



WESTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Fourth Sunday after Epiphany
31 January 2021 10:00 a.m.

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer

Voluntary

Prelude on *Darwall's 148th*

Percy Whitlock

***Ringing of the Bell**

The congregation rises at the ringing of the Tower Bell.

***Call to Worship**

Rev. Christian K. Choi

Out of the fullness of the lives God has given us,
we have come to worship and to praise.

We offer the creativity of our minds,
the warmth of our hearts, and the joy of our spirits.

We gather with deep gratitude as the body of Christ.

May the door of this church be a way to service
as we celebrate the journey and the transfer of power.

Come sing, O church in joy.

***Hymn**

Come Sing, O Church in Joy

Darwall's 148th

Come sing, O church in joy! Come join, O church, in song!
For Christ the Lord has led us through the ages long!
In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!

Long years have come and gone, and still God reigns supreme,
empowering us to catch the vision, dream the dream!
In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!

Let courage be our friend; let wisdom be our guide
as we in mission magnify the Crucified!
In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!

Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church, in song!
For Christ the Lord has triumphed o'er the ages long!
In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!

***Prayer of Confession**

Rev. Trajan I. McGill

Holy and loving God, give us the strength and wisdom to embrace the teachings and authority of Jesus. Speak to us that we might discover and celebrate our own authority by living lives of compassion, love and justice. Teach us to affirm what is good in our lives, and to celebrate, to honor, and to transfer the power of that goodness, so by your grace we may live in the manner of Christ. Hear now our silent prayers of confession.

***Sung Response** Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us

***Declaration of Pardon** Friends, believe the good news: in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.
The peace of Christ be with you. Thanks be to God. Amen.

***Response of Praise** Gloria Patri

Children's Sermon

Response I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light *Houston*

I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to follow Jesus.
God set the stars to give light to the world. The star of my life is Jesus.
In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

First Scripture Reading Deuteronomy 18:15-20

¹⁵ The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. ¹⁶ This is what you requested of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: "If I hear the voice of the LORD my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die."

¹⁷ Then the LORD replied to me: "They are right in what they have said. ¹⁸ I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. ¹⁹ Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I, myself will hold accountable. ²⁰ But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak—that prophet shall die."

Anthem Gloria in Excelsis Deo Franz Joseph Haydn

Glory to God in the highest,
And peace to God's people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God,
We worship you, we give you thanks,
We praise you for your glory.

Second Scripture Reading Mark 1:21-28

²¹ They went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. ²² They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. ²³ Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, ²⁴ and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God." ²⁵ But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" ²⁶ And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with

a loud voice, came out of him. ²⁷ They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, “What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.” ²⁸ At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

Sermon Transfer of Power Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer
Text: Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I, myself will hold accountable. Deuteronomy 18:19

Anthem Things That Never Die Victor C. Johnson

The pure, the bright, the beautiful that stirred our hearts in youth,
the impulses to wordless prayer, the streams of love and truth,
the longing after something lost, the spirit’s yearning cry,
the striving after better hopes; these things can never die.

The timid hand stretched forth to aid a brother in his need;
a kindly word in grief’s dark you that proves a friend indeed;
the plea for mercy softly breathed, when justice threatens high,
the sorrow of a contrite heart; these things shall never die.

Let nothing pass, for every hand must find some work to do,
Lose not a chance to waken love, be firm and just and true.
So shall a light that cannot fade beam on thee from on high
and angel voices say to thee: “These things shall never die.”

Words attributed to Charles Dickens

The Church at Prayer

Soloist: Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place,
I can feel his mighty power and his grace.
I can hear the brush of angels’ wings
I see glory on each face;
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.

The Lord’s Prayer

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.

*Introduction to the Offering

***Offertory Response** Doxology

Prayer of Dedication

We give you thanks, Holy and Loving God, that Westminster is in the world for ministry. May the gifts of our lives be a source of strength beyond these doors as we proclaim our faith with sure convictions, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

***Hymn** Mission Statement Hymn

This church is in the world for ministry.
With sure convictions may our faith proclaim
The love of God to our community:
A fervent witness to Christ's holy name.
With one accord, responding to your word.
Our adoration, hymns and prayers we bring.
Our young we nurture in your path assured
That evermore God's holy truths may ring.
This church in in the world for ministry.
Responsive to the hurts and needs of all.
Seeking solutions for society,
We strive always to heed the Gospel's call.
This living church, reforming, ever new;
Give heightened vision that we see your ways.
With quickened pulse, we consecrate to you
Empowered lives to serve you all our days.
This church is in the world for ministry.
With hope, faith, love, we praise the Lord of Hosts.
Serving always the blessed trinity;
Creating God, your Son, and Holy Ghost.
Tune: Woodlands Words: Dale Thomas Rogers, 1994

***Charge and Benediction**

**185th Annual Meeting
of the Congregation**

***Voluntary** Carillon de Westminster

Louis Vierne

() The congregation is invited to stand.*

<p>IN MEMORIAM Roy A. Baker 01/17/2021 United with Westminster 01/27/1985</p>
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Worship Participants

Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer, Pastor and Head of Staff
Rev. Trajan I. McGill, Associate Pastor for Parish Life
Rev. Christian K. Choi, Associate Pastor for Family Ministry
Dale Rogers, Organist and Director of Music and the Arts
The St. Andrew's Sisters: Julie Blythe, Amanda Neubauer, Eleanor VanDeventer
Lyle VanDeventer, Bass Elsie and Bob Fox, Videographers
Gregg Humphrey, Becky McDonald, and Mike Nenaber, Ushers
Rich Canady, Safety Team

David and Saul: The Transfer of Power

Sculpture by William Tolbert Kieffer, Jr.



“So David took the spear that was at Saul’s head and the water jar, and they went away. No one saw it, or knew it, nor did anyone awake; for they were all asleep, because a deep sleep from the Lord had fallen upon them.” 1 Samuel 26:12