WESTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
189th Annual Meeting of the Congregation
Third Sunday after Epiphany
26 January 2025 + 10:00 a.m.

Welcome and Announcements

Voluntary Holy Spirit, Light Divine — Healey Willan

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

***Call to Worship** — Psalm 19:1

Leader: God built the heavens, the earth, and everything in them.
People: God calls us to be builders as well.
Leader: God calls us to build our lives:
People: to restore broken places and continue to grow.
Leader: God calls us to build our faith
People: to study the Word and ponder its interpretation.
Leader: God calls us to build our community.
People: to build bridges of understanding and systems of justice.
Leader: Come, let us build, restore, and grow together in worship.

***Processional Hymn 305** Come Sing, O Church in Joy! — *Darwall's 148th*

***Prayer of Confession**

O Love that will not let us go, interrupt our familiar inertias leading down paths of distraction and discouragement. Let the pause of today's Sabbath provide a freeing grace impossible to imagine on our own. Cleanse the lens of our hearts, that we may see more clearly your vision of a world made new. Yes, forgive us and free us for this delight you yearn to offer, in and through Jesus Christ. 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.

During the Congregational Response Students in kindergarten to Grade 5 go to Sunday school and Grades 6-7 go to Confirmation- Prep.

First Scripture Reading Luke 4:14-21 — Pew Bible, NT page 61

Second Scripture Reading 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a — Pew Bible, NT page 174

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

Sermon Same Care for One Another — Rev. Sarah A. Bishop

The text: "But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another." I Corinthians 12:24b-25

Anthem O Lord, You Are My God and King — C.H.H. Parry

The text of the anthem is found at 270 in the hymnal

***Affirmation of Faith** *Westminster Mission Statement*

Westminster Presbyterian Church believes it is in the world for ministry. With each new day, we affirm our common purpose: to join in the worshipful praise of God; to teach the children, to lead and inspire the young, and to call everyone to life-long learning in the church; to be influential participants in society, by being accountable to the Gospel; to show the love and compassion of Jesus Christ toward each other, and toward those who are hurting; to be a caring community welcoming both friends and strangers; to own our Presbyterian heritage, reformed and always reforming; and to be prayerfully open to the renewing power of the Holy Spirit. Let the door of this church be a way to service. 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 Hymnal, page 35

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 The Call Ralph Vaughan Williams

Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life: Such a Way, as gives us breath: Such a Truth, as ends all strife: Such a Life, as killeth death. Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength; Such a Light, as shows a feast: Such a Feast: as mends in length: Such a Strength, as makes his guest. Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart: Such a Joy, as none can move: Such a Love, as none can part: Such a Heart, as joys in Love.

***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.

The Ordination and Installation of Church Officers

***Litany**

Pastor: There are varieties of gifts,
People: **but it is the same Spirit who gives them.**
Pastor: To each is given a gift by the Spirit,
People: **to be used for the common good.**
Pastor: Together we are the body of Christ,
People: **and individually members of it.**

The Presentation of Elected Church Officers

Session: *Joe Fierstos, Vonnie Hinesley, Julie McDonough, Pat Moore, Marilyn Rigney, and Youth Elder: Sam Batterman*

Board of Deacons: *Dorothy Hutchinson-Gross, Cathy Yokley, Class of 2025: George Botanga, Class of 2026: Randy Wiseman*

Constitutional Questions *The pastors shall ask the constitutional questions to the elders and deacons.*

***Questions to the Congregation**

Pastor: Do you, as members of the church, accept these individuals as Elders and Deacons, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation, to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ?
People: **We do.**
Pastor: Do you agree to encourage them, to respect their decisions, and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is head of the church?
People: **We do.**

***Laying on of Hands** *The candidates for ordination kneel. Ordained elders are invited to come forward for the laying on of hands.*

***Ordination Prayer**

***Declaration of Ordination and Installation**

***Hymn** Mission Statement Hymn *Woodlands*

***Charge and Benediction**

***Choral Response** Forth in Thy Name Orlando Gibbons

Forth in thy name, O Lord, I go,
My daily labor to pursue:
Thee, only thee, resolved to know,
In all I think, or speak, or do.
Charles Wesley

189th Annual Meeting of the Congregation

***Voluntary** Festal Flourish Gordon Jacob

(*) The congregation is invited to stand.

