



WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

EASTER SUNDAY

5 April 2026

10:00 a.m.

Welcome

Voluntary

Entrata Festiva

Flor Peeters

***Ringing of the Bell**

The congregation rises at the ringing of the Tower Bell.

***Call to Worship**

Leader: Christ is risen!

People: **Christ is risen indeed!**

Leader: This is the day that the Lord has made;

People: **Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

Leader: Let us worship our Risen God.

***Processional Hymn 232**

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

Easter Hymn

***Prayer of Confession**

Loving God, we confess that at times we do not share in the joy of the resurrection but are caught in the worries of the world. We confess that we do not always live in the spirit of new life but remain discontent, grumbling, and anxious. Forgive us for not sharing in the Good News. Forgive us when we find it more comfortable to worry and complain than to risk the joy and encouragement of new life in Christ. Call us back to Your ways, O God, to seek hope and reconciliation, restoration and peace. In the name of the Risen Christ, we pray. Amen

***Sung Response**

Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us

Hymnal, Back Page

***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 Page

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be world without end. Amen.

Children's Sermon

Congregational Response

Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name. *(Repeat twice)*

Children in Preschool – Grade 5 go to Sunday school following the children's sermon and will meet their parents in Parish Hall following worship for the Easter Egg Hunt.

First Scripture Reading

John 20:1-10

Pew Bible, NT page 114

Second Scripture Reading

John 20:11-18

Pew Bible, NT page 115

Leader: The Word of the Lord
People: **Thanks be to God**

Sermon

While It Was Dark

Rev. Dr. Anne C.S. Marshall

Anthem

Christ the Lord is Risen Again

Philip W. J. Stopford

Christ the Lord is risen again, Christ hath broken every chain.
Hark, angelic voice cry, singing evermore on high, Alleluia!

He who gave for us his life, who for us endured the strife,
is our Paschal Lamb today; we too sing for joy and say Alleluia!

He who bore all pain and loss comfortless upon the cross,
lives in glory now on high, pleads for us, and hears our cry.

He who slumbered in the grave is exalted now to save;
now through Christendom it rings that the Lamb is King of kings.

Thou, our Paschal Lamb indeed, Christ, thy ransomed people feed;
take our sins and guilt away: let us sing by night and day:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

The Church at Prayer

Leader: The Lord be with you.
People: **And with your spirit.**
Leader: Let us pray.

**Prayers of the People
and the Lord's Prayer**

Hymnal, page 35

***Hymn 248**

Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!

Hymn to Joy

**The Presentation
and Dedication of Our Gifts**

Offertory

Concerto for Two Trumpets

Antonio Vivaldi

*At this time, worshippers are invited to sign and pass the
Ministry of Friendship folders on the center aisle pew racks.*

***Offertory Response**

Doxology

Hymnal, 606

***Affirmation of Faith**

1 Corinthians 15

**This is the good news which we have received,
in which we stand, and by which we are saved,
if we hold fast: that Christ died for our sins
according to the scriptures, that he was buried,
that he was raised on the third day,
and that he appeared to the women,
then to Peter, and to the Twelve,
and then to many faithful witnesses.
We believe that Jesus is the Christ,
the son of the living God.
Jesus Christ is the first and the last,
the beginning and the end;
our Lord and our God. Amen.**

***Anthem**

Hallelujah

G. F. Handel

Hallelujah! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth.
The kingdom of this world is become the Kingdom
of our Lord and of His Christ;
and He shall reign for ever and ever.
King of Kings and Lord of Lords. Hallelujah!

Words: Revelation 11 and 19

*Charge and Benediction

***Ringing of the Bell** *The congregation remains standing for the ringing of Tower Bell.*

***Voluntary** Symphony V: Toccata C. M. Widor
(*) Stand, as you are able.

SERVING THIS SUNDAY AT WESTMINSTER

- **Liturgists:** The Rev. Sarah A. Bishop
- **Greeters:** Debbie and Tara Fritsch
- **Bible and Cross Bearers:** James Maeda and Juliet Boutelle
- **Butterfly Bearer:** Lily Swanson
- **Ushers:** Dorothy Hutchinson-Gross (Head Usher), Greg Boutelle, Deb Fritsch, Brad Steller, Maud Essel Addo-Yobo, John Addo-Yobo, Lisa Metzger, Mack Metzger
- **Safety Team:** Karl Pound
- **Music:** Dennis Jones and Neal Smith, Trumpets; Tom Little and Greg Augenbaugh, Trombones; The Westminster Choir, and 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. This week's story: "We are Glad Jesus is Alive" (Jesus Dies and Rises) Caregivers: Kara Milward
- **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 stay in worship for Communion
 - **Preschool - Grade 2 (Third Floor Chapel)** This week's story: "Jesus is Alive" (Matthew 18:1-10) Teachers: Meleah Berkowitz
 - **Grades 3-5 (Third Floor Classroom)** This week's story: "He is Not Here" (Luke 18:1-10) Teacher: Aaron Berkowitz
- **11:00 a.m. – 12 noon**
 - **Easter Egg Hunt for children birth through grade 5 (Parish Hall)**

