



WESTMINSTER  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
188<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Congregation  
Fourth Sunday after Epiphany  
28 January 2024 + 10:00 a.m.

Welcome and Announcements

**Ministry Moment**

Recognition of Financial Administrator Lisa Runkle

**Voluntary**

Allegretto

Robert Jones

**\*Ringing of the Bell**

*The congregation rises at the ringing of the Tower Bell.*

**\*Call to Worship**

Isaiah 40

Leader:

Have we not known? Have we not heard?

**People:**

**Has it not been told to us since the beginning?**

Leader:

Those who wait for the Lord  
shall renew their strength;

**People:**

**they shall mount up with wings like eagles;**

Leader:

they shall run and not be weary;

**People:**

**they shall walk and not faint.**

Leader:

Let us worship God.

**\*Processional Hymn 305**

Come Sing, O Church in Joy!

*Darwall's 148th*

**\*Prayer of Confession**

God, you are everlasting, the creator of all that is.  
Your understanding is beyond measure. We confess to  
you that we have sinned against you and our neighbors.  
In your compassion, forgive us, for we place our hope  
in your steadfast love. Hear now our silent prayers of  
confession.

<b>*Sung Response</b>	Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us	Hymnal, Back Cover
<b>*Declaration of Pardon and Passing of the Peace</b>		
Leader:	Friends, believe the good news.	
<b>People:</b>	<b>In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.</b>	
Leader:	The peace of Christ be with you.	
<b>People:</b>	<b>And also with you.</b>	
Leader:	Let us greet one another with the sign of peace.	
<b>*Response of Praise</b>	Gloria Patri	Hymnal, Back Cover
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.		
<b>Children's Sermon</b>	<i>Students in preschool-Grade 5 go to Sunday school and Grades 6-7 go to Confirmation during the Congregational Response.</i>	
<b>Congregational Response</b>	I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light	<i>Houston</i>
<b>I want to walk as a child of the light.</b>		
<b>I want to follow Jesus.</b>		
<b>God set the stars to give light to the world.</b>		
<b>The star of my life is Jesus.</b>		
<b>First Scripture Reading</b>	Isaiah 40:21-31	Pew Bible, OT page 668
<b>Second Scripture Reading</b>	Mark 1:29-39	Pew Bible, NT page 35
Leader:	This is the Word of the Lord.	
<b>People:</b>	<b>Thanks be to God.</b>	
<b>Sermon</b>	Run and Not Be Weary	Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer
<i>The text: "...but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary..." Isaiah 40:31a</i>		

## Anthem

## Hallelujah

Leonard Cohen

I've heard there was a secret chord that David played,  
it pleased the Lord, but you don't really care for music do you?  
It goes like this, the fourth, the fifth, the minor fall, the major  
lift; the baffled king composing Hallelujah.  
You say I took the name in vain though I don't even know the  
name, but if I did, well really, what's it to you?  
There's a blaze of light in every word, it doesn't matter what  
you heard, the holy or the broken Hallelujah.  
I did my best, it wasn't much, I couldn't feel so I tried to touch,  
I've told the truth, I didn't come to fool you.  
And even though it all went wrong I'll stand before the  
Lord of Song with nothing on my tongue but Hallelujah.

## \*Affirmation of Faith

*Westminster Mission Statement*

**Westminster Presbyterian Church believes it is in the world for ministry. With each new day, we affirm our common purpose: to join in the worshipful praise of God; to teach the children, to lead and inspire the young, and to call everyone to life-long learning in the church; to be influential participants in society, by being accountable to the Gospel; to show the love and compassion of Jesus Christ toward each other, and toward those who are hurting; to be a caring community welcoming both friends and strangers; to own our Presbyterian heritage, reformed and always reforming; and to be prayerfully open to the renewing power of the Holy Spirit. Let the door of this church be a way to service. Amen.**

## The Church at Prayer

Choir: Surely the presence of our God is in this place,  
I can feel God's mighty power and God's grace.  
I can hear the brush of angels' wings  
I see glory on each face;  
Surely the presence of our God is in this place.

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And with your spirit.**

Pastor: Let us pray.

