



WESTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Youth Sunday
Fourth Sunday of Easter
26 April 2026 + 10:00 a.m.

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Anne C.S. Marshall

Ministry Moment

Parish Nurse Ministries

Ellen Carpenter

Voluntary

Amazing Grace

Traditional Anglo-American Tune

***Ringing of the Bell**

The congregation rises at the ringing of the Tower Bell.

***Call to Worship**

Lily Swanson

Leader:

We gather in the presence of our God:

People:

**where grieving people and children with skinned knees
have their tears wiped away.**

Leader:

We gather as the little children of God:

People:

**to worship the One who provides what we need, not
what we want.**

Leader:

We gather around the Table of God:

People:

**to taste the goodness of God, to drink deeply from God's
mercy.**

***Processional Hymn 257**

The Risen Christ

Woodlands

***Unison Prayer of Confession**

Charlotte Affrunti

Hear us, O God, when we cry out to you. Look upon us with your mercy and loving kindness. We seek to turn away from our past and turn our lives toward you. Forgive us when we have failed or denied you. Forgive us when you are right in front of us and we do not see you. Walk with us and lead us where you would have us go. Amen.

***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

Sam Batterman & James Maeda

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

Kate Bryans

First Scripture Reading

Psalm 23

Pew Bible, OT page 501

Second Scripture Reading

Luke 24:13-35

William Affrunti
Pew Bible, NT page 90

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon Remember God's Plan Ben Bassett and Liam Kiszely

Anthem All Things Bright and Beautiful Sir John Rutter
The text for this anthem is 20 in the Glory to God hymnal.

***Affirmation of Faith** Eva Pan

The Christian Church is the congregation of the brethren in which Jesus Christ acts presently as the Lord in Word and Sacrament through the Holy Spirit. As the Church of pardoned sinners, it has to testify in the midst of a sinful world, with its faith as with its obedience, with its message as with its order, that it is solely his property, and that it lives and wants to live solely from his comfort and from his direction in the expectation of his appearance. Amen

The Theological Declaration of Barmen

The Church at Prayer Maria Lafrenz

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And with your spirit.**

People: Let us pray.

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer Hymnal, page 35

The Presentation of Our Gifts Juliana Eastvold

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

Offertory All Good Gifts Stephen Schwartz

We plow the fields and scatter the good seed on the land,
But it is fed and watered by God's almighty hand.
God sends the snow in winter, the warmth to swell the grain,
The breezes and the sunshine and soft refreshing rain.
All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above.
So thank the Lord, O thank the Lord for all his love.

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**

Taryn Barnett

As we offer our treasure and hearts to you, O God, may they be used to pass on the promise of hope, of peace, of life, of community to all in need of your gifts and presence in their lives. Amen.

***Hymn 726**

Will You Come and Follow Me

Kelvingrove

***Charge and Benediction**

Abigail Eldridge

***Voluntary**

Fanfare

William Mathias

(*) 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:** Westminster Junior and Senior High Youth
- **Acolytes:** Lucy Bassett and Caroline Bryans
- **Greeters:** Pat & Al Hymans
- **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:** Peter Van Gieson
- **Music** William Affrunti, Trumpet, The Advent Singers: Harper and Reese Huston, Macklin Metzger, & Lily Swanson, Audra Davison, Cello; Eva Pan, Violin; The St. Andrew's Sisters; Julie Blythe, Amanda Neubauer, & Eleanor VanDeventer; 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: 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.
 - **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. – Noon** Adult Ed Forum (Parish Hall) Mission Study Update and Congregational Roundtable. Join Pastor Anne and members of the Strategic Planning Team as they share insights from the first phase of our Mission Study Process. There will be time for conversation and collecting your questions, feedback, and hopes for the church as we determine next steps for continuing our mission study. Led by Rev. Dr. Anne C.S. Marshall.
- **12:30 – 2:00 p.m.** **Pokémon Club** meet with Aaron Berkowitz in the Children's Library. All children and the young at heart are welcome. No experience necessary and all supplies will be on hand.
- **5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.** **Senior High Youth Group** meets in Parish Hall to celebrate a job well done on Youth Sunday. Thank you to Rev. Sarah for providing the meal.

