

WESTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Fifth Sunday After Easter
7 May 2023 + 10:00 a.m.

Welcome and Announcements

Ministry Moment Church World Service Blankets+ Carolyn Beatty

Voluntary Paean Oliphant Chuckerbutty

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

*Call to Worship Psalm 84:1-4

Leader: How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts!

People: **My soul longs, indeed it faints, for the courts of the Lord;
my heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God.**

Leader: Even the sparrow finds a home and the swallow a nest for
herself, where she may lay her young, at your altars,
O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.

People: **Happy are those who live in your house,
ever singing your praise.**

*Processional Hymn 267 Come, Christians, Join to Sing *Madrid*

*Prayer of Confession Loving God, thank you that if the earthly tent in which we live is no longer, we have a home in you, not made with human hands, eternal in the heavens. Forgive us when our earthly homes are not dwelling places of your love. Too often, we act like individuals who happen to share the same building, rather than family members who care for one another. Help us to renew our commitment to the growth and development of those who share our household with us. 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

Third Grade Bible Presentation

Lily Jean Hill

Students in grades Pre-K – 5 will go to Sunday school class and Grades 6-7 will go to Confirmation Class during the Congregational Response

Congregational Response

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Donald Fishel

Alleluia, Alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.

Alleluia, Alleluia! Give praise to God's name.

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

First Scripture Reading

I Peter 2:2-10

Pew Bible, NT page 233

Second Scripture Reading

John 14:1-6a

Pew Bible, NT page 108

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

A Home in God

The Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer

The text: Once you were no people but now you are God's people. I Peter 2:10a

Anthem

Heavenly Sunlight

George Harrison Cook

Walking in sunlight, all of my journey;
Over the mountains, through the deep vale;
Jesus has said, "'I'll never forsake thee."
Promise divine that never can fail.
Heavenly sunlight, heavenly sunlight,
Flooding my soul with glory divine:
Hallelujah! I am rejoicing, singing His praises,
Jesus is mine!

***Affirmation of Faith**

from The Brief Statement of Faith

**In life and in death we belong to God.
Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we
trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom
alone we worship and serve.**

**We trust in God the Holy Spirit,
everywhere the giver and renewer of life.
The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,
sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and
neighbor, and binds us together with all believers
in the one body of Christ, the Church.**

**In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,
we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks
and to live holy and joyful lives. 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.

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

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 La Bourrée Michael Praetorius

*Offertory Response Doxology Hymnal, 606

*Prayer of Dedication God of the loving heart, accept these tithes and weekly offerings which we dedicate and give in gratitude for the home we have in you. May we live lives that are holy and joyful, and build homes that are places of welcome and hospitality. Amen.

*Hymn 22 God of the Sparrow *Roeder*

*Charge and Benediction

*Closing Response Day by Day Harold Friedell
Day by day, dear Lord, of thee three things I pray: To see thee more clearly, love thee more dearly, follow thee more nearly.

*Voluntary Trumpet Tune in A David N. Johnson

(*) The congregation is invited to stand.

BLESS THIS HOUSE BENEFIT CONCERT

SUNDAY, MAY 7 AT 4:00 P.M. IN THE SANCTUARY

Members and friends are invited to this benefit concert which will feature a broad variety of music sung by the Westminster Choir, the St. Andrew's Sisters, the Gentlemen of the Choir, pianist, Garry Fredrickson and the finale to the musical *Candide* Make Our Garden Grow and Build a House by Leonard Bernstein to be sung by Diane Dietz and Adam Miller.

A free-will offering will be received, and all proceeds will support Westminster's Steadfast Neighbor Habitat Build.

SERVING THIS SUNDAY AT WESTMINSTER

- **Sunday Liturgist:** Rev. Christian K. Choi
- **Worship Leader:** Aerwyna Eastvold
- **Acolytes:** Juliet Boutelle and Juliana Eastvold
- **Greeters:** Mary Halley and Mary Ray
- **Music:** The Westminster Choir, Dale Rogers, organist
- **Ushers:** Sabrina Holmes (Head Usher), Kristianna Eastvold, Melanie Green, Chris Hickman, Richard Leary, Camille Massey, Jim Rigney, Erin Winn
- **Safety Team:** Pete VanGieson
- **Videographers and Sound:** Bob Fox, Krista Steller

