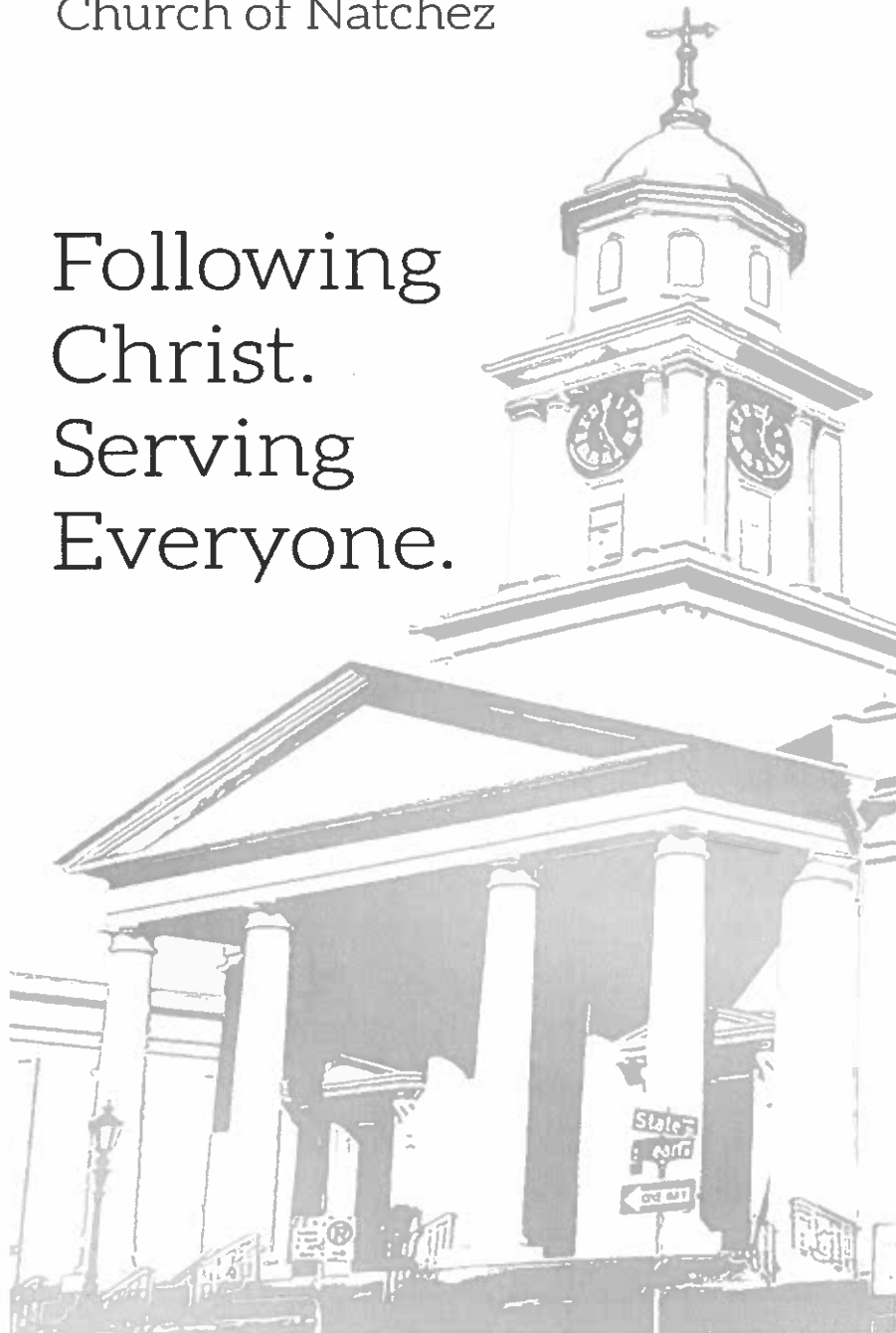




First Presbyterian  
Church of Natchez

Following  
Christ.  
Serving  
Everyone.



## *Welcome!*

We are delighted you have joined us in worship at  
First Presbyterian Church Natchez. So that we  
might get to know you a little better, please take a  
moment to fill out a connect card by scanning the  
QR code below.