**The Presentation  
of Our Gifts**

*At this time all worshipers are invited to sign and pass  
the Ministry of Friendship folders in the pew racks.*

**Offertory**

How Lovely Are the Messengers

Felix Mendelssohn

How lovely are the messengers that preach us the gospel of peace  
to all the nations is gone forth the sound of their word,  
throughout all the lands their glad tidings. Romans 5:15.16

**\*Offertory Response**

Doxology

Hymnal, 606

Praise God from whom all blessings flow  
Praise God, all creatures here below  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**Holy and loving God, we present these gifts with gratitude  
and joy for Jesus Christ, the One who renews our  
strength. Unite your church throughout the world in  
continuing Christ's ministry of love and servanthood, that  
your name may be praised in all the earth. Amen.**

**\*Hymn**

Mission Statement Hymn

*Woodlands*

**\*Charge and Benediction**

**\*Choral Response**

Day by Day

Harold Friedell

Day by day, dear Lord of thee three things I pray  
To see thee more nearly Love thee more dearly.

**188<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting  
of the Congregation**

**\*Voluntary**

Postlude in D

T. Tertius Noble

(\* ) The congregation is invited to stand.

**IN MEMORIAM**

Sandra Bauer 09/01/1943 – 01/19/2024  
United with Westminster 04/29/1985



# MISSION STATEMENT HYMN

A Metrical Paraphrase by  
Dale Thomas Rogers, 1994

Walter Greatorex, 1919



- |                           |    |                  |                 |       |
|---------------------------|----|------------------|-----------------|-------|
| 1. This church is         | in | the world for    | min - is - try. | With  |
| 2. With one ac - cord,    |    | re - spond - ing | to your word.   | Our   |
| 3. This church is         | in | the world for    | min - is - try. | Res - |
| 4. This liv - ing church, |    | re - form - ing, | ev - er new;    | give  |
| 5. This church is         | in | the world for    | min - is - try. | With  |



- |           |        |             |        |        |         |       |
|-----------|--------|-------------|--------|--------|---------|-------|
| 1. sure   | con -  | vict - ions | may    | our    | faith   | pro - |
| 2. ad -   | or -   | a - tion,   | hymns  | and    | prayers | we    |
| 3. pon -  | sive   | to          | the    | hurts  | and     | needs |
| 4. height | - en - | ed          | vision | that   | we      | see   |
| 5. hope,  | faith, | love,       | we     | praise | the     | Lord  |
|           |        |             |        |        |         | of    |



- |           |            |              |        |       |            |                   |                     |      |
|-----------|------------|--------------|--------|-------|------------|-------------------|---------------------|------|
| 1. claim  | the        | love         | of     | God   | to         | our               | com - mun - i - ty; | a    |
| 2. bring. | Our        | young        | we     | nur - | ture       | in                | your                | path |
| 3. all.   | Seek - ing | so -         | lu -   | tions | for        | so - ci - e - ty, | we                  |      |
| 4. ways.  | With       | quick - en'd | pulse, | we    | con - se - | crate             | to                  | you  |
| 5. Hosts. | Serv - ing | all          | ways   | the   | bles - ed  | trin - i - ty;    | Cre -               |      |



- |           |      |       |       |       |          |        |       |        |
|-----------|------|-------|-------|-------|----------|--------|-------|--------|
| 1. fer -  | vent | wit - | ness  | to    | Christ's | ho -   | ly    | name.  |
| 2. ev -   | er - | more  | God's | ho -  | ly       | truths | may   | ring.  |
| 3. strive | al - | ways  | to    | heed  | the      | Gos -  | pel's | call.  |
| 4. pow -  | er'd | lives | to    | serve | you      | all    | our   | days.  |
| 5. at -   | ing  | God,  | your  | Son,  | and      | Ho -   | ly    | Ghost. |