EASTER MUSIC FUND

To the glory of God and in thanks for Dale Rogers, anonymous

In memory of Donna Wolaver by Sandy Bellatti

Carolyn Berning

In honor of Dale Rogers for wrangling the choir and St. Andrew's Sisters
by Bob and Julie Blythe

In loving memory of our nephew James Blythe, whom we miss every day
by Bob, Julie, Brian, and Sarah Blythe

In loving memory of Terry Wells by Julie, Bob, Brian, and Sarah Blythe

In loving memory of Heather Huitt, whom we miss every day,
by Julie, Bob, Brian, and Sarah Blythe

In loving memory of Jennie Davis Moy, dear friend and sister, gone too soon,
by Julie, Bob, Brian, and Sarah Blythe

In honor of Nolan Young by Ellen and Rance Carpenter

In memory of Morris D. Cooper, Sr. by Virginia Cooper and family

In loving memory of Tony Leone by Cathy Cragoe

Leah Duling

In memory of Bill, his mother, and my parents, The Rev. Mr. Fred and Chlora Volzke
by Marci Irvine

In recognition of the dedication of the Westminster staff by Mary Jo and David Jenkins

In gratitude for the Holy Spirit, alive in our hearts by Judy and Todd Knox

In honor and with gratitude for Dale Rogers by Meg and Jim Kontio

In remembrance of my parents, Mary and Bill McCarty by Marilyn Kushak

In memory of our siblings by Mary and Robert Leffler

In memory of my brother, Joe Volk, by Joyce Matthews

In honor of Dale Thomas Rogers and the Westminster Choir by Bill Post

In memory of our loved ones by the Robbs family

In memory of Wesley C. Harrod by Pat Roller

For the glory of music and in honor of Dale Rogers by Eleanor and Lyle VanDeventer

EASTER DECORATION FUND

In memory of loved ones by Norma Adams-Johnson

In memory of Robert Bellatti by Sandy Bellatti

In loving memory of Fred and Betty Blythe by Bob, Julie, Brian, and Sarah Blythe

In loving memory of Ken and Lois Davis and Kathy Stittsworth by Julie and Bob Blythe

In loving memory of Aunt Viola by Julie Blythe

In loving memory of Scott Hoff by Linda and Michael Brady

In memory of our grandparents by Meridith and James Bryans

In honor of Riley Young by Ellen and Rance Carpenter

In memory of Cathryn Gordon Huff by Virginia Cooper and family

In loving memory of Louise and Arthur Cragoe by Cathy Cragoe

In memory of Erin Elzea and her loving grandparents by Chris and Butch Elzea

In loving memory of our mothers by Doris and Mal Hildebrand

In memory of family and friends by Mary Jo and David Jenkins

In memory of my mother, Lois Volk, by Joyce Matthews

In memory of Rev. Frank Gready by Mary Caroline Mitchell

In memory of my parents, Herbert and Jane Stebbins by Pat Roller

In loving memory of Heather Huitt, Roy, Marilyn, and Dave Tungett,
and Dan VanDeventer from the Manning, Tungett, and VanDeventer families

In memory of my friend, Sue Dinges by Carol Volle

EASTER MUSIC AND DECORATION FUND

In memory of Kathleen Nenaber by M. Brownell Anderson

In honor of Kathy Kenyon by Linda Andrews and Claudia Nash

In loving memory of my two brothers, Joe and Chris Sutton,
who are always with me by Kathy Bacon

In memory of Christopher Caupert by Linda and Ed Caupert
Marilyn Cohen

In memory of David Gaines Coontz and David Matthew Coontz by Deb and Drew Coontz

In honor of our parents by Carol and Dick Cordier

In memory of my husband, Kevin J. Cox by Linda Cox

In loving memory of my parents, The Rev. Dr. William M. and Ruth E. Cross by John Cross

In honor of loved ones by Sue Cull

Bill Deemer

Peg and Lou DiFonso

In loving memory of our parents, Carolyn Dungan,
and our beautiful friend, Diane Rutledge by Kathy and Randy Germeraad

In loving memory of Gerry Hale by Harold Hale and the Pound family

In memory of Wally Henderson by his wife Brynn Henderson

In memory of JoAnn Wehrle and Walter and Luanna Hinesley
by Vonnie Hinesley and Roy Wehrle