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
MAUNDY THURSDAY  
EVENING WORSHIP**

April 17, 2025 ~ 5:30 p.m.

The Rev. Dr. Joan W. Gandy, Minister  
The Rev. Chase Caldwell, Associate Minister  
Mr. Vincent Bache III, Director of Music and Organist

**THE GATHERING**

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Prelude *Melody in Mauve* Richard Purvis

Call to Worship John 13:34

Jesus said: I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.

Responsive Call to Worship

On this day Christ the Lamb of God gave himself into the hands of those who would slay him.

**On this day Christ gathered with his disciples in the upper room.**


On this day Christ took a towel and washed the disciples' feet, giving us an example of service to others as he has shown us to do.

**On this day Christ our God gave us this holy feast day, that we who join in this holy time may proclaim his holy sacrifice and be partakers of his resurrection and at the last day may reign with him in heaven.**



\*Hymn 494, verses 1, 2, & 3: *Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts*

QUEBEC



## Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts 494




1 Je - sus, thou joy of lov - ing hearts, thou fount of  
 2 Thy truth un - changed hath ev - er stood; thou sav - est  
 3 We taste thee, O thou liv - ing bread, and long to  
 4 Our rest - less spir - its yearn for thee, wher - e'er our  
 5 O Je - sus, ev - er with us stay; make all our

life, thou light of all, from the best bliss that  
 those that on thee call; to them that seek thee  
 feast up - on thee still; we drink of thee, the  
 change - ful lot is cast, glad when thy gra - cious  
 mo - ments calm and bright. O chase the night of

earth im - parts we turn, un - filled, to heed thy call.  
 thou art good, to them that find thee, all in all.  
 foun - tain - head, and thirst our souls from thee to fill.  
 smile we see, blest when our faith can hold thee fast.  
 sin a - way; shed o'er the world thy ho - ly light.



This 19th-century American translation of stanzas from a longer Latin poem is so well shaped that it sounds like an original meditation on Christian experience centered on the Lord's Supper. The North American tune name seems not to have originated with the English composer.

## Call to Confession

Romans 5:8; Hebrews 4:16

The proof of God's amazing love is this: while we were sinners, Christ died for us. Because we have faith in him, we dare to approach God with confidence.

**In faith and penitence we will confess our sin before God and one another.**

## Unison Prayer of Confession

**Merciful God, whose covenant with us is never broken, we confess that too often we fail to fulfill your will. Though you have bound yourself to us, we will not bind ourselves to you. In Jesus Christ you serve us freely, but we refuse your love and withhold ourselves from others. In your mercy, forgive and cleanse us. Lead us once again to your table and unite us with Christ, who is the bread of life and the vine from which we grow in grace.**

## Time for Silent Confession

### *Lord, Have Mercy upon Us* (Choir and congregation sing.)

Vincent Bach III

Cantor: All:

Lord, - have - mer - cy. Lord, - have - mer - cy.

Cantor: All:

Christ, - have - mer - cy. Christ, - have - mer - cy.

Cantor: All:

Lord, - have - mer - cy. Lord, - have - mer - cy.

Declaration of Pardon

\*Response Hymn 581

*Gloria Patri*

GREATOREX

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
And to the Holy Ghost.  
As it was in the beginning,  
Is now and ever shall be,  
World without end. Amen. Amen.**

The Peace

See John 20:19, 21, 26

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with all of you

**And also with you. Amen.**

## **THE WORD**

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Prayer for Illumination

Rev. Chase Caldwell

Old Testament Reading: Exodus 12:1-14

*Pew Bible Page 72*

Reading from Psalms: Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19

*Pew Bible Page 694*

\*Gospel Hymn 202, verses 1 & 2:

