



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

Good Friday

April 3, 2026

WELCOME, we come to you from the un-ceded lands of the Kanien'kehá:ka Nation.

We're glad this PDF has come to you.¹ If you're using a device, clicking on or tapping blue text will take you to a web-site. We are also welcoming people to worship in person on Sundays at 10:30, over Zoom, and on YouTube. Know that you are not alone.

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

Sunday Singing: Join Zoé on Sundays at 9:50 to share in the music

Easter Sunday Activities: after church

Prayer Groups:

Women's Prayer Group: Tuesday afternoon

Zoom: Wednesday at 6:30 am

Bible Study: Wednesday 7-8 pm

Join us in the minister's office and over zoom as we discuss the upcoming week's main scripture passage.

Friday Friendly Food & Film Series: 6:30 pizza, followed movie

April 10: Prince of Egypt

Breakfasts

Children's Theatre: Sat. here from 10-1, \$20 adults, \$10 children

St Ansgar's (Grand at NDG): Sunday from 9. freewill offering

¹ note: that the footnotes are not as thorough as an academic paper.



Second Adam - Bruce Herman

New Hope News:

Easter Lunch Wed. 8th with Grant on piano

Scam Alert with Éducaloi: April 14 from 1-2:30 pm

Drop Box: Food donations are welcome for the Food Pantry at

Women on the Rise, and items for children (ex. diapers) for young mothers through Head & Hands.

Contacts

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Approaching God



Lighting of the Christ Candle

Jésus Christ est la lumière du monde.
Jesus Christ is the light of the world.



Call to worship

Oh, come and mourn with me awhile;
oh come ye to the Saviour's side;
oh come, together let us mourn;
Jesus, our Lord, is crucified.



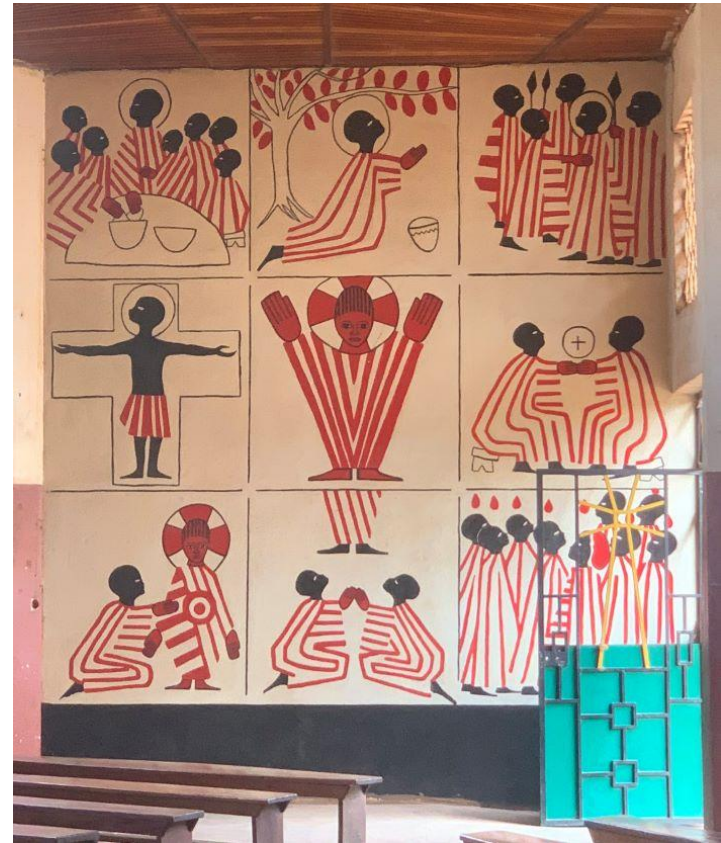
Prayer of Approach

Dearest Lord Jesus,
Today we gather to remember your life
as a human who laughed, and cried,
and had such basic needs as thirst.

Today we gather to remember your life
as divine - confident that God's way is the only way,
even when your heart is troubled.

Today we remember the trials
of you... and Judas & Peter,
the Jewish Leaders,
the Romans from around the world,
...and of ourselves.

