



Service of Worship
4th Sunday of Lent
March 26, 2017
9:00 a.m.

PASTORAL STAFF:

Gregory Knox Jones, Head of Staff
Sudie Niesen Thompson, Associate Pastor
Jill Getty, Pastoral Care Assistant

CHURCH EDUCATOR:

Susan Moseley

MUSIC STAFF

Paul Fleckenstein, Organist/Director of Music
Merideth Hite Estevez, Director of Music for Children and Youth
Section Leaders/Soloists: Diana Milburn, Sharon Babcock,
David Price, Travis Lucas

DIRECTOR OF FINANCIAL OPERATIONS

Colleen Falasco

DIRECTOR OF FACILITIES AND SECURITY

Paul Crothamel

Westminster Presbyterian Church extends an enthusiastic welcome, in Christ's name, to all who worship here or join us in fellowship. Our church family seeks to embody God's boundless love by embracing, liberating and empowering people – whoever they are and wherever they may be on their faith journeys – to realize the transforming power of Christ in our congregation, community and the world beyond.

1502 West 13th Street ♦ Wilmington, DE 19806 ♦ 302-654-5214 ♦ www.wpc.org
An Earth Care Congregation of the PC (USA)

This Morning at Westminster

8:30 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. The Holy Toast Café, in Community Hall, offers free coffee, tea, and fellowship. Breakfast items are available for one dollar per item.

Deacon Team of the Month

Amy Bickhart, Lola Miller, Cassandra Piovoso, Judy Stoffer, Lois Underhill, Lowell Underhill

8:45 – 11:15 a.m. Nursery for babies and toddlers

9:00 – 9:55 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary

Children are always welcome in worship. We also provide additional opportunities for children to grow in faith.

- ❖ **Godly Care** – Children ages 2 – 4 begin in worship with their families. Following the Time with Children, they walk with a parent to the **Preschool Suite** where they are greeted by the morning coordinator and escorted into **Classroom A**. The children experience simple worship rituals and learn key stories in the Bible. They respond through crafts, songs and prayers.
- ❖ **Godly Play 1** – Children in Kindergarten through 2nd grade begin worship with their families. Following the Time with Children, they walk with their teachers to the Ruth Christie Room. The children learn the language of God’s people through sacred space, stories, parables and liturgical actions. You may pick up your children in the **Preschool Suite Classroom C**.
- ❖ **Sing-to-Praise Choir Program** – Children in grades 3 through 6 go to the Youth Music Room. Parents, please escort your child for sign-in, just prior to the start of worship, and pick up your child immediately following worship. Children will only be released to a parent or an adult pre-approved by the parent.

10:10 a.m.

Education for All Ages

- | | |
|--|------------------------|
| ➤ Sunday School for Preschoolers | Preschool Suite |
| ➤ Joyful Noise Choir Program for K – 2 | Youth Music Room |
| ➤ Godly Play 2 for Grades 3 – 5 | Classroom 4 (Art Room) |
| ➤ Middle Schoolers for Grades 6 – 8 | Classroom 8 |
| ➤ Confirmation Class for Grades 9 and 10 | Classroom 7 |
| ➤ Sunday Seminars | See page 6 |

11:15 a.m.

Living Mosaics worship in Rodney Chapel. Children are always welcome.

12:00 p.m

Fellowship Time

Meeting Room

Later Today

5:00 pm

180° Youth Dinner and Fellowship

Community Hall/Classroom 6

6:00 p.m.

Clean But Not Straight – NA

Club Room

7:00 p.m.

Parent Support Group for Families with Addiction

Daughtry House Conf. Room

8:00 p.m.

AA

Club Room



Westminster is certified as an “Earth Care Congregation” by the Presbyterian Church (USA). This honor means that we have exhibited exceptional leadership in protecting God’s creation and being good stewards of earth’s resources through our worship, education, outreach and advocacy. Only 2% of the 10,000 Presbyterian Congregations in this country have earned this honored distinction.

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

The flowers in the sanctuary today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Jack and Janet Foster and Sara Jane Evans and Charles Pfleeger by Anne Foster and Chip Pfleeger.

