



WESTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
PALM SUNDAY

29 March 2026 + 10:00 a.m.

Welcome and Announcements

Voluntary

Fanfare

C.S. Lang

***Ringing of the Bell**

The congregation rises at the ringing of the Tower Bell.

***Call to Worship**

Leader:

Awake to the day of triumph for our Savior!

People:

Give thanks for this day that leads to the cross!

Leader:

Come with your coats, branches, hosannas, and songs!

People:

Fill the air with welcome to the Lord!

Leader:

Blessed is Jesus Christ who did not turn backward.

All:

Hosanna! All glory, laud, and honor to the One who comes in God's name!

***Lenten Candle Service**

We begin Holy Week with our children and youth processing and waving palm leaves to commemorate the triumphant entry of Christ. As we extinguish the sixth Lenten candle, we remember Christ's confident humility and courage on his long walk home to the cross. **Let us pray:**

Holy and loving God, give each of us the courage to journey with confidence and the grace to be generous with one another along the way. May we follow the path of our Savior with integrity and may our lives shout with glory, laud, and honor to our Redeemer. Amen.

***Processional Hymn 196**

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

Valet Will Ich Dir Geben

Anthems

Sandals
God of Great and God of Small
Jesus is the Rock

The Westminster Children's Choir

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. (repeat twice)

Children in Pre-K through Grade 5 go to Sunday School class following the Congregational Response. Youth in Grades 6-7 will go to Confirmation Prep class.

Scripture Reading

Matthew 21:1-11

Pew Bible, NT page 23

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

The Way to Jerusalem

Rev. Dr. Anne C.S. Marshall

Anthem

Processional to Calvary

Sir John Stainer

Fling wide the gates! For the savior waits to tread
in his royal way; He has come from above, in his
power and love to die on his passion day.
His cross is the sign of a love divine, his crown
is the thorn-wreath of woe. He bears his load on
the sorrowful road and bends beneath the burden low.

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

Carol of the Hill

Stephen Paulus

On my ground with a crown of thorn, he died for us who
for us he was born. The tree that flowered is cold and bare;
No songs, no singing anywhere: O Bethlehem, Ah Jerusalem.

Second Adam Son of Man, into my earth your life's blood ran,
Now from this earth new trees will grow with fruits, with
flowers I swear it so. O Bethlehem, Ah Jerusalem.

For you I shall wear a crown of trees, and birds will sing from
among their leaves, O Bethlehem, Ah Jerusalem.

*Offertory Response

Doxology

Hymnal, 606

*One Great Hour of Sharing Dedication

Pastor: O God, you have called us through One Great Hour of
Sharing to go into all the world to proclaim the good news.

People: **Send us forth, O God, with your mercy and kindness.**

Pastor: May the branch extended in these gifts lead to great feasting
for those who have no banquets set before them.

People: **Send us forth, O God, with your truth and steadfast love.**

Pastor: May the branch extended in these gifts build shelters and
places of prayer for those who are homeless.

People: **Send us forth, O God, with your integrity.**

Pastor: May the branch extended in these gifts proclaim your desire
that all your creation live in peace.

People: **Give us grateful hearts, O God.**

***Hymn 197** Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

Ellacombe

***Charge and Benediction**

***Closing Response** Forth in Thy Name

Orlando Gibbons

***Voluntary** Postlude in D

George Dyson

(*) The congregation is invited to stand.

HOLY WEEK

THE PASSION OF CHRIST ART DISPLAY March 29 – April 5 in Parish Hall

Artwork depicting the Passion of Christ will be displayed in Parish Hall. Through the eyes of renowned artists, we will witness Christ's entry into Jerusalem and the events of Holy Week leading to His crucifixion and resurrection. Westminster's Labyrinth will be displayed in Parish Hall during Holy Week for those who would like to practice this discipline of prayer.

MAUNDY THURSDAY COMMUNION SERVICE, APRIL 2

7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

The Reverend Anne C.S. Marshall will preach, and the Westminster Choir will sing *Cross Cry, He Never Said a Mumbalin' Word, and Miserere Mei*. The service will include the solemn stripping of the Chancel accompanied by the *Adagio for Strings* of Samuel Barber and the seven last words of Christ.

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 5

10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary

The Reverend Dr. Anne C.S. Marshall will preach, and the Westminster Choir will be joined by members of the Millikin Brass in Handel's *Hallelujah Chorus*, *Easter Rejoicing* of Jonathan Willcocks, and other festive music for Easter Day. The Chancel will be filled with the cross of lilies, a cherished tradition at Westminster.

Easter Egg Hunt in Parish Hall follows 10:00 a.m. Worship.