May your Spirit help us to see ourselves in the story,
and to see you more clearly.
Amen.



holy week - Father Bernard

♪ Hymn: My song is love unknown #1, 3, 4.....pg 8 (220)
www.youtube.com/watch?v=HMart4wXsl0 (King's College)
www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=7CPlrA1CMwo



Listening to God



Intro to the readings

Since Christmas we've been traveling through the *Gospel According to John*. One of the themes is that Jesus is the Light for the world. This light brings healing and hope to many - opening their eyes to a new way of living.

Today though, as we near the end of the story, the light goes “through the valley of the shadow of death”² - and our worship of God will reflect that. We will hear the story read in sections, paired with thoughts, music, and prayers.

While the Last Supper in this gospel isn’t given much attention, this is where we are introduced to a new disciple - the one whom Jesus loved. There has been much debate about who this is (usually considered to be the author or Lazarus). Perhaps the reason that the person is not named is so that we can recognize ourselves in their place - beloved of God.

Today’s reflections will be imagined to be from their point of view... prayerfully allowing us to be in their place.

When we come to the conclusion, please remember that it is not finished. We will stop when the Light that is Jesus is extinguished. I invite you to sit with this part of the story... and to come back on Sunday when our story continues.

Prayer for Illumination

Dear Lord,

open our hearts and minds
by the power of your Holy Spirit,
that we will see you and believe.

Amen.



Arrest

 Reading: [John 18](#): 1-12

Meditation

After dinner Jesus was even stranger than normal. He not only told us it was important to serve others, but actually washed our feet! It was really uncomfortable for someone who showed such

glory to act so low. And then he talked... and talked. It was hard to follow, but I think the point was that hard times were coming, and we would not be alone. Jesus was like the Good Shepherd, and would not abandon us.

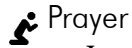
Then we went to the garden. I’ve always loved our times there. There’s the conversations, but even more is the sense of peace and safety. Until that night; when the world showed up: hundreds of Romans soldiers from around the world, and Temple police from here at home.

Jesus knew they were coming and went out to meet them. He showed his authority by leading the discussion. He revealed his identity by answering as he’d done before. **I AM** the light of the world. **I AM** the gate of the sheep. **I AM** the good shepherd. **I AM** the way, the truth, and the life. Jesus said, “**I AM**” - like God had answered when Moses asked.

Jesus went out of the garden to meet the world that rejected him. There, he lay down his life for those who follow him.



2 Psalm 23:4



Jesus, our Shepherd.

Thank you for not only leading us, but looking after us as well.

Amen.

♪ Hymn: Alone you once went forth, O Lord.....8 (232 #1-2)

www.youtube.com/watch?v=rF4VL53wqA

First Trial

📖 Reading: [John 18](#): 13-14, 19-24



Peter and I followed them. Strangely, they didn't take Jesus to the Temple, but to a house. I could go in through the gate, but Peter had to stay outside.

The religious leaders asked Jesus about his teachings - but he said they should ask those who listened. They knew.

But they didn't listen, and didn't ask.

...if they had,
what would I have said?
Would I have answered?



Dear Jesus,

We are sorry for the times when who you are and what you are about is debated or challenged. We are sorry for when you are on trial and we stay silent.

May your Spirit help us to share your message.

Amen.

♪ Hymn: A new commandment.....pg 9 (225)

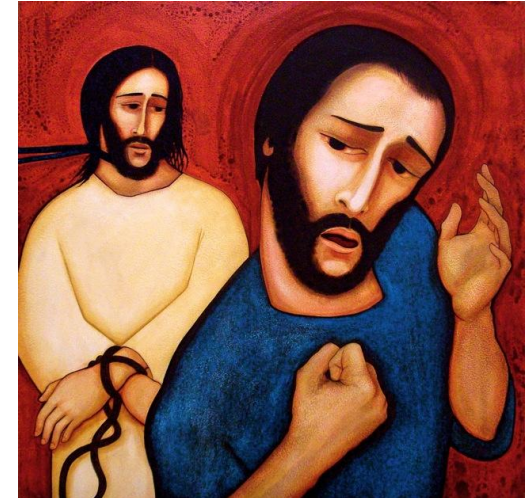
www.youtube.com/watch?v=485bt72V2o

Peter's Denial

📖 Reading: [John 18](#): 15-18, 25b-27



While I felt a little on trial inside, Peter was on trial outside. While he followed Jesus, he discovered believing means more. Was he willing to act out his belief? Was he willing to risk the judgment of those given power by showing his belief in Jesus? Would he accept being a disciple? Who was he?



