

Kensington Presbyterian Church Growing in faith and sharing God's love since 1786

Good Friday March 29, 2024

WELCOME, to worship. We are offering a variety of ways for people to gather. We are welcoming people to worship n person (with singing), as well as through Zoom, YouTube, and this printable PDF. If this is how you are worshipping, know that you are not alone... and if you like, you can invite those who live with you to join you, or connect with others through the phone or outside.

If you have any prayer requests, ideas, or just want to talk, please reach out to your elder or Rev. Peter (Peter@Kensingtonchurch.ca).

Announcements

Clicking on or tapping blue text will take you to a web-site

Zoom Prayer Group: Wednesday at 6:30 a.m.

us04web.zoom.us/j/773730107?

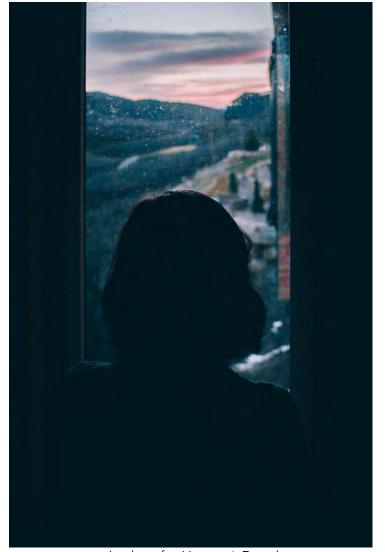
pwd=eUo2M09YMEw5dkZvdm9uQmpHNIUrUT09

Jesus & Java: Join us as we share the joys and questions of faith. Thursday, **3:30 pm** at Beetz, 5914 Sherbrooke @ Clifton

Friday's fabulously friendly food & film: pizza at 6:30 pm Starting season 3 of *The Chosen*. RSVP with Peter appreciated

Easter Breakfast: March 31 from 9 am at St. Ansgar's (4020 Grand and NDG) 514-984-7656 (cell)

Drop Box: Food donations are welcome for the local Food Pantry, diapers for young mothers through Head & Hands, and cloths & accessories for the New Hope Boutique.



Looking for Hope - A Douglas

Contacts

Church Office: 514-486-4559.....info@Kensingtonchurch.ca Rev. Peter Rombeek (pastor).....Peter@Kensingtonchurch.ca 514-773-4620

Zoé Dupont-Foisy (music director).....zoedupontfoisy@hotmail.com

I note: that the footnotes are not as thorough as an academic paper.

Approaching God

Welcome.

Today's worship is in the style of a Tenebrae service. Tenebrae is Latin for darkness, and it's a good description of the story we will hear this morning. This is God, through Jesus, going into the dark places of injustice, torture, abuse & betrayal. It's an important part of the story, not the end, but vital.

It starts with light coming into our midst...

- Lighting of the Christ Candle
 Jésus Christ est la lumière du monde.
 Jesus Christ is the light of the world.
- Call to worship (Isaiah 53:1, 4-5)
 Who believes what we've heard and seen?
 Who would have thought God's saving power would look like this?

But he endured the suffering that should have been ours, the pain that we should have borne.

All the while we thought that his suffering was punishment sent by God.

But because of our sins he was wounded, beaten because of the evil we did.

We are healed by the punishment he suffered, and by his bruises we are healed.

Prayer of Approach

Heavenly Father, we are shocked by you, by the way you lived as Jesus, by the way you died as Jesus, and that death is not the end.

Thank you for coming to set us free from sin and death so that we may live with you.

May your Holy Spirit help us to remember the hope found in where you are, as we remember the dark times in our stories,

Amen.

Listening to God

🛊 Intro to the readings:

and in yours.

We've been hearing about Jesus heading towards Jerusalem where he was being even more challenging or antagonistic than before. He's warned his students three times that this will lead to his suffering and death - but that death will not be the end.

We've met lots of people along the way. Some have names, some don't. All are changed by meeting Jesus: some with joy, some with fear. Those who contribute to the horrible events we will hear about today are not evil people - they just make poor choices. Choices because they know better how God wants to be respected, or what God wants for people, or how to protect what God has given them.

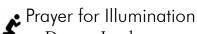
This is the story of Jesus who was fully God and fully human. We don't know how much he knew what was coming, but as he got closer to Jerusalem he told his disciples about some details. He knew it would be painful, yet he still went. Jesus didn't play it

safe. He gave it all to bring light to those in the dark.

We heard about the start of his last week last Sunday. There was the celebratory ride into Jerusalem. Then overturning those who expected a nice discussion and a few healings - maybe feeding the crowds. Well, the crowds got their fill of fiery teachings as Jesus flipped the Temple tables, exchanged challenges with the Temple experts, and about not being too caught up in predicting the end times.

