



WESTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Sacrament of Communion
Third Sunday of Lent
12 March 2023 + 10:00 a.m.

Welcome and Announcements

Voluntary

Contemplation

George Thalben-Ball

***Ringing of the Bell**

The congregation rises at the ringing of the Tower Bell.

***Call to Worship**

Leader: Pilgrim God, striking water in the desert,
refresh us and quench our thirst.

People: **Revealing God, sitting by the well side,
refresh us and quench our thirst.**

Leader: Oh come, let us worship and bow down.
Let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker.

People: **We are God's people, loved and cherished,
we gather with joy, gratitude and wonder.**

Leader: In spirit and in truth, let us worship God!

Lenten Candle Service

As we extinguish the third Lenten candle and continue our journey toward Holy Week, thank you for meeting us in the ordinary routines of everyday life, for seeing us for who we are, and for believing in us. Let us pray:

Holy and loving God, in you we live and move and have our being. Everything we have comes from you, every breath, every moment, every relationship, every provision. Thank you for being a God who brings us beyond religion and into a relationship with you. On the paths of the journeys we travel, may we drink from the depths of your well and share a drink of water with those who ask. Amen.

***Processional Hymn 307**

God of Grace and God of Glory

Cwm Rhondda

***Prayer of Confession**

Loving God, we come into your presence mindful of our need for forgiveness. You know who we are. You know everything we have done. When we are divided and thirst for unity, quench our thirst. When our insecurities foster fear and prejudice, quench our thirst. When we sum people up in hearsay, rather than meet them in their living, quench our thirst for authentic relationships. Forgive our judgements, O God. May we drink from the water of life. 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

Create in Me a Clean Heart

John Carter

**Create in me a clean heart, O God;
Create in me a clean heart, O God;
Create in me a clean heart, O God;
and renew a right spirit within me.**

Students in preschool – Grade 5 will go to their Sunday school class and Grades 6-7 will go to Confirmation following the Congregational Response.

First Scripture Reading Exodus 17:1-7 Pew Bible, OT page 64

Second Scripture Reading John 4:1-26 Pew Bible, NT page 94

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

Meditation The Risk of Religion Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer
Text: A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink.' John 4:7

Anthem I Am Alpha and Omega John Stainer
I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending
saith the Lord; which is, and which was, and which is
to come, the Almighty, I am Alpha and Omega, the
beginning and the ending, saith the Lord. Revelation 1:8

**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 Adagio John Stainer

***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

As the Deer Pants for the Water Martin Nystrom
As the deer pants for the water, so my soul longs after you.
You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship you.

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 and loving God, we gather at your table with gratitude and joy – for the gift of your embrace of humanity through the One who asks for a cup of water. for your companionship on our baptismal journeys, and for your steadfast love which overflows from the depth of your well. You are the giver of living water and the wellspring of mercy. Amen.

***Hymn 291**

Spirit

Spirit

Refrain, Verses 1-4, and Refrain

***Charge and Benediction**

***Closing Response**

Jesus, I Will Ponder Now

Melchior Vulpus

Jesus, I will ponder now on your holy passion.
Let your spirit now endow me for meditation.
Grant the I in love and faith may the image cherish
Of your suffering, pain, and death, that I may not perish.

***Voluntary**

God of Grace and God of Glory

Paul Manz

(*) The congregation is invited to stand.