*An Upper Room Did Our Lord Prepare*

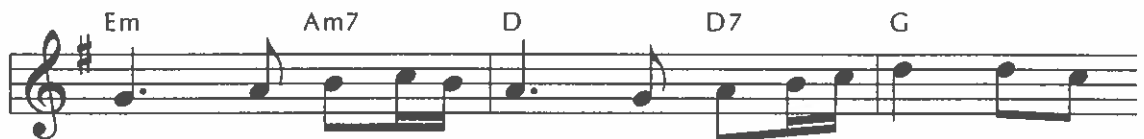
O WALY WALY

# An Upper Room Did Our Lord 202

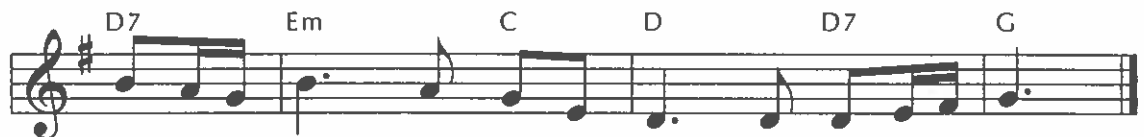
## Prepare



1 An up - per room did our Lord pre - pare for those he  
 2 A last - ing gift Je - sus gave his own: to share his  
 3 And af - ter sup - per he washed their feet, for ser - vice,  
 4 No end there is! We de - part in peace. He loves be -



loved un - til the end: and his dis - ci - ples still  
 bread, his lov - ing cup. What - ev - er bur - dens may  
 too, is sac - ra - ment. In Christ our joy shall be  
 yond our ut - ter - most: in ev - ery room in our



gath - er there to cel - e - brate their ris - en friend.  
 bow us down, he by his cross shall lift us up.  
 made com - plete: sent out to serve, as he was sent.  
 Fa - ther's house Christ will be there, as Lord and Host.

*Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.*

This text brings together the two New Testament traditions regarding Jesus' final evening with his disciples: the Synoptic account of the Last Supper (Matthew 26:26-29/Mark 14:22-25/Luke 22:14-20) and the Fourth Gospel's report of his washing the disciples' feet (John 13:3-17).

TEXT: Fred Pratt Green, 1973, alt.  
 MUSIC: English folk melody; harm. John Weaver, 1988  
 Text © 1974 Hope Publishing Company  
 Music Harm. © 1990 Hope Publishing Company

© WALY WALY  
 9.8.9.8

Gospel Reading: John 13:1-17, 31-35

*Pew Bible Page 131*

This is the Word of the Lord for us today.

**Thanks be to God.**

Meditation

“A Day of Remembrance for You”

Rev. Dr. Gandy

\*Affirmation of Faith

Philippians 2:5-11

**Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death – even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess to the glory of God: Jesus Christ is Lord! Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Holy God, source of all love, on the night of his betrayal Jesus gave his disciples a new commandment, to love one another as he loved them.

**Write this commandment on our hearts; give us the will to serve others as he was the servant of all.**

He gave his life and died for us.

**Still, he is alive! And he reigns with you at your right hand!**

*(Minister continues in prayer.)*



## THE THANKSGIVING

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### Call for the Offering

*The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world and those who live in it.*

Psalm 24:1



Scan FPC QR code here to give online

### Offertory Anthem

### *Bread of the World*

Text: Reginal Heber (1783-1826)

Music: John Abdenour

Bread of the world, in mercy broken,  
Wine of the soul, in mercy shed,  
By Whom the words of life were spoken,  
And in Whose death our sins are dead.

Look on the heart by sorrow broken,  
Look on the tears by sinners shed;  
And be Thy feast to us the token,  
That by Thy grace our souls are fed.

### \*Prayer of Dedication

### **Sacrament of the Lord's Supper**

#### Invitation to the Table

#### Eucharistic Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*Minister continues in prayer.*

... Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with choirs of angels, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

*(The minister continues in prayer.)*

...Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

**Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life. Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

*(The minister continues in prayer.)*

The Lord's Prayer (*debts/debtors*)

