WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

5th Sunday after Epiphany
Communion Sunday
9 February 2025 + 10:00 a.m.

Welcome and Announcements

Ministry Moment	Pastor Nominating Committee	Dr. Todd Knox
Voluntary	Preludio and Allemanda	Arcangelo Corelli
***Ringing of the Bell**	*The congregation rises at the ringing of the Tower Bell.*	

***Call to Worship**

Leader: In the sanctuary, God, the Holy One,
whose glory fills the whole earth, calls us.
**People: Beside the sea, along ordinary paths,
in our daily work God calls us.**
Leader: We respond with our whole heart,
Singing God's praise and giving thanks.
**People: In steadfast love, God fulfills the
divine purposes for our lives.**
Leader: Let us worship with joy.

***Processional Hymn 1**	Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty	Nicaea

***Prayer of Confession**

God of the universe and Creator of all that is, we admit that we fail to be honest about our lives and in the politics of life. Sometimes we are deceitful; other times we judge ourselves harshly and feel unworthy of your call on our lives. Touch us with your grace and dispel our fear, that we may arise with strength and be set free. Hear now our silent prayers of confession.

***Sung Response**	Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us	Hymnal, Back Cover

***Declaration of Pardon and Passing of the Peace**

Leader: Friends, believe the good news.
People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.
Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.
People: And also with you.
Leader: Let us greet one another with the sign of peace.

***Response of Praise** Gloria Patri — Hymnal, Back Cover

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be
world without end. Amen.

Children's Sermon

Congregational 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.

Children in Pre-K through Grade 5 go to Sunday School class following the Congregational Response. Youth in grades 6 and 7 remain in worship for communion.

First Scripture Reading Isaiah 6:1-8 — Pew Bible, OT pages 635-636

Second Scripture Reading Luke 5:1-11 — Pew Bible, NT pages 62

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Meditation Yet If You Say So — Rev. Sarah A. Bishop

Text: "Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets"
Luke 5:5

Anthem O Love, How Deep — Everett Titcomb

The text for the anthem is 618 in the Glory to God hymnal.

The Presentation of Our Gifts and Prayer of Dedication

At this time all worshipers are invited to sign and pass the Ministry of Friendship folders at the end of each pew

Offertory

Concerto in d for two violins: Adagio — J.S. Bach

Offertory Response

Doxology — Hymnal, 606

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

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation to the Lord's Table
Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

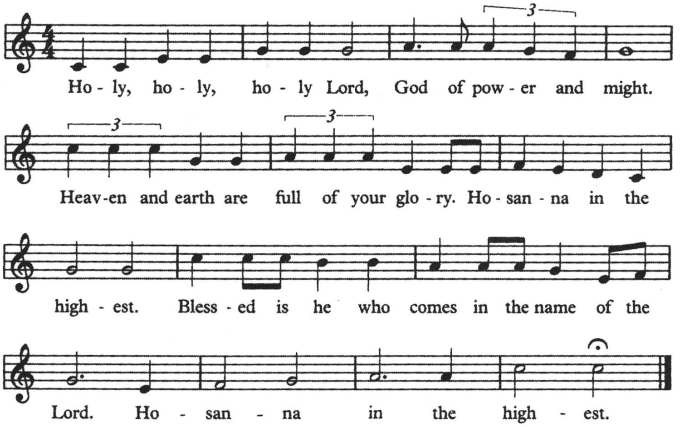
People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Pastor: It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise…Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with choirs of angels and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:

The people sing:



Leader: You are holy, O God of majesty…Accept this, our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving as a living and holy offering of ourselves, that our lives may proclaim the One crucified and risen. Great is the mystery of faith:

People: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Leader: Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine…
Hear now the prayer Christ taught us to pray, saying:

The Lord's Prayer *Hymnal, page 35*

Words of Institution

Music at Communion Let Us Break Bread Together — Spirituals
My Lord, What a Morning

Distribution of Elements *The elements are served without interruption. Partake of the bread as you receive it and hold the cup until all have been served so that we may symbolize our unity in Christ.*

Gluten-free bread is available in the center of the plate.

