



WESTMINSTER  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
Sacrament of Communion  
Second Sunday after Epiphany  
14 January 2024 + 10:00 a.m.

Welcome and Announcements

Voluntary

Adoration

Florence Price

**\*Ringing of the Bell**

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

**\* Call to Worship**

Psalm 139

Leader:

O Lord, you have searched me and known me,  
you discern my thoughts from far away  
**You search out my path and my lying down,  
and are acquainted with all my ways.**

Leader:

Where can I go from your spirit?  
or where can I flee from your presence?

People:

**If I ascend to heaven, you are there;  
if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.**

Leader:

If I take the wings of the morning  
and settle in the farthest limits of the sea.

People

**Even there your hand shall lead me, and your  
right hand shall hold me fast. Amen.**

**\*Hymn 339**

Lift Every Voice and Sing

*Lift Every Voice*

**\*Prayer of Confession**

Holy God, you know us fully as creatures in need of your guidance. Forgive us for being more concerned with justifying ourselves than with caring for those who are oppressed. In the midst of the ever present stream of injustices inflicted upon the weak, the poor, and the marginalized, we confess our complicity in nurturing the status quo through silence and inaction. 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 Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be  
world without end, Amen, 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 (preschool – Grade 5) go to Sunday School following the  
Congregational Response. Grades 6-7 remain for communion.*

**First Scripture Reading** Psalm 139 Pew Bible, OT pages 577-578

**Second Scripture Reading** Mark 1:43-51 Pew Bible, NT pages 35-36

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

**Meditation** Intricately Woven Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer

*Text: "My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made  
in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth."  
Psalm 139:15*

## Anthem

### City Called Heaven

African-American Sorrow Song

I am a pilgrim, a pilgrim of sorrow.  
I'm left in this wide world alone.  
Ain't got no hope, got no hope for tomorrow,  
I'm trying to make it, make heaven my home.  
Sometimes I'm tossed and I'm driven, Lord.  
Sometimes I just don't know which way to turn.  
I heard of a city, of a city called heaven,  
I'm trying to make it, make heaven my home.

## 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

### Nobody Knows the Trouble I've Seen

Spiritual

## \*Offertory Response

### Doxology

Hymnal, 606

Praise God from whom all blessings flow  
Praise God, all creatures here below  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host  
Praise 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, 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.

**Pastor:** 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.**

**Pastor:** 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**

**You Are Before Me, Lord**

*Sursum Corda*

**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** Incarnate God and loving companion, you have nourished us at this table and reminded us of who we are. Thank you for intricately weaving each of our lives and for becoming a fellow pilgrim on this journey. May we be servants to one another, holding the Christ-light in times of fear and sharing our joys and sorrows till we've seen the journey through. Amen.

**\*Hymn 727** Will You Let Me Be Your Servant *The Servant Song*

**\*Charge and Benediction**

**\*Voluntary** Amen Spiritual

(\*) The congregation is invited to stand.

**SERVING THIS SUNDAY AT WESTMINSTER**

- **Sunday Liturgist:** Rev. Christian K. Choi
- **Acolytes:** Juliana Eastvold and Ned Moore
- **Bible & Cross Carriers:** Sam Batterman and James Maeda
- **Greeters:** Pat and Alan Hymans
- **Worship Leader:** Kristianna Eastvold
- **Today's Communion Bread** is oatmeal wheat and was lovingly baked by Susan Day.
- **Communion Prep Team:** Mary Ray, Ann Collins, Priscilla and Tim Kluge, Elisabeth and Mark Luttrell, Leigh Milward, Krista Steller
- **Elders Serving Communion:** Jim Kontio (Team Leader), Aaron Berkowitz, Gregg Humphrey, Becky Huston, Dave Leonatti, Lynn McMEnamin, Pat McNutt, Michael Morthland, Mike Nenaber, Karen Sherrick, Brad Steller, Eleanor VanDeventer
- **Home Communion Teams:** Kathy Kenyon and Krista Steller, Eleanor and Lyle VanDeventer, Becky Huston and Aaron Berkowitz, Valerie Leonatti and Bruce Strom
- **Music:** The Westminster Choir; Jay Kennerly, tenor, Dale Rogers, organist
- **Ushers:** Jim Parker (Head Usher) Sophia Choi, Sabrina Holmes, Kathy Kenyon, Bill Schlosser, Susan Shaw, Bob Stuart, Jess Weitzel
- **Safety Team:** Marilyn Rigney
- **Videographers:** Bob Fox and Krista Steller

