



# WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## **Service of Worship 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent February 21, 2016 9:00 a.m.**

**PASTORAL STAFF:**

Gregory 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**

Bill Kaye, Mary Lou McDowell, Kris Ruebling-Jass, Mark Shiflett, Tammy Daley, Nancy Diver

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 & Sanctuary |
| ➤ Middle Schoolers for Grades 6 – 9 | Classroom 8                  |
| ➤ Adult Education Classes           | See page 7                   |

11:15 a.m.

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

Flying Solo Brunch at Catherine Rooney's 1616 Delaware Avenue

12:00 p.m.

180° Theatre Troupe - Lunch Box Theatre Community Hall

## **Later Today**

5:15 p.m.

Senior Highs Dinner and Mission Activity

Community Hall & Cl. 6

6:00 p.m.

Clean But Not Straight – NA

Club 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. 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 to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Anna Mae Robinson, Virginia Haycock, and Harry Robinson by their family.

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](mailto:lwatson@ycst.com). Available dates are March 6, 13, and, 20.

## CONGREGATIONAL CARE AND PRAYER

Please remember in your prayers:

- ❖ Those recently hospitalized: Roy Fahl, Jr., Howard Horne, Julie Petrovick.
- ❖ 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 Kay Johnson at Millcroft and Margaret Lyle Stevens at home.
- ❖ Alex Sprague, who is participating in the Young Adult Volunteer ministry 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](mailto: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

**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.

**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.

**You may make a contribution** to Westminster Presbyterian Church by visiting our website [www.wpc.org](http://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

*Mighty God, you hold the heavens in your hands and all the stars rejoice in your glory. You come in the sunrise and the song of morn and bless the splendor of the noonday. The stars in their courses magnify you, day and night tell of your glory. Your peace blows over the earth and the breath of your mouth fills all space. Your voice comes in the thunder of the storm and the song of the wind whispers of your majesty. You satisfy all things living with your abundance and my life resides in you. Amen.*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

\*PASSING OF THE PEACE

PRELUDE

Pie Jesu, from *Requiem*  
Diana Milburn, soprano

Gabriel Fauré

Pie Jesu Domine,                      *Merciful Lord Jesus,*  
Dona eis sempiternam requiem.      *grant them eternal rest.*

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

**Hope in the Lord, our refuge and strength!**

I long to live in the house of the Lord, and to learn God's holy ways.

**Hope in the Lord, who is present among us!**

I believe I will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.

**Hope in the Lord, whose promises are sure!**

\*HYMN NO. 49

"The God of Abraham Praise"

LEONI

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of power and promise,  
your faithfulness endures to all generations.  
We gather here as descendants of Abraham and Sarah –  
heirs in faith, as well as in doubt.  
We remember how Abraham dared to believe,  
but find that we are not always so daring.  
We want to believe your promises are true,  
but the stress and worry of daily life  
consume our focus and erode our trust.  
Open our eyes to see you at work among us,  
and our hearts to embrace your steadfast love.  
Hear our questions and transform our doubt,  
not into certainty, but into faith –  
faith that dares to imagine all that you deem possible.**

SILENCE

ASSURANCE OF GOD’S FORGIVENESS

ANTHEM

“Sing, Sing”  
*Sunshine Choir*

Mary Ellen Pinzino

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.*

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

Old Testament, page 11  
Fred Carspecken, Lay Reader

SERMON

“Count the Stars”

Sudie Niesen Thompson

\*HYMN NO. 850

“In a Deep, Unbounded Darkness”

*DIVINUM MYSTERIUM*

OFFERING

*“All shall give as they are able, according to the blessing of the LORD your God  
that he has given you.” (Deuteronomy 16:17)*

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Agnus Dei, from *Requiem*  
*Westminster Choir*

Fauré

Agnus Dei,  
qui tollis peccata mundi,  
dona eis requiem sempiternam.

*Lamb of God,  
who takest away the sins of the world,  
grant them rest.*

Lux aeterna luceat eis, Domine:  
Cum sanctis tuis in aeternum,  
quia pius es.  
Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine,  
et lux perpetua luceat eis.

*May light eternal shine upon them, O Lord,  
in the company of thy saints forever and ever;  
for thou art merciful.  
Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord,  
and let perpetual light shine upon them.*

\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (Hymn No. 711)

**Lord of all good, our gifts we bring to you;  
use them your holy purpose to fulfill,  
Tokens of love and pledges brought anew,  
that our whole life is offered to your will.**

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PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

\*HYMN NO. 12

“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

ST. DENIO

BENEDICTION

CHORAL POSTLUDE

O love, how deep, how broad, how high,  
Beyond all thought and fantasy,  
That God, the Son of God, should take  
Our mortal form for mortals' sake.

GOING FORTH

*If you are visiting with us and wish to learn more about our church family,  
we invite you to meet today's ambassadors, Ellie and Don Furry, following the service.  
They are happy to share information about our many programs for children, youth and adults.*



## **Adult Education Classes This Morning**

### ***Bible 101: An Overview of the New Testament***

Through March 13, 2016

Classroom 5, Presenter – The Rev. Tom Stout

This class is especially for adults who have – or fear they have – little or no Bible knowledge. Participants will be introduced to the main genres in the New Testament: gospel, history, letter, and apocalyptic writing and will begin to discover the unique and transformative purpose of each.

### ***Revelation: A series using the lectures of Professor Craig R. Koester from Luther Seminary***

Through May 1, 2016

Classroom 3, Facilitators – Jill Getty, Bob Cox, and Margo Reign

Exiled to the island of Patmos over 1,900 years ago, a prophet named John wrote a remarkable letter to fellow Christians. That letter is the Apocalypse of John, also known as the book of Revelation. The meaning of the Greek word for apocalypse is “disclosure,” and John’s book discloses dimensions of two age-old mysteries: the character of evil and the nature of hope. Because the series is 24 sessions (classes began in the fall), the facilitators will establish a way to make notes from each session available to participants.

### ***Economic Inequality: The Facts, Causes, Effects and Morality***

Classroom 6, Presenter – Dave McBride

Justice is a critical attribute of God and is a dominant theme in both the Hebrew and Christian scriptures. And there is no aspect of *justice* that evokes a more passionate response than that of *economic* justice, because we are pulled between two competing visions that are difficult to reconcile: providing rewards proportionate to the contributions made and sharing the benefits of economic progress. Dave McBride will moderate a four week discussion of this topic including a discussion of the facts concerning the distribution of income and wealth, the various factors identified as contributing to inequality, the political, social and economic effects of inequality and the morality of the current situation and suggested means for lessening inequality.



# *Music at Westminster*

presents

## **Winter Musical Gala 2016**

From Bach to Gershwin:  
Music of the Church, the Opera Stage, Musical Theatre, and then some!

**Friday, March 4**  
**8:00 p.m.**

Featuring



Diana Milburn, soprano    Hunter Torggler, tenor  
Sharon Babcock, mezzo-soprano    Jerry Polman, baritone

The Westminster Choir

and special guest Barbara Prugh, trumpet

Paul Fleckenstein, organ/piano/director

NO ADMISSION CHARGE • OFFERING RECEIVED  
RECEPTION FOLLOWS



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