



“Where Faith and Life Connect”

The Order of Worship

March 17, 2013

9:00 and 11:00 A.M.

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

THE CHURCH GATHERS ...

When the prelude begins let us quietly prepare for the Worship of God.

PRELUDE

(9:00) Von Gott will ich nicht lassen (I) Dieterich Buxtehude
From God I Shall Not Turn

(11:00) Prayer John Gouwens
Handbell Choir

OPPORTUNITIES AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

CALL TO WORSHIP Isaiah 43:16-21

Leader: Thus says the LORD, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters. Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing. I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.

People: For I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, the people whom I formed for myself, so that they might declare my praise.

TO PRAISE AND CONFESS ...

***HYMN NO. 288** (blue hymnal) I Sing the Mighty Power of God *Ellacombe*

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (Unison)

Gracious God, as we continue to journey through the season of Lent, hear our prayer. For overlooking the presence of Jesus Christ in our midst in the poor and the vulnerable, forgive us. For hoarding what you would have us share, forgive us. For our judgment of others, forgive us. Shape and bend our individual lives and our communal life together toward your own life of self-giving and sacrifice. Fill us, our homes and houses of worship, and the whole world, with your abundant, extravagant love. In Christ’s name, we pray. Amen.

***KYRIE ELEISON** John L. Bell

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Leader: Friends, believe the Good News!

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

***RESPONSE** Of the Father’s Love Begotten *Divinum mysterium*

TO EXPERIENCE GOD’S WORD AND RESPOND ...

SCRIPTURE READING Philippians 3:4-14

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN (11:00) Barbara Adamcik

Children age 4 through 2nd grade are invited to go downstairs and participate in Children’s Worship. A nursery is available during the entire service for infants through age 3.

SCRIPTURE READING John 12:1-8

SERMON Rev. Dr. Buran Phillips

“The Main Thing is to Keep the Main Thing the Main Thing”

***HYMN NO. 85** (blue hymnal) What Wondrous Love Is This *Wondrous Love*

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (Unison) *A Declaration of Faith* PC(USA)

We believe Christ gives us and demands of us personal lives that are centered in God and open to God’s reality and rule.

Christ teaches us to put obedience to God above the interests of self, family, race or nation; to offer God joyously our money, ability and time.

It is part of our discipline to observe a day of worship and rest, setting aside our own working to enjoy God’s work, celebrating with sisters and brothers the Lord’s goodness.

We need constantly to search out God’s way in Scripture, not expecting detailed directions for every decision, but relying on the Word to tell us who God is, to press God’s present claim on us, and to assure us of God’s grace and comfort. We are charged to pray for ourselves and others with gratitude, boldness, and persistence, confident that God hears and answers our prayers in ways best for us all. Life in God’s presence issues in life for others.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE ... The Lord’s Prayer

(During the Prayers of the People there will be a time of silence. You are invited to use this time for personal reflection, confession, thanksgiving, and prayer.)

THE OFFERING

Please sign and pass the Friendship Register found on the pew nearest the center aisle.

If you would like to receive our newsletter or more information about the church, include your address, phone number and email address. Though many of us contribute electronically or by a check in the mail, your holding and passing the offering plate is an act of blessing and dedication to our life together in Jesus Christ.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

(9:00) Prayer John Gouwens

(11:00) Judge Me, O God Felix Mendelssohn

Judge me, O God, and plead my cause against unholy nations. O Lord, save me from the unjust and the evil people. For Thou art my God in whom I take my strength, why dost Thou reject me? Lord, why let me go sadly in the way of my enemies? Send out Thy light, and send out Thy truth, Let them now lead me unto Thy holy mountain, lead Thou me unto Thy holy dwelling place. Then I will go unto the altar of God, to God my joy and to God my grace, I will praise Thee with harp and lyre, O my God. Why art thou cast down, O my soul, why art thou restless within me? Hope thou in God! I again shall praise my Lord and God. I again shall sing and praise God, I again shall sing to God my praise, now and evermore.

Psalm 43

***AT THE PRESENTATION** Doxology No. 591 (blue hymnal) *Tallis’ Canon*

(Sung to the tune of Hymn No. 542 (blue hymnal))

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all people here below; Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

TO GO FORTH AND SERVE ...

This hymn is offered as a prayer of support for our Roman Catholic brothers and sisters and the election of Pope Francis.

***HYMN NO. 374** (blue hymnal) (11:00) Lord, Make Us Servants of Your Peace

Dickinson College

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

(9:00) Amen Danish melody
(11:00) Be Thou with Me Johann W. Franck
arr. M. J. Luvaas

Be Thou with me through darkened night, That I may see the day illumined so bright, Oh, thank Thee for the hope we have in Thee. Take Thou my hand Near Thee to stand. All they rejoice who lay their trust in Thee, Our Savior, for ever Thine to be. Songs of triumph praise Thy name above all earthly joy proclaim! Enlighten mine eyes To see the way: Be Thou with me, Oh Father most high.

Agnes P. Olsen

***POSTLUDE** Fantasia in g

Chancel Choir

Johann Pachelbel

*Indicates standing.

NOW THE SERVICE BEGINS

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR TODAY

WELCOME TO ALL WHO WORSHIP here today.

