



WESTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Second Sunday of Lent
01 March 2026 + 10:00 a.m.

Welcome and Announcements

Voluntary

Suite XIV: Aria

George Frederick Handel

***Ringing of the Bell**

The congregation rises at the ringing of the Tower Bell.

***Call to Worship**

Leader: People of the covenant:

People: **God does not remember us according to our sins and transgressions.**

Leader: God remembers us according to God's own steadfast love: Future generations will be told about the Lord and proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn.

People: **And all the families of the nations shall worship before God.**

***Lenten Candle Service**

We journey together this season of Lent: a time to reflect, a time to forgive, a time to repent. As we extinguish the second Lenten candle, we remember God's promise to Abraham and Sarah as they ventured into an unknown land and Christ's journey to the cross. Let us pray:

Loving God, you know us by heart and call us by name. In this time of worship, help us to trust in you that we might name ourselves proudly as your people and as followers of Christ. Amen

***Processional Hymn 415**

Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy

Restoration

*Unison Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, in your gracious presence, we confess our sin and the sin of this world. Although Christ is among us as our peace, we are a people divided against ourselves as we cling to the values of a broken world. The profit and pleasures we pursue, lay waste the land and pollute the seas. The fears and jealousies that we harbor set neighbor against neighbor and nation against nation. We abuse your good gifts of imagination and freedom, of intellect and reason, and have turned them into bonds of oppression. Lord, have mercy upon us; heal and forgive us. Set us free to serve you in the world as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ.

*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.

Children's Message

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. (sung three times)

Children in Pre-Kindergarten - Grade 5 will go to their Sunday school classes. Youth in Grades 6-7 will go to Confirmation-Prep class.

Prayer for Illumination

First Scripture Reading

Romans 7:14-20

Pew Bible, NT page 157

Second Scripture Reading

I John 1:1-10

Pew Bible, NT pages 238

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

What Do You Mean By That? Sin

Rev. Dr. Anne C.S. Marshall

Anthem

O Lord, Most Holy

César Franck

O Lord, most holy, O Lord, most mighty, O Christ, our Savior, hear our song we lift in praise. Help us to know you, know you and love you, Savior, grant us your truth and grace. Amen.

***Affirmation of Faith**

Excerpt from *A Brief Statement of Faith*

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community.

But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God's condemnation.

Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

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 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 Cantilene Gabriel Fauré

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.

***Prayer of Dedication** **O God, accept our offerings as a token of our thanksgiving
and praise. Use these gifts to strengthen the ministry of the
church and to shine light in a hurting world. Amen.**

***Hymn 441** Hear the Good News of Salvation *Nettleton*

*Charge and Benediction

Closing Response Amen William Smith

***Voluntary** Nachspiel Selmar Müller

(*) The congregation is invited to stand.



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

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

SERVING THIS SUNDAY AT WESTMINSTER

- **Sunday Liturgist:** Rev. Sarah Bishop
- **Lenten Candle Service:** Barb and Pete Sherman
- **Acolytes:** Diana Choi and Lucy Bassett
- **Greeter:** Bruce Strom
- **Ushers:** Greg Boutelle (Head Usher), Chelsea Ekstedt, Cameron Hudgins, Todd Lafrenz, Claudia Nash, Randy Wiseman, Bernie Wiseman, Cathy Yokley
- **Safety Team:** John Stafford
- **Music:** The Westminster Choir, Eleanor VanDeventer, Soprano, Dale Rogers, Organist
- **Videographers:** Bill Deemer, Krista Steller

