



Service of Worship
3rd Sunday of Easter
April 10, 2016
9:00 a.m.

PASTORAL STAFF:

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

CHURCH EDUCATOR:

Susan Moseley

CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR:

Debbie Brown

MUSIC STAFF:

Paul Fleckenstein, Organist/Director of Music
Section Leaders/Soloists: Diana Milburn, Sharon Babcock,
Hunter Torggler, Jerry Polman
Children's Music Student Directors: Kourtney Bastianelli
and Nicole Maragus

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.

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

Barry Cobb, Teisha Fooks, Kris Marvel, Susan McPheeters, Carol Neff, Kris Ruebling-Jass

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

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

After TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN, if you wish, your children may leave the Sanctuary and go to:

- ❖ **Godly Care** – Children ages 2 – 4 experience simple worship rituals and learn key stories in the Bible. They respond through crafts, songs and prayers. Class meets in the **Preschool Suite Classroom A**.
- ❖ **Godly Play 1** – Children in Kindergarten through 2nd grade gather in the **Ruth Christie Room** to 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**.
- ❖ **Godly Play 2** – Children in grades 3 through 5 meet upstairs in the **Meeting Room**. The stories in Godly Play 2 are longer and the work/response time offers added variety for the interests and abilities of older children. You may pick up your children in the **Preschool Suite Classroom C**.

10:10 a.m.

Education for All Ages

- Sunday School for Preschoolers Preschool Suite
- Sunshine Choir for Grades K – 2 Classroom 7
- D.R.U.M. for Grades 3 – 6 Youth Music Room
- Middle Schoolers for Grades 6 – 9 Classroom 8

Distinguished Speaker Matthew Fox

See page 7

11:15 a.m.

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

12:00 p.m.

Fellowship Time after Living Mosaics

Meeting Room

Later Today

1:00 p.m.

Flying Solo

Offsite

6:00 p.m.

Clean But Not Straight – NA

Club Room

6:30 p.m.

Peace Drums Welcome Dinner

Community Hall

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. We are one of 140 congregations (out of more than 10,000) that has earned this distinction.

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

The flowers in the Sanctuary today are given by Mary Kay and Dick Haden in memory of their parents B.G. and Raymond Giboney and Alma Jo and Richard Haden, Sr.

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. Dates available are May 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE AND PRAYER

Please remember in your prayers:

- ❖ **Those recently hospitalized:** Richard Hankel, Audrey Hatfield, Charlene Weaver.
- ❖ **Westminster's homebound family** who can no longer attend worship with us, by sending a card, saying a prayer, or visiting. This week we ask you to remember Cornelia Cates, Francis Kirkpatrick, and Gordon Lewis, all at Stonegates.
- ❖ **Alex Sprague**, who is participating in the Young Adult Volunteer Program in Chinook, Montana.

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 often seems far away, and we may neglect to realize that Americans, as well as Afghans 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 Colleen Falasco: 302-654-5214 ext. 131, or cfalasco@wpc.org.

This week we pray for

- Those known to the WPC Community presently serving in various locations:
 - Matthew Burton, nephew of Greg and Camilla Jones
 - Brian Gorman, grandson of Art and Barbara Gorman
 - Jeremy Lushnat, nephew of Arch and Melody Layman
 - Rev. Susannah Tulloch, of the New Castle Presbytery
- Those who have returned from service, possibly suffering from wounds or Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, whose scars may be deep and long-lasting.

WORSHIP NOTES

Are you wearing a nametag? Whether you are a long-time member or new to the church, 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.

Worship Resources – You may 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.

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 may obtain one in the Preschool Suite. This policy is for your child's protection. Thank you for your help.

You may 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

Sue Spilecki

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

*As swimmers dare
to lie face to the sky
and water bears them,
as hawks rest upon air
and air sustains them,
so would I learn to attain
freefall, and float
into Creator Spirit's deep embrace,
knowing no effort earns
that all-surrounding grace.* Denise Levertov, *The Avowal*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

ORGAN PRELUDE

Dawn

Cyril Jenkins

CALL TO WORSHIP

God is the Gardener and Jesus is the true vine.
We are the branches of the vine.
If we are connected to him, he will dwell in us;
and we will become his disciples and bear much fruit.

*HYMN NO. 309

“Come, Great God of All the Ages”

ABBOT'S LEIGH

OPENING PRAYER

**Ever-present God, stir in our hearts a holy expectancy
so that we will be ready and open to hear your voice.
May our spirit be open to the call of your Spirit,
that in listening for you we might hear you,
that in searching for you we might meet you,
that in meeting you we might follow you. Amen.**

TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN

Children through Grade 5 may leave for Godly Care, Godly Play 1, and Godly Play 2, or they may remain in worship.