EDUCATION AND FELLOWSHIP THIS SUNDAY AT WESTMINSTER

- **9:30 a.m. – 11: 15 a.m. 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: "The Holy Spirit Comes to Us Too" (Acts 2:1-4). 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 "The Way, the Truth, the Life" (John 14:1-14). Teachers: *Chelsea and Adam Ekstedt*
 - **6th & 7th Grade Confirmation (Third Floor Tower Room)** The lesson is "Peter" of the *Echo the Story* curriculum. Teachers: *Meridith Bryans and Cara Barnett*
- **11:00 a.m. - Blood Pressure Checks and Consultation (Church Office)** Marilyn Rigney.
- **11:15 a.m. – 12 noon Adult Ed Forum (Parish Hall)** presents Jesus and John Wayne. This forum traces how evangelicals have "replaced the Jesus of the Gospels with an idol of rugged masculinity and Christian nationalism." Leaders: Drs. Jonathan and Katie Carlson-Eastvold.
- **4:00 p.m. (Sanctuary) Bless this House Benefit Concert** Members and friends are invited to this benefit concert presented by Dale Rogers, St. Andrews Sisters, and the Westminster Choir in the Sanctuary. All proceeds will support Westminster's Steadfast Neighbor Habitat Build.
- **4:00 p.m. Youth Mission Team (Second Floor Classroom)** Team members will gather in the Second Floor Classroom to view the movie JUST MERCY, (based on Bryan Stevenson's book), enjoy pizza, and participate in a discussion . Led by Mary Ray

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, earing 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 in the West Narthex including books on ecology and family from our Adult and Children's libraries which are available for checkout. Please plan to stop by to 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. 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.

PW SPONSORS BLANKETS+ DURING MAY PW and Springfield's Church Women United sponsor Blankets+ (formerly Blanket Sunday) during May. Church World Services provides blankets, tents, and food in the wake of a disaster; tools and seeds for refugees returning home; wells for families in drought prone areas and gardens; literacy training and microcredit for women. During May, make checks payable to Westminster (memo: Blankets+) or donate online.



ADULT ED FORUM meets today at 11:15 a.m. in Parish Hall. Join us as we explore the 2020 book Jesus and John Wayne: by Kristin Kobes Du Mez, Professor of History and Gender Studies at Calvin College in Grand Rapids, MI. Her New York Times best-selling book traces how over the last 75 years, evangelicals have “replaced the Jesus of the Gospels with an idol of rugged masculinity and Christian nationalism.” Led by Drs. Jonathan and Katie Carlson-Eastvold.

YOUTH MISSION TEAM meets today at 4:00 p.m. in the Second Floor Classroom to view Just Mercy, a film based on the book written by Bryan Stevenson which participants are reading in preparation for our June 24-July 1 mission to Selma, AL. Bryan Stevenson, who wrote Just Mercy, was instrumental in the founding of The Equal Justice Museum in Montgomery which we will visit.

THANK YOU to all who contributed to the Youth Mission Trivia Fundraiser last Sunday. We raised \$6,377 which will go toward our mission trip to Selma, AL to rebuild following the devastating tornados in January of 2023.

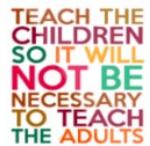


PENTECOST OFFERING - This is the fourth year Westminster will participate in the Pentecost denominational offering which unites the church by helping youth begin their life with a solid foundation of faith. **Forty percent of all gifts stay within Westminster and our portion will support the 2023 Youth Mission Trip.**

CHILDRENS BOOKS (K-Grade 5) are being collected to be placed in the Book Nook at Graham Elementary School next to our Little Pantry. The box is located in the West Narthex. Thank you to Will Hovey for his Eagle Scout Project.

ELIZABETH CIRCLE meets May 8, 4:30 p.m. at Sweet Basil Café for the annual spring dinner.

THE CHILDREN OF ABRAHAM will meet Wednesday, May 10, 4:30 – 6:00 p.m. at Temple Israel (1140 W. Governor St.) for their final 2022-2023 gathering. Join us as we participate in a project honoring our theme “Caring for the Earth.” Participants are asked to bring used crayons for the Crayon Initiative which prevents a waxy mess in landfills by melting them down and creating new crayons for donations to children’s hospitals. Sign up with Karen Sherrick at ksherrick@wpcspi.org.

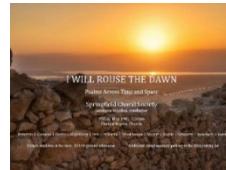


PRESBYTERIAN MEN gather on Thursday, May 11 at 8:00 a.m. in Parish Hall. Keith Beatty will provide breakfast and Jay Kennerly will give devotions. RSVP with the weekly email link, on our website, or by calling the church office.

