

Silent Confession
Assurance of Pardon
Congregational Response (responsive)
We are washed in the waters of God's grace.

Thanks be to God.

The Peace (responsive)
The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Life of the Church – John Turnbull – Youth-Sponsored Brunch

PRESENTATION OF OFFERING

Anthem *God So Loved the World* John Stainer

✦ Doxology (sung)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

✦ Prayer of Dedication

HEARING THE WORD

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

Hymn 703 (vs. 1)(sung seated) *Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me*

Children's Anthem *I Will Call Upon the Lord*

Michael O'Shields

Hymn 703 (vs. 3)(sung seated) *Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me*

OLD TESTAMENT READING Numbers 21:4-9 OT (p. 134)

NEW TESTAMENT READING John 3:14-21 NT (p. 88)

SERMON *A Parallel Universe* William M. Klein

A TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION [A time to reflect upon the implications of scripture and sermon for your life.]

✦ HYMN 826 *Lift High the Cross*

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

✦ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH [An expression of our common hope and purpose.]

Affirmation in Words (unison)

from the Iona Community (Scotland)

With the whole church we affirm that we are made in God's image, befriended by Christ, empowered by the Spirit. With people everywhere we affirm God's goodness at the heart of humanity, planted more deeply than all that is wrong. With all creation we celebrate the miracle and wonder of life, the

unfolding purposes of God, forever at work in us and in the world.

Affirmation in Song (sung through twice) *Gloria, Gloria*

**Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo!
Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia!**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

LORD'S PRAYER (unison)

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 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.

✦ HYMN 177 *I Will Come to You*

✦ BLESSING IN WORD [A departing blessing]

✦ CHORAL RESPONSE *Lord, Now Let Thy Servants Depart*

✦ BLESSING IN MUSIC [During the playing of the music you are encouraged to greet one another, sharing the peace of Christ, or to remain seated and allow the music to aid you in fashioning some final prayers.]

Lord Jesus Christ, I Fully Know Johann Pachelbel

All are invited and encouraged to attend Coffee Fellowship in Brady Chapel.

✦ Those who are able may stand.

Following Time with the Children, those in **K – 3rd grade** will be excused to Enrichment in Room 200. **For children ages 3-12**, there are folders in the foyer near the elevator with color sheets, puzzles and related worship materials, as well as children's Bibles / books.

9:45 - 10:45: Nursery (infant – 3 yrs)

Sunday School Class (3-4 yrs)

10:45-12:00: Nursery (infant -5 yrs)

Music Notes:

Choir Music: The **choral call to worship** is one of the many celebrated (praise) songs of the contemporary Christian musician, Michael W. Smith (b. 1957). The text, inspired by Ps. 8:1 and Isa. 9:6):

O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth.

O Lord, we praise your name. O Lord, we magnify your name:

Prince of Peace, mighty God; O Lord God Almighty.

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The **anthem**, a setting of John 3:16-17, is one of the best-known choral anthems by the English composer/organist, John Stainer (1840-1901), perhaps the most influential English musician of his time. The choir's text:

God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son that whoso believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life.

For God sent not his son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

The **anthem** at the children's time, inspired by Psalm 18, was written by the pastor and contemporary Christian musician, Michael O'Shields (b. 1948). The text:

I will call upon the Lord who is worthy to be praised.

So shall I be saved from my

enemies. I will call upon the Lord. The Lord liveth, and blessed be the Rock, and let the God of my salvation be exalted.

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The text of the closing **choral response**, inspired by the opening of the Song of Simeon (=Nunc Dimittis: Luke 2:29-30), was written by the American church musician, Austin C. Lovelace (1919-2010), to be paired with his choral arrangement of a Spanish-American folk song. The choir's text:

Lord, now let thy servants depart in thy peace, for our eyes have seen thy salvation.

Now send us forth, O Lord, to be thy witnesses.

Let us show thy love to all people.

Congregational Hymns: The well-known “**Open My Eyes, That I May See**” was created in 1895 by the American author, teacher, and composer, Clara Scott (1841-1897), the first woman to publish a collection of her own anthems. : “**Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me**” is John Wesley's (1703-1791) translation of a hymn by the prolific German writer, Paul Gerhardt (1607-1676). The tune (“St. Catherine”) was composed by the English-born organist/composer, Henri Frederick Hemy (1818-1888). The choir's descant is by the great American church musician, T. Tertius Noble (1867-1953). The text of “**Lift High The Cross**” is the work of two English priests, consisting essentially of Michael Robert Newbolt's (1874-1956) revision of an earlier text by George William Kitchin (1827-1912). The tune (Crucifer”) was composed by the English musician, Sydney Hugo Nicholson (1875-1947), organist of Westminster Abbey and other important churches, and founder of what became the Royal School of Church Music. The choir's descant is by the respected American church musician, Richard Proulx (b. 1937). “**I Will Come to You**” [= “**You Are Mine**”) is one of many hymns and songs by David Haas (b. 1957), a leading figure in Catholic worship and liturgy.

Organ Music: The **prelude** and **postlude**, both based on hymns, are the creations of two organists of the German baroque. The **prelude** is by the north German, Johann Nicolaus Hanff (1630-1706), who worked primarily in Hamburg. The **postlude** is by Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706), who served in a number of important posts in southern Germany and Austria, notably Vienna, Erfurt, and Nuremberg.

Announcements & Opportunities

Assisting with worship leadership this morning is Chip Honsinger.

The **flowers** are given to the glory of God and in memory of our parents, James G. Dunlap and Kathleen "Kitty" Dunlap by the Dunlap Family.

There is an opening in the **flower calendar** for the 11:00am service next Sunday, March 18th. Call Kimberly if you'd like to provide.

