



WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Service of Worship **5th Sunday after Epiphany** **February 4, 2018** **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 Faith Formation through Music
and Arts, Teaching Artist in Residence
Kevin Flaherty, Assistant Director of Children's Music
Soloist/Section Leaders: Sharon Babcock, Elizabeth Holmes
Christian Sanders, Travis Lucas

YOUTH LEADERS

Merideth Hite Estevez, Susan Moseley,
Josh Cox, Chris Hickey, Tommy Neilson

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.

This Morning at Westminster

8:30 – 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

Teisha Fooks, Hillary King, Cathy Lang, Mary Lou McDowell, Cassandra Piovoso

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

9:00 – 9:55 a.m. Worship with communion 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 through 4 begin in worship with their families. Following the Time with Our 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 Our 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 begin worship with their families. Following the Time with Our Children, they meet their leaders in the pavilion and walk together to the Youth Music Room.

10:10 a.m.

Education for All Ages

- | | |
|--|-------------------|
| ➤ Sunday School for Preschoolers | Preschool Suite D |
| ➤ Joyful Noise Choir Program for K – 2 | Youth Music Room |
| ➤ Godly Play 2 for Grades 3 – 5 | Classroom 4 |
| ➤ Middle Schoolers for Grades 6 – 8 | Classroom 8 |
| ➤ Senior High for Grades 9 – 12 | Classroom 7 |
| ➤ Sunday Seminars | see page 7 |

11:15 a.m.

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

12:00 p.m.

Fellowship Time

Meeting Room

Also Today

1:00 p.m.

Home Communion

Members’ Homes

6:00 p.m.

Flying Solo Super Bowl Party

Off Site Location

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. 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 honor of the 75th birthday of Jerry Fedeler with love from his wife and 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 for available dates. The next available dates are February 11 and 18; March 4, 11 and 18.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE AND PRAYER

Please remember in your prayers:

- ❖ **Recently hospitalized:** Chad Chandler, Rachel Haas and Mark Kenneally.
- ❖ **Those unable to attend worship on a regular basis** by sending a card, saying a prayer, or visiting. This week we ask you to remember Tom Ford and Gerry Greth at home, and Dottie Gkonos at Brandywine Senior Living in New Jersey.
- ❖ **Westminster's Prayer Team** prays for the needs of our community of faith. 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; or sending an email to wpcprayerlist@gmail.com.

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 suffering from Traumatic Stress Disorder, whose scars may be deep and long-lasting.

WORSHIP NOTES

All children who leave the sanctuary after Time with Our Children must have a completed yellow security label on their backs. 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. Children will only be released to a parent or an adult pre-approved by the parent. 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

Sue Spilecki

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 and pass the friendship folder, at the end of the pew, to the person next to you.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

ORGAN PRELUDE

Sonata de Primo Tono

José Lidon

CALL TO WORSHIP

Have you not known?

**The Lord is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.