



WESTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Sacrament of Communion
Sixth Sunday after Epiphany
12 February 2023 + 10:00 a.m.

Welcome and Announcements

Ministry Moment Recognition of Karen Sherrick

Voluntary Sicilienne Maria Theresia von Paradis

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

***Call to Worship** Psalm 119/Deuteronomy 30

Leader: Blessed are those who seek God with their whole heart,
who walk in God's ways.

People: **In all we do, God offers us choices, between good and
evil, between life and death.**

Leader: How shall we know the ways of God or understand fully
the choices that are ours?

People: **In worship we encounter God's Word and explore
together what it means to love God.**

Leader: Come, Let us worship God in spirit and in truth.

***Processional Hymn 346** For the Healing of the Nations *St. Thomas*

***Prayer of Confession** O Christ, if we carry the name Christian, we are signs of
your presence. Yet, we confess that too often we hurt
people with our quick judgments and sharp tongues,
rather than showing your patience and forgiveness. Have
mercy upon us for rigid patterns of belief often inherited
and rarely questioned. Renew us, O God, and give us
hearts that are perceptive, honest, and generous as we
bind up one another's wounds and seek a just and lasting
peace. Hear now our silent prayers of confession.

*Sung Response	Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us	Hymnal, Back Cover
*Declaration of Pardon	Leader: Friends, believe the good news. People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.	
*Passing of the Peace	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
Children's Sermon		
Congregational Response	I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light 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. <i>Students in preschool – Grade 5 will go to their Sunday school class following the Congregational Response. Grades 6-7 remain in worship for communion.</i>	<i>Houston</i>
First Scripture Reading	Deuteronomy 30:15-20	Pew Bible, OT pages 186-187
Second Scripture Reading	Matthew 5:38-48 Leader: This is the Word of the Lord. People: Thanks be to God.	Pew Bible, NT pages 5
Meditation	Lincoln's Battle with God <i>Text: I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses.</i> <i>Deuteronomy 30:19a</i>	Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer

Anthem

The Hallowed

Douglas Beam

As dusky mountains please the eye as daylight chases day,
As bugle notes that, passing by, in distance die away,
As leaving some grand waterfall, we list its roar,
So memory will hallow all we've known before.

Words: Abraham Lincoln

***Affirmation of Faith**

From Psalm 119:1-8

Happy are those whose way is blameless,
who walk in the law of the Lord.
Happy are those who keep God's decrees,
who seek God with their whole heart,
who also do no wrong but walk in God's ways.
You have commanded your precepts to be kept diligently.
O that my ways may be steadfast in keeping your statutes!
Then I shall not be put to shame,
having my eyes fixed on all your commandments.
I will praise you with an upright heart,
when I learn your righteous ordinances.
I will observe your statutes;
do not utterly forsake me. Amen.

**The Presentation
and Dedication of our Gifts**

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

Offertory

O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High

Music: Everett Titcomb

O love, how deep, how broad, how high,
Beyond all thought and fantasy,
That God, the Son of God,
Should take our mortal form for mortal's sake.

***Offertory Response**

Doxology

Hymnal, 606

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, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:

The people sing:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might.
Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the
high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the
Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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

Communion Music

Adoramus te Christe

David Hicken

We adore thee, O Christ, and we bless thee.

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, you are gracious and merciful and you call us to be gracious and merciful. Through the love of Christ, let your grace overflow in our lives. Give us each a strong and nimble faith that grows out of honest and thoughtful struggles. May we find blessings in unexpected places and a rejoicing trust that we are a part of your kingdom. Amen.

***Hymn 172** Blessed are They *Blest Are They*

***Charge and Benediction**

***Choral Response** Day by Day Harold Friedell

***Voluntary** Psalm 22 Charles Villiers Stanford

(*) The congregation is invited to stand.