PASTORAL CARE ELDERS FOR THE WEEK: Jean Bonnyman, Bill Wiesehuegel

CARE TEAM COORDINATOR FOR MARCH: Linda Rutherford

SERVING TODAY

ACOLYTES (11:00): Caroline McRae and Daniel Clark

GREETERS (11:00): Norman and Lisa Hammitt

CHILDREN’S WORSHIP:

(9:00) Childcare through age 5

(11:00) Gary and Kim Hagan, Ellie Yates

MINISTRY OF MUSIC:

(9:00) Handbell Choir

(11:00) Chancel and Handbell Choirs

SENIOR USHER: Sue Caradine

USHERS:

(9:00) John Styron, Cile Mathews

(11:00) Ashley and Scott Porter, Mark Potocik, LoAnn Price, Bill Rudd

FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY are given to the glory of God and in celebration of Laura Stockdale and Paul McGavic’s first anniversary.

OUR THANKS to John Johnson for sharing with us the Luvaas arrangement, sung by the Chancel Choir, as the benediction response at the late service. John sang this anthem at Presbyterian College and he and his choir enjoyed it so much that it was made a regular benediction for their concerts. I am often asked how I find music for our choirs and I can easily say this is one of my favorite ways!

Peter Van Eenam

THIS MORNING’S MUSIC FOR HANDBELLS was commissioned by the Westminster Handbell Choir in August of 1986. John Gouwens is Organist and Carillonneur at the Culver Military Academy in Culver, Indiana, and a graduate of the music schools at the University of Michigan, the University of Kansas, and Indiana University. This is work is his Opus 14.

A FREE HARPSICORD TOUR is available today following the 11:00 service. You’ll definitely want to look inside.

Youth News

Our “Junie B. Jones” cast party is today in the downstairs fellowship hall following the 11:00 worship service. We’re going to enjoy pizza and watch our fantastic performance. There will even be our version of the “Tonys” as Lisa gives everyone a special award! See you downstairs!

WAMS youth are attending the cast party today.

SHOW will be meeting today at 5:00 p.m. We’ll enjoy Betty McKeehan’s wonderful lasagna, then go to the SHOW room to complete our gifts and talents study. This is the “big finish” to our retreat. Remember to bring your “homework!”

THE PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY meets Monday at 7:00 p.m. in the SHOW room.

WOMEN’S BOOK CLUB: The Women’s Book Club meets Tuesday, March 19th at 10:30 a.m. in the library. This month we will discuss *The Language of Flowers* by Vanessa Diffenbaugh.

THE CAP (Caring for Aging Parents) GROUP will meet Wednesday, March 20th at 4:30 p.m. in the Library.

Wednesday Evening Lenten Series

Each Wednesday evening during Lent we meet at 5:45 p.m. for a simple meal of soup and bread, followed by a service of evening prayers in the sanctuary. This reflective time focuses on scripture, song and prayer as we prepare ourselves for Easter.

THE LADIES’ LUNCH BUNCH will meet on Thursday, March 21st at Sullivan’s in Rocky Hill at 11:30 a.m. Please RSVP to Eileen Rudd by March 18th.

A STATED SESSION MEETING is next Sunday, March 24th at 12:15 p.m. in the McKinnon Room.

THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE is now receiving suggestions for possible nominees for Elders for the class of 2016, one Youth Elder for the class of 2014, and one Trustee for the class of 2016. **Today is the nomination deadline.** If you would like to nominate someone, please fill out the following and drop it in the offering plate or submit it to the church office.

I would like to nominate _____

for Elder/Youth Elder/Trustee, because _____

_____.

WPC Garden Guild

*Do you like fresh air? *Do you love the beauty of plants and flowers?

* Do you enjoy the fellowship of other WPC folks?

* Do you want WPC’s grounds to flourish and be attractive?

THEN

We have a wonderful opportunity for you!

The WPC Garden Guild maintains the various gardens and paths around the WPC property and we need additional “gardeners” to aid those of us already involved. We work in teams with assigned plots or paths so the workload is spread over many hands and does not become overwhelming. We have a lot to offer you if you join us.

* A sense of accomplishment

* Fellowship with team members and guild members

* Flexible hours

* The joy of being part of the beauty of WPC’s grounds

* Freedom from worry about being pushed into a higher income bracket

Please consider joining us and being a part of the Garden Guild. Contact Tom Byerley by e-mail at t_gbyerley@yahoo.com or by phone at 776-5040.

EASTER FLOWERS: Please help the Flower Guild as they adorn the sanctuary in celebration of Easter. Checks of any amount are welcome and can be made payable to Westminster Flower Guild in honor or memory of loved ones. These names will be included in the Easter Sunday bulletin and *Abbey*. Easter lilies will be available after the service to deliver to those who are unable to attend worship, or to recycle into your garden. Thank you for supporting this annual tradition.

Donation of \$_____

given in (please circle your choice) honor/memory of:

Given by: _____

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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E-mail westminsterpres@comcast.net

Rev. Dr. Buran Phillips, Pastor

Rev. John Linton Muntz, Parish Associate

Rev. Friedrich Schilling, Jr., Pastor Emeritus

Adult Sunday School

Parenting (Library)

Unglued: Making Wise Decisions in the Midst of Raw Emotion by Lysa TerKeurst

Faith and Life (McKinnon Room)

Twelve Steps to a Compassionate Life by Karen Armstrong

Current Topics (Fellowship Hall)

DVD Series, *Living the Questions 2 – “Restoring Relationships”*

“There are three Biblical ‘macro-stories’ that shape the whole of the Biblical narrative: Bondage and Liberation, Exile and Return, Sin and Forgiveness.”

We will explore all three stories.

Bible Study (Prayer Room)

For the next several weeks, we will be studying the books of 1st and 2nd Timothy, pastoral letters to the church. How do we uphold the church? How do we faithfully endure? Join us for our lively approach to studying God’s Word!