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

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Margaret Eleanor McConnel

*The congregation is asked to please refrain from taking photographs
or video recording during the worship service.*

PRESENTATION OF THE PARENT AND CHILD

Elder: Cathy Higgins

OPENING WORDS

Every birth is a miracle of blessing and wonder,
and every child is cherished by God.
God blesses all children with a potential for what is right and true and good,
and shows them the beauty of a life of love.

PROMISES OF COMMITMENT

Blair, do you acknowledge Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior? **I do.**

Relying on God's grace, do you promise to live the Christian faith and to teach that faith to your child?
I do.

CONGREGATION

Will we, the people of the church, nurture and support Margaret Eleanor and her mother, and will we encourage her to become a faithful Christian? **We will.**

CHILDREN

Do you promise to help Maggie be a part of our church family by being a friend to her?

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING OVER WATER

ACT OF BAPTISM

PRAYER FOLLOWING BAPTISM

ANTHEM

Psalm 100
Westminster Choir

John Weaver

Make a joyful noise unto the Lord. Serve the Lord with gladness, Come before His presence with singing; Know ye that the Lord, He is God. It is He that hath made us, and not we ourselves. We are His people and the sheep of His pasture. Enter into His gates with thanksgiving. And into His courts with praise, Be thankful unto Him and Bless His name. For the Lord is good; His mercy is everlasting. And His truth endureth to all generations.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Colossians 1:15-20
John 15:1-8, 17:24-26

New Testament, page 177
New Testament, page 95

SERMON

“The Cosmic Christ: The ‘third nature’ of Christ and
its implications for advancing compassion”

Matthew Fox

*HYMN NO. 391

“This Is the Day”

ESTE ES EL DÍA

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“I Sought the Lord”

Kenneth Kosche

I sought the Lord, and afterward I knew
He moved my soul to seek him, seeking me.
It was not I that found, O Savior true;
No, I was found of thee.

Thou didst reach forth thy hand and mine enfold;
I walked and sank not on the storm-vexed sea;
'Twas not so much that I on thee took hold
As thou, dear Lord, on me.

I find, I walk, I love, but oh, the whole
Of love is but my answer, Lord, to thee!
For thou wert long before-hand with my soul;
Always thou lovedst me.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

*HYMN NO. 285

“Like the Murmur of the Dove’s Song”

BRIDEGROOM

BENEDICTION

ORGAN POSTLUDE

Paeon

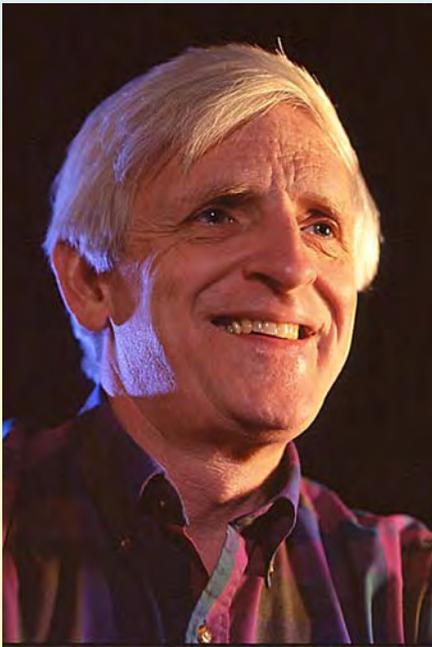
Peter Hurford

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, Cathy Higgins, following the service. She is happy to share information about our many programs for children, youth and adults.



Adult Education This Morning



2016 DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER ~ MATTHEW FOX ~

Community Hall at 10:10 a.m.

Cosponsored by The Community for Integrative Learning
and Westminster Presbyterian Church

How Today's Science Can Contribute to a Profound Spiritual Awakening

There are some who imagine religion and science are at odds but that only applies to fundamentalist religion or fundamentalist science. In this talk and discussion we will explore how today's post-modern science speaks to many deep issues that are integral to a living religion and an alive spiritual presence in the world. Science can awaken awe and wonder and also make clear what the authentic moral issues of our time requires of us (for example regarding the crisis of global warming and ecocide itself).

The *Peace Drums Steel Band* is coming to Wilmington!



Wednesday, April 13, 2016

7:30 p.m.

Cab Calloway School of Arts

Don't miss the opportunity to experience this vital and unique grassroots peacemaking effort! The Peace Drums Project brings together middle school students, their teachers, school administrators and parents of the three Abrahamic faiths in Israel, and also leaders in the Jewish, Christian and Muslim communities in Northern Delaware. Admission is free and donations will be encouraged.

Music at Westminster presents

THE UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE CHORALE

In Concert

Friday, April 29

8:00 p.m.



UD Chorale



Dr. Paul Head, conductor

Plan to join us for this amazing choir's annual visit to Westminster, and be prepared to be "blown away" by their choral artistry and virtuosity.

NO ADMISSION CHARGE;
OFFERING RECEIVED