SERVING THIS SUNDAY AT WESTMINSTER

- **Chancel Flowers** are given in gratitude for the love and caring shown by Westminster to the Barges. The family is pleased to share flowers in celebration of Silvey W. Barge's 90th birthday.
- **West Narthex Flowers** are in loving memory of Jesse A. Werner, Jr. by his family.
- **Sunday Liturgist:** Tom Owen
- **Worship Leader:** Bryce Pound
- **Acolytes:** James Maeda and Sam Batterman
- **Bible & Cross Carriers:** Will Hovey and Braden Barton
- **Greeters:** Chelsea, Adam, August, Roscoe, and Teddy Ekstedt
- **Today's Communion Bread** is raisin honey wheat and was lovingly baked by Priscilla Kluge.
- **Communion Prep Team:** Mary Ray, Carol Bloemer, Ann Collins, Priscilla and Tim Kluge, Elisabeth and Mark Luttrell, Krista Steller
- **Elders Serving Communion:** Mary Ray (Team Leader), Aaron Berkowitz, Scott Day, Mal Hildebrand, Robyn Hovey, Will Hovey, Becky Huston, Jay Kennerly, Tim Kluge, Amanda Kurmann, Dave Leonatti, Sarah Zerfas
- **Home Communion Teams:** Coleman and Mary Moore, Aaron Berkowitz and Mary Peura, Julie and Mike Sundquist, Val Leonatti and Mary Ray, Marilyn and Jim Rigney
- **Music:** The Westminster Choir; The St. Andrew's Sisters; Dale Rogers, organist
- **Ushers:** Sabrina Holmes (Head Usher) Kristianna Eastvold, Chris Hickman, Richard Leary, Camille Massey, Coleman Moore, Jim Rigney, Erin Winn
- **Safety Team:** Brad Steller
- **Videographers and Sound:** Bob Fox, Krista Steller

EDUCATION AND FELLOWSHIP THIS SUNDAY AT WESTMINSTER

- **9:30 a.m. – 12 noon Nursery (lower level)** Infants and toddlers begin in the Nursery. Preschoolers begin in worship with their families and leave during the Congregational Response. This week's Bible Story: "Jesus Feeds a Crowd" (John 6:1-15). Caregivers: Caroline Haynor
Nursery Guild: Sally Godbey,
- **10:00 – 11:00 a.m.** Children Kindergarten – Grade 7 begin in worship with their families & leave during the Congregational Response for:
 - **Sunday School (Third Floor Chapel)** Kindergarten – Grade 5 The story is "Say 'Yes'" (Deut. 30:15-20). Teachers: Karen and Andy Sherrick
- **11:15 a.m. – 12 noon**
 - **8th Grade Confirmation (Conference Room)** Lesson: History of Westminster and PCUSA. Led by Dr. Peter and Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer
 - **Adult Ed Forum (Parish Hall)** presents "**Unraveling Roe: A complicated Rise and Fall** The second of three sessions on the topic, the forum will explain the legal, political, and societal foundations of the rise and fall of Roe vs. Wade. Led by Kate and Michael Morthland
 - **Parish Nurse Ellen Carpenter** will check blood pressures in the Church office.

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. If you are interested in joining, please speak to a pastor.

DIRECTOR FOR CHILDREN'S MINISTRY KAREN SHERRICK Today we recognize Karen Sherrick on her fifth anniversary as Westminster's Director for Children's Ministry. We are grateful for Karen's expertise, dedication, and attention to details. Karen earned a B.S. in education at the Texas A & M University, a M.Ed. in reading from Stephen F. Austin University, and is currently completing the Certified Christian Educator Program of the Presbyterian Church (USA).

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING is today. Support those in need by placing your donation in the large soup pots held by our youth following worship. This is a program organized by the youth of the PC(USA). All donations will serve the hungry of Springfield.



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 including books on Black History from both our Adult and Children's libraries in the West Narthex which are available for checkout. Please plan to stop by to peruse the books and resources.

2022 PICTORIAL DIRECTORIES AVAILABLE - Those members who had their photo taken or submitted a photo may pick up their free copy of the Pictorial Director after the service today at the designated table in the West Narthex. The cost of submitting a photo is \$15 for those who have not yet paid. Those who are not photographed may purchase a directory for \$15.

ELIZABETH CIRCLE meets **Monday, February 13 at 1:00 p.m.** in the Second Floor Classroom. Mary Peura will lead devotions and Beth Kincaid will lead Lesson Six: Sabbath and Hospitality.

LYDIA CIRCLE meets **Tuesday, February 21 at 9:30 a.m.** in Ziegler Library. Sharon Turner will be the hostess and Betsy Ruklick will lead Lesson Six: Sabbath and Hospitality.

WESTMINSTER GATHERING AT CONCORDIA Members & friends of Westminster will gather **Thursday, February 23** with the Pastors and the Director of Music and the Arts. Communion is at 11:30 a.m. followed by lunch at 12 noon.