EDUCATION AND FELLOWSHIP THIS SUNDAY AT WESTMINSTER

- **9:45 a.m. – 12 noon** Infants, toddlers, and two-year-olds (Nursery) gather for play and Bible Story. *Caregiver: Kara Milward*
- **10:00 – 11:00 a.m.** Children in Pre-K – Grade 5 begin in worship & go to Sunday school. Youth in Grades 6-7 will go to Pre Confirmation following the Congregational Response.
 - **Preschool - Ages 3-5 (Preschool Classroom lower level)** Story: “God is Our Creator” (Creation) *Assistant: Adam Ekstedt*
 - **Kindergarten - Grade 2 (Third Floor Chapel)** This week’s story: “Loving Promise” (Genesis 12:1-4a) *Teacher: Meleah Berkowitz and Sara Eldridge*
 - **Grades 3-5 (Third Floor Classroom)** This week’s story: “God Calls Abram” (Genesis 12:1-4a) *Teacher: Aaron Berkowitz*
 - **Pre Confirmation Sunday School (Conference Room)** Youth in Grades 6-7 will gather in the conference room for their next Old Testament lesson. *Teachers: Meridith Bryans and Cara Barnett*
- **11:15 a.m. – Noon**
 - **Confirmation (Conference Room)** Students will gather in the Conference Room for their next lesson. *Teachers: Aaron Berkowitz and Mary Ray*
 - **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. 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.

ADULT EDUCATION FORUM ON MARCH 1: The Adult Education Forum on March 1 will be on Law and Faith. This class will explore the historic impact the church has had on American Law. Led by Jack Sherrick, J.D.

ELDER AND DEACON NOMINATIONS - FILLING UNEXPIRED TERMS Due to personal life circumstances, two elders and one deacon have stepped down from their roles. The nominating team is currently working to nominate 2 elders (class of 2026 and 2028) and 1 deacon (class of 2027) for unexpired terms. There is a particular need for elders to help lead adult formation and stewardship. If you would like to nominate yourself or another church member, please contact elder, Julie Robbs (julie.robbs10@gmail.com), with the name of the person you wish to nominate, their involvement in the church, any pertinent background on their interest or background, and whether you would like to nominate them as an elder or deacon. Please submit any nominations by **March 15**.

WPC SAFETY TEAM will be holding a zoom training on **Wednesday March 4, 11 a.m.** If you are interested in learning more about the Safety Team, please reach out to John Stafford at johnstafford58@gmail.com .

RUTH AND NAOMI CIRCLE meets on **Wednesday, March 4, 7:00 p.m.** at the home of Sarah Zerfas (2701 Kipling Dr, 62711). Julie Robbs will lead the discussion of Chapter 7 in *Becoming Spiritually Intelligent* by Paul M. Burns. RSVP directly to Sarah at 217-553-2846.

DUNGEONS & DRAGONS A group of intrepid adventurers have been meeting with Dungeon Master Aaron Berkowitz on the **1st and 3rd Wednesday (March 4th and 18th) at 6:30 p.m.** in the Ziegler Library to explore the 1st century AD ancient Near East. The party has recently acquired a ship and is sailing through the Arabian Gulf on their way to ancient Egypt. New players definitely welcome! If you are interested in joining in, contact Aaron at berkowitz@wpcspi.org.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S LUNCHEON The Presbyterian Women will meet for fellowship and lunch on **Friday, March 6 at 12:00 noon**. Our program will be given by Becky Martin, who will speak on the Hunger and Homelessness in the Heartland. Please RSVP on the church website or by calling the church office.

ADULT EDUCATION FORUM ON MARCH 8: The Adult Education Forum on **March 8** will be on Women and the Law. Using the scholarship of the book, "Equal: Women Reshape American Law." This class will learn more about the history of women who sought legal degrees Led by Rachel Hickman J.D.

SENIOR HIGH YOUTH meet **Sunday, March 8** in Parish Hall for a deeper study on *Why Do We Worship* and prepare for Youth Sunday, April 26. The meal to be provided by Meridith and Jim Bryans.

ELIZABETH CIRCLE meets on **Monday, March 9, at 1:00 p.m.** in the Second Floor Classroom. Mary Peura will lead Lesson 7 in *Finding Resilience, Joy and Our Identity in Jesus Christ* by The Rev. Dr. Rhshell D. Hunter.

