Journey to the Cross

LENTEN VESPERS

Sunday, March 14, 2021
6:00 PM

WASHINGTON NATIONAL CATHEDRAL
Lent is a season of preparation for the great Paschal feast of Easter. Beginning on Ash Wednesday, the season of Lent lasts forty days (excluding Sundays, which are always feasts of our Lord’s resurrection), recalling the forty days Jesus spent fasting in the desert. During this season we are invited to observe a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance, as we commit to prayer, fasting, self-denial, and reading and meditating on God’s holy Word.
OPENING HYMN

I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

Sung by all.

Assam

1. I have decid ed to fol low Je sus, I have decid ed
2. Though no one join me still I will fol low, though no one
3. The world be hind me, the cross be fore me, the world be hind me,
4. I have decid ed to fol low Je sus, I have decid ed

join me still I will fol low, though no one join me
hind me, the cross be fore me, the world be hind me,
cid ed to fol low Je sus, I have decid ed

to fol low Je sus, no turn ing back, no turn ing back,
still I will fol low, no turn ing back, no turn ing back,
the cross be fore me, no turn ing back, no turn ing back,
to fol low Je sus, no turn ing back, no turn ing back,
THE CALL TO WORSHIP
To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;  
O my God, in you I trust.

You are the God of my salvation;  
To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

In you I hope all the day long.  
O my God, in you I trust.

Remember, Lord, your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting.  
To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.  
O my God, in you I trust.

CONFESSION OF SIN
If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.  \( 1 \text{ John 1:8-9} \)

Merciful God,  
We have not loved you with our whole heart.  
We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be; that we may do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.

The officiant offers absolution and the people respond, Amen.

ANTHEM
The Summons  \( \text{Sung by the cantors.} \)  
Traditional Scottish melody

Will you come and follow me,  
If I but call your name?  
Will you go where you don’t know  
And never be the same?

Will you let my love be shown,  
Will you let my name be known,  
Will you let my life be grown  
In you, and you in me?

Will you leave yourself behind,  
If I but call your name?  
Will you care for cruel and kind  
And never be the same?

Will you risk the hostile stare  
Should your life attract or scare?  
Will you let me answer prayer  
In you, and you in me?

Will you let the blinded see,  
If I but call your name?  
Will you set the prisoners free  
And never be the same?

Will you kiss the leper clean,  
And do such as this unseen,  
And admit to what I mean  
In you, and you in me?

Will you love the “you” you hide,  
If I but call your name?  
Will you quell the fear inside  
And never be the same?

Will you use the faith you’ve found  
To reshape the world around,  
Through my sight and touch and sound  
In you, and you in me?

Lord, your summons echoes true  
When you but call my name.  
Let me turn and follow you  
And never be the same.

In your company I’ll go  
Where your love and footsteps show.  
Thus I’ll move and live and grow  
In you, and you in me.

\( \text{John L. Bell, b. 1949} \)
**PSALM 107:1-3, 17-22**

*Sung by the cantors.*

chant: Daryl L. A. Hunt (b. 1970)

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,
and his mercy endures for ever.
Let all those whom the Lord has redeemed proclaim
that he redeemed them from the hand of the foe.
He gathered them out of the lands;
from the east and from the west,
from the north and from the south.
Some were fools and took to rebellious ways;
they were afflicted because of their sins.
They abhorred all manner of food
and drew near to death’s door.
Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble,
and he delivered them from their distress.
He sent forth his word and healed them
and saved them from the grave.
Let them give thanks to the Lord for his mercy
and the wonders he does for his children.
Let them offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving
and tell of his acts with shouts of joy.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.

**THE LESSON**

Matthew 16:21-25

Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.” But he turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.” Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.”

Here ends the lesson.
ANTHEM

Lead Me to the Cross

Savior, I come.
Quiet my soul.
Remember.
Redemption’s hill,
Where your blood was spilled
For my ransom.
Everything I once held dear,
I count it all as loss.

Refrain
Lead me to the cross,
Where your love poured out.
Bring me to my kness;
Lord, I lay me down.
Rid me of myself;
I belong to you.
Oh, lead me,
Lead me to the cross.

You were as I,
Tempted and tried—
Human.
The word became flesh.
Bore my sin and death,
Now you’re risen.
Everything I once held dear,
I count it all as loss.

Refrain
To your heart,
To your heart,
Lead me to your heart,
Lead me to your heart,

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.

THE COLLECT FOR THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Eternal God, rich in mercy, through the life of your Son you lifted up this fallen world and rescued us from the hopelessness of death. Lead us into your light, that all our deeds may reflect your love, through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

A PRAYER FOR CATHEDRAL SUPPORTERS

Almighty God, who has been our help from one generation to another and in whom stands our hope for years to come: We bless your Holy Name and give thanks for all who generously support the mission and ministry of this Cathedral, that it may reflect the power of your love to the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
A PRAYER FOR LENT

God of compassion,
through your Son Jesus Christ
you have reconciled your people to yourself.
As we follow his example of prayer and fasting,
may we obey you with willing hearts
and serve one another in holy love;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE SOLEMN PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE

The officiant prays over the people, and the people respond, Amen.

THE DISMISSAL

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Almond Eyes

Marshall Keys (b. 1955)
PARTICIPANTS

OFFICIANTS
The Reverend Canon Jan Naylor Cope
Provost

The Reverend Patrick L. Keyser
Priest Associate

MUSICIANS
Canon Michael McCarthy
Director of Music and Director of Institutional Planning

Thomas M. Sheehan
Organist and Associate Director of Music

Daryl L. A. Hunt
Associate Director of Music for Contemporary Worship

Imani-Grace Cooper, singer

Marshall Keys, saxophone

Lent & Easter 2021

March 21
Holy Eucharist • 11:15 AM ET
Journey to the Cross: Lenten Vespers • 6:00 PM ET

March 28 • Palm Sunday: The Sunday of the Passion
Holy Eucharist with the Liturgy of the Palms • 11:15 AM ET
François Couperin’s Leçons de ténèbres • 6:00 PM ET

April 1 • Maundy Thursday
Holy Eucharist with the Stripping of the Altar • 7:00 PM ET

April 2 • Good Friday
Rite of Reconciliation (Confession) • 10:00—11:30 AM and 1:00—2:30 PM ET
Solemn Liturgy of Good Friday • 12:00 PM ET

April 4 • The Sunday of the Resurrection: Easter Day
Festival Holy Eucharist • 11:15 AM ET
Easter Organ Recital • 2:00 PM ET

For Information on Lent and Easter
Cathedral.org/easter
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All are invited to make a gift to support the Cathedral’s ministry of sharing God’s love this Christmas at give2wnc.org/2020christmas or by texting the dollar amount you wish to give to 202-856-9005.

Thank you in advance for your generosity. Please know that your participation with us today has been a blessing.

FOR INFORMATION ON LENT AND EASTER

cathedral.org/easter