IN MEMORIAM

Marleen “Kay” King
08/09/1945 – 03/15/2026
United with Westminster on 04/15/1987

SUNDAY AT WESTMINSTER

- **Sunday Liturgist:** Rev. Sarah A. Bishop
- **Call to Worship and Lenten Candle Service:** Kathy Bacon, Steve Wright, Paislee and Chandler Reich
- **Greeter:** Camille Proud
- **Acolytes:** Harper and Reese Huston
- **Fish Basket Carriers:** August and Roscoe Ekstedt
- **Ushers:** Greg Boutelle (Head Usher), Claudia Nash, Todd Lafrenz, Cathy Yokely, Randy Wiseman, Bernie Wiseman, Cameron Hudgins
- **Music:** The Westminster Choir, The Westminster Children’s Choir, Dale Rogers, Organist
- **Safety Team:** John Stafford
- **Videography and Sound:** Julie McDonough, Bill Deemer

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. This week’s story: “Families Protect Each Other” (Baby Moses) Caregiver: Meleah Berkowitz
- **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 will go to Confirmation Prep class following the Congregational Response.
 - **Preschool - Ages 3-5 (Preschool Classroom lower level)** Story: “We Remember Jesus” (The Easter Story) Teachers: Cathy Brower, Sara Eldridge
 - **Kindergarten - Grade 2 (Third Floor Chapel)** This week’s story: “Holy Week” (Matthew 21:1-11 and 26:14-27:66) Teacher: Meleah Berkowitz
 - **Grades 3-5 (Third Floor Classroom)** This week’s story: “Journey’s End” (Matthew 21:1-11 and 26:14-27:66) Teacher: Aaron Berkowitz, Julie Robbs
 - **Confirmation Prep Sunday School (Conference Room)** Youth in Grades 6-7 will gather in the conference room for their next Old Testament lesson. *Teachers: Mary Ray and Joe Fierstos*
- **11:15 a.m. – 12 noon** **Adult Ed Forum (Parish Hall)** An exploration and discussion of the forgotten and blurred Biblical history of Mary Magdalene and recent scholarship to reset her place as The Tower, a faithful follower of Christ. Led by Dr. Richard Leary
- **5:00 – 6:30 p.m.** **Senior High Youth Group** - Senior High Youth Group will have their next gathering in the Youth Room and Parish Hall. Thank you to Cara and Chris Barnett for providing dinner.

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.

PALM SUNDAY IS THE CULMINATION OF THE ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING OFFERING! Our children and youth lead us in the Palm Sunday Procession during 10:00 a.m. worship and present their fish boxes. These gifts support hunger programs and disaster assistance administered by the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Envelopes are in the pew pockets. The center pews are lined with some of the 83 coats donated for Contact Ministries.

THE EASTER MUSIC AND DECORATIONS FUND welcome donations of \$25 each. For both giving opportunities, a list of donors and those whom they are remembering are printed in the Easter bulletin. Make checks to WPC with the appropriate designations or pay online using the church website. The deadline for the bulletin wording is tomorrow, **Monday, March 30**.

LIBRARY GUILD is working on processing and cataloging the books in both libraries. They are in the process of reshelving the books in the Ziegler Adult Library to get them back in the Dewey Decimal order. The library cart, located by the elevator, has been refreshed with new books for all ages.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN PW are looking for two Co-Moderators and Mission Coordinator. Tier One Co-Moderator (Communications) will prepare PW Yearbook with Jennie Alt, write PW Yearly Report and communicate with tier 1 board members. Tier Two Co-Moderator (Programs) will plan programs for three luncheons, present devotion/prayer at luncheons and introduce speakers, and coordinate with tier 2 board members. Contact Eleanor VanDeventer at ehuitt@yahoo.com.

PRESCHOOL FUNDRAISER Westminster Cooperative Preschool is planning a delicious fundraiser at Portillo's! Come by on **March 31, between 5 and 8pm**, let them know you are there for WCP, and 20% of the proceeds from your meal will be donated directly to WCP. Invite a friend, and don't forget to try the famous Chocolate Cake Shake! You can also order online using the code PORTILLOS66.

PRESBYTERIAN MEN'S BREAKFAST will meet on **Thursday, April 9 at 8:00 a.m.** in Parish Hall. Tim Kluge will speak about Fred Harvey – Food and Lodging in the Early American West. He is credited for creating the very first restaurant chain in the U.S. Please RSVP on our website or by contacting the church office.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S LUNCHEON The Presbyterian Women will meet for fellowship and lunch on **Friday, April 10 at 12:00 noon** in Parish Hall. Our program will be given by Dale Rogers as he shares the Windows and Wonders of Westminster. The luncheon is \$5.00. Please RSVP on the website or with Jennie Alt in the church office.