Consider giving the flowers for Sunday worship to remember or honor loved ones or to celebrate an event, while expressing praise and thanksgiving to God. Please contact Linda Watson during business hours at 302-571-6719 or lwatson@ycst.com for available dates. Dates available are April 9, 23, 30 and May 7, 14, 21 and 28.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE AND PRAYER

Please remember in your prayers:

- ❖ Those recently hospitalized: Vern Albright, Fred Carspecken, Bill Marsh and Bonita Piekarski.
- ❖ Westminster's homebound who can no longer attend worship with us, by sending a card, saying a prayer, or visiting. This week we ask you to remember Dottie Gnokos in Linwood, NJ and Freda Tice in Stroudsburg, PA.

Westminster's Covenant Prayer Group prays weekly for specific needs of the faith community. You may submit a prayer request by leaving a confidential message on 302-654-5848, ext. 335, or filling out a prayer request card (in the pew pocket) and placing it in the offering plate.

Afghanistan and Iraq often seems far away, and we may neglect to realize that Americans, as well as Afghans, Iraqis and members of coalition forces continue to die. As Christians, we are called to pray for the spreading of peace and justice and an end to violence. If someone in your family is serving in the military, please let us know, so that we may include that person on our prayer list. Contact Cathy Lang: 302-654-5214 ext. 129, or cathylang@wpc.org.

This week we pray for

- Those known to the WPC Community presently serving in various locations:
Brian Gorman, grandson of Art and Barbara Gorman
Sam Pittman, nephew of Roland and Mary Lu Pamm
- The families of those from the U.S. who have died recently:
Sergeant First Class Robert Boniface, age 34, of San Luis Obispo, California
- Those suffering from Traumatic Stress Disorder, whose scars may be deep and long-lasting.

WORSHIP NOTES

All children who leave the sanctuary after Children's Time must have a completed yellow security label on their back. If you do not find a security label in the pew pocket, you can obtain one in the Preschool Suite. This policy is for your child's protection. Thank you for your help.

Worship Resources – You can obtain large print hymnals and hearing devices from any usher. Worship bags for children ages 3-6 include a children's bulletin designed for them. Children's bulletins for ages 7-12 are also available from the ushers.

Are you wearing a nametag? Whether you are a long-time member or new to our church family, wearing a nametag provides others the opportunity to meet you, greet you by name, and for you to become more familiar with others at church. You will find nametags and markers in baskets at all major entrances.

You can make a contribution to Westminster Presbyterian Church by visiting our website www.wpc.org and click the "Donate Now" button or scan the QR code on your smart phone.



ORDER OF WORSHIP

MUSIC OF THE TOWER BELLS

Craig Checkel

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Eternal God, in our times of gloom, you send your light. When we are weary and discouraged, you lift us up. Open our eyes to the joy of discovery in order that we may catch a glimpse of the possibilities you put before us. Amen.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please sign and pass the friendship folder to the person next to you.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

ORGAN PRELUDE

Chant Pastoral

Théodore Dubois

CALL TO WORSHIP

We gather in this sacred space to worship God
whose teachings are true;
whose wisdom is sure.

We gather to have our hearts stirred and our eyes opened.
Help us to discern God's word for us today.

*HYMN NO. 35

"Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty"

LOBE DEN HERREN

CALL TO CONFESSION

Jesus gave sight to the blind and hearing to the deaf.
But too often we choose neither to see nor hear God's word.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Forgive us our blindness, O Lord.
We are in the presence of holiness,
but we fail to discern it.
We stand in the midst of your dynamic Spirit,
yet we do not perceive it.
We walk on the road of newness,
but we see only the dust and signs of the old.
Open our eyes to your activity in our world
and give us an awareness of your power and work.
We pray in the name of the one who opens the eyes of the blind.

SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

At the asterisk (), please stand as you are able*

Children through Grade 2 may leave for Godly Care or Godly Play 1, or they may remain in worship.

ANTHEM

“Open Thou Mine Eyes”

Michael Cox

Open thou mine eyes and I shall see: Incline my heart and I shall desire: Order my steps and I shall walk in the ways of Thy Commandments. O Lord my God, be Thou to me a God, And beside Thee let there be none else, No other, nought else with Thee. Vouchsafe to me to worship Thee and serve Thee According to Thy commandments, in truth of spirit, In rev'rence of body, In blessing of lips, In private and public.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 9

New Testament, page 89

*Shelley Gnade and Mary-beth Howard
Westminster by Heart*

SERMON

“Who Is Blind?”