LYDIA CIRCLE meets on **Tuesday, March 17 at 9:30 a.m.** in the Ziegler Library. Sharon Turner will lead Lesson 6 in *Finding Resilience, Joy and Our Identity in Jesus Christ* by The Rev. Dr. Rhshell D. Hunter.

PRESBYTERIAN MEN'S BREAKFAST will meet on **Thursday, March 12 at 8:00 a.m.** in Parish Hall. Anthony Salvo, retired from CWLP, will speak about the CWLP Power Plant. Please RSVP on our website or by contacting the church office.

TRIVIA NIGHT MISSION TRIP FUNDRAISER – Sunday, April 12 5:00 p.m. Each year, members support our youth mission trip at the Trivia Night Mission Trip Fundraiser. Sign-up yourself or your team online. Childcare will be available in the nursery. Gather your friends and join us for a fun, competitive evening supporting our mission-minded youth.

- Doors open at 5:00 p.m. Dinner is available for \$5.00 and prepared by Pat Hymans and her kitchen team. Participants are also welcome to bring snacks and non-alcoholic drinks.
- Questions begin at 5:30 p.m. Once again, we welcome Aaron Berkowitz and Mark Luttrell who will create and present the questions.
- Tickets are \$20.00 and can be purchased on our website or on the night.
- Round Sponsorship is \$100 - You or your business can sponsor a round and will be featured on the screen between rounds. This does not include the cost of individual tickets. Contact Jennie Alt (jalt@wpcspi.org).

LENTEN GIVING OPPORTUNITIES



One Great Hour of Sharing The One Great Hour of Sharing special offering invests in the PC(USA) Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and the Self-Development of People ministry. Received during the season of Lent, this Offering helps to improve the lives of people in challenging situations. You may donate by check, noting "One Great Hour of Sharing." To give online, view the QR code in this bulletin with your phone camera. Once you accept the web location, choose One Great Hour of Sharing from the dropdown list of funds. **Collected to date: \$2,160. Last year: \$3,775.**

Lenten Coat Drive The 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. **We have received 46 coats so far.**

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 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. To download the entire set, scan the QR code below.



THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

Monday, March 2nd

12:00 PM KDO-Willing Circle
4:00 PM Symphony Guild (2nd Floor Classroom)

Tuesday, March 3rd

9:00 AM Staff Meeting (2nd Floor Classroom)
1:00 PM Knit 2 Purl 4 (2nd Floor Classroom)
3:00 PM COMPASS for Kids
7:30 PM St. Andrews Sisters (Off Site)

Wednesday, March 4th

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)
11:00 AM Safety Team Training (Zoom Conference Call)
3:30 PM DBSA Group (3rd Floor Classroom)
4:00 PM Bridges (Tower Classroom)
4:00 PM Property Meeting (2nd Floor Classroom)
5:00 PM Children's Choir (Music Room)
5:15 PM Family Ministry (Conference Room)
5:30 PM Mission & Community Service Committee
(2nd Floor Classroom)
6:30 PM D & D Group (Library)
7:00 PM Capital Big Band Rehearsal (Parish Hall)
7:00 PM Ruth & Naomi Circle (Off Site)

Thursday, March 5th

1:30 PM Memory Loss Graduate Group Meetings
(2nd Floor Classroom)
5:45 PM Thursday Night Bible Study (2nd Floor
Classroom)
7:00 PM Choir (Music Room)

Friday, March 6th

11:00 AM PW Board Meeting (Conference Room)
12:00 PM PW Luncheon (Parish Hall)

Saturday, March 7th

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

Sunday, March 8th

10:00 AM Worship Service- Communion (Sanctuary)
10:15 AM Sunday School (Pre-K- Grade 5)
(3rd Floor Chapel and Classroom)
11:15 AM Adult Ed Forum (Parish Hall)
5:00 PM Sr. High Youth Group (Youth Room)

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

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