***Prayer after Communion** **Holy God, thank you for the bread and the cup, for the Life and the Love, for the Wisdom to walk into your world. With your strength, our faith is strengthened. With your love, our love grows. Help us to share that love, strength and faith, that it might change the world. Amen.**

***Hymn 721** Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore
Pescador de hombres

***Charge and Benediction**

Closing Response Forth in Thy Name — Orlando Gibbons

***Voluntary** Sortie — Noel Rawsthorne

(*) The congregation is invited to stand.

SUNDAY AT WESTMINSTER

- **Sunday Liturgist:** Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer
- **Worship Leader:** Juliana Eastvold
- **Greeters:** Lucy and John Stafford
- **Acolytes:** Harper and Reese Huston
- **Cross and Bible Carriers:** Sam Batterman and James Maeda
- **Today's Communion Bread** is Cinnamon Bread and was prepared by Mary Moore
- **Elders Serving Communion:** Scott Day, Team Leader, Brownie Anderson, Jonathan Carlson-Eastvold, Tara Fritsch, Rachael Hickman, Vonnie Hinesley, David Jenkins, Vena Long, Amanda Maddox-Wenthe, Lyle VanDeventer, Peter Van Gieson, Brinton Wilkey
- **Communion Prep:** Mary Ray, Priscilla and Tim Kluge, Elisabeth and Mark Luttrell, Leigh Milward, Krista Steller
- **Home Communion Delivery:** Eleanor and Lyle VanDeventer, Mary Ray and Valerie Leonatti, Sara Eldridge and Marilyn Rigney
- **Ushers:** Sabrina Holmes (Head Usher), Ben Arnold, Michella Arnold, Linda Caupert, Kyle Duffy, Chris Hickman, Joyce King
- **Music:** The Westminster Choir, Carmen Abelson and Maya Shiraishi, Violins, and Dale Rogers, Organist
- **Safety Team:** Marilyn Rigney
- **Videography and Sound:** Bob Fox, Krista Steller, Bill Deemer

EDUCATION AND FELLOWSHIP THIS SUNDAY

- **9:15 a.m. – 9:45 a.m. Nursery Guild and Sunday School Teachers Meeting (Parish Hall)**
- **9:45 a.m. – 12 noon Infants, toddlers, preschoolers (Nursery)** This week's Bible Story is "Jesus Loves You and Blesses You" (Jesus Blesses Children) *Caregivers: Lynn McMenamin*
- **10:00 – 11:00 a.m. Children in Pre-K – Grade 5** begin in worship & go to Sunday school and Confirmation Prep following the Congregational Response.
    - **Preschool - Ages 3-5 (Preschool Classroom lower level)** Story: "We are Disciples Who Follow Jesus" (Jesus Calls Disciples II) *Teachers: Dee Dee Duffy, Kate Bryans, Taryn Barnett*
    - **Kindergarten - Grade 2 (Third Floor Chapel)** Story: "Fishers of People" (Luke 5:1-11) *Teachers: Meleah Berkowitz, Katrina Opperman*
    - **Grades 3-5 (Third Floor Classroom)** Story: "Miraculous Catch" (Luke 5:1-11) *Teacher: Aaron Berkowitz*
- **11:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. PNC Congregational Gathering (Parish Hall)** The Pastor Nominating Committee, chaired by Dr. Todd Knox, will host a Congregational Gathering today at 11:15 a.m. in Parish Hall to solicit feedback from members about the search process.

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. Please complete the Ministry of Friendship folder located on the end of each pew. The next New Member Class will meet Sundays, March 2 and 9 with new members received Sunday, March 16. If you are interested, speak to a pastor.

2024 ANNUAL REPORTS are available on the Visitor's Table.

THE SOUPER BOWL OF CARING SUPPORT the hungry in Springfield by placing your donation in the large soup pots held by our youth following worship today. This is a program organized by the youth of the PC(USA).