Greg Jones

*HYMN NO. 649

“Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound”

AMAZING GRACE

OFFERING

*“You have not lived until you have done something for someone who can never repay you.”
- John Bunyan*

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“Walk As Children of Light”

Daniel Kallman

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

LORD’S PRAYER (page 35 in our *Glory to God* hymnal, using “debts” and “debtors”)

*HYMN NO. 182

“I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say”

KINGSFOLD

BENEDICTION

CHORAL POSTLUDE

“The Lord Is My Light”

Jacques Berthier

GOING FORTH

*If you are visiting with us and wish to learn more about our church family,
we invite you to meet today’s ambassador, Lisa Stoddard, at the back of the center aisle following the service.
She is happy to share information about our many programs for children, youth and adults.*



Sunday Seminars

Guatemala: Trip Highlights and Partnership Update

Today

Classroom 6

Facilitators: Cathy Higgins and Carrie Saathoff

This past January, Cathy Higgins, Carrie Saathoff, Mark Mosher and Sudie Niesen Thompson, spent a week in Guatemala visiting our friends and partners in the country's Western Highlands. Come hear about our trip, see photos, and learn about our continued work with the Association of Mam Christian Women for Development. We have exciting updates about our current projects - and a sneak peek of what's to come. Please join us!

History of the Bible

Today through May 14, 2017

Classroom 3

Facilitator: Bob Cox

Have you ever wondered where the Bible came from? Who wrote it? Why do some Christian Bibles have different books? Who decided which books would be included and how were they chosen? Join Bob Cox to explore these and other questions as we use video lectures, archeological discoveries, samples of key texts, and various classroom aids to follow the path of our sacred scriptures from pre-history to the digital age.

The Story of Salvation, facilitated by Sudie Niesen Thompson, resumes next week.

Holy Week AT WESTMINSTER

PALM/PASSION SUNDAY – APRIL 9

Worship – 9:00 a.m. (Sanctuary) and 11:15 a.m. (Rodney Chapel)
Rejoice with a procession of palms as we begin Holy Week.

MAUNDY THURSDAY – APRIL 13

Worship – 7:30 p.m. (Sanctuary)
Storytellers will recount the final hours of Jesus' life. In addition to communion, you have the option of participating in the age-old practice of footwashing, as commanded in the Bible, or an anointing of the hands with oil. Nursery care provided from 7:15 – 8:45 p.m. for babies and toddlers.

GOOD FRIDAY – APRIL 14

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Reflect on the crucifixion through silent prayer and meditation in the Sanctuary or walk the Labyrinth in the Meeting Room (adjacent to Rodney Chapel).

EASTER VIGIL – APRIL 15

Worship – 6:30 p.m. (begins on Westminster's front lawn)
Since the early days of the church, Christians have gathered on the eve of Easter to remember God's work throughout time, beginning with creation and culminating in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Join us for a family-friendly worship service on this Saturday evening as we tell the story of God's love for us and celebrate communion.

EASTER SUNDAY – APRIL 16

8:00 – 11:00 a.m. Easter breakfast in Community Hall

9:00 and 11:15 a.m. Festive worship services in the Sanctuary to celebrate Christ's resurrection, with a sermon by Dr. Jones and music by the Westminster Choir, brass, percussion, and organ

10:15 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt (parents and children through 2nd grade meet in Grace Hall)

All are welcome!



Westminster Presbyterian Church
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(302) 654-5214 • www.wpc.org

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



2017 Easter LILIES

If you wish to make a contribution toward the decoration of the church on Easter Sunday, you may do so in memory of, or in honor of, loved ones. Please complete this form, make checks payable to *Westminster Presbyterian Church*, and place in the offering plate or return to Susan Alexander at the front desk **by 12:00 noon on Monday, April 3**. For any form received *after* that date, the names will be listed in the April 23rd bulletin.

DONATION AMOUNT

\$20 \$40 \$60 \$80 \$100 Other \$ _____

PLEASE PRINT NEATLY

❖ In Memory Of: (FOR THE DECEASED)

Deceased Person's Name

❖ In Honor Of: (FOR THE LIVING)

Living Person's Name

❖ Given By:

Donor's Name and Telephone Number

If you wish to take a lily home with you, you may do so following the 11:15 a.m. service on Easter Sunday. Plants remaining after that service will be delivered to our homebound members.