IN MEMORIAM

Donald Hay Funk 06/09/1937 – 03/02/2023
United with Westminster 12/05/1976

SERVING THIS SUNDAY AT WESTMINSTER

- **Chancel flowers** are given in celebration of Nancy and Rich Canady's 64th anniversary by their family.
- **Sunday Liturgist:** The Rev. Christian Choi
- **Lenten Candle Service:** Mary Ray and Will Hovey
- **Acolytes:** Sam Batterman and James Maeda
- **Bible and Cross Carriers:** Aerwyna Eastvold and Louisa Eldridge
- **Greeter:** Norma Adams Johnson
- **Today's Communion Bread** is country white and was lovingly baked by Pat McNutt
- **Communion Prep Team:** Mary Ray, Ann Collins, Bill Deemer, Priscilla and Tim Kluge, Elisabeth and Mark Luttrell
- **Elders Serving Communion:** Jim Kontio (Team Leader), Aaron Berkowitz, Will Hovey, Gregg Humphrey, Judy Knox, Dave Leonatti, Pat McNutt, Michael Morthland, Mike Nenaber, Mary Ray, Brad Steller, Eleanor VanDeventer
- **Home Communion Teams:** Dee Dee Duffy and Bruce Strom, Aaron Berkowitz and Mary Peura, Melanie and Bud Green, Val Leonatti and Mary Ray, Marilyn and Jim Rigney
- **Music:** The Westminster Choir, Dale Rogers, organist
- **Ushers:** George Botanga (Head Usher) Mervice Alah Abung, Terry Haynor, Melanie Humphrey, Mary King, Julie McDonough, John McNutt, Bruce Strom
- **Safety Team:** Rich Canady
- **Videographers and Sound:** Bob Fox, Bill Deemer, Bob Leffler

EDUCATION AND FELLOWSHIP THIS SUNDAY AT WESTMINSTER

- **8:45 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.** New Members Class (Pastor's Study)
- **8:45 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.** Habitat Build Orientation (Parish Hall)
- **9:30 a.m. – 12 noon** Infants, toddlers, 2 & 3 year olds (Nursery) gather for play and Bible Story. This week: "Jesus Welcomes Children" (Mark 10:13-16) *Caregivers: Leigh Milward, Caroline Haynor*
- **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 "Water from a Rock." (Exodus 17:1-7) *Teachers: Chelsea and Adam Ekstedt v*
 - **Sixth and Seventh Grade Confirmation (Conference Room)** The lesson is "The Church" from the *Echo the Story* curriculum. *Teachers: Cara Barnett and Meridith Bryans*
- **11:15 a.m. – 12 noon**
 - **Eighth Grade Confirmation (Conference Room)** Lesson: "Will You Devote Yourself to the Church's Fellowship?" *Led by Rev. Christian K. Choi*
 - **Adult Ed Forum (Parish Hall)** presents "Reflections on Historic Sanctuaries and Holy Places" Blythe and Peter Kieffer present Mosque-Cathedral of Córdoba and La Sagrada Familia Cathedral in Barcelona, Spain. This is the third in a series of six presentations in which we will rediscover historic sanctuaries.
 - **5:00 p.m. Senior High Youth Group** (Parish Hall) Mary Ray will lead a discussion on one of our Lenten words: "Worry!" What role does this play in our lives and how does our faith strengthen us on this journey. Dinner is prepared by Nichole Magalis. *Led by Mary Ray and Susan Day*

THE LIBRARY COMMITTEE has prepared a cart including books on Women's History as well as books on Lent and Easter 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.

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.

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, a New Member Class will be held Sunday, March 19, 8:45 a.m. in the Pastor's Study. New members will be received at the 10:00 a.m. service on Sunday, March 26, following a Special Session meeting at 9:30 a.m.

THANK YOU to Pat Hymans for preparing the Helping Hands Meal for 50 homeless men on Friday.

ELIZABETH CIRCLE meets **Monday, March 13** at 1:00 p.m. in the Second Floor Classroom. Lynn McMenamín will lead devotions and Mary King will lead Lesson Seven: Sabbath and Self-Care.

DMA (Don't Mention Age) will meet **Friday, March 17 at 5:30 p.m.** for a potluck and **Program at 6:15 p.m.** Ann Pictor and Mary Kay Hinkle, U of I Master Gardener Volunteers, will present "The Importance of Worms." RSVP with weekly email link, website, or by calling the church office.

LYDIA CIRCLE meets **Tuesday, March 21 at 9:30 a.m.** in the Ziegler Library. Pat Hymans will be the hostess and Carolyn Beatty will lead Lesson Seven: Sabbath and Self-Care.

THE 2023 STEADFAST NEIGHBOR HABITAT BUILD -The Kickoff will be **Tuesday, March 21, 5:00 p.m.** in Parish Hall. The Blitz Week is March 27–April 1. Those who would like to participate as ministry partners must register at habitatsangamon.volunteerhub.com.

BILL STEIN, ORGANIST will present a recital at Westminster on **Sunday, March 26 at 4:00 p.m.** His program will feature organ music by four young women composers in addition to works of Bach, Creston, Peeters, and Locklair. Bill is the Director of Music Ministries at the First Presbyterian Church of Kirkwood, Missouri and a graduate of Illinois Wesleyan and Northwestern Universities.