## EDUCATION AND FELLOWSHIP THIS SUNDAY AT WESTMINSTER

- **9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m. Nursery Guild Meeting (Parish Hall)** The Nursery Guild and Nursery Coordinators will meet to review new curriculum and to provide an opportunity for ministry partners to sign-up on a schedule of Sundays through winter and spring.
- **9:45 a.m. – 12 noon Infants, toddlers, preschoolers (Nursery)** This week's Bible Story: "God Created So Many Amazing Things!" *Caregivers: Millie McNutt, Maria Lafrenz, Leigh Milward*
- **10:00 – 11:00 a.m. Children Kindergarten – Grade 5** will begin in worship with their families & go to Sunday school following the Congregational Response. The story is "Voice in the Night" (1 Samuel 3:1-10). *Teachers: Kate Morthland, Julie Robbs*
- **11:15 a.m. – 12 noon Adult Education Forum (Parish Hall)** Our youth, along with Director for Youth, Mary Ray, will present "Road to Selma" as they report on their 2023 Mission Trip rebuilding homes in Selma, AL and visiting civil rights memorials and the Equal Justice Museum.

**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 of books for checkout from both of our libraries in the West Narthex containing philosophy, psychology, and a wide variety of Christmas books. Please plan to stop and 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](http://www.wpcspi.org). Please complete the Ministry of Friendship folder located on the end of each pew. The next New Member Class will meet on Sundays, March 3 and 10 with new members received on Sunday, March 17. If you are interested in joining, please speak to a pastor.

### ANNUAL MARTIN LUTHER KING BREAKFAST ON MONDAY, JANUARY 15

The 49<sup>th</sup> Annual MLK Breakfast will be held Monday, January 15, 8:30 a.m. at the Wyndam Hotel. Westminster will be a Gold Sponsor, donating \$1,500. It is symbolic and meaningful for us to have a presence at this community celebration, especially in light of our rich history as advocates for racial justice and equality.

Dr. Wendi Wills El-Amin, the Associate Dean for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion at Southern Illinois University School of Medicine, will be the keynote speaker at the breakfast. She earned her medical degree at Georgetown University School of Medicine and a bachelor's degree in biology at Hampton University. Dr. El-Amin is a faculty member in the Department of Family and Community Medicine and provides care at the Center for Family Medicine in Springfield. She also serves on the boards of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Illinois, Springfield YMCA and the Community Foundation for the Land of Lincoln.



**LYDIA CIRCLE** will meet **Tuesday, January 16** at 9:30 a.m. in the Ziegler Library. Sandy Bellatti will lead the lesson titled "Mary and Martha Encounter Jesus."

**HELPING HANDS FACILITY RIBBON CUTTING** will be **Wednesday, January 17th, at 10:00 a.m.** at their new facility 2200 Shale Street, Springfield, IL 62703. Following planned remarks, the media will have an opportunity to tour the new facility. In November 2022, Sangamon County and Helping Hands of Springfield jointly announced their partnership to establish a new homeless shelter in Springfield. The new facility aligns with the strategic plan developed by the Heartland Continuum of Care to address homelessness. It provides emergency and transitional shelter services, as well as a range of day services, within a single location. To finance the project, Sangamon County utilized \$9 Million in funds from the federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

**SUNDAY SCHOOL MINISTRY PARTNER MEETING** will be **Sunday, January 21 at 9:00 a.m.** in Parish Hall to help prepare for the new expanded Sunday School classes, to provide orientation to new and returning Sunday School teachers, and to provide an opportunity for ministry partners to sign-up on a schedule of Sundays, New Sunday School teachers are welcome!

**ADULT EDUCATION FORUM** introduces *The Regulation of Guns in USA* on **Sundays, January 21, February 4, 11 at 11:15 a.m.** in Parish Hall. This adult education forum will provide an overview of the regulatory oversight of guns and its societal and political implications. The class will also conclude with a summary of the PC(USA) position on gun control measures and be led by Kate and Michael Morthland.