STEADFAST NEIGHBOR HABITAT BUILD – The next scheduled work opportunity dates for ministry partners are May 12-13. Thank you to those who installed drywall on May 5-6 Sign up on the Habitat website. habitatsangamon.volunteerhub.com.

LYDIA CIRCLE meets Tuesday, May 16 at 9:30 a.m. will meet at the home of Nancy Canady for coffee. Please RSVP to Nancy.

THE SPRINGFIELD CHORAL SOCIETY will perform “Psalms Across Time and Space” concert on Friday, May 19, 7:30 p.m. at Central Baptist Church (501 S. 4th St). Tickets are \$15.00 and can be purchased at the door. Members of the Westminster Family Jennie Alt, Jim Kontio, Adam Miller, Dale Rogers, Eleanor and Lyle VanDeventer sing in the Choral Society.



2023 FOUNDERS' SUNDAY, MAY 21

Join us Founders' Sunday, May 21 for worship at 10:00 a.m. and a picnic reception following in Parish Hall. We are delighted to welcome the Rev. Dr. Lonnie Lee as our guest preacher. This year's theme, Steadfast Neighbor Habitat Build, provides an opportunity to reflect on the importance of a strong and solid foundation in building homes as well as building up the Body of Christ. Each year on Founders' Sunday, the Endowment Committee thanks those who have given and invites others to join the Albert Hale Circle. **Those who donate or communicate their plans to make a testamentary gift by Wednesday, May 17 will be included in the Albert Hale Circle published in the bulletin on May 21 and in the June Reporter.**

**THE WOMEN OF WESTMINSTER ARE INVITED TO
A GARDEN PARTY AT THE HOME OF LYNDA PRECKWINKLE
5 FAIR OAKS DRIVE
SATURDAY, MAY 20 AT 10 A.M.**

RSVP BY MAY 18 TO [JALT@WPCSPI.ORG](mailto:jalt@wpcspi.org)



BACCALAUREATE SUNDAY is June 4. All Westminster graduates (high school, college, and graduate school) will be listed in the June 4 bulletin and the June Reporter. Please contact Jennie Alt as soon as possible via email (jalt@wpcspi.org) with information or fill out the web form on the church website.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL FOOD TRUCK PARTY June 5-9 from 9:15 a.m. to noon, children age



4 to age 11 are invited to get on a roll with God as a parade of Food Trucks rolls into their neighborhood for the summer's biggest party! This street party helps children build on the practice of using daily prayer to turn to God for their needs - and also to serve as the hands of God for ensuring that the needs of others are met. Register by

scanning the QR Code or use the link <https://westminster.mycokesburyvbs.com/>



THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

Monday, May 8

- 8:00 AM Garden Club Food Drive (West Narthex)
- 9:00 AM Garden Club (Parish Hall)
- 4:30 PM Elizabeth Circle (Off site)

Tuesday, May 9

- 10:30 AM Staff Meeting (Conference Room)
- 12:00 PM Knitter's 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 Board (Off-site)

Wednesday, May 10

- 10:00 AM Pastors Pray in Chancel (Sanctuary)
- 10:30 AM Worship Planning (Pastor's Study)
- 4:30 PM Children of Abraham (Off site)
- 4:45 PM Fiscal Committee (Conference Room)
- 5:30 PM Board of Deacons (2nd Floor Classroom)
- 5:30 PM Session Coordinating (Pastor's Study)

Thursday, May 11

- 8:00 AM Men's Breakfast (Parish Hall)
- 3:00 PM Depression & Bipolar Support Group (Conference Room)
- 4:00 PM Personnel Committee (Pastor's Study)
- 6:00 PM Dr. Kieffer's Bible Study (2nd Floor Classroom)
- 7:30 PM Choir (Music Room)

Friday, May 12

- 5:00 PM Meal Delivered to Helping Hands Shelter
- 5:30 PM DMA Potluck (Parish Hall)
- 6:15 PM DMA Program (Parish Hall)

Saturday, May 13

Sunday, May 14

Holy Communion
Mothers' Day

- 10:00AM Worship Service (Sanctuary)
- 10:15 AM Sunday School PreK-5 (Third Floor Chapel)
- 11:15 AM Adult Ed Forum (Parish Hall)

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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

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

James Capler, Terry Gietl
Bill Hibbert, Steve Stapleton
Part-time Custodians