



WESTMINSTER  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Communion Sunday

Mission Sunday

8 February 2026 + 10:00 a.m.

Welcome and Announcements

Ministry Moment      2025 Mission Giving      Rachael Hickman

Voluntary      If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee      J.S. Bach

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

**\*Call to Worship**

Leader: In the days of Noah, God placed a rainbow in the sky as the sign of a covenant of God's love for all the earth.

People: **In the colors of the rainbow, we see the sign of God's grace for all creation.**

Leader: Through Jesus, God promised to place a new covenant in our hearts.

All: **As members of the living Body of Christ, we see the sign of God's promise among us.**

\***Processional Hymn 761**      Called as Partners in Christ's Service      Beecher

**\*Unison Prayer of Confession**      Most Merciful God, we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart: we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen

**\*Silent Confession**      *During this silence, worshipers are asked to offer individual 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.**  
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 Message**

**Congregational Response**      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 in Pre-Kindergarten - Grade 5 will go to their Sunday school classes. Youth in Grades 6-7 will remain in the service for communion.*

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Scripture Reading**      Genesis 6:5-22, 9:1-17      Pew Bible, OT pages 5-7  
Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.  
**People: Thanks be to God.**

**Meditation**      God's Covenant      Rev. Dr. Anne C.S. Marshal

## Recognition of New Members

### \*Apostle's Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from hence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

### The Presentation of Our Gifts and Prayer of Dedication

*At this time all worshipers are invited to sign and pass the Ministry of Friendship folders at the end of each pew.*

### Offertory

#### Christ's Flock

Martin Shaw

In Christ's own flock let love be surely place. From Christ's own flock let concord hate expel: Of Christ's own flock let love be so embraced, s we in Christ, and Christ in us may dwell.

Christ is the author of all unity, From whence proceedeth all felicity. O sing unto this glittering glorious King. Let heart and voice like bells of silver ring. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

### Offertory Response

#### Doxology

Hymnal, 606

Praise God from whom all blessings flow  
Praise God, all creatures here below  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host  
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: Holy, holy, holy Lord—we praise you for your love; bringing order out of chaos, breathing life into dust, leading captives into freedom, calling wandering children home, giving bread to hungry, giving drink to the thirsty, raising the dead to life. Therefore, we lift our voices with choirs of angels 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: Thank you, Lord— we thank you for Jesus...Take this bread and cup, O God—a feast of grace; take our hearts and lives—an offering of praise.

**People: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

Pastor: Spirit come— come and live in us...Blessing and glory, wisdom and thanksgiving, honor, and power, forever and ever! **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Hymnal, page 35

Words of Institution

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.*

**Communion Music**

Creating God, Your Fingers Trace

David Hurd

Creating God, your fingers trace the bold designs of farthest space; let sun and moon and stars and light and what lies hidden praise your might. Sustaining God, your hands uphold earth's mysteries known or yet untold; let water's fragile blend with air, enabling life, proclaim your care. Redeeming God, your arms embrace all now despised for creed or race; let peace, descending like a dove, make known on earth your healing love. Indwelling God, your gospel claims one family with a billion names; let every life be touched by grace until we praise you face to face.

**\*Prayer after Communion**

Gracious God, how can we thank you for such a gift? For you have met us, fed us, drawn us to you, and bound us to one another. Now send us out to share your love and proclaim our hope until Christ comes again. Amen.

**\*Hymn 543**

God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me

*Green Tyler*

**\*Charge and Benediction**

**Closing Response**

The Lord Bless and Keep You

Dale Rogers

The Lord bless and keep you, May God's presence abide with you, Be gracious and kind to you, The Lord give you peace.

**\*Voluntary**

If Thou But Trust in God to Guide Thee

J.S. Bach

(\*) The congregation is invited to stand.

**IN MEMORIAM**

Elder Dr. Diane K. Rutledge

12/08/1950 – 02/03/2026

United with Westminster 06/04/1978

THOSE WHO WOULD LIKE TO DONATE TO WESTMINSTER MINISTRIES  
ARE WELCOME TO SCAN HERE.



**FROM OUR PARISH NURSE:** Respiratory illnesses are high in Sangamon County. It is advised that person(s) stay home if they are sick or show symptoms. There are masks available, please ask a Deacon if you need one.

**LOST AND FOUND** Please check the lost and found for items that may have been left. We will donate any coats left to the Lenten Coat Drive. The lost and found basket is at the volunteer desk in West Narthex and the large basket by the coat rack.