PNC

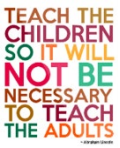
CONGREGATIONAL GATHERING TODAY IN PARISH HALL. The Pastor Nominating Committee, chaired by Dr. Todd Knox, will host a Congregational Gathering today at 11:15 a.m. in Parish Hall to solicit feedback from members about the search process. The PNC, which was elected January 12, has been meeting weekly to compile the Ministry Discernment Profile. They have also completed their training with Lead Presbyter Rev. Ann Schwartz and COM Liaison Marty Tarter. They will recommend a Co-Pastor who will transition to Head of Staff upon Dr. Kieffer's retirement.

A CONCERT OF SPIRITUALS AND HYMNS scheduled for this afternoon and presented by Dr. Alfonzo Cooper, Jr., as part of the 190 Year Anniversary Celebration has been canceled due to illness.

DISASTER ASSISTANCE FUND DONATIONS are being received to provide relief for our neighbors in California, who are now facing a devastating disaster. The harrowing images of wildfires consuming parts of Los Angeles and Ventura counties have deeply impacted us all. Session designated $5,000 from the Betty Smith Mission Endowment.

PRESCHOOL SUNDAY SCHOOL MEETS TODAY - Children ages 3-5 are invited to the second week Preschool Sunday School. Preschool age children begin worship in the Sanctuary with their parents, and after the Children's Sermon, they head to the Preschool classroom next to the Nursery on the lower level for a special Sunday School lesson from the Frolic Preschool curriculum. The children share a Bible story, songs, and prayers and have an opportunity for an activity or craft and free play.

ELIZABETH CIRCLE meets Monday, February 10 at 1:00 p.m. in the Second Floor Classroom and will study Lesson 5 "Air Quality" from the PW Horizons Bible Study Let Justice Roll Down by the Rev. Dr. Patricia K. Tull. Call Eleanor VanDeventer at 217-341-4032.



CHILDREN OF ABRAHAM GATHERS WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12 Children and Youth (Kindergarten through High School) are invited to the first gathering of Children of Abraham on **Wednesday, February 12, 4:30-6:00 p.m.** at the Grace United Methodist Church (1612 E. Capital Ave.). Join us as we explore the celebration of Black History Month. Parents and children are welcome to drive directly to the site.

PRESBYTERIAN MEN'S BREAKFAST will be Thursday, February 13 at 8:00 a.m. in Parish Hall. John Stafford's topic is "The FBI That I Knew". Peter Van Gieson will provide breakfast, and Roy Wehrle will give the devotion. Please RSVP on our website or by contacting the church office.

FAIR TRADE - Come check out our chocolate and other Equal Exchange items following worship on **Sunday, February 16**! Becky Martin and Jeanne Van Gieson oversee this ministry.

ADULT ED FORUM PRESENTS: "HOMOSEXUALITY AND THE BIBLE" on Sundays, February 16 and 23. The historical perspective and biblical passages misused to influence discrimination based on race, gender, and sexual orientation will be presented. The primary source for this presentation is Jack Rogers' book Jesus, the Bible and Homosexuality. Led by Dr. Peter and Rev. Dr. Blythe Kieffer.

WESTMINSTER CHILDREN'S CHOIR meets on Wednesdays at 5:00 p.m. in the Music Room following Bridges. Katie Moore resigned as the Director of Children's Music, so Dale Rogers is filling that position for the spring. We are pleased that Katie will continue to do the music for VBS in the summer. The Children's Choir is preparing music for the Ash Wednesday service on March 5 as well as for Palm Sunday, April 13 and for the 190th Anniversary Celebration, May 18.

APOSTLES' READ LIBRARY BOOK GROUP WILL meet on Tuesday, February 25, 6:00 p.m. in the Ziegler Library. The book for February is *The Night Watchman* by Louise Erdrich.

LYDIA CIRCLE meets Tuesday, February 18 at 9:30 a.m. in the library and will study Lesson 5 "Air Quality" from the PW Horizons Bible Study Let Justice Roll Down by the Rev. Dr. Patricia K. Tull. Call Nancy Canady at 217-899-9890.