IN MEMORIAM

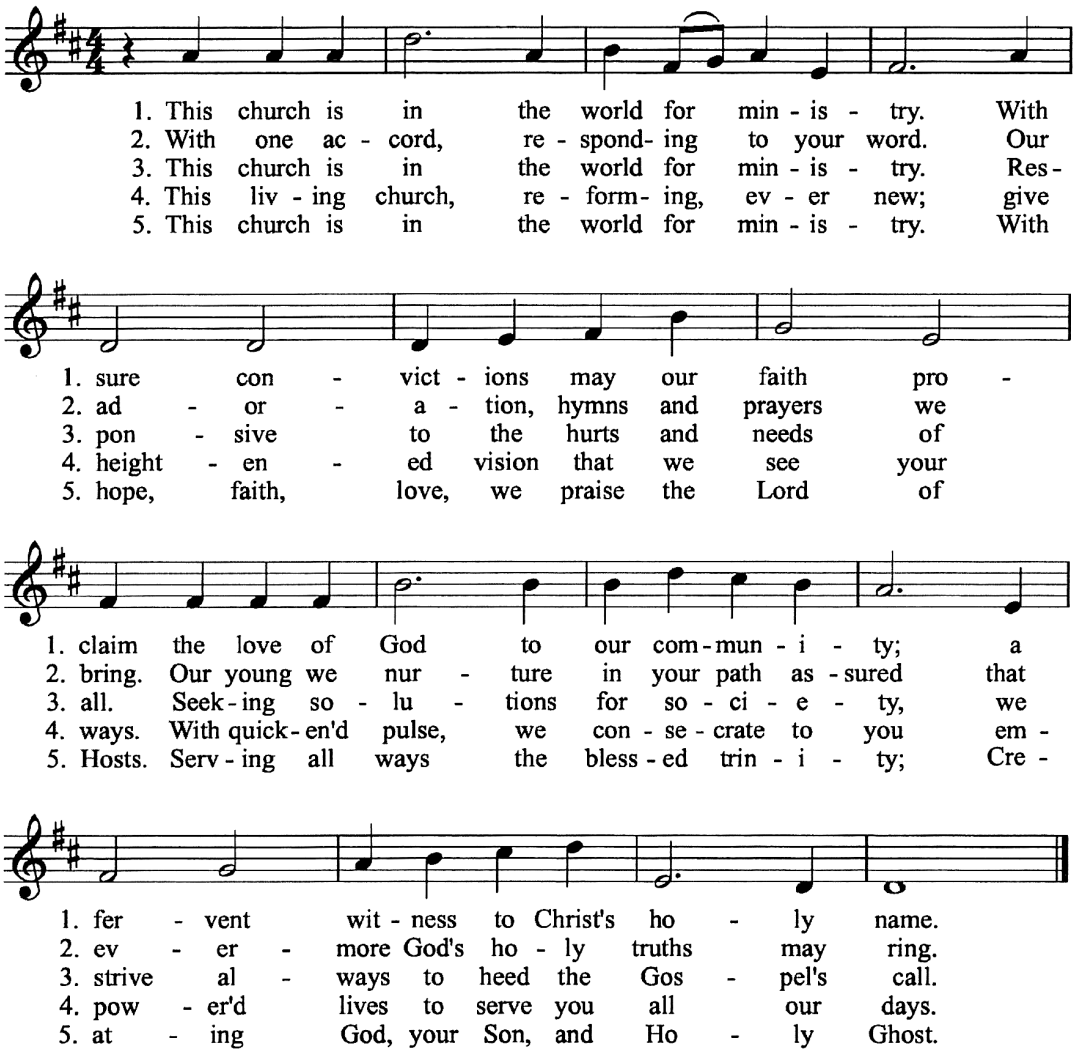
A. Dale Huston 09/05/1940– 01/20/2025
United with Westminster 03/22/1970

SERVING THIS SUNDAY AT WESTMINSTER

- **Sunday Liturgist**: Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer
- **Worship Leader**: William Affrunti
- **Acolytes**: Charlotte Affrunti and Brooke Boutelle
- **Greeter:** Julie Robbs
- **Ushers:** Greg Boutelle (Head Usher), Sophia Choi, Sabrina Holmes, Joyce King, Todd Lafrenz, Jim Parker, Susan Shaw, Bernie Wiseman
- **Safety Team:** Todd Knox
- **Music:** The Westminster Choir; Adam Miller, Tenor; Dale Rogers, Organist
- **Videography and Sound:** Bob Fox, Krista Steller, Bill Deemer