## SERVING THIS SUNDAY AT WESTMINSTER

- **Sunday Liturgist:** Rev. Christian K. Choi
- **Worship Leader:** Liam Kiszely
- **Acolytes:** Taryn Barnett and Juliana Eastvold
- **Greeters:** Mary and Charlie King
- **Ushers:** Jim Parker (Head Usher), Sophia Choi, Erin Ekstedt, Kathy Kenyon, Bill Schlosser, Susan Shaw, Bob Stuart, Jess Weitzel
- **Safety Team:** John Stafford
- **Music:** The Westminster Choir; Dale Rogers, organist

## EDUCATION AND FELLOWSHIP THIS SUNDAY AT WESTMINSTER

- **8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Youth Egg-tastic Mission Trip Fundraiser (Parish Hall)**  
Mission participants will serve a delicious Egg-tastic Breakfast prepared by Pat Hymans and team before worship. Come support the Mission and be well nourished for the work of the church at the Annual Meeting following worship. *ALL DONATIONS SUPPORT THE 2024 YOUTH MISSION TRIP.*
- **9:15 a.m. – 9:45 a.m. Safety Team Meeting (Second Floor Classroom)**
- **9:45 a.m. – 12 noon Infants, toddlers, preschoolers (Nursery)** Infants and toddlers gather in the Nursery. Preschoolers begin in worship with their families and leave during the Congregational Response. This week's Bible Story: "God Promises to Love and Care for our Families" *Caregivers: Erin Winn, Maria Lafrenz, Sally Godbey*
- **10:15 – 11:00 a.m.**
  - **Sunday School Children in Kindergarten – Grade 5 (Third Floor Chapel)** will begin in worship with their families & go to Sunday school following the Congregational Response. The story is "Praise God" (Psalm 111). *Teachers: Meleah and Aaron Berkowitz*
  - **Grades 6-7 Confirmation Prep (Conference Room)** meet following the Children's Sermon for Lesson Thirteen: "King Saul" of the Echo Curriculum. *Teachers: Mary Ray and Joe Fierstos*
- **11:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. 184<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Congregation (Sanctuary)** The 2024 Confirmation Class is invited to sit with their mentors during the meeting.

**WI-FI Hearing Assistance System** is available in our Sanctuary. A basket is located at each Sanctuary entrance with instructions to install the app for those with Bluetooth enabled hearing aids, lanyards, and hearing amplifier packets for those with regular hearing aids, hearing amplifier packets and disposable earbuds for those without hearing aids. Please return the lanyards and hearing amplifier packets at the end of worship. For assistance, ask an usher.

**The Library Committee** has prepared a cart of books for checkout from both of our libraries in the West Narthex containing philosophy, psychology, and a wide variety of books. Please plan to stop and peruse the books and resources.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**WE WELCOME VISITORS!** Information about who we are is in our Welcome Brochure located in the pew pockets and on our website [www.wpcspi.org](http://www.wpcspi.org). Please complete the Ministry of Friendship folder located on the end of each pew. The next New Member Class will meet Sundays, March 3 and 10 with new members received Sunday, March 17. If you are interested, speak to a pastor.

**APCE (Association of Partners in Christian Education) Annual Event** January 25-27, 2024 in St. Louis. Dr. Aaron and Meleah Berkowitz, Mary Ray and Dr. Kieffer attended the conference whose theme was "Come, all who are thirsty."

**ALL WOMEN'S NEW BEGINNING BRUNCH** will be hosted by the PW on **Saturday, February 3 from 10:00 a.m. - noon** in Parish Hall. Brownie Anderson and Carole Kennerly will present a program called "Meeting C.S. and Joy Lewis." RSVP today following worship in the West Narthex.



**MISSION SUNDAY** - On **Sunday, February 4**, mission will be highlighted during worship. This is the eighth Mission Sunday which began in 2016. Rev. Christian Choi, Associate Pastor for Parish Life, will preach. A booklet including a comprehensive list of the 2023 mission supported by Westminster and the members of the committees who serve will be distributed. The total Mission Giving for 2023 is **\$276,263**. This giving is divided among the Operating Fund, Special Offerings, Presbyterian Women, and the Support and Endowment Mission Funds and does not include the addition Organizations,

Grants, and In-kind gifts of **\$107,395** enlisted by Westminster as the sponsoring congregation for the Steadfast Neighbor Habitat Build.