Traditional

**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. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

## **Celebration of the Sacrament**

Breaking the Bread

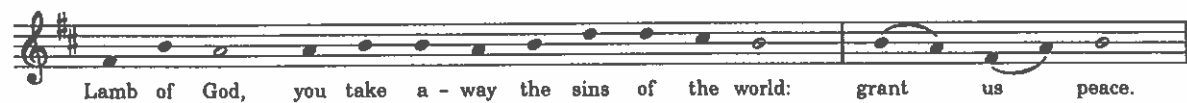
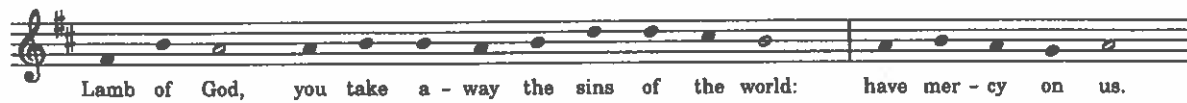
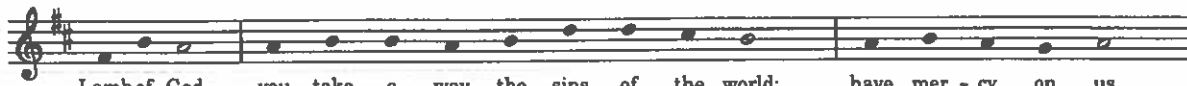
The gifts of God for the people of God

(Come forward to receive Communion as the ushers direct you.

If you prefer to take Communion in place, simply remain in your seats and there will be servers coming through the aisles to serve you.)

All sing: *Lamb of God*

Vincent Bache III



Communion of the People

Prayer of Thanksgiving after the Meal

**THE SENDING**

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\*Hymn 836, verses 1, 4, & 5: *Abide with Me*

EVENTIDE

Charge to Congregation

*Please leave in silence as you meditate upon the love and grace of God in Christ.*

**Music Notes:** The Prelude this evening is the beautiful *Melody in Mauve* by American organist and composer Richard Purvis (1913-1994), utilizing some of the beautiful sounds of the organ. The Anthem at the Offertory is a setting of *Bread of the World* by living American organist and composer John Abdenour.

836

## Abide with Me

1 A - bide with me: fast falls the e - ven - tide.  
 2 Swift to its close ebbs out life's lit - tle day;  
 3 I need thy pres - ence ev - ery pass - ing hour;  
 4 I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;  
 5 Hold thou thy cross be - fore my clos - ing eyes;

The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide!  
 earth's joys grow dim; its glo - ries pass a - way;  
 what but thy grace can foil the tempt - er's power?  
 ills have no weight, and tears no bit - ter - ness.  
 shine through the gloom and point me to the skies.

When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts flee,  
 change and de - cay in all a - round I see.  
 Who, like thy - self, my guide and stay can be?  
 Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy vic - to - ry?  
 Heaven's morn - ing breaks, and earth's vain shad - ows flee;

help of the help - less, O a - bide with me.  
 O thou who chang - est not, a - bide with me.  
 Through cloud and sun - shine, Lord, a - bide with me.  
 I tri - umph still, if thou a - bide with me.  
 in life, in death, O Lord, a - bide with me.

By blending end of day and end of life, the imagery of this well-known Victorian hymn has made it valuable for both evening services and funerals. Although the author wrote his own music for it, the present tune has been firmly associated with this text for over 150 years.

**Good Friday, April 18  
12 noon Worship in the Sanctuary**

**On Easter Sunday, please bring flowers  
to "flower the cross" that is placed by the doors into the sanctuary.**

**Church Staff**

The Rev. Dr. Joan W. Gandy, Minister  
The Rev. Chase Caldwell, Associate Minister  
Mr. Vincent Bache III, Director of Music and Organist  
Aretha Davis, Playschool Director  
Pam McNeil, Office Administrator  
Mary Ann Peoples, Financial Secretary  
Deon Buford, Sexton

**Officers of the Church**

**ELDERS**

**Class of 2025:** Chuck Borum, Sandra Burkes, Marc Doyle, Jay Fitch, Sammy Gore

**Class of 2026:** Mary Lessley, Helen Smith, Anne Vidal Suen

**Class of 2027:** Bobby Meason, George Bates, Danna Mooney, Ralph Loe

**Clerk of Session:** Rosemary Hall

**Assistant Clerk of Session:** Danna Mooney

**Treasurer:** Stratton Bull

**DEACONS**

**Class of 2025:** Edie Christian, Rusty Jenkins, and Randy Smith

**Class of 2026:** Leigh Anderson, Ken Price

**Class of 2027:** Kristen Graham, Hubert Smith, and Sharon Williams

Thank you to Charles Hall (Director), Lance Harris, Ryan Sharp, Slade Gagnard, Robert Seyfarth, and Jon Borum for livestreaming and video services.

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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**601-442-2581**

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