LENTEN GIVING - The **One Great Hour of Sharing** denominational offering collected during Lent provides relief to those affected by natural disasters, food to the hungry, and empowerment the poor and oppressed. The **Lenten Coat Drive Box** is located in the West Narthex for our annual collection of new or gently used coats. The **Easter Music and Decoration Funds** provide resources for seasonal guest musicians, the palms and lilies used during Holy Week, and Easter decorations. A list of donors and those whom they honor are printed in the Easter bulletin. Make checks payable to WPC or by credit card on our website with the wording for the bulletin by Palm Sunday, April 2.

HOLY WEEK

PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 2
10:00 A.M. IN THE SANCTUARY

The Reverend Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer will preach. Sunday school children and youth will lead us in the processional with palms and their One Great Hour of Sharing fish boxes. The center aisle pews will be lined with donated coats. The Westminster Children's Choir and Choristers and the Westminster Choir will sing.

THE PASSION OF CHRIST ART DISPLAY
APRIL 2-9 IN PARISH HALL

Artwork depicting the Passion of Christ will be displayed in Parish Hall. Through the eyes of renowned artists, we will witness Christ's entry into Jerusalem and the events of Holy Week leading to His crucifixion, resurrection, and ascension. Westminster's Labyrinth will be displayed in Parish Hall during Holy Week for those who would like to practice this discipline of prayer.

MAUNDY THURSDAY COMMUNION SERVICE
APRIL 6 7:00 P.M. IN THE SANCTUARY

The Reverend Christian K. Choi will preach, and the Westminster Choir will sing with Michael Morthland, bassoon. This service will include the solemn stripping of the Chancel accompanied by the "Adagio for Strings" of Samuel Barber and the seven words of Christ.

Easter Sunday
April 9 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary

The Reverend Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer will preach, and the Westminster Choir will be joined by members of the Millikin Brass in Handel's "Hallelujah Chorus" and "Alleluia! For Christ the Lord is Risen" of Bach and other festive music for Easter Day. The Chancel will be filled with the cross of lilies, a cherished tradition at Westminster.

Easter Egg Hunt in Parish Hall follows 10:00 a.m. Worship.

WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

Monday, March 13

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

Tuesday, March 14

10:30 AM Staff Meeting (Pastor's Study)
12:00 PM Knit 2, Purl 4 Lunch (2nd Floor Classroom)
1:00 PM Knit 2, Purl 4 (2nd Floor Classroom)
3:00 PM Compass for Kids
5:00 PM Habitat Steering Committee (Youth Room)
6:30 PM WCP Preschool Board Meeting (Conference Room)

Wednesday, March 15

10:00 AM Pastors Pray in Chancel (Library)
10:30 AM Worship Planning (Pastor's Study)
4:00 PM Bridges (Kitchen)
5:30 PM Session (2nd Floor Classroom)

Thursday, March 16

6:00 PM Dr. Kieffer's Bible Study (2nd Floor Classroom)
6:00 PM Preschool Open House (Preschool Classrooms)
7:30 PM Westminster Choir (Music Room)

Friday, March 17

5:30 PM DMA Potluck (Parish Hall)
6:15 PM DMA Program (Parish Hall)

Saturday, March 18

11:00 AM Church Mice (2nd Floor Classroom)

Sunday, March 19

8:45 AM New Members Class (Pastor's Study)
10:00 AM Worship Service (Sanctuary)
10:15 AM Sunday School PreK-5 (Chapel)
10:15 AM Confirmation for 6 & 7th Grades (Conference Room)
11:00 AM Fair Trade Sale (West Narthex)
11:15 AM Adult Ed Forum (Parish Hall)
5:30 PM Symphony Guild Pi Day + 5 Dinner (Parish Hall)

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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
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

Emily Rowley, Keri Tate
Cooperative Preschool Director

Lisa Runkle
Financial Administrator

Jennie Alt
Church Administrative Assistant

Krista Steller
Communications Coordinator

Gary Warnick
Building and Property Manager

Terry Gietl, Bill Hibbert
Steve Stapleton
Part-time Custodians