**ADULT EDUCATION FORUM** presents **The Regulation of Guns in USA** on **February 4 and 11**. This adult education forum will provide an overview of the regulatory oversight of guns and its societal and political implications. The class will also conclude with a summary of the PC(USA) position on gun control measures. The first session of this series was held on January 21 and all are being led by Kate and Michael Morthland.

**RUTH AND NAOMI CIRCLE** meets **Wednesday, February 7** at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Meg Kontio (3508 Briana Drive, 62711). Meg will lead the devotional by John Wesley entitled, "Loving one Another" (pp. 258-263) from the book, Devotional Classics. RSVP to Meg at 217-670-2052.

**THE CAPITAL BIG BAND** featuring music of the Big Band Era and more recent tunes will present a lively program in Westminster's Parish Hall on **Wednesday, February 7 at 7:00 p.m.**

**MEN'S BREAKFAST** will meet on **Thursday, February 8 at 9:00 a.m. in Parish Hall**. Joe McMenamin will talk about his time on City Council. Alan Stutz will provide breakfast.

### ASH WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14

THEME: THE DESERT OF COMPASSION

5:30 P.M. CHICKEN AND STEAK FAJITA DINNER IN PARISH HALL

6:30 P.M. WORSHIP IN THE SANCTUARY

We begin our Lenten Journey with dinner followed by a family centered worship service.

## THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

### Monday, January 29

### Tuesday, January 30

- 10:30 AM Staff Meeting (Pastor's Study)
- 1:00 PM Knit 2, Purl 4 Mission (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Classroom)
- 3:00 PM COMPASS

### Wednesday, January 31

- 10:00 AM Pastors Pray in Chancel (Sanctuary)
- 10:30 AM Worship Planning (Pastor's Study)
- 12:30 PM Reporter (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Classroom)
- 4:00 PM Depression and Bi-Polar Support Group (Conference Room)
- 4:00 PM Bridges (Tower Classroom)
- 5:00 PM Children's Choir (Music Room)
- 7:00 PM Capitol City Band Rehearsal (Parish Hall)

### Thursday, February 1

- 1:30 PM Memory Loss Graduate Group (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Classroom)
- 5:30 PM Dr. Kieffer's Bible Study (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Classroom)
- 7:00 PM Choir (Music Room)

### Friday, February 2

### Saturday, February 3

- 10:30 AM PW All Women New Beginnings Brunch (Parish Hall)
- 11:00 AM Church Mice (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Classroom)

### Sunday, February 4 – Mission Sunday

- Parish Nurse Blood Pressure Check (Church Office)
- 10:00 AM Worship Service (Sanctuary)
- 10:15 AM Sunday School Pre K-5 (3<sup>rd</sup> Floor)
- 10:15 AM Confirmation Gr 6-7 (Conference Room)
- 11:15 AM Confirmation (Conference Room)
- 11:15 AM Adult Ed Forum (Parish Hall)
- 5:00 PM Youth Group Worship & Dinner (Parish Hall)

Westminster Presbyterian Church  
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<http://www.wpcspi.org>

### WESTMINSTER STAFF

**The Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer**  
Pastor and Head of Staff

**The Reverend Christian K. Choi**  
Associate Pastor for Parish Life

**The Reverend Gerald W. Boutelle**  
Parish Associate

**Dale T. Rogers**  
Director of Music and the Arts

**Mary Ray**  
Director for Youth

**Meleah and Aaron Berkowitz**  
Co-Directors for Children's Ministry

**Katie Moore**  
Director for Children's Music

**Millie McNutt, Erin Winn**  
Nursery Coordinators

**Emily Rowley, Keri Tate**  
Cooperative Preschool Staff

**Ellen Carpenter**  
Parish Nurse

**Pat Hymans**  
Hospitality Coordinator

**Lisa Runkle**  
Financial Administrator

**Jennie Alt**  
Church Administrative Assistant

**Krista Steller**  
Communications Coordinator

**Gary Warnick**  
Building and Property Manager

**Peter Bysko, James Capler,  
Terry Gietl**  
Part-time Custodians