Music at Noon: Our noontime concert series returns with programs of organ music, given by William McCorkle and William Stewart, on Wednesdays, March 14 and 21.

Sunday, March 18th, 6:00pm, at Life Chapel, the movie *I'm Not Ashamed*, a documentary about Rachel Joy Scott, the first student killed during the 1999 shooting spree at Columbine High School. This faith-based drama uses Scott's diary to retell the story of her tragically short life. Sponsored by Manly Baptist and Life Chapel – all are welcome.

The Koinonia Sunday School Class will embark on a five week study entitled, **Pursuing the Beloved Community**. The curriculum was created by the Diocese of Southwestern Virginia in an effort to understand the nature of systemic racism, and to work toward racial justice and healing in the name of Christ. Deb Klein will convene the discussion on March 11 & 18, April 8, 15, and 29. All are welcome to join. More information about the study can be found at www.dioswva.org.

All women are invited: On March 13, 12:30pm, in the Fellowship Hall at Trinity UMC there will be a free program focusing on Domestic Violence: Current Issues & Solutions. Project Horizon is our local domestic violence prevention organization. They will enlighten us on current issues and how the problem can be addressed in an effective manner. Please enter the church by the front door on Main.

Ring of the Bells: On Weds., March 14th, 10:00am, Lexington Presbyterian Church will ring the church bells once-per-minute for 17 minutes to honor each of the victims from the tragic shooting that occurred on Feb. 14th, 2018 at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School.

Educational grant applications for 2018-2019 are now available for students interested in financial assistance for college or graduate study. Information about the grants and the application are available on the church's website or at www.lexpres/educational-grants/.

March Book Discussion Mar. 21, 7-8pm, Brady Chapel – we'll be discussing Charles Dew's *The Making of a Racist: A Southerner Reflects on Family, History, and the Slave Trade*. Books available at The Bookery-10% off when using cash/check and mentioning this book study!

Seder Meal and Service: our Maundy Thursday service will involve a Seder service on Thursday, March 29, in Dunlap Aud., 5:30pm for a simple supper and Seder service. Never been and want to know what it's about – come and find out – you'll love it!

Please Note – Students from Marquette University will be staying in WestFel Lounge March 10th – 17th. They'll be doing community service projects throughout Lexington while they are here.

Thursday (March 15th) Activities:

Lenten Services: **12:10pm**, Manly Memorial Baptist Church; **speaker** for March 15th – Rev. Reginald Early. A light lunch (\$5 cost) will follow the service in the church's fellowship hall. 30 minutes in length. All are invited.

Thursday Bible Study: **5:00pm**, Brady Chapel; half-hour time of study, prayer, and worship. During the season of Lent you are encouraged to make our Thursday Prayer and Bible Study a Lenten discipline. All are welcome.

Thantastic Thursday: **5:45pm**, Dunlap Aud. – Doug Stevenson and the Asbury UMC Choir will provide wonderful songs of worship for us to listen, and maybe even sing along! Dunlap Auditorium 5:45pm, cost: \$6/person, \$16/family, under 5 & campus students free. Please try to RSVP by Tuesday evening before the event. MENU: country fried steak, black eyed peas, red skin mashed potatoes, iron skillet cornbread, assorted desserts.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK	
SUN (3/11)	9:15 Youth Choir
	9:45 Sunday School
	11:00 Worship
	12:30 Confirmation Class
	5:00 LTT
	6:00 Youth Group
	7:00 Lam Handbells
MON (3/12)	<i>Community Table Volunteers Day</i>
	9:30 Prayer Shawl Meeting
TUES (3/13)	10:00 Lectio Divina
	5:00 Campus Subcommittee
WEDS (3/14)	10:00 Mary Circle
	10:00 Ringing of the Bells – SEE NOTE
	12:00 Music at Noon – SEE NOTE
	1:00 Congregational Life Meeting
	5:00 Brittigan Fund Meeting
THURS (3/15)	7:00 Leah Circle
	<i>Newsletter Inputs due to Kimberly</i>
	12:10 Lenten Service at Manly Baptist
	5:00 Bible Study
SUN (3/18)	5:45 Thantastic Thursday
	7:30 Adult Choir Rehearsal
	8:45 Informal Worship
	9:15 Youth Choir
	9:30 LTT Rehearsal
	9:45 Sunday School
	11:00 Worship
12:00 Youth Group-Sponsored Brunch	
7:00 Lam Handbells	
RARA Pantry Item (March): Pasta/Spaghetti Sauce	



Lexington Presbyterian Church
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Lexington, VA 24450
www.lexpres.org
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SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
11 March 2018
11:00 AM

** If you are carrying a cell phone or some other electronic device, please turn it off before worship begins. **

GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE

MUSIC OF PREPARATION *In God, My Faithful God*
Johann Nicolaus Hanff

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)
Deal bountifully with your servants, O God, so we see what you mean for us to see and live as you would have us live.

Open our eyes so we may behold wondrous things powerful enough to shape our dreams after your dream for us.

We give thanks to you, O God, for you are goodness.

Your steadfast love endures forever.

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP *How Majestic is Your Name*
Michael W. Smith

WELCOME

PRAYER OF ADORATION

✦ HYMN 451 *Open My Eyes, That I May See*

A TIME OF CONFESSION

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Even as we seek to fashion our faith by the light of your guidance, O God, our worldview blocks from view the enormity of who you are and the abundance you intend. Focused as we are upon our small lives we do not hear you speaking to us from the silence beyond all time and thought. God of great and God of small, open the eyes of our hearts and minds that we may see and be who you want us to see and be.

*Please ask an Usher for assistance with hearing devices
& large print bulletins*