



WESTMINSTER  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
Confirmation Sunday  
Bible Presentation  
3 May 2026 + 10:00 a.m.

Welcome and Announcements

**Voluntary**

Rondeau

Henry Purcell

**\*Ringing of the Bell**

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

**\*Call to Worship**

Belonging to God: A First Catechism

Leader:

Who are you?

**People:**

**I am a child of God.**

Leader:

What does it mean to be a child of God?

**People:**

**That I belong to God, who loves me.**

Leader:

How do you express gratitude as a child of God?

**People:**

**By worshiping God, by loving others, and by respecting what God has created.**

Leader:

Let us worship God of Sea and Sky.

**\*Processional Hymn 757**

Today We Are Called to Be Disciples

KINGSFOLD

**\*Unison Prayer of Confession**

**O Christ, if we carry the name Christian, we are signs of your presence. Yet we confess that we sometimes hurt people through the misuse of power, rather than empowering others with your life-giving spirit. When we are discouraged ourselves, we are unable to be signs of joy or hope. Give us the courage and grace to move beyond the circumstances of our lives and to live with power and integrity.**

**\*Silent Confession**

*During this silence, worshipers are asked to offer individual prayers of confession.*

**\*Sung Response** Lord Have Mercy 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 Message**

**Congregational Response** Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks Donald Fishel

Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.  
Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name. *(repeat twice)*

*Following the response, children in Pre-Kindergarten–Grade 5  
will go to their Sunday school classes.*

**Prayer for Illumination**

**First Scripture Reading** Matthew 28:16-20 Pew Bible, NT page 34

**Second Scripture Reading** 2 Timothy 1:6-9; 13-14 Pew Bible, NT page 211

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

**Sermon** Spirit-given Identity Rev. Sarah A. Bishop

## **Anthem**

### **The Great Commission**

John Carter

Go! Go! Go and preach the gospel! Go into the world and tell the good news. Tell the world how he came to save. Tell them what his message cost. Tell the world how he came to save every single soul who's lost.

Tell the world what he came to say: "I am Truth and I am Light!" Tell the world what he came to say: "Love the Lord with all your might!" Tell the world how he healed the lame, how he made the blind man see. Tell the world how he healed the lame, how he set the sinners free.

Go! Go! Go into the world and preach the gospel! Go into the world and tell the good news!

## **Service of Confirmation**

### **Class of 2026**

Lucy Elisabeth Bassett  
Harper Ryann Huston  
Reese Anne Huston  
Lily Grace Swanson

### **\*Affirmation of the Congregation**

**We, as a church of Jesus Christ, lovingly receive you to our communion. We welcome you to this fellowship with us, in the blessings of the gospel; and we promise to treat you with Christian affection, to watch over you with tenderness, and to offer our prayers on your behalf.**

### **\*Affirmation of Faith**

**Apostles' 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 thence he shall come to judge the quick & 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 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 of Our Gifts

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

### Offertory

Sicilienne

Maria Theresia von Paradis

### \*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

**Loving God, we rejoice that our lives are already  
consecrated by you. Inspired by the knowledge of your  
love, giving thanks for the gifts you offer us each day, we  
pray that these offerings and our lives may further your  
kingdom on earth. Amen**

### \*Hymn 295

Go to the World!

SINE NOMINE

### \*Charge and Benediction

### \*Closing Response

Day by Day

Harold Friedell

Day by day, dear Lord of thee three things I pray:  
To see thee more clearly, love you more dearly,  
Follow thee more nearly day by day.

**\*Voluntary** Grand Choeur

Alexandre Guilmant

(\*) The congregation is invited to stand

THOSE WHO WOULD LIKE TO DONATE TO WESTMINSTER MINISTRIES  
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Westminster Presbyterian Church

533 S. Walnut St. Springfield, Illinois 62704

Phone (217) 522-4415 <http://www.wpcspi.org>

## SERVING THIS SUNDAY AT WESTMINSTER

- **Flowers** in the chancel are given in honor of Confirmation Sunday and our Confirmands.
- **Sunday Liturgist:** Rev. Dr. Anne C.S. Marshall
- **Acolytes:** August Ekstedt and Nathan Affrunti
- **Greeters:** Brad and Carolyn Swanson
- **Ushers:** Joyce King (Head Usher), Kyle Duffy, Linda Caupert, Ben Arnold, Michella Arnold, Chelsea Ekstedt, Andrew Affrunti, Pete Sherman
- **Safety Team:** Alan Schuermann
- **Music** The Westminster Choir, 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 following the Congregational Response.
  - **Preschool – Grade 2 (Third Floor Chapel)** *Teachers: Meleah Berkowitz and Julie Robbs*
  - **Grade 3 – Grade 5 (Third Floor Tower Room)** *Teacher: Aaron Berkowitz*
- **11:15 a.m. – Reception celebrating our Confirmands in Parish Hall.** Following worship, the congregation is invited to a reception in honor of the Confirmation Class hosted by the Congregational Fellowship Committee of the Board of Deacons.

## 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.

**PRESCHOOL FUNDRAISER** Westminster Cooperative Preschool is hosting a Krispy Kreme digital dozens donut fundraiser **now through May 16**. Each dozen donuts sold at \$15 per order through our link will give back half the price to the preschool. Scan the QR code to donate and support our preschool ministry!

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



**RUTH AND NAOMI CIRCLE** meets on **Wednesday, May 6, 7:00 p.m.** at the home of Linda Folse (2 Virginia Lane, 62712). Julie Robbs will lead the discussion of Chapter 8 in [Becoming Spiritually Intelligent](#) by Paul M. Burns. RSVP directly to Linda at (217)306-3455.