## SERVING THIS SUNDAY AT WESTMINSTER

- **Chancel Flowers** are given by the Ruth and Naomi Circle in loving memory of our dear sister, Diane Rutledge.
- **Sunday Liturgist:** Rev. Sarah Bishop
- **Worship Leader:** Juliana Eastvold
- **Acolytes:** Nathan Affrunti and Sam Berkowitz
- **Cross and Bible Carriers:** Sam Batterman and Liam Kiszely
- **Today's Communion Bread** is Oatmeal Wheat and was lovingly prepared by Susan Day.
- **Elders Serving Communion:** Vonnie Hinesley, (Team Leader), Brownie Anderson, George Botanga, Jonathan Carlson-Eastvold, Tara Fritsch, David Jenkins, Vena Long, Lucy Stafford, Brad Swanson, Lyle VanDeventer, Jess Weitzel, Brinton Wilkey
- **Communion Prep:** Mary Ray (Team Leader), Ann Collins, Priscilla and Tim Kluge, Elisabeth and Mark Luttrell, Leigh Milward, Krista Steller
- **Home Communion Delivery:** Julie & Mike Sundquist, Krista Steller, Mary Ray
- **Greeters:** Rich and Nancy Canady
- **Ushers:** Joyce King (Head Usher), Kyle Duffy, Linda Caupert, Ben Arnold, Michella Arnold, Chelsea Ekstedt, Andrew Affrunti, Pete Sherman
- **Safety Team:** John Stafford
- **Music:** The Westminster Choir, Genevive Wages, Soprano, Dale Rogers, Organist
- **Videographers:** Bill Deemer, Krista Steller

## EDUCATION AND FELLOWSHIP THIS SUNDAY AT WESTMINSTER

- **9:00 a.m. Session meets with new members (Zeigler Library)**
- **9:45 a.m. – 12 noon Infants, toddlers, and two-year-olds (Nursery)** gather for play and Bible Story. *Caregiver: Erin Winn*
- **10:00 – 11:00 a.m. Children in Pre-K – Grade 5** begin in worship & go to Sunday school following the Congregational Response. Youth in Grades 6-7 remain in worship.
  - **Preschool - Ages 3-5 (Preschool Classroom lower level)** Story: Jesus Thinks Children are Important (*Jesus Blesses Children*) *Teachers: Leigh Milward*
  - **Kindergarten - Grade 2 (Third Floor Chapel)** This week's story: "Light of the World (Matthew 5:13-20) *Teacher: Meleah Berkowitz*
  - **Grades 3-5 (Third Floor Classroom)** This week's story: "Flavoring the World (Matthew 5:13-20) *Teacher: Aaron Berkowitz*
- **11:15 a.m. – Noon Adult Ed Forum (Parish Hall)**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**WE WELCOME VISITORS!** Information about us 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. If you are interested in joining Westminster, speak with one of the pastors.

**MISSION SUNDAY TODAY** Westminster mission will be highlighted during worship today. This is the ninth Mission Sunday which began in 2016. A booklet including a comprehensive list of the 2025 mission supported by Westminster and the members of the committees who serve will be distributed. The total Mission Giving for 2025 is \$314,862. This giving is divided among the Operating Fund, Special Offerings, Presbyterian Women, and the Support and Endowment Mission Funds.

**SOUPER BOWL OF CARING TODAY** Help us tackle hunger in Springfield by placing your donation in the large soup pots held by our youth following worship today.

**MISSION TRIP INFORMATIONAL MEETING following the service today** All youth and adults interested in attending the 2026 Mission Trip to Charleston, SC (Saturday July 11-Saturday July 18) are invited to an informational meeting. in the Second Floor Classroom. During our meeting we will learn more about our mission site, Charleston, SC and working with Charleston Youth Mission.

**ADULT EDUCATION FORUM TODAY** The Adult Education Forum today will be presented by a local expert on Potawatomi history at 11:15 a.m. in Parish Hall. Dr. George Godfrey is a retired entomologist who taught at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and Haskell Indian Nations University in Lawrence, Kansas. He has served as the President of the Potawatomi Trail of Death Association, and is an expert on that event, when 859 Potawatomi from Indiana were forcibly removed to Kansas in 1838. The Trail of Death passed through Springfield, IL. Dr. Godfrey will be giving a presentation on the Trail of Death as a monologue where he plays the role of a 19th century Potawatomi elder who lived through the experience. He will be wearing traditional Potawatomi regalia during his presentation. Children are welcome to join the Adult Education Forum with their parents.