Jesus has been trying to drive home how to love God and others with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, and all your strength - and he will live this out in today's readings. After each reading we will hear a short reflection. This will be follow by a short prayer and music. After each section I will tie a black ribbon to the cross. You will have the opportunity to tie a ribbon onto the cross after one of the reflections. You can also do this after.





Dearest Lord.

may we feel your Spirit move in our souls as we hear about Jesus' last day. Please bless the words we shall hear

and the meditations of all our hearts.

Amen.

The Plot



Reading: Please look up the passages in your own Bible,² or click on the name to be taken to an online version. Mark 14: 1-2, 10-11



Why? Why kill Jesus?

Some feared his crowds would draw the Roman army. Some may have felt their power threatened by his challenge to the importance of the Temple. Most were probably worried that he was corrupting the innocents by breaking all the divisions that created order - order ordained by God. He and his disciples harvested and healed on the Sabbath. He touched people who were unclean. He ate with sinners. He had male & female students. His spread chaos that could cause so much damage.

To save everyone, they had to cut him out.



3/14

Jesus, we find you difficult at times. Your teachings challenge our way of living. and when we try to define you, to contain you,

If you'd like a new Bible with helpful notes, I recommend the 'Life with God Bible' NRSV from Renovaré. ISBN 0061834963 or for the more academically inclined, The New Oxford Study Bible NRSV

you break the box we have made. May your Spirit help us to look to you, and to follow you.

God, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer

 \square Hymn: Will you come and follow me *2.....pg 11 (634) youtu.be/zk6IUalJ3sk?t=33

Anointed

Reading: <u>Mark 14</u>: 3-9



Reflection: a disciple

This unnamed woman who breaks an expensive bottle, and then pours even more expensive perfume on his head. Does she think she's a prophet anointing a king? or preparing a body for burial? It's ridiculous - but then Jesus has modelled ridiculous generosity.



Jesus, give us the courage to break the bottle, so we must give ourselves completely to you.

Not the you we want you to be, but you.

God, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer

 \square Hymn: A prophet-woman broke a jar *1 & 4.....pg 10 (588) www.youtube.com/watch?v=EiIAl5HbNzU

Last Supper

Reading: <u>Mark 14</u>: 16-31



What an evening!

It starts with the celebration of God freeing their ancestors, freeing them, from captivity to others and their values.

But Jesus takes the familiar actions that they do every year and tweaks them. He shifts the meaning to represent a new relationship with him, and with God. ... and the idea of the cup being his blood... that would have been confusing - but remembered every time they had bread and drink... so, at every meal.

and then Jesus casually says, "one of you will betray me." How do you just drop that into a slightly confused celebratory dinner? They all deny it, but it is Jesus who said it. How they felt on the inside?



Jesus, you are astounding.

You take things we know and tweak them

Like connecting bread and wine

to represent your actions to make things well.

You take us

and challenge us to be honest.

May your Spirit help us to see clearly.

God, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer

☐ Hymn: Jesu, Jesus, Fill us with your love #1, 4.....pg 12 (229)

www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZjFNpoEy8mY

The Garden

Reading: <u>Mark 14</u>: 32-42

* Reflection:

Can you believe it?

Jesus throws himself to the ground in anguish. This is not a hero; this is person on the verge of panic. This is Jesus at his most human - not rebelling against God, but revealing his fear and asking that this hard sacrifice not happen.



Garden - GC Bomer

At least he has his friends. . .

🕏 Prayer

Jesus, we appreciate your example.

Your openness with your feelings;

Your fear at what is being asked;

Your honesty in prayer.

And us, we are full of good intentions.

to follow you, and support you

to not fall asleep when you need us.

May your Spirit help us not to let you down.

God, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer

Arrest

Reading: <u>Mark 14</u>: 43-52

* Reflection

The betrayals start.

Not from the Romans

Not from the Jewish leaders

Not from a collaborators,

or lepers

or Samaritans

But one of the twelve, one of those inside the group.

Judas, betrays Jesus

Why?

We don't know.

He didn't ask for anything,

he just offered to turn Jesus over.

Betraying him with an act of familiarity, or friendship.

And this is just the beginning.

£ Prayer

Jesus,

These stories of betrayal within your followers make us wonder.

What about us?

What about us, dear Lord?

Lord, do we betray you too?



God, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer

www.youtube.com/watch?v=QUE2w62qy-I

Trial

Reading: <u>Mark 14</u>: 53-65



Can vou believe it?

The injustice of the whole thing - from the arrest of an innocent to lying on the stand. People trying to protect life as they want it at the expense of others. Maybe they knew what they were doing was horrible... maybe they where just going along with the flow

...as Jesus stood there alone.

What would we have done? What do we do?

If we're honest, we participate. I'm not suggesting you lie on the stand, but there are times when we let others suffer to protect life as we want it. And there are times when we go with the flow, allowing others here and abroad to suffer - allowing pain to all creation.