**YOUTH CO-HOST CAP SORTING PARTY** on **Sunday, January 21, 5:00–7:00 p.m.** Senior High Youth will collaborate with the Earth Care Team and host a Bottle Cap Sorting Party. Will Hovey will lead the effort to recycle 300 lbs. of bottle caps left over from his Eagle Scout Project. Upon receipt of the caps, Green Tree Plastics will provide a bench made from recycled materials through the ABC Promise Partnership Program. All are encouraged to join us in the fun of sorting followed by a delicious meal prepared by Nichole Magalis.

**ALL WOMEN'S NEW BEGINNING BRUNCH** will be hosted by the PW on **Saturday, February 4 from 10:00 a.m. - noon** in Parish Hall. Carolyn Beatty and Carole Kennerly and will present a program called "Meeting C.S. and Joy Lewis." RSVP today following worship in the West Narthex.

**THE CAPITAL BIG BAND** featuring music of the Big Band Era and more recent tunes will present a lively program in Westminster's Parish Hall on **Wednesday, February 7 at 7:00 p.m.**

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 28**

# **ANNUAL MEETING**

**8:30 – 9:45 A.M. EGG-TASTIC BREAKFAST FUNDRAISER**

Members are invited to an egg-tastic breakfast that will be served by youth attending the 2024 Youth Mission Trip. Come support the Mission and be well-nourished for the work of the church at the annual meeting following worship!

**10:00 A.M. WORSHIP**

**11:00 – 11:30 A.M. ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION**

**2023 ANNUAL REPORTS** from the Session and Deacon Committee chairs were **due Thursday, January 11, 2024.** Please submit your reports as soon as possible to Jennie Alt at [jalt@wpcpi.org](mailto:jalt@wpcpi.org). They will be included in the 2023 Annual Report.

## THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

### Monday, January 15

Church Office Closed – MLK Birthday

8:30 AM Martin Luther King Breakfast (Off site)

### Tuesday, January 16

9:30 AM Lydia Circle (Library)

10:30 AM Staff Meeting (Pastor's Study)

1:00 PM Knit 2 Purl 4 (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Classroom)

3:00 PM COMPASS for Kids

4:45 PM I.T. Committee (Conference Room)

5:30 PM Family Ministry (Conference Room)

### Wednesday, January 17

10:00 AM Helping Hands Ribbon Cutting

1:00 PM Pastors Pray in Chancel (Sanctuary)

1:30 PM Worship Planning (Pastor's Study)

4:00 PM Depression and Bi-Polar Support Group  
(Conference Room)

4:00 PM Bridges (Tower Classroom)

5:00 PM Children's Choir (Music Room)

5:30 PM Session (Parish Hall)

### Thursday, January 18

8:00 AM Library Guild (Children's Library)

4:30 PM Personnel Committee (Pastor's Study)

5:30 PM Dr. Kieffer's Bible Study  
(Second Floor Classroom)

7:00 PM Choir (Music Room)

### Friday, January 19

### Saturday, January 20

11:00 AM Church Mice (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Classroom)

### Sunday, January 21

9:00 AM Sunday School Ministry Partner  
Meeting (Parish Hall)

10:00 AM Worship Service (Sanctuary)

10:15 AM Sunday School PreK-5 (Sanctuary)

10:15 AM Confirmation Prep (Conference Room)

11:15 AM Fair Trade Sale (West Narthex)

11:15 AM Adult Ed Forum (Parish Hall)

11:15 AM Confirmation Class (Conference Room)

5:00 PM Youth and Adult Cap Sorting Party  
(Parish Hall)

Westminster Presbyterian Church

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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**

Director for Youth

**Meleah and Aaron Berkowitz**

Co-Directors for Children's Ministry

**Katie Moore**

Director for Children's Music

**Millie McNutt, Erin Winn**

Nursery Coordinators

**Emily Rowley, Keri Tate**

Cooperative Preschool Staff

**Ellen Carpenter**

Parish Nurse

**Pat Hymans**

Hospitality Coordinator

**Lisa Runkle**

Financial Administrator

**Jennie Ait**

Church Administrative Assistant

**Krista Steller**

Communications Coordinator

**Gary Warnick**

Building and Property Manager

**Peter Bysko, James Capler,**

**Terry Gietl**

Part-time Custodians