



The Order of Worship

**February 25, 2024
9:00 and 11:00 A.M.**

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

THE CHURCH GATHERS . . .

Welcome to Westminster Church! We are a family of Christians gathered from many traditions and neighborhoods, worshiping here with the goal of connecting faith and life. If you are a visitor, we pray you will feel welcome and blessed by our worship. We invite you to consider making Westminster your church home. Please let us have your contact information so we may be in touch. When the prelude begins let us quietly prepare for the worship of almighty God.

OPPORTUNITIES AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

PRELUDE Mensch, willst du leben seliglich, BuxWV 206 Dieterich Buxtehude
O Humankind, If Thou Wilt Blessed Be

Chorale text: O humankind, if thou wilt blessed be And dwell with God eternally, Then shalt thou keep the Ten Commands Which God hath placed in our hands. Kyrieleis!

Martin Luther, 1525

CALL TO WORSHIP *From Psalm 22* Dave Dupper

One: We who fear the LORD, let us praise God!

All: For God did not hide from us, but heard when we cried out.

One: The poor shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek God shall praise the LORD.

All: All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD.

One: Let us praise God!

TO PRAISE AND CONFESS ...

***HYMN NO. 49** (*Glory to God* hymnal) The God of Abraham Praise *Leoni*

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (Unison)**

Savior God, the public spectacle of the cross calls us to account. We hesitate

and hedge when opportunities arise to speak of you. We are shy in faith and not bold to proclaim. Your story saves, yet we keep it to ourselves. Forgive our reticence of faith. Forgive the ways we fail to serve as public witnesses. Help us be your candlelight, held high to set the world aglow. Amen.

KYRIE ELEISON

John L. Bell

Choir: ALL:
Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.

Choir: ALL:
Chri - ste e - lei - son. Chri - ste e - lei - son.

Choir: ALL:
Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.

1998 WGRG, Iona Community. GIA Publications, Inc.

***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

Christ, to Thee with God the Fa - ther, And, O Ho-ly Ghost, to Thee,

Hymn and chant and high thanks-giv - ing And un-wea-ried prais-es be:

Hon-or, glo-ry, and do-min - ion, And e - ter-nal vic-to - ry,

Ev - er-more and ev - er - more!___

TO EXPERIENCE GOD'S WORD AND RESPOND ...

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Genesis 17:1-7,15-16

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN (11:00)

Melanie Lewis

Children age 4 through 5th grade are invited to go downstairs for Children's Church.

SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 8:31-38

SERMON

"Hope in the Wilderness"

Rev. Dr. Richard Coble

***HYMN NO. 39** (*Glory to God* hymnal) Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Faithfulness

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (Unison)**

We believe in a God who moves toward us when storms rage.

We believe in a God who invites us to be brave.

We believe in a God whom the wind and waves obey.

We believe in a God who knows us by name.

We believe in a God of love. We are not afraid. Amen.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

(9:00) Intradas No. 1 and 8

Johann Pezel

Aaron and Andrew Layne, Trumpets

(11:00) Wash Me Thoroughly from My Wickedness

S. S. Wesley

Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness, and forgive me all my sin. For I acknowledge my faults and my sin is ever before me.

Psalm 51:2-3

Meredith Mackay, Soprano

***AT THE PRESENTATION** Doxology No. 608 (*Glory to God* hymnal) *Tallis' Canon*

(Sung to the tune of Hymn No. 748 (*Glory to God* 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**

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.

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

TO GO FORTH AND SERVE ...

***HYMN NO. 792** (*Glory to God* hymnal) There Is a Balm in Gilead *Balm in Gilead*

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING (11:00)

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

Rev. Gradye Parsons

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE** (9:00) Amen

Danish melody

A - men. A - men. A - men.

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE** (11:00) Sevenfold Amen

John Stainer

Chancel Choir

***POSTLUDE** Fantasia in g

Johann Pachelbel

***Please stand in Body or Spirit**

****Prayer of Confession** from Teri McDowell Ott and the Presbyterian Outlook.

Affirmation of Faith Adapted from Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org.

NOW THE SERVICE BEGINS

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR TODAY

PASTORAL CARE ELDERS FOR THE WEEK: Wendy Collins and Richard Ward
CARE TEAM COORDINATOR FOR FEBRUARY: Cindy Spangler
LARGE PRINT HYMNALS/ HEARING DEVICES are available from the ushers.

