HYMN

***Opening Prayer**

O God, your love is embodied in Jesus Christ, who washed disciples' feet on the night of his betrayal. Wash us from the stain of sin, so that, in hours of danger, we may not fail, but follow your Son through every trial, and praise him always as Lord and Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Call to Confession

Rom. 5:8; Heb. 4:16

The proof of God's amazing love is this: While we were sinners Christ died for us. Because we have faith in him, we dare to approach God with confidence. In faith and penitence, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

Prayer of Confession

Eternal God, whose covenant with us is never broken, we confess that we fail to fulfill your will. Though you have bound yourself to us, we will not bind ourselves to you. In Jesus Christ you serve us freely, but we refuse your love and withhold ourselves from others. We do not love you fully or love one another as you command. In your mercy, forgive and cleanse us. Lead us once again to your table and unite us to Christ, who is the bread of life and the vine from which we grow in grace. Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. **Thanks be to God!**

May the God of mercy, who forgives you all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

Word

Choral Anthem

Behold the Lamb

arr. Mark Hayes

Prayer for Illumination

Eternal God, by your Word and Spirit, you have given us a new commandment: to love and serve one another in Jesus' name. Let the good news of your liberating love be sealed in our hearts and shown in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Scripture: *Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14; John 13:1-17, 31b-35*

Sermon

As He Has Loved Us

Rev. Cassie Alston

*Affirmation of Faith

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, died, 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 will 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.

*Hymn No. 805

Glory Be to the Father

GREATOREX

Gloria Patri

Prayers of the People

... Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Eucharist

The Invitation to the Offering

What shall we offer for God's goodness to us?

Let us lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.

Offertory

Jesus Paid It All

arr. Dan Forrest

*Hymn No. 809

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

OLD HUNDREDTH

Doxology

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

Gracious God, you pour out blessings upon us and cover us with grace. Accept these offerings, that they may bring blessings to those who need them and give witness to your overwhelming love; in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

†The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation to God's Table

Exod. 12:14; 1 Cor. 11:26

The Lord said to Moses: This shall be a day of remembrance for you, you shall celebrate it as a festival of the Lord.

Paul says to the Church: As often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks and praise to God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, O Lord our God, creator and ruler of the universe. You made us in your image and freed us from the bonds of slavery. You claimed us as your people and made covenant to be our God. You fed us manna in the wilderness and brought us to a land flowing with milk and honey. When we forgot your covenant, you spoke through prophets, calling us to turn again to your ways. Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with the celestial choirs and with the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Remembering all your mighty and merciful acts, we take this bread and this wine from the gifts you have given us and celebrate with joy the redemption won for us in Jesus Christ. Accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving as a living and holy offering of ourselves, that our lives may proclaim the One crucified and risen.

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. By your Spirit unite us with the living Christ and with all who are baptized in his name, that we may be one in ministry in every place. As this bread is Christ's body for us, send us out to be the body of Christ in the world.

Lead us, O God, by the power of your Spirit to live as love commands. Bound to Christ, set us free for joyful obedience and glad service. As Jesus gave his life for ours, help us to live our lives for others with humility and persistent courage. Give us strength to serve you faithfully until the promised day of resurrection, when, with the redeemed of all the ages, we will feast with you at your table in glory. Through Christ, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, with the Holy Spirit in the holy church, now and forever. **Amen.**

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

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. Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

The Lord Jesus, on the night of his arrest, took bread, and after giving thanks to God, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me. In the same way he took the cup, saying: This is the new covenant sealed in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me. Every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the saving death of the risen Lord, until he comes again.

The gifts of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Communion of God's People

Prayer After Communion

God of grace, we give you thanks for the feast of redemption we have shared in the body and blood of your Savior. As you have nourished us with love, let

our lives proclaim your great love for the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Stripping of the Church

The candles are extinguished and paraments are removed as the congregation sits in silent prayer.

All depart in silence.

**Please stand as you are able.*

†Gluten-free bread is available.

Announcements

Welcome to worship!

We welcome all who worship with us this evening. To our visitors, we offer a special welcome and invite you to join us again soon. Please fill out the blue card in your pew and place it in the offering plate when passed.

Upcoming Worship Events

Friday, 4/18	6:00 PM	Good Friday Service
Sunday, 4/20	10:30 AM	Easter/Resurrection of the Lord
	Anthem:	<i>Crown Him Lord of All; Worthy is the Lamb; The Lord's Prayer</i> (Dierdre Reynolds, alto; Jeremy Threlfall, tenor; Dr. LaTannia Ellerbe, violin)

Questions for Reflection:

How has following Jesus redefined the meaning of “glory” and “majesty” in your life?

Household Prayer: Morning

God, this morning I pause to remember all the times in my life when you have answered my prayers and delivered me when I have stumbled. Help me to see the opportunities

before me today to return your blessings to me by being of service to others; in Jesus' name. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Thank you, God, for being with me today. I am your servant, God, for you have unloosed my bonds. Forgive any times today when I forgot to walk in your ways. Now as I turn to sleep, my soul is at rest, for I trust in your mercy, secure in the promise that I am precious to you. Amen.

(Long, Kimberly Bracken, ed. *Feasting on the Word: Worship Companion, Liturgies for Year C*, vol. 1. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2014, p. 137.)

J.J. White Memorial Presbyterian Church

Sundays *Breakfast:* 9:00 AM

Sunday School: 9:30 AM

Worship: 10:30 AM

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