Living God,
As we think about your story with us
help us to remember who we are:
not just your sheep, or your students,
but your children
loved by you.
And may your Spirit give us strength
to be your disciple.

♪ Hymn: Be still me soul.....pg 10 (749 #1-2)

www.youtube.com/watch?v=uAT6PWayxCI

Talk with Pilate

📖 Bible Reading: [John 18](#): 28-38a

✧ Meditation

Somehow Pilate has heard that Jesus might fancy himself a king. But he doesn't look like a king. He doesn't act like a king. So Pilate asks... but does he listen? Does he recognize the Truth of Jesus' words - the Truth of The Word made flesh?

You'd think he would, being asked to judge if Jesus is guilty, yet he asks, "What is truth?" Perhaps he confuses Truth with an idea, but we listened to Jesus say, "I am the Way, and the Truth, and the Light." If Pilate were to listen, he'd know that Truth isn't a what, but a who. Who is Truth: Jesus.

🙏 Prayer

Jesus
King of kings
and Lord of lords.
help us to recognize you
and your kingdom come.
May we know the truth.
Amen.

🎵 Hymn: To mock your reign.....pg 11 (223)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hfjJwOlaN2M>

Pilate and the Crowd

📖 Bible reading: [John 18](#):38b-[19](#):16a

✧ Meditation

Pilate kept asking - going back to the crowd and asking if they wanted the 'King of the Jews' released. Was he looking for an out? or having fun watching them get riled up? Was he wondering



Christ before Pilate - Rembrandt

how far he could push them before he'd have to send in the soldiers?

I was shocked with how far they went. Their demands went from asking for Jesus to be killed to also asking for Barabbas to be released - trading a Shepherd for a Bandit - one who saves to one who steals.



Crucifixion

Then they truly reveal who they are - that they have become so blinded by their own ideas that they shout out the most damning statement. “We have no king but Caesar.” They are so focused on their way that they lose sight of God.

...That said, it’s easy to question their judgment. We have also acted out of fear, and sacrificed the environment or others for our way of life, and stood by while there is injustice, and allowed ourselves to be led by this world’s kings rather than follow you. ...it’s easy to judge.



Prayer
Jesus,
You are the Light of the world.
When we meet you,
you shine into our darkness
forcing us to turn away
or recognize when we fail to live out your love.
When we put our lifestyle ahead of your creation, and others.
be merciful to us.
When we wait while there is injustice
be merciful to us.
When we put our trust in power rather than you
be merciful to us.
When we give in to fear
be merciful to us.
When we deny you are Lord of all parts of our life
be merciful to us.
Amen.

♪ instrumental

Bible reading: [John 19:16b-22](#)

Meditation

Jesus gave us so many signs. Back at the start he turned the water into the most amazing wine, which saved the reputation of those families - even though he said it wasn’t his hour. Later he healed bodies and restored people to community. He fed people’s bodies with food - but also our souls.

But now he says the hour has come... what sign is this? The Son of God be humiliated on a cross?

Jesus. Killed as the King of the Jews. Perhaps Pilate saw a glimpse. This sign he had placed for all to read said ‘King of the Jews’. But it said more. It was in the languages of the world - because Jesus is the Word of God through whom all things came into being, and God is the King of the world.



Prayer
Jesus,
Your life is confusing,
and your death more so.
Help us to embrace the sign of the cross
of what it means to be King,
of what love looks like.
Amen.

♪ Hymn: Were you there.....pg 11 (233 #1, 2)
www.youtube.com/watch?v=LRaFdkOVyY



Christ of St. John - Salvador Dalí



lose ends

📖 Bible reading: [John 19:123-27](#)

✦ Meditation

The hour is almost finished. Prophecies are being completed. His mother, who carried him in her womb and first taught him love; who saw what he could be. She stands before him now. It is wrong. It is the world.