THE APOSTLES READ LIBRARY BOOK GROUP meets Tuesday, February 28 from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. in the Ziegler Library to discuss January's book, Sonorous Desert: What Deep Listening Taught Early Christian Monks - and What it Can Teach Us by Kim Haines-Eitzen. New members are always welcome! Led by Dr. Aaron Berkowitz.

WESTMINSTER'S LITTLE PANTRY - Thank you to all who stock Westminster's Little Pantry at Graham School. Please check SignUpGenius (<https://bit.ly/3C4s0v5>) for open dates in February.



THE 2023 STEADFAST NEIGHBOR HABITAT BUILD -The Kickoff will be **Tuesday, March 21, 5:00 p.m.** in Parish Hall. The Blitz Week is tentatively scheduled for **March 27–April 1**. Those who would like to participate as ministry partners must register at habitatsangamon.volunteerhub.com and attend **one session** of Orientation and Training. Please sign up and plan to attend!

Habitat (2744 S. 6th Street) will host sessions:

Tuesday, February 21 – 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Tuesday, March 7 – 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.

Westminster (Parish Hall) will host a session:

Sunday, February 19 – 8:45 – 9:45 a.m.

ASH WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22

THEME: THE EMPTY POT

5:45 P.M. CHICKEN ALFREDO AND CAESAR SALAD 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:

- Liturgy and music presented by Bridges children and Choristers
- Meditation by Dr. Kieffer
- The Imposition of Ashes
- Holy Communion by Intinction

This year's Ash Wednesday meditation will include the children's book The Empty Pot.

Small clay pots will be distributed as a reminder of our humanity.

40 DAYS, 40 WORDS, 40 PRAYERS: LENTEN REFLECTIONS FOR EVERYDAY LIFE,

A word and a prayer from this book written by former Moderator of the Presbyterian Church (USA), the Rev. Bruce Reyes-Chow, will be emailed each day of Lent.

FAMILY LENTEN DEVOTIONAL BAGS

Westminster families received a Lenten Devotional Bag which includes a word for each day of Lent. Families are invited to discuss the meaning of each word.

THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

Monday, February 13

1:00 PM Elizabeth Circle (2nd Floor Classroom)

Tuesday, February 14

10:30 AM Staff Meeting (Conference Room)
12:00 PM Knitters Lunch (2nd Floor Classroom)
1:00 PM Knit 2, Purl 4 (2nd Floor Classroom)
3:00 PM COMPASS for Kids
4:00 PM Steadfast Neighbor Habitat Steering
Committee (Youth Room)
5:30 PM Worship, Music, and Arts Committee
(Pastor's Study)

Wednesday, February 15

10:00 AM Pastors Pray in Chancel (Sanctuary)
10:30 AM Worship Planning (Pastor's Study)
4:00 PM Bridges (Kitchen)
4:15 PM Children's Choir (Music Room)
4:45 PM Choristers (Music Room)
5:30 PM Session Meeting (Parish Hall)

Thursday, February 16

11:30 PM PEO EQ Meeting (Parish Hall)
6:00 PM Dr. Kieffer's Bible Study (2nd Floor Classroom)
7:30 PM Choir (Music Room)

Friday, February 17

Saturday, February 18

11:00 AM Church Mice

Sunday, February 19

8:45 AM Habitat Orientation (Parish Hall)
9:00 AM Earth Care Team (Library)
10:00 AM Worship Service (Sanctuary)
10:15 AM Sunday School PreK-5 (Sanctuary)
11:15 AM Adult Ed Forum (Parish Hall)
11:15 AM Confirmation Class (Conference Room)

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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
Interim Director for Youth

Karen Sherrick
Director for Children's Ministry

Katie Moore
Director for Children's Music

Leigh Milward
Nursery Coordinator

Caroline Haynor
Nursery Worker

Ellen Carpenter
Parish Nurse

Pat Hymans
Hospitality Coordinator

Lisa Runkle
Financial Administrator

Jennie Alt
Church Administrative Assistant

Krista Steller
Communications Coordinator

Emily Rowley, Keri Tate
Cooperative Preschool Staff

Gary Warnick
Building and Property Manager

Terry Gietl, Bill Hibbert
Eddie Hubbard, Steve Stapleton
Part-time Custodians