**CHILDREN OF ABRAHAM** will meet on **Wednesday, May 6, 4:30 – 6:00 p.m.** at Springfield Art Association, (700 N 4th St.) for their final 2025-2026 program year gathering. Join us for a fun wrap up of our year, celebrating strength in diversity with our unveiling of the completed art project.

**DUNGEONS & DRAGONS** A group of intrepid adventurers have been meeting with Dungeon Master Aaron Berkowitz on the **1st and 3rd Wednesdays (May 6 and 20) at 6:30 p.m.** in the Ziegler Library to explore the 1st century AD ancient Near East.

**THURSDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY** will meet on **Thursday May 7 from 5:45 to 6:45 p.m.** in the Second Floor Classroom. Their final night is Thursday, May 14 with dinner together at Papa Franks.

**LYDIA CIRCLE SPRING LUNCHEON** May's meeting will be held on **May 8 at 12:00 p.m.** at the Island Bay Yacht Club (76 Yacht Club Dr, 62712). There will be a set menu with a cost of \$16 per person including your meal and drink. They do not accept credit cards, so be sure to bring cash. If you are planning to join, **please RSVP to Carolyn Beatty by May 1** at (217) 341-9558 or [carolyn.beatty@comcast.net](mailto:carolyn.beatty@comcast.net)

**MOTHER'S DAY SUNDAY, May 10**, we will celebrate the women of the church with the Children's Choir singing some special music for the congregation. **Third Grade Bibles Presentation:** We will also present Bibles to our Third Graders.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL MINISTRY** partners and members of the Nursery Guild will meet **Sunday, May 10 at 9:30 a.m.** in Parish Hall to reflect on the year and sign up for the summer. Summer Sunday School starts Sunday, May 24.

**ADULT EDUCATION FORUM** The Adult Education Forum on **May 10**, The Theology of Disability, will explore how traditional Christian thought and attitudes around disability are challenged by viewing disability as an ordinary aspect of life and a source of faith insight. This forum meets at **11:15 a.m.** in Parish Hall following worship. Led by Dr. Aaron Berkowitz.

**ELIZABETH CIRCLE** meets on **Monday, May 11, at 1:00 p.m.** at Papa Franks (4111 Wabash Ave.) for a spring luncheon. Elizabeth Circle will not meet for regular meetings June, July and August. They will resume in September.

**PRESBYTERIAN MEN'S BREAKFAST** Men of WPC and friends will meet on **Thursday, May 14 at 8:00 a.m.** in Parish Hall.

**WOMEN OF WESTMINSTER GARDEN PARTY – On Saturday, May 16**, the Women of Westminster are invited to a garden party that will be held in Parish Hall from **10:00 - 11:30 a.m.** It will be hosted by the Ruth and Naomi Circle. RSVP at [wpcspi.org](http://wpcspi.org) or email Jennie Alt at [jalt@wpcspi.org](mailto:jalt@wpcspi.org).

**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' 40<sup>th</sup> 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** We recognize our graduating high school seniors during the **10:00 a.m.** service on **June 7**. 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](mailto:jalt@wpcspi.org)) with information by Friday, May 29.**

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL – Just Like Me June 8-12 from 9:15 a.m. to noon**, children age 4 to age 11 are invited to a week of digging in and growing deep in our garden. At our Just Like Me garden we will be sharing our gifts with the community of faith, by exploring Bible stories, play, crafts, a delicious snack and music. All our gardeners will know more about the things that make them different are also the things that make them special, especially in the eyes of Christ. Gardners in training (children ages 4 - 11) and Master Gardners (adults and youth ministry partners) can register on the Westminster website.



**STEADFAST NEIGHBOR SERVICE WEEK: JUNE 22-26** We invite you to join us for one or more days during the fourth week of June as we spread goodwill throughout the neighborhood by signing up online.

**Steadfast Neighbor Team Meeting** will be Tuesday, June 16 at **5:30 p.m.** in Parish Hall.



## THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

### Monday, May 4

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

### Tuesday, May 5

- 10:30 AM Staff Meeting (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Classroom)  
12:00 PM KDO – Willing Circle  
1:00 PM Knit 2 Purl 4 (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Classroom)  
3:00 PM COMPASS for Kids  
7:30 PM St. Andrews Sisters (Off-Site 1)

### Wednesday, May 6

- 10:00 AM Pastors Pray in the Chancel (Chancel)  
10:30 AM Worship Planning (Pastor's Study)  
3:30 PM DBSA Group (3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Classroom)  
4:30 PM Children of Abraham (Off-Site 1)  
6:30 PM D & D Group (Library)  
7:00 PM Liturgical Arts Event (Parish Hall)  
7:00 PM Ruth & Naomi Circle (Off-Site 1)

### Thursday, May 7

- 11:00 AM WPC Mother's Day Tea (Parish Hall)  
1:30 PM Memory Loss Graduate Group Meetings (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Classroom)  
2:30 PM WPC Mother's Day Tea (Parish Hall)  
5:45 PM Thursday Night Bible Study (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Class)  
7:00 PM Choir (Music Room)

### Friday, May 8

- 11:00 AM WPC Mother's Day Tea (Parish Hall)  
1:00 PM Helping Hands Bagged Lunch Prep (Kitchen)

### Saturday, May 9

### Sunday, May 10

Holy Communion

Third Grade Bible Presentation

- 10:00 AM Worship Service (Sanctuary)  
10:15 AM Sunday School (Pre-K- Grade 5) (Chapel)  
11:15 AM Adult Ed Forum (Parish Hall)  
12:00 PM Louis Arnold Birthday Party (Nursery)

## 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 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