ADULT EDUCATION FORUM THE SPIRITUALITY OF GARDENING – **April 12 and 19** Join the conversation exploring how gardening becomes a form of worship, meditation, and a pathway to understanding life cycles. Led by Dr. Katie Carlson-Eastvold and guests.

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.

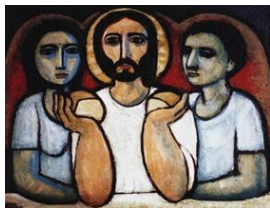
- Tickets are \$20.00 and can be purchased on our website or on the night.
- Round Sponsorship is \$100 - You or your business can sponsor a round and will be featured on the screen between rounds. This does not include the cost of individual tickets. Contact Jennie Alt (jalt@wpcspi.org).

ELIZABETH CIRCLE meets on **Monday, April 13 at 1:00 p.m.** in the Second Floor Classroom. Sue Sawers will lead Lesson 9 in *Finding Resilience, Joy and Our Identity in Jesus Christ* by The Rev. Dr. Rhashell D. Hunter.

DINNER CELEBRATING OUR CONFIRMANDS will be held **Wednesday, April 15 at 7:15 p.m.** in Parish Hall, **following the 6:15 p.m.** presentation to Session. Thank you to Pat Hymans for providing the celebratory meal.

LYDIA CIRCLE meets on **Tuesday, April 21 at 9:30 a.m.** in the Ziegler Library. Lesson 7 in *Finding Resilience, Joy and Our Identity in Jesus Christ* by The Rev. Dr. Rhashell D. Hunter will be discussed.

JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP Junior High Youth Group will have their next gathering **Wednesday, April 22 at 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.** in the Youth Room and Parish Hall. Thank you to Kelly Robertson for providing dinner.



YOUTH SUNDAY On **Sunday, April 26**, our youth will lead worship at the **10:00 a.m.** service. This year's theme is Remember God's Plan based on Luke 24:13-35. Our Senior High youth have spent the past month studying the theme's scripture, talking about the importance of worship and plan the liturgy as well as choosing the hymns.

Junior and Senior High youth will serve as liturgists and present special music. And up to three youth will be our message speakers as they reflect on the text and theme. Thank you to all our youth who helped create this meaningful Sunday of worship. Rev. Sarah will be providing them a meal at **5:00 – 6:30 p.m.** that evening in Parish Hall to celebrate a job well done on Youth Sunday.

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY will be on **May 3**. The Class of 2026 will be recognized and commissioned during the 10:00 a.m. worship service. This is a time of celebration and a milestone on the faith journeys of our youth: **Lucy Elisabeth Bassett, Harper Ryann Huston, Reese Anne Huston, Lily Grace Swanson**. Each youth will receive a Common English Bible which is a gift from Westminster. The Congregational Fellowship Committee of the Board of Deacons will host a reception honoring the Confirmands following worship. *Thank you to those who served as mentors to our confirmands: Melanie Green, Christy Pound, Dee Dee Duffy and Katie Carlson-Eastvold.*

THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

Monday, March 30

2:00 PM Roy Wehrle (Conference Room)

Tuesday, March 31

10:30 AM Staff Meeting (2nd Floor Classroom)
1:00 PM Knit 2 Purl 4 (2nd Floor Classroom)
7:30 PM St. Andrews Sisters rehearsal (Off-site)

Wednesday, April 1

10:00 AM Pastors Pray in Chancel (Chancel)
10:30 AM Worship Planning (Pastor's Study)
12:30 PM Reporter (2nd Floor Classroom)
3:30 PM DBSA Group (3rd Floor Classroom)
4:00 PM Bridges (Tower Classroom)
5:00 PM Children's Choir (Music Room)
5:15 PM Family Ministry (Conference Room)
6:30 PM D & D Group (Library)

Thursday, April 2

1:30 PM Memory Loss Graduate Meeting
(2nd Floor Classroom)
4:00 PM WPC Pastor at IL Presbyterian Home (Off-site)
6:20 PM Choir Practice Before and After Service
7:00 PM Maundy Thursday Service (Sanctuary)

Friday, April 3

WPC No School Easter Break

12-5 PM Church Office Closed at Noon

Saturday, April 4

9:30 AM Clean the Chancel & Sanctuary and Arrange
Lilies (Sanctuary)

Sunday, April 5

Easter Sunday

10:00 AM Worship Service (Sanctuary)
10:15 AM Sunday School PreK-5 (Chapel)
11:00 AM Easter Egg Hunt (Parish Hall/Church Lawn)

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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