

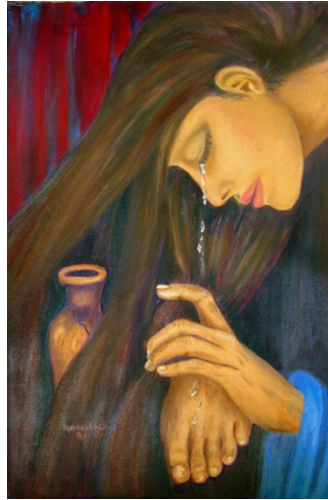
Use the following worship guide as we gather on Sunday morning via Zoom. Simply click here:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2398495210>

** Announcements are at the end of this order of worship. **

The Service of Worship
First and St. Stephen's United Church of Christ
Baltimore, Maryland
The Fifth Sunday in Lent – Year C

April 6, 2025

10:30 a.m.



Prelude

Nancy Flandermyer Chronister, Director of Music

Welcome

The Rev. Dr. Kelly M. Sisson, Pastor

Call to Worship

(congregation reads **bold print**)

We come to this place because we want to know God,
who helps us set aside the past, to walk the path to new life.
We come in these moments because we want to know Jesus,
who anoints us with the resurrection, who shares our lives with us.
We come with these people because we want to know the Spirit,
who shapes us for life with God, so we may praise God forever!

Hymn for Worship NCH #448

Take My Life, God, Let It Be
~ as you are able, please stand ~

VIENNA

Gospel Lesson

John 12:1-8

Martha Wharton, Liturgist

The Lesson in Song NCH #210

Said Judas to Mary
~ as you are able, please stand ~

JUDAS AND MARY

The Message

An Air of Extravagance

Rev. Sisson

Anthem

The song of the supper Scottish folk song
Words by John Bell and Graham Maule
Miriam Hedden, flute

AFTON

Invitation to The Welcoming Table

Hymn for the Table

As Our Voices Join Together
By Amanda Udis-Kessler
~ as you are able, please stand ~

(see insert)

NETTLETON

*We believe that the invitation to this table comes not from any church or individual, but from Jesus. We therefore invite in Christ's name **all** who hear that invitation and wish to respond to come forward and share the bread and the cup. In the spirit of inclusion, the cup is non-alcoholic. There is a gluten-free option for the bread.*

Making an Offering

Please consider making an offering through on-line giving or mail your check to the church address. You can find information on our church web page: first-ststephens.org You may also place your offering in the offering plate in the back of the sanctuary. Or, you may use the QR Code in this bulletin. Thank you.

Dedicating our Offerings (congregation reads **bold print**)

If we want to know you, Generous God, we must see you in those all around us. If we want to serve you, we must give up that which is most important to us, even our material resources, so that blessings of hope and life might be offered to the needy, the lonely, the hungry all around us. Receive our gifts, we pray, so that others might be transformed even as we are. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Sharing Our Joys and Concerns

Remember these known joys and concerns:

- Bryce – Jen Langdon's nephew
- Jen's friend, Andrew and his family
- Corrie Bates and her family
- The Family of Pat Church after her death
- McKenzie Shaw – living with chronic pain
- Martha Wharton – surgery on 04/24
- Richard and Nate Arrington
- Peace in our world, our country, our community

If you share a concern and wish for it to be printed on this list, please consult with the person/s whose names are involved, then let the pastor know in writing via email they give their consent.

Call to Prayer

Kyrie (see insert)

GUARANI

Prayers of the People

Rev. Sisson

The Lord's Prayer (the Maori version)

(in unison)

**Earth-maker, life-giver, pain-bearer,
Source of all that is and all that shall be,
Father and Mother of us all,
Loving God in whom is heaven:
May the hallowing of your name
echo through the universe!
May your heavenly will be done
by all creatures great and small!
And may your commonwealth
of peace and freedom
sustain our hope and come on earth!
With the bread we need this day, feed us.
For the hurt we inflict on one another, forgive us.
By your grace and mercy,
strengthen us through times of temptation,
and spare us from trials too great to endure.
Free us from bigotry and evil, for service and truth.
For you reign in the glory of the power that is Love. Amen.**

Benediction

Postlude

+ + + + +
Worship Resources for today are adapted from:
Thom Shuman, PCUSA
M. T. Winter

Welcome! We are glad you are here. If you are visiting with us, please fill out a visitor's card from the back of one of the chairs and place it in the offering plate or hand it to the pastor after the service. Please join us for coffee after the service in the Gathering Room behind the sanctuary.

To Make an Offering Now



ANNOUNCEMENTS

ACTC is asking for any non-perishable food items. For April, please bring **bottled water and canned meats**. Place items in the red wagon in the foyer so they may be delivered weekly.

Changing the Cycles – please bring **sanitary products** to help those in menstrual poverty. Please bring items to the box in the foyer and help young women remain in school during their cycles.

Next Sunday – Palm Sunday
Thursday, April 17th – Maundy Thursday Service
April 20th – Easter Sunday

Church Office (410) 377-5224

WiFi Password: ONAcomma

Church Office Hours – noon to 5p.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.

Church Staff

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