MISSION STATEMENT HYMN

A Metrical Paraphrase by
Dale Thomas Rogers, 1994

Walter Greatorex, 1919

EDUCATION AND FELLOWSHIP THIS SUNDAY AT WESTMINSTER

- **8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Youth Egg-tastic Mission Trip Fundraiser (Parish Hall)**
  Mission participants will serve a delicious Egg-tastic Breakfast prepared by Pat Hymans and team before worship. Come support the Mission and be well nourished for the work of the church at the Annual Meeting following worship.
- **9:45 a.m. – 12 noon Infants, toddlers, preschoolers (Nursery)** Infants and toddlers gather in the Nursery. Preschoolers begin in worship with their families and leave during the Congregational Response. This week's Bible Story: "God Promises to Love and Care for our Families" (Noah Story) *Caregivers: Kara Milward, Maria Lafrenz, Linda Caupert*
- **10:15 – 11:00 a.m. Children in Pre-K – Grade 5** begin in worship & go to Sunday school and Confirmation Prep following the Congregational Response.
  - **Kindergarten - Grade 2 (Third Floor Chapel)** Story: "Good News to Share" (Luke 4:14-21) *Teachers: Meleah Berkowitz, Katrina Opperman*
  - **Grades 3-5 (Third Floor Classroom)** Story: "Jesus' Mission" (Luke 4:14-21) *Teachers: Aaron Berkowitz, Cathy Brower*
- **11:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. 189th Meeting of the Congregation (Sanctuary)** The 2025 Confirmation Class is invited to sit with their mentors during the meeting.

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.

THE APOSTLES' READ LIBRARY BOOK GROUP will meet on **Tuesday, January 28**. The book for January is titled *After Jesus Before Christianity: A Historical Exploration of the First Two Centuries of Jesus Movements* by Erin Vearncombe, Brandon Scott, Hal Taussig, and the Westar Institute.

ALL WOMEN'S NEW BEGINNING BRUNCH will be **Saturday, February 1 from 10:00 a.m. - noon** in Parish Hall. Dr. Roy Wehrle, Mary Caroline Mitchell, and Eleanor VanDeventer will present a program called "WPC Refugee Programs in the 20th Century."

MISSION SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2 - A booklet including a comprehensive list of the 2024 mission supported by Westminster will be distributed. The total Mission Giving for 2024 is **$392,280**. This giving is divided among the Operating Fund, Special Offerings, Presbyterian Women, and the Support and Endowment Mission Funds.

THE PRESBYTERY OF GREAT RIVERS
CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO THE INSTALLATION SERVICE OF
THE REVEREND SARAH A. BISHOP
AS ASSOCIATE PASTOR FOR FAMILY MINISTRY
OF WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2 AT 4:00 O'CLOCK IN THE AFTERNOON
A RECEPTION WILL FOLLOW IN PARISH HALL

THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

Monday, January 27
9:30 AM King's Daughters Board (3rd Floor Classroom)

Tuesday, January 28
10:00 AM Memorial Service for Dale Huston (Sanctuary)
11:00 AM Memorial Luncheon (Parish Hall)
1:00 PM Knit 2, Purl 4 Mission (2nd Floor Classroom)
3:00 PM COMPASS
3:30 PM Children of Abraham Leadership (Off-site)
5:00 PM Congregational Care (Pastor's Study)
6:00 PM Apostles Read Book Club (Library)
7:00 PM St. Andrews Sisters Rehearsal (Off site)

Wednesday, January 29
10:00 AM Pastors Pray in Chancel (Sanctuary)
10:30 AM Worship Planning (Pastor's Study)
12:30 PM Reporter (2nd Floor Classroom)
3:30 PM Depression and Bi-Polar Support Group (Conference Room)
4:00 PM Property Meeting (2nd Floor Classroom)
4:00 PM Bridges (Tower Classroom)
5:00 PM Children's Choir (Music Room)
5:00 PM Membership Meeting (Pastor's Study)
5:00 PM Helping Hands Hot Meals Delivered
5:30 PM Mission Community Svc (2nd Floor Classrm)
6:30 PM Adult Ed Committee (Pastor's Study)

Thursday, January 30
5:30 PM Dr. Kieffer's Bible Study (2nd Floor Classroom)
7:00 PM Choir (Music Room)

Friday, January 31

Saturday, February 1
10:00 AM PW All Women New Beginnings Brunch (Parish Hall)
11:00 AM Church Mice (2nd Floor Classroom)
1:00 PM Singleton Visitation (Sanctuary)
2:00 PM Memorial Service Singleton (Sanctuary)
3:00 PM Memorial Reception (Parish Hall)

Sunday, February 2 – Mission Sunday
Parish Nurse Blood Pressure Check (Church Office)
10:00 AM Worship Service (Sanctuary)
10:15 AM Sunday School Pre K-5 (3rd Floor)
10:15 AM Confirmation Gr 6-7 (Conference Room)
11:15 AM Confirmation (Conference Room)
11:15 AM Adult Ed Forum (Parish Hall)
4:00 PM Rev. Bishop Installation Service
5:00 PM Installation Reception (Parish Hall)

Westminster Presbyterian Church
533 S. Walnut St. Springfield, Illinois 62704Phone (217) 522-4415 http://www.wpcspi.org

WESTMINSTER STAFF

The Rev. 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 Valesquez
Part-time Custodians