

## CONFESSION OF SIN

Holy God, we confess that too often  
we have not been open to the rhythms of life you offer to us.  
We let ourselves be put off your pace  
and allow ourselves to wander off into our own songs.  
Too often the melodies of the world confuse us.  
We have led ourselves and others to paths  
that diverge from your loving pace and direction.  
Pull us back into your rhythms.  
Cleanse our hearts, purify our hands and steady our feet  
that we might know and share your blessings.  
And so, when our light begins to fade, when our hearts begin to break,  
when our vision for justice becomes marred by greed and corruption,  
O God, join with us in singing, "We shall overcome.  
We shall overcome. We shall overcome someday."

## SILENT PRAYERS

### SUNG RESPONSE

HS No. 70

Kyrie eleison. (x4)  
Christe eleison. (x4)  
Kyrie eleison. (x4)

## ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*The God of Hosts assures us that if we trust God's Word, we will be led back to the songs that God would have us sing. God is eager to show us the path home. Accept the offer of the new song we have been given through Jesus the Christ.*

**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

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### \*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

No. 83

All glory to our Lord and God  
For love so deep, so high, so broad:  
The Trinity whom we adore  
Forever and forevermore.

### \*SHARING OF THE PEACE

*The peace of Christ be with you.*                      **And also with you.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE CHURCH AND COMMUNITY (11:00)

## A TIME FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH (11:00)

### GOD'S WORD TO US

#### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON                      Exodus 1:1-15                      (OT pg. 47)

EPISTLE LESSON                      Revelation 5:6-14                      (NT pg. 233)  
*The word of the Lord.*      **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON                      **Singing a New Song. . .Someday**                      Ken Henry

ANTHEM                      *We Shall Overcome*                      arr. Tom Trenney

### OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

#### \*AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**We place our hope in God. We sing of a life beyond life  
and a future good beyond imagining:  
a new heaven and a new earth,  
the end of sorrow, pain, and tears,  
Christ's return and life with God,  
the making new of all things.**

**We yearn for the coming of that future,  
even while participating in eternal life now.**

**Divine creation does not cease  
until all things have found wholeness, union, and integration  
with the common ground of all being.**

**As children of the Timeless One,  
our time-bound lives will find completion  
in the all-embracing Creator.**

**In the meantime, we embrace the present,  
embodying hope, loving our enemies,  
caring for the earth, choosing life.**

**Grateful for God's loving action,  
we cannot keep from singing.**

**Creating and seeking relationship, in awe and trust,  
we witness to the Holy Mystery who is Wholly Love. Amen.**

*From A Song of Faith, United Church of Canada*

\*HYMN (11:00) *Where Charity and Love Prevail* HS No. 17

PRAYER CONCERNS AND PRAYERS OF THE CONGREGATION  
CONCLUDING WITH THE LORD'S PRAYER (Hymnal, p. 16)

THE OFFERING  
OFFERTORY (8:30) *Andantino quasi allegretto* César Franck  
(11:00) *Sing, My Soul, God's Wondrous Love* Ned Rorem

\*PRESENTATION OF OFFERING HS No. 52  
**Lord, whose love in humble service bore the weight of human need,  
Who upon the cross, forsaken, worked your mercy's perfect deed:  
We, your servants, bring the worship, not of voice alone, but heart;  
Consecrating to your purpose every gift which you impart.**

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION  
**Holy God, we give thanks for your saving love made known to us  
in the life, death and resurrection of Christ.  
Bless these gifts that they may bring life on earth as it is in heaven;  
in Christ's name we pray. Amen.**

\*HYMN *What Wondrous Love Is This* HS No. 14

\*THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CLOSING VOLUNTARY *Priere* Jean Langlais

*During the season of Lent,  
the congregation will be seated during the Closing Music for a short period of meditation.*



# Westminster Presbyterian Church

Charlottesville, Virginia

## SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Fifth Sunday in Lent  
March 18, 2018

*"We'll walk hand in hand. We'll walk hand in hand. We'll walk hand in hand  
someday. Oh, deep in my heart I do believe we shall overcome someday."*

### SILENT PRAYER AND MEDITATION

*In this time set  
apart from time,  
this holy moment  
halfway to eternity,  
give us the faith  
to truly listen for  
your voice,  
give us the wisdom  
to discern what you  
would have us do  
and be,  
and grant us the  
inner peace of  
knowing we are  
ever in your hands.  
Amen.*

*J. Barrie Shepherd*

### PREPARING TO HEAR GOD'S WORD

#### OPENING VOLUNTARY

*The peace may be exchanged*

Dan Locklair

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

*Worthy is the Lamb!*

**Blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever.**

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#### \*HYMN

*Crown Him with Many Crowns*

No. 151

#### CALL TO CONFESSION

*No single day marks the birth of the song, "We Shall Overcome." No single person is its author. No single performance was the "first." Rather, "We Shall Overcome" is the product of many voices, over years and years, singing a message of hope and determination. They marched, they prayed, they held hands, and they sang, "We Shall Overcome." And so, as people of faith, we lift up our prayers this morning that maybe not today, maybe not tomorrow, but eventually, we shall overcome someday. Let us pray.*

\*Congregation may stand. #Latecomers seated.  
Please turn off cell phones during the service.