Scott Hoff, always in my heart and dearly missed by his mother, Elaine Hoff

In honor of Kathy Kenyon by Georgina Hudspeth

Pat and Al Hymans

In memory of Frank and Sara Jenkins, and Al, Mary, and James Mattern
by Mary Jo and David Jenkins

Mary and Charlie King

In memory of our parents by Priscilla and Tim Kluge

Eleanor and Richard Leary

In memory of William L. Meriwether, Lyman and Glenna Meriwether, Nellie and Charley Bale,
and Mary Alice and George Bale by Kathryn Meriwether

Mary and Morley Peura

In loving memory Glen Pittman by his family

In memory of family members by Marilyn and Jim Rigney

In loving memory of Rosella and Harold Rogers by Dale Rogers

In memory of our parents and siblings by Linda and Bill Schlosser

In memory of our parents by Nancy and Lon Scott

Susan and Michael Shaw

With loving and grateful memories of Diane Rutledge by Kay and Jerry Smith

In honor of our parents by Krista and Brad Steller

In loving memory of our family members by Judy and Harvey Stephens

Bruce Strom

Carolyn and Brad Swanson

In memory of our grandparents by Megan and Greg Swanson

In honor of Katie Carlson-Eastvold by Lily Swanson

Jeanne and Peter Van Gieson

Charles Wilkin

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.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING A brief congregational meeting will be held on **April 12th at the end of the worship service** for the purpose of nominating Elders Christy Pound to fulfill an unexpired term for the class of 2026, Cathy Brower for an unexpired term for the class of 2028, and Willow Stallings as Deacon for an unexpired term for the class of 2027.

LENTEN COAT DRIVE – Thank you to all who donated to our Lenten Coat Drive. We received **99 coats** which lined the center aisle on Palm Sunday. They were given to Contact Ministries.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING OFFERING Thank you to all who contributed to our denominational offering which was dedicated on Palm Sunday, March 29. We received **\$26.18** from our children and **\$4,820** from the congregation for a total of **\$4,846.18**.

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 **NEXT SUNDAY NIGHT**.

- Tickets are \$20.00 and can be purchased on our website or on the night. Trivia begins at 5:30 p.m.
- 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).

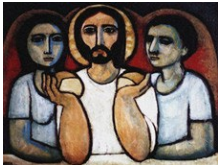


STEADFAST NEIGHBOR SERVICE WEEK: JUNE 22-26 Mark your calendars for our 7th annual neighborhood outreach, taking place from **June 22-26**. We invite members and friends to join us for one or more days as we serve our neighbors through helping them with projects to improve their properties. There are a variety of ways you can help, even if you are not able to do heavy lifting or be out in the heat. Stay posted for sign-ups which will be shared in our e-news and on our website later in April. Local homeowners have been invited to participate in our annual service week and/or apply for a matching grant up to \$1,500 toward simple property improvements, especially addressing certain needs such as safety, security, and energy efficiency upgrades. These applications will be reviewed by the Steadfast Neighbor Mission Outreach Team before participating in site visits in May. Serving on this team are: Dr. Todd Knox, Chair, Keith Hamilton, Tim Kluge, Bob Leffler, Tom Owen, Julie Robbs, and Pete Van Gieson.



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.

SPRINGFIELD EARTH AWARENESS FAIR IS Saturday, April 25, 11:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m. The Earth Care Team will host a table again this year at the Union Square Park (500 E. Madison St.) by Union Station. Westminster has been recertified for the eleventh year by the Presbyterian Church (USA) as an Earth Care Congregation. The Earth Care Team consists of Keith Hamilton and Susan Shaw, Co-Chairs, Charlie King, Dr. Todd Lafrenz, Lynn McMenamin, Maribeth Norton, Andy Sherrick, Jack Sherrick and Brad Steller



YOUTH SUNDAY is April 26. Come out to support our youth who will lead worship at the **10:00 a.m.** service. This year's theme is **Remember God's Plan** based on Luke 24:13-25. Seniors Ben Bassett and Liam Kiszely will present reflections on the text. Junior and Senior High youth will serve as liturgists and present special music.

ADULT EDUCATION FORUM THE SPIRITUALITY OF GARDENING – April 12 and 19 on April 12 Briley Tuttle joins us from Rooted in Springfield, a nonprofit inspired by the vision of Emma Shafer, a Westminster confirmand who passed away in 2023 at the age of 24. Rooted works to address inequitable food access on Springfield's East Side by bridging the physical and financial gap between where food is grown and where it is consumed. Briley will share Rooted's mission through the lens of her background in therapeutic horticulture. On April 19, Dr. Scott Day will present on plants referenced in the Bible and their medicinal and culinary uses. Led by Dr. Katie Carlson-Eastvold and guests. This forum meets at 11:15 a.m. in Parish Hall following worship.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN COLLECTING LAYETTE ITEMS during April and May. Place items in the box located in the West Narthex near the elevator. Items for infants under 12 months will be donated to Kumler Outreach Ministries. If you shop online, items may be shipped directly to the church.