SERVING TODAY

ACOLYTES: (11:00) James Gilbert and Elinor Collins
GREETERS: (11:00) Tom and Georgann Byerley
LITURGIST: Dave Dupper
MINISTRY OF MUSIC: (11:00) Chancel Choir
SHEPHERD’S TEAM: David Owens
SENIOR USHER: Casey Page
USHERS: (9:00) Ken Hughes and Casey Page
(11:00) Jan Gross, Brenda Seip, Nancy Lowe, Tim and Joyce Ryan

FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY are given by Jaclyn and Katherine Beeler in loving memory of their son, Brooks Beeler.

OUR THANKS to Aaron and Andrew Layne for their enrichment of our worship this morning at the 9:00 service.

JOHANN PEZEL (1639-1694) was a violinist, trumpeter, and composer, living both in Leipzig and Bautzen. He is best known for his instrumental music, published in a large number of collections, though he also wrote sacred choral music and theoretical works. In 1672, during his time in Leipzig, he entered an Augustinian monastery in Prague, though he soon left to become a Protestant. The Brass Choir has enjoyed playing a number of his many sonatas and dances, staples of the brass literature.

PRAYER LIST (Please keep the following names in your prayers this week)
Juanita Campbell, Shirley Draper, Sonja Jones, Dagmar Krahl, Leonard McKeenan, Judy and Joseph Moon, Lalla Phillips, Kitty Rasa, Doris Solomon.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING There will be a called congregational meeting after the 11:00 service **TODAY** for the purpose of electing a slate for the nominating committee and voting on the Pastor/Head of Staff’s terms of call for 2024.

PLAYGROUND Do you have a special gift for visualizing or creating outdoor space for children to enjoy? We are looking for some interested folks at Westminster to help create a task force to study and implement the refreshing of our children’s play area outside the lower level classrooms. If you are one of these gifted outdoor types, or have a unique interest in developing a lovely space for our youngest to have a more modern play space, please join us for a walk and talk about the possibility on March 3rd in the foyer right after the 11:00am worship. We will gather names of interested team members after a walk and talk through the current play space. If you are unable to join the Spiritual Formation team that day and are interested, please contact Debbie Babelay: babelayd@comcast.net.

FLOWER SIGN-UP We only have four available dates left in 2024 to sign up for sanctuary flowers this year, 3/24, 8/25, 10/20, 11/3. Sign-up in the Schilling Gallery.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 am

Adult Bible Study: The Sunday Bible Class is studying the gnostic Gospel of Thomas, comparing it to Matthew, Mark, Luke and John in order to determine which of its teachings were recognized in the official gospels and which reflected gnostic beliefs that were eventually rejected by the Christian Church. (LKH Foyer)

Feasting on the Word: Studies scriptures used in Worship (LKH)

The Wired Word: Discusses current events with a theological eye (Library)

The Enneagram System of Personality & Essence: January 28 - March 17 (McKinnon Room)

CHILDREN’S OFFERINGS AT WESTMINSTER

During 9:00 Hour - Nursery available for children 0-5 years old

During 10:00 Hour - Nursery available for children ages 0-3 years old
Sunday School for kindergarten through 5th grade

During 11:00 Hour - Nursery available for children 0-3 years old
Children’s Church for children preschool through 5th grade

Children will be walked to Children’s Church classes following the Time with Children during the 11:00 worship service.

YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL OPPORTUNITIES

Sunday Morning-- 10-10:45 a.m.

Middle School (WAMS) is learning about Loving God + Neighbor: Living Peaceably
High School (SHOW) is discussing Loving God by Serving a Stranger
Confirmation sharing Hard Questions For the Pastor in conversation with Rev. Richard!

RANDOM ACTS OF FLOWERS YOUTH NEWS Our Westminster Youth will be meeting 4-6 pm TODAY to help with Random Acts of Flowers. Ellen Anderson will be our leader and helping us create floral arrangements, shatter-proof vases and more. Random Acts of Flowers is a beautiful organization that provides arrangements for people who need a lift in Knoxville's hospitals and elder care facilities. Please let Barbara know if you know someone who would appreciate an arrangement, because we will be making a few extra! This will include a delicious meal prepared by Betty McKeenan.