SING BY HEART CHOIR BEGINS WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19 The Springfield Choral Society, in partnership with the Dale and Deborah Smith Alzheimer's Center at SIU School of Medicine and Westminster Presbyterian Church, will continue this joyful musical experience for individuals with dementia and their caregiver, promoting social connection, creative expression, and overall well-being. The Sing by Heart choir will meet on Wednesdays beginning February 19 from 10:00-11:30 a.m. in Parish Hall and continue for eight weeks. The final session on Wednesday, April 9 will feature a small performance at 11:00 a.m. for family, friends, and the public.

NEW MEMBER CLASS will be held **Sundays, March 2 and 9,** 9:00 – 9:45 a.m. in the Pastor's Study. Anyone who has been visiting and would like to learn more about the church, its mission, and becoming a member is invited. New members will be received at the 10:00 a.m. service on March 16 following a Special Session meeting at 9:30 a.m.

CELEBRATING 190 YEARS WITH A FINE ARTS DISPLAY ON SUNDAY, MARCH 23
The Worship, Music and Arts Committee will host a Fine Arts Display at 11:15 a.m. in Parish Hall. This event is in celebration of Westminster's 190th anniversary and will provide an opportunity to highlight the work of Westminster's gifted artists.

2025 YOUTH MISSION TRIP TO ASHEVILLE, NC IS SCHEDULED FOR JULY 12- 19.
We will partner with Asheville Youth Mission (AYM) in Asheville, NC. Our mission trip is open to rising freshmen through graduating seniors as well as completed college freshmen as participants and adult chaperones. The cost will be: $350 for youth and $300 for adult chaperones. The Intent to Participate forms are due today to reserve your spot with a $50.00 deposit. The full cost needs to be paid by April 30. Intent to Participate forms can be downloaded from the church website or found in the most recent Youth News emails.

THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

Monday, February 10
1:00 PM Elizabeth Circle (2nd Floor Classroom)

Tuesday, February 11
10:30 AM Staff Meeting
1:00 PM Knit 2 Purl 4 (2nd Floor Classroom)
3:00 PM Compass for Kids
4:30 PM Personnel Committee (Pastor's Study)
5:30 PM PNC (Conference Room)
7:00 PM St. Andrew's Sisters (Off site)

Wednesday, February 12
10:00 AM Pastors Pray in Chancel
10:30 AM Worship Planning
3:30 PM Depression & Bi-Polar Support (Conference Room)
4:30 PM Children of Abraham (Off site)
4:30 PM Fiscal Committee (Pastor's Study)
5:15 PM Session Coordinating (Pastor's Study)
6:00 PM Board of Deacons (2nd Floor Classroom)

Thursday, February 13
8:00 AM Men's Breakfast (Parish Hall)
12:00 PM PEO EQ Luncheon (Parish Hall)
5:30 PM Dr. Kieffer's Bible Study (2nd Floor Class)
6:30 PM WCP Board Meeting (Conference Room)
7:00 PM Choir (Music Room)

Friday, February 14
1:00 PM Helping Hands Bagged Lunch (Kitchen)

Saturday, February 15
11:00 AM Church Mice (2nd Floor Classroom)

Sunday, February 16
10:00 AM Worship Service
10:15 AM Sunday School Pre K-5 (Tower Classroom)
11:00 AM Fair Trade Sale (West Narthex)
11:00 AM Wedding Meeting (Library)
11:15 AM Adult Education Forum (Parish Hall)
12:00 PM Piano Festival
5:00 PM Sr. High Youth Group (Parish Hall)

Westminster Presbyterian Church
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Phone (217) 522-4415 www.wpcspi.org

WESTMINSTER STAFF

The Reverend Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer
Pastor and Head of Staff

The Reverend Sarah A. Bishop
Associate Pastor for Family Ministry

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

Kara Milward, 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

Braden Barton, James Capler, Terry Gietl, Javier Velásquez
Part-time Custodians