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY, 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.*



CHILDREN OF ABRAHAM will meet on **Wednesday, May 6, 4:30 p.m.** at Springfield Art Association, (700 N 4th St)). for our last gathering in the 2025-2026 program year. We will be completing our art project on our theme "Strength in Diversity." This interfaith fellowship for children and youth was initiated in the Fall of 2016 and meets quarterly to promote friendship and share in service.

THIRD GRADE BIBLE PRESENTATION will be **Sunday, May 10** during worship. Each third grader will receive a NRSV Spark Bible with an engraved name plate on the cover. Third graders receiving Bibles include: **Juniper Ann Berkowitz, Jami'ona Semjza Capler, and Brice Bradford Knoedler.** The Children's Choir will sing.

FOUNDERS' SUNDAY IS MAY 17! Join us for worship at 10:00 a.m. followed by a light reception in Parish Hall as we celebrate Dale Rogers' 40th Anniversary as Director of Music and the Arts at Westminster. Music has been a rich part of Westminster's heritage and this year as we celebrate Founders' Sunday we will also celebrate the important role Dale has played in nurturing our music ministry and drawing the congregation into a spirit of worship.

BACCALAUREATE SUNDAY, JUNE 7, we recognize graduating high school seniors during the 10:00 a.m. service. A reception in their honor will be held in Parish Hall following worship. All Westminster graduates (high school, college, and graduate school) will be listed in the June 7 bulletin and the June newsletter. Please contact Jennie Alt (jalt@wpcspi.org) with information by Friday, May 29.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL, MONDAY JUNE 8 -FRIDAY JUNE 12 Join us in our community garden, with **Just Like Me VBS.** Registration for children gardeners and adult and youth guides opening soon on our website. Mark your calendar now!

**THE WOMEN OF WESTMINSTER ARE INVITED
TO A GARDEN PARTY
IN PARISH HALL**

SATURDAY, MAY 16 AT 10:00 – 11:30 A.M.

HOSTED BY THE RUTH AND NAOMI CIRCLE

RSVP at wpcspi.org or with jalt@wpcspi.org



THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

Monday, April 6

WCP No School Easter Break

- 9:00 AM Garden Club of Springfield (Parish Hall)
- 4:00 PM Symphony Guild (2nd Floor Classroom)

Tuesday, April 7

- 10:30 AM Staff Meeting (2nd Floor Classroom)
- 12:00 PM KDO – Willing Circle
- 12:00 PM Private Inurnment for Betsy Ruklick (Memorial Garden)
- 1:00 PM Knit 2, Purl 4 (2nd Floor Classroom)
- 7:30 PM St. Andrews Sisters (Off-Site 1)

Wednesday, April 8

- 10:00 AM Pastors Pray in Chancel
- 10:30 AM Worship Planning (Pastor's Study)
- 3:30 PM DBSA (3rd Floor Classroom)
- 4:00 PM Bridges (Tower Classroom)
- 4:45 PM Fiscal Committee (Conference Room)
- 5:00 PM Children's Choir (Music Room)
- 5:30 PM Congregational Care (Library)
- 5:30 PM Congregational Fellowship (Conf. Room)
- 6:00 PM Board of Deacons (2nd Floor Classroom)

Thursday, April 9

- 8:00 AM Men's Breakfast (Parish Hall)
- 2:00 PM Roy Wehrle (Conference Room)
- 4:00 PM WPC Pastor at IL Presb Home (Off-Site 1)
- 5:45 PM Thursday Night Bible Study (2nd Floor Class)
- 7:00 PM Choir (Music Room)

Friday, April 10

- 11:00 AM PW Board Meeting (Conf. Room)
- 12:00 PM PW Luncheon (Parish Hall)
- 1:00 PM Helping Hands Bagged Lunch Prep (Kitchen)

Saturday, April 11

- 11:00 AM UIS Citizenship Class (Parish Hall)

Sunday, April 12

Holy Communion

- 10:00 AM Worship Service (Sanctuary)
- 10:15 AM Sunday School Pre-K to Grade 5 (Chapel)
- 11:00 AM Congregational Meeting to Elect Elders and Deacon (Sanctuary)
- 11:15 AM Adult Ed Forum (Parish Hall)
- 11:15 AM Confirmation (Conference Room)
- 5:00 PM Trivia Night Fundraiser (Parish Hall)

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

Sue Sawers, CRE
Interim Care Coordinator

Dr. Aaron Berkowitz
Education Coordinator

Mary 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, Jerry McCullum**
Part-time Custodians