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.



STEADFAST NEIGHBOR SERVICE WEEK: JUNE 22-26 Mark your calendars for our 7th annual neighborhood outreach, taking place from **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.

Steadfast Neighbor Mission Outreach Task Force: Dr. Todd Knox, Chair, Tim Kluge, Keith Hamilton, Bob Leffler, Tom Owen, Julie Robbs, and Pete VanGieson.

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 during April and 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.



groups.io/j/krispykremeSTDOWC

APOSTLES' READ LIBRARY BOOK GROUP Tuesday, April 28 The Apostles' Read Library Book Group meets **Tuesday, April 28 from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.** in the Ziegler Library to discuss Constantine's Sword: The Church and the Jews – A History by James Carroll. New members are always welcome! Led by Dr. Aaron Berkowitz

THURSDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY will meet on **Thursday April 30 from 5:45 to 6:45 p.m.** in the Second Floor Classroom. Thank you to Eleanor and Lyle VanDeventer as they taught the Thursday Night Bible Study. Their final night is Thursday, May 14 with dinner together at Papa Franks.

THE CONFIRMATION CLASS OF 2026 will be recognized and commissioned **next Sunday, May 3** 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 CEB Student 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 – 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.

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 on joining, **please RSVP to Carolyn Beatty by May 1** at (217) 341-9558 or carolyn.beatty@comcast.net

THIRD GRADERS RECEIVE BIBLES SUNDAY Children in the third grade will receive their personalized Bibles on **Sunday, May 10**, during the **10:00 a.m.** worship service. Each child will receive a NRSV Spark Bible with an engraved name plate on the cover. It is our hope and prayer that these scriptures will become a guiding light for our children.

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.

PRESBYTERIAN MEN'S BREAKFAST Men of WPC and friends will meet on **Thursday, May 14 at 8:00 a.m.** in Parish Hall. Graham Peck is a Wepner Distinguished Professor of Lincoln Studies at UIS. His focus is on antebellum Illinois, which is the period before the civil war, and particularly on the careers of Abraham Lincoln and Stephen A. Douglas. He is a published author, historian, and film maker. Please RSVP on our website or by contacting the church office.

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 or email Jennie Alt at 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' 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 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) 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) and Master Gardners (adults and youth ministry partners) can register on the Westminster website.

THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

Monday, April 27

- 9:30 AM King's Daughter's Board Meeting (3rd Floor Class)
5:30 PM Compass Volunteer Dinner (Parish Hall)

Tuesday, April 28

- 10:30 AM Staff Meeting (2nd Floor Classroom)
1:00 PM Knit 2 Purl 4 (2nd Floor Classroom)
3:00 PM COMPASS for Kids
4:30 PM Support & Endowment Meeting (Conf. Room)
6:00 PM Apostles Read Book Club (Library)
6:00 PM Congregational Care Meeting (Conference Room)
7:30 PM St. Andrews Sisters (Off-Site 1)

Wednesday, April 29

- 10:00 AM Pastors Pray in the Chancel (Chancel)
10:30 AM WCP Rainy Day Spring Fun Fair Location (Parish Hall)
10:30 AM Worship Planning (Pastor's Study)
3:30 PM DBSA Group (3rd Floor Classroom)
4:00 PM Bridges (Tower Classroom)
5:00 PM Children's Choir (Music Room)

Thursday, April 30

- 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, May 1

Saturday, May 2

Sunday, May 3

Confirmation Sunday

- 10:00 AM Worship Service (Sanctuary)
10:15 AM Sunday School (Pre-K- Grade 5) (Chapel)
11:00 AM Confirmation Reception (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 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