Is this the end?

Jesus saw us, and did what he does. He showed us how to be a community - a family. From the cross, he invites us to love one another.

🙏 Prayer

Jesus,
even when dying you are the way of life.
Thank you for your care
your love
your life.

Amen.

🎵 Hymn: Oh come and mourn with me awhile.....12 (237 #1, 2)
www.youtube.com/watch?v=vVL6rZI0D1o



Death

📖 Bible reading: [John 19:28-30](#)

✦ Meditation
.... (silence)

note: *You may feel that the end of our worship service is incomplete. That's because it is, and it's an important time to remember.*

Please join us Sunday at 10:30 a.m. for the continuation.

My Song Is Love Unknown

Samuel Crossman, 1664

LOVE UNKNOWN
66 66 88

John Ireland, 1918

1. My song is love un-known— my Sav-ior's love to me, love to the
 2. He came from His blest throne sal-va-tion to be-stow; but men made
 3. Some-times they strew His way and His sweet prais-es sing; re-sound-ing
 4. Why, what hath my Lord done? What makes this rage and spite? He made the
 5. They rise and needs will have my dear Lord made a-way. A mur-der-

love-less shown that they might love-ly be. Oh, who am I,
 strange, and none the longed-for Christ would know. But oh, my Friend,
 all the day ho-san-nas to their King. Then "Cru-ci-fy!"
 lame to run; He gave the blind their sight. Sweet in-ju-ries!
 er they save; the Prince of Life they slay. Yet cheer-ful He

that for my sake my Lord should take frail flesh and die?
 my Friend in-deed, who at my need His life did spend!
 is all their breath, and for His death they thirst and cry.
 Yet they at these them-selves dis-please, and 'gainst Him rise.
 to suf-f'ring goes, that He His foes from thence might free.

6. In life, no house, no home
 my Lord on earth might have;
 in death, no friendly tomb
 but what a stranger gave.
 What may I say? Heav'n was His home;
 but mine the tomb wherein He lay.

7. Here might I stay and sing—
 no story so divine!
 Never was love, dear King,
 never was grief like Thine.
 This is my Friend, in whose sweet praise
 I all my days could gladly spend.

Rev. Peter Rombeek
 for Kensington Presbyterian Church

Alone you once went forth, O Lord

BANGOR 8 6 8 6 CM

1. A-lone you once went forth, O Lord, in
 2. Our sins, not yours, you bore then, Lord: make
 3. This was earth's dark-est hour, but you did
 4. Grant us with you to suf-fer, Lord, that,

sac-ri-fice to die; does not your sor-row
 us your sor-row feel; till through our pi-ty
 light and life re-store; then let us give all
 as we share this hour, your cross may bring us

touch the hearts of peo-ple pass-ing by?
 and our shame love an-swears love's ap-peal.
 praise to you who live for-ev-er-more.
 to your joy and res-ur-rec-tion power.

See also: Bangor 6 751

Words: Latin, Peter Abelard (1079–1142); translation, F. Bland Tucker (1895–1984)
 Music: William Trans'ur (1706–1783)

A new commandment

A NEW COMMANDMENT Irregular

D Bm Em7 A /G

"A new com-mand-ment I give un-to you, that you
"Je vous com-man-de, mes frè-res, mes soeurs: Ai-mez -

D/F# F#m Bm G 6 A /G D/F# F#m

love one an-o-ther as I have loved you, that you love one an-
vous les uns les au-tres comme moi, j'ai ai-mé. Ai-mez vous les uns les

Bm 7 Em A D G (maj7) A Em (6)

o-ther as I have loved you. By this shall all know
les autres comme moi, j'ai ai-mé. Et tous ver-ront que

Words: John 13:34,35; French translation, Andrew Donaldson (1951-) Music: Anonymous;
arrangement, Lawrence Bartlett (1933-) CCLI #4440603

Words: French translation, copyright © Andrew Donaldson, 1996 Music: arrangement, copyright © from the Australian Hymn Book, 1977

D/F# F#m7 Bm 7 G A/G D/F# Gmaj7

you are my dis-ci-ples: if you have love one for an-
vous êtes mes dis-ci-ples si vous ai-mez les uns les

A D G (maj7) A Em (6) D/F# F#m7

o-ther; by this shall all know you are my dis-
au-tres, et tous ver-ront que vous êtes mes dis-

Bm G6 A/G D Gmaj7 A D

ci-ples: if you have love one for an-o-ther."
ci-ples si vous ai-mez les uns les au-tres."