For our actions and inaction; for the times we have betrayed or turned away from where Jesus wants light to shine, we need to ask God for forgiveness. While Zoé plays, I invite you to come and tie a black ribbon onto the cross.



God, in your mercy, Hear our prayer

Peter

Reading: <u>Mark 14</u>: 54, 66-72

← Reflection

Why does Peter follow?

Why doesn't he follow through?

He's probably feeling lost and afraid.

Worried about what has happened,

and what will happen.

It's a shame he slept through Jesus' praying.

perhaps then he would have known how to pray

in the courtyard.

perhaps he would have know that God also knows what it is



Peter's descent - Denise Anderson

like to feel abandoned and betrayed.

and the betrayal spreads...

It grows inside him from pretend ignorance of the situation to swearing an oath that he 'does not know him!'

Though in his betrayal,
there is a spark of light.
because he's right,
This is not the Jesus he thought he knew.



Jesus, thank you that Peter shared this story, to remind us that even your star disciples turned away, the same person you would later use to lead your church.

Thank you for the reminder that you will not abandon us, even while we are sinners.

Lord, thank you for your ridiculously generous love.

God, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer**

■ musical reflection

(in)Justice

Reading: Mark 15: 1-32

Reflection: Anointed

it continues.

His disciples have left him

The priests, who are supposed to represent God, have rejected him.

The crowds that shouted Hosanna, are calling for his head.

and the Romans join in.

mocking him with a crown of thorns.

and they all crucified him,

the most painful and humiliating way to kill somebody.

Even the lowest of the low,

those being crucified beside Jesus, mock him.

Perhaps you've had nobody believing in you, everybody against you.

Perhaps you've been verbally or physically hurt.

Perhaps you can glimpse what Jesus was feeling, that Jesus is prepared to live this for those who are there.

because, it continues



Golgotha - Munch



Jesus, how horrible it must have been.

Everyone, from those close to you,
to those who represent God,
to the Romans who represent the whole world
All of them are against you.

And the there's us. We try to lift you up as Lord of lords, God of gods, Ruler of the Universe. but what about the humiliation and pain of the cross? May your Spirit help us to find you wherever you are, and to stand with you. as you stand with us. God, in your mercy, Hear our prayer ☐ Hymn: Alone you once went forth, O Lord #1.....pg 13 (232) www.youtube.com/watch?v=rtF4VL53wgA Death Reading: <u>Mark 15</u>: 33-41 * Reflection Did Jesus see his life pass before his eyes? life as the prophet who predicts his own death, as the King who serves as the priest who is the sacrifice as the healer who dies

as the lover who is abandoned

...even feeling forsaken by God.



Golgotha - Munch



God, in your mercy, Hear our prayer

 □ Hymn: Where you there #1, 2, 4, 5.....pg 13 (233) www.youtube.com/watch?v=hKnpZaGqCrE (lovely choir) www.youtube.com/watch?v=T6FL353Yr0w (band)



8/14

Rev. Peter Rombeek Kensington Presbyterian Church

Everything Jesus said, everything he did

led to this

this dying

[blow out candle]

this death

Mar. 17, 2024 Is this the end?

Burial

Reading: <u>Mark 15</u>: 42-47

*Reflection

It is done.

Now there's just a body.

Limp... lifeless

The dreams are dead, the hopes are gone.

The light has gone out and been shut in a cave.

And we wait in night's darkness, longing for the morning,

longing for the light.

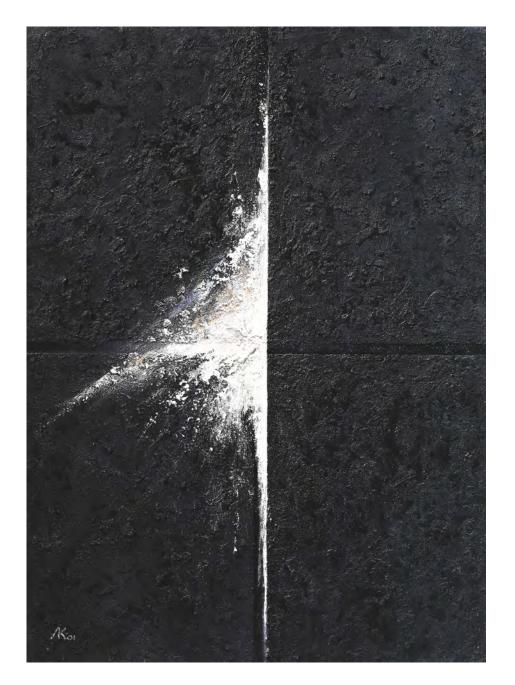
🕏 Prayer

Lord,

We pray for all who are waiting. For all who are longing for light: . . .

God, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer



Death Annike Kaai

A Prophet-Woman Broke a Jar

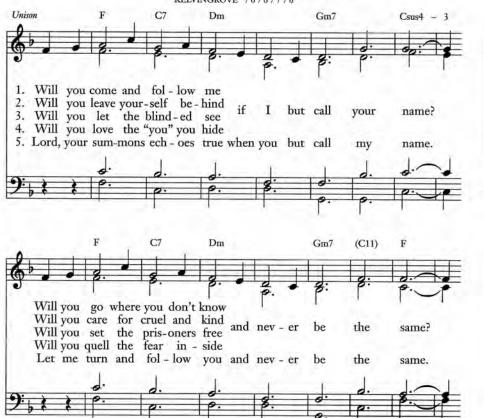






Will you come and follow me

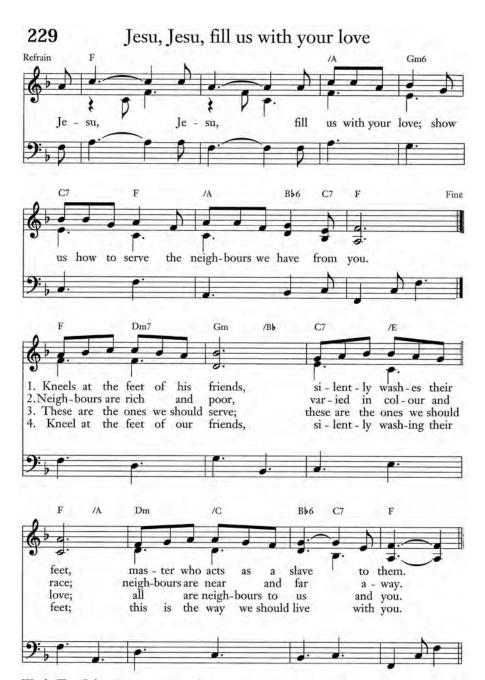
KELVINGROVE 76767776





Words: Iona Community (Scotland) Music: Scottish traditional; arrangement John L. Bell (1949-)

Words: copyright © WGRG The Iona Community (Scotland), 1987. Used by permission of G.I.A. Publications Inc., exclusive agent. All rights reserved. Music: arrangement, copyright © G.I.A. Publications Inc., 1987. All rights reserved. CCLI #4440603



Words: Tom Colvin (1925–) Music: Ghanaian folk melody; arrangement, Jane Marshall (1924–); adaptation, Tom Colvin (1925–) CCLI #4440603

Words: copyright © 1969 by Hope Publishing Co. Music: adaptation, copyright © 1969 and this arrangement © 1982 by Hope Publishing Co.

Rev. Peter Rombeek Kensington Presbyterian Church

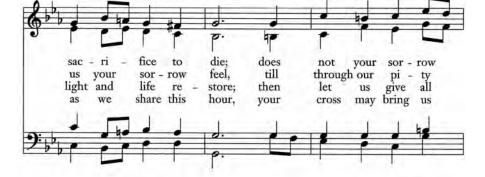


Words: James Montgomery (1771–1854); revision, Andrew Donaldson (1951–) Music: Richard Redhead (1820–1901)

Words: this version, copyright © The Presbyterian Church in Canada, 1997 Music: public domain

232 Alone you once went forth, O Lord



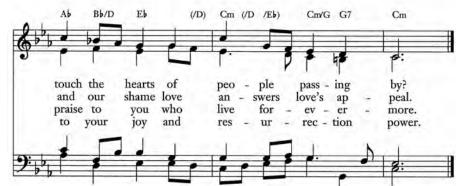


G /F

Cm/Eb

G7/D Cm

Gm



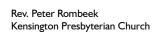
See also: Bangor 6 751

Words: Latin, Peter Abelard (1079-1142); translation, F. Bland Tucker (1895-1984)

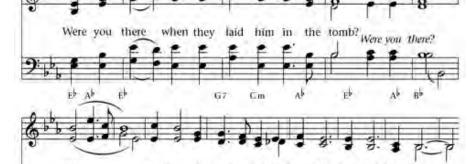
Music: William Trans'ur (1706–1783)

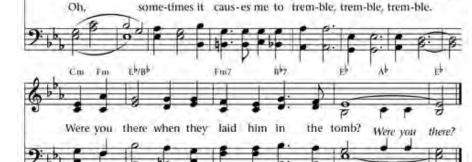
Words: translation, copyright @ Church Pension Fund Music: public domain

Cm Gm/Bb(Cm6) Gm/D D7



Were You There Fin7 18^b7 E^b A^b E^b Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Were you there?





Words: African American spititual, P.D.

Music (WERE YOU THERE 10.10.14.10): African American spiritual; harm. C. Winfred Douglas, 1940, P.D.



Words: Phineas Fletcher (1582–1650) Music: Orlando Gibbons (1583–1625)
Words: public domain Music: public domain