BECK CULTURAL EXCHANGE CENTER February 28 at 3:30 - We will gather in the parking lot at Westminster and car pool to the Beck Cultural Exchange Center. The Center is staying open after regular hours just for Westminster. We will return around 5:30 and share a meal and discuss our new learnings about Black History in Knoxville (dinner will be provided).

BEAUTIFUL ARTWORK Westminster is blessed to have 12 youth in this year's Confirmation Class! We are meeting in the downstairs Fellowship Hall, which has previously been a Sunday school room for younger children. The accent wall of that room was partially painted, and our youth asked if they could paint it to be something a bit more... grown up. As they are getting more and more familiar with Scripture during the Confirmation process, they knew which verse would be perfectly reflected in the art they chose to paint-- Genesis 1:1!! Now that is an inspiration! You are welcome to come downstairs and see the whole, beautiful wall!!

PICKLEBALL Want to learn a new game? Come to the West Hills Park - Pickleball Courts on Sheffield Drive on Saturday, March 23, 2024, from 1-4 pm. Extra paddles, balls and instruction will be provided. Contact Barbara Adamcik and Anne Crais for more information and to sign up.



MUSICA ORGANI will present concert organist Alcee Chriss III in recital **this Friday evening, March 1, at 8:00.** First prize and Bach prize at the Canadian International Organ Competition and the Firmin Swinnen silver medal at the Longwood Gardens International Organ Competition, Dr. Chriss is a composer, conductor, and jazz pianist. His program includes works by J. S. Bach,

Buxtehude, Boëly, Laurin, Price, Reger, and Robert Schumann, as well as arrangements of “Somewhere over the Rainbow” and “How Great Thou Art.” Join us for a very enjoyable evening of fine and diverse organ music! For more information, please visit the *Musica Organi* website at www.musicaorgani.org.

NEW AFTERNOON CLASS DURING LENT: on Tuesdays (February 20-March 12) from 12:00-1:00 in the McKinnon Room. Led by Richard Coble, Pastor/Head of Staff. We will be reading *What Kind of Christianity: A History of Slavery and Anti-Black Racism in the Presbyterian Church* by William Yoo, Professor of American Religious and Cultural History at Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, GA. This is a thorough, well-researched, and thought-provoking account of this difficult chapter in our denomination’s history. Together, we will understand how this history shapes our present as a church, and we will wrestle with how God is calling us to respond to it as a community. Professor Yoo will be joining us through zoom on Wednesday evening, March 20 at the conclusion of our study of his book.

EASTER FLOWERS

Please help the Flower Guild as they adorn the sanctuary in celebration of Easter. Donations 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 both the Easter Sunday bulletin and *Abbey* on April 3. The deadline to make the donation is March 24. Thank you for supporting this annual tradition.

\$ _____ In memory of / honor of (circle one):

Given by: _____

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Rev. Dr. Richard Coble, Pastor/Head of Staff

Rev. Gradye Parsons, Parish Associate

OUR WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, February 25

9:00am - Sanctuary Worship

10:00am - Sunday School

11:00am - Sanctuary Worship

12:00pm - Congregational Meeting

12:10pm - Choristers

12:15pm - Session Meeting

4:00 pm - Youth Group

Tuesday, February 27

10:00am - Staff Meeting

12:00pm - Class - *What Kind of Christianity?*

Wednesday, February 28

3:30pm - Beck Cultural Center Tour

3:45pm - Boys' and Girls' Choirs

4:30pm - Rainbow Choir

4:30pm - Companions in the Prayer Room

5:00pm - Young Musicians' Class

6:00pm - Lenten Services LKH

7:45pm - Chancel Choir

Thursday, February 29

4:30pm - Brass Choir

6:00pm - Recorder Ensemble

7:00pm - Handbells Choir

8:00pm - Four-in-Hand Ringers

Friday, March 1

8:00pm - Musica Organi

THE SESSION

Class of 2024

Josh Birdwell

Gloria Borum

Melanie Lewis

Lisa Oros

Chris Van Beke

Youth Elder: Arthur Collins

Class of 2025

Ed Babelay

Wendy Collins

Janet Drumm

Stephen Fortney

Barbara Froula

Clerk of Session: Bitsy Ingram

Class of 2026

Bill Farnham

Lee Ingram

Lucy Johnson

Kathryn Oakes

Richard Ward

TRUSTEES

Ron Alexander

Alice Mercer

John Smartt