**ELIZABETH CIRCLE** meets on **Monday, February 9, at 1:00 p.m.** in the Second Floor Classroom. Mary King will lead Lesson 6 in *Finding Resilience, Joy, and Our Identity in Jesus Christ* by The Rev. Dr. Rhashell D. Hunter.

**PRESBYTERIAN MEN'S BREAKFAST** will be **Thursday, February 12 at 8:00 a.m.** in Parish Hall. Mike Murphy, President & CEO of the IL Chamber of Commerce, will speak on its role in the community. Please RSVP on our website or by contacting the church office.

**FAIR TRADE SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15** Come check out our chocolate and other Equal Exchange items following worship! Becky Martin and Jeanne Van Gieson continue to oversee these sales and will assist other members interested in being part of this ministry.

**ADULT EDUCATION FORUM SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15** The Adult Education Forum on February 15<sup>th</sup> will be led by Dale Rogers. What started out as a study of the Underground Railroad in Jacksonville has turned into an exploration of the Underground Railroad in Sangamon and Menard counties including discoveries about a Farmingdale pastor and stations near the Rogers family home in between Petersburg and Greenview.

**LYDIA CIRCLE** meets on **Tuesday, February 17 at 1:00 p.m.** in the Ziegler Library. Sandy Bellatti will lead Lesson 5 in *Finding Resilience, Joy, and Our Identity in Jesus Christ* by The Rev. Dr. Rhashell D. Hunter.

**THE WESTMINSTER COOPERATIVE PRESCHOOL TRIVIA NIGHT & SILENT AUCTION ON SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21ST.** This is the preschool's largest fundraiser of the year and is crucial in helping offset the cost to operate the preschool while keeping tuition affordable for families. If you are interested in supporting this mission of Westminster, please consider joining the preschool community at this event. If interested, tickets, sponsorships, and add-ons can be purchased online at <https://givebutter.com/c/WCPTrivia2026>. This year's theme is a throwback to all things 90s, so dust off your tracksuits & Nirvana t-shirts, grab your Walkman (cassette or CD), and join us for a great cause!

**POKÉMON CLUB** The Pokémon Club meets with Aaron Berkowitz **Sunday, February 22, from 12:30-2:00 p.m.** in the Children's Library. All children and young-at-heart are welcome. No experience necessary and all supplies will be on hand.

**SR. HIGH YOUTH GROUP** Senior High youth meet **Sunday, February at 22, 5:00 pm-6:30 pm** in Parish Hall for their continued lesson on What is a Disciple of Jesus? Beth and Tad Allen will provide the meal.

**APOSTLES' READ LIBRARY BOOK GROUP TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24** The Apostles' Read Library Book Group meets **Tuesday, February 24 from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.** in the Ziegler Library to discuss The Cross and the Lynching Tree by James H. Cone. New members are always welcome! Led by Dr. Aaron Berkowitz.

**JR. HIGH YOUTH GROUP** Junior High youth meet **Wednesday February 25, 5:30-7:00 p.m.** in the Youth Room and continue our study on the Bible. The meal is by Maud Essel and John Addo-Yobo.

**WESTMINSTER GATHERING AT CONCORDIA THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 11:30 P.M.** Members & friends of Westminster will gather at Concordia **Thursday, February 26** with the Pastors and the Director of Music and the Arts. We will gather for Holy Communion at 11:30 a.m. in the chapel followed by lunch at 12 noon in the New Harmony Room.

**KNIT 2 PURL 4 MISSION AND FELLOWSHIP** gathers on **Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m.** in the Second Floor Classroom.

**SING BY HEART MEETS ON WEDNESDAYS AT 10:00 A.M.** The Sing by Heart choir is a joyful musical experience for members of the community with dementia and their caregivers. This program is sponsored by the Dale and Deborah Smith Alzheimer's Center at SIU School of Medicine, the Springfield Choral Society, and Westminster Presbyterian

**LIBRARY COMMITTEE** Aaron Berkowitz heads a committee that has catalogued over two hundred books using the Library of Congress system. Members are also reorganizing the Children's Library as well as the Ziegler Library and have prepared a cart in the West Narthex with topics from both libraries which are available for check-out. Please stop by to view the cart and select a book.

**MONTHLY SESSION REPORTS** Please email monthly Session reports to Jennie Alt in the church office by second week of the month at [jalt@wpcspi.org](mailto:jalt@wpcspi.org).

**ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PICTURES** If you have announcements for the bulletin or newsletter or pictures from events you would like to share, please email these to [Communications@wpcspi.org](mailto:Communications@wpcspi.org).

**ASH WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18**  
**THEME: WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT? FASTING**  
**5:30 P.M. ALL CHURCH 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 including:

- Liturgy and music presented by Bridges children and Children's Choir
- Meditation by Rev. Bishop
- The Imposition of Ashes
- Holy Communion by Intinction

**BEATITUDES: LENT AT HOME STUDY**

Each week our entire church family will receive a card and/or email with a devotional around the Beatitudes from Matthew 5. The devotional card will have a scripture, artwork, reflection questions, and a prayer. There is also an invitation for creative art practice. Our Beatitudes Lent At Home Study is for all ages and all definitions of family. A card will be available each week next to bulletins on Sundays as well as through the weekly email.

**LENTEN CANDLE SERVICE**

During Lent, Westminster's Sunday worship service will begin with a Lenten Candle Service woven into the Call to Worship. Rather than light a candle each Sunday as we do in Advent, a candle will be extinguished each Sunday of Lent leading to Easter to commemorate Christ's journey to the cross. The symbolism of these liturgies will add meaning to our worship as we prepare for Holy Week and Easter.

**LENTEN GIVING**

The **One Great Hour of Sharing** denominational offering will be received during Lent. This is an opportunity to provide relief to those affected by natural disasters, provide food to the hungry, and empower the poor and oppressed.

A **Lenten Coat Drive** will collect coats in the West Narthex. These coats will line the center pews of our Sanctuary on Palm Sunday and be donated to Contact Ministries.

## THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

### Monday, February 9<sup>th</sup>

- 1:00 PM Elizabeth Circle (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Classroom)  
5:30 PM Strategic Planning (Conference Room)

### Tuesday, February 10<sup>th</sup>

- 10:30 AM Staff Meeting (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Classroom)  
1:00 PM Knit 2 Purl 4 (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Classroom)  
3:00 PM COMPASS for Kids  
5:30 PM Worship, Music, and the Arts  
Committee (Music Room)  
7:30 PM St. Andrews Sisters

### Wednesday, February 11<sup>th</sup>

- 10:00 AM Pastors Pray in the Chancel  
10:00 AM Sing by Heart Dementia Friendly Choir  
(Parish Hall)  
10:30 AM Worship Planning (Pastor's Study)  
3:30 PM DBSA Group (3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Classroom)  
4:45 PM Fiscal Committee (Conference Room)  
6:00 PM Board of Deacons (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Classroom)

### Thursday, February 12<sup>th</sup>

- 8:00 AM Men's Breakfast (Parish Hall)  
12:00 PM PEO Meeting (Parish Hall)  
5:45 PM Thursday Night Bible Study (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Classroom)  
7:00 PM Choir (Music Room)

### Friday, February 13<sup>th</sup>

- 1:00 PM Helping Hands Bagged Lunch Prep  
(Kitchen)

### Saturday, February 14<sup>th</sup>

- 11:00 AM Church Mice (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Classroom)  
11:00 AM Funeral Service for Dr. Diane Rutledge  
12:00 PM Coffee and Fellowship for Dr. Rutledge  
(Parish Hall)

### Sunday, February 15<sup>th</sup>

- 10:00 AM Worship Service (Sanctuary)  
10:15 AM Sunday School (Pre-K- Grade 5)  
(3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Chapel and Classroom)  
Confirmation Prep (Conference Room)  
11:15 AM Fair Trade Sale  
Adult Ed Forum (Parish Hall)  
Confirmation (Conference Room)  
12:00 PM Piano Festival

## WESTMINSTER STAFF

**The Reverend Dr. Anne Marshall**  
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

**Dr. Aaron Berkowitz**  
Education Coordinator

**Mary A. Ray**  
Director for Youth

**Meleah Berkowitz**  
Director for Children's Ministry,  
Westminster Cooperative Preschool  
and Music Assistant

**Keri Tate, Becky Nika**  
Cooperative Preschool Teachers

**Kara Milward, Erin Winn**  
Nursery Coordinators

**Ellen Carpenter**  
Parish Nurse

**Pat Hymans**  
Hospitality Coordinator

**Lisa Runkle**  
Financial Administrator

**Jennie Alt**  
Church Administrative Assistant

**Gary Warnick**  
Building and Property Manager

**Braden Barton, James Capler,  
Terry Gietl, Francis Gyebi,  
Jerry McCullum**  
Part-time Custodians



## Westminster Presbyterian Church

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