Be still, my soul

FINLANDIA 10 10 10 10 10

F C/B \flat F/A C7/G F C7/B \flat F/A B \flat C7/C F

1. Be still, my soul: the Lord is on thy side;
 2. Be still, my soul: thy God doth un - der - take
 3. Be still, my soul: when dear - est friends de - part,
 4. Be still, my soul: the hour is has - tening on

C/B \flat F/A C7/G F C/B \flat F/A B \flat C7/G F

bear pa - tient - ly the cross of grief or pain;
 to guide the fu - ture wise - ly, as the past.
 and all is dark - ened in the vale of tears,
 when we shall be for - ev - er with the Lord,

F /E Dm F/A C Gm

leave to thy God to or - der and pro - vide;
 Thy hope, thy con - fi - dence let noth - ing shake;
 then shalt thou bet - ter know God's love, God's heart,
 when dis - ap - point - ment, grief and fear are gone,

Words: Jane L. Borthwick (1813–1897), Katharina von Schlegel (1697–18th cent.)
 Music: Jean Sibelius (1865–1957), Finlandia; arrangement, The Hymnal 1933 CCLI #4440603

D7/A Gm/B \flat F/C /A B \flat 6 (A) A

in eve - ry change God faith - ful will re - main.
 all now mys - te - rious shall be bright at last.
 who comes to soothe thy sor - row and thy fears.
 sor - row for - got, love's pur - est joys re - stored.

F /E Dm F/A C Gm

Be still, my soul: thy best, thy heaven - ly Friend
 Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know
 Be still, my soul: thy Je - sus can re - pay
 Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past,

D7/A Gm/B \flat F/C C7sus4-3 (F) F

through thorn - y ways leads to a joy - ful end.
 the voice that ruled them here on earth be - low.
 from his own full - ness all death takes a - way.
 all safe and bless - ed we shall meet at last.

Words: public domain Music: copyright © Breitkopf & Härtel, Wiesbaden; arrangement, copyright © The Presbyterian Board of Christian Education, 1933, 1961. Used by permission of Westminster/John Knox Press

223 To mock your reign, O dearest Lord

THE THIRD TUNE 8 6 8 6 D CMD

Dm Eb Cm D A D Gm D

1. To mock your reign, O dear-est Lord, they made a crown of thorns,
 2. In mock ac-claim, O gra-cious Lord, they snatched a pur-ple cloak,
 3. A scep-tered reed, O pa-tient Lord, they thrust in-to your hand,

D Dm Ebsus7 Cm D Gm D

set you with taunts a-long that road from which no one re- turns.
 your pas-sion turned, for all they cared, in-to a sol-dier's joke.
 and act-ed out their grim cha-rade to its ap-point-ed end.

D * Cm6 Bb F Gm Dm Eb Bb Cm9 Cm Gm

They did not know, as we do now, that glo-rious is your crown;
 They did not know, as we do now, that though we mer-it blame
 They did not know, as we do now, though em-pires rise and fall,

Gm Eb Bb Gm Eb Bb Eb Cm Gm D

that thorns would flower up-on your brow, your sor-rows heal our own.
 you will your robe of mer-cy throw a-round our na-ked shame.
 your king-dom shall not cease to grow till love em-bra-ces all.

* The bracketed notes are to be treated as triplet groups.

Alternate tune: Kingsfold See also: The Third Tune 720 CCLI #4440603 One License #A-719461

Words: Fred Pratt Green (1903-) Music: Thomas Tallis (c.1505-1585); edited by John W. Wilson (1905-1992) 11/12

Words: copyright © 1973 by Hope Publishing Co. Music: arrangement, copyright © 1990 by Hope Publishing Co.

Were You There?

249

WORDS: African American spiritual

MUSIC: African American spiritual

WERE YOU THERE

Irregular

1. Were you there when they cru-ci-fied my Lord? Were you
 2. Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree? Were you
 3. Were you there when they pierced Him in the side? Were you
 4. Were you there when the sun re-fused to shine? Were you
 5. Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb? Were you

there when they cru-ci-fied my Lord?
 there when they nailed Him to the tree? O
 there when they pierced Him in the side?
 there when the sun re-fused to shine?
 there when they laid Him in the tomb?

some-times it caus-es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem-ble.

Were you there when they cru-ci-fied my Lord?
 Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?
 Were you there when they pierced Him in the side?
 Were you there when the sun re-fused to shine?
 Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?

237 Oh come and mourn with me awhile

ST. CROSS 8 8 8 8 LM

Dm C F Bb F/C C7 F Dm /C Bb

1. Oh come and mourn with me a - while; oh come ye
 2. Have we no tears to shed for him, while sol - diers
 3. Seven times he spoke, seven words of love, and all three
 4. O love of God! O hu - man sin! In this dread

F/A Dm F/C C 7 F (Dm/F) Em7 A

to the Sav - iour's side; oh come, to - geth - er
 scoff and foes de - ride? Ah! look how pa - tient -
 hours his si - lence cried, "For - give: they know not
 act your strength is tried, and vic - to - ry re -

Dm Gm6 A Dm Gm Dm/A A7 Dm

let us mourn; Je - sus, our Lord, is cru - ci - fied.
 ly he hangs; Je - sus, our Lord, is cru - ci - fied.
 what they do." Je - sus, our Lord, is cru - ci - fied.
 mains with love: for Christ, our Lord, is cru - ci - fied.

Words: Frederick William Faber (1814–1863), alt Music: John Bacchus Dykes (1823–1876)

Words: public domain Music: public domain

Rev. Peter Rombeek
 for Kensington Presbyterian Church

MISSION MOMENT

Sunday, April 5

In Malawi, Debora was raised by her grandparents after her father died and her mother left due to mental health struggles. Unsure how to afford secondary school, she received support to fund her studies and to pay for meals and accommodations at university. "What I've learned is to be kind—to be kind not just to people so close to you, because you guys never knew about me. You never knew I existed, but you still had a heart to give," Debora shares. She hopes her experience motivates girls in her village: "And me, being a girl, when they look at me, they get inspired and some are even going back to school." PWS&D supports the Church of Central Africa Presbyterian's Ekwendeni Hospital AIDS Program in Malawi in this initiative.



DAILY PRAYERS

Sunday, April 5 (Easter Sunday) God of new life and of hope, fill us with peace, joy and the desire to be new people and to live in the new life Christ gives, guided by your Spirit. Give us, we pray, a renewed and growing awareness of what it means to live as Christ lived, to love as Christ loved and to serve as he served.

Monday, April 6 God of justice and mercy, fill us with courage and hope as we engage in repentance, repairing and healing the harm the church has caused by excluding and marginalizing Two-Spirit and LGBTQI+ people.

Tuesday, April 7 (World Health Day) We pray for communities and individuals affected by funding cuts to vital health programs. We give thanks for the health initiatives supported by PWS&D that are making a difference during these times.

Wednesday, April 8 In this season of celebrating the resurrection and new life, we pray for congregations seeking a vision of God's future, and for those serving them as intentional interim and transitional ministers. May God's Spirit guide them as they continue in their journey of discernment.

Thursday, April 9 We pray for the Caribbean and North American Council for Mission (CANACOM) as they assist the people and churches affected by Hurricane Melissa.

Friday, April 10 We pray for the people and churches in Taiwan as they live and worship in precarious and dangerous geo-political conditions.

Saturday, April 11 We pray for members of the Atlantic Mission Society as they lead worship services on Mission Awareness Sunday. May their congregations be blessed as they focus on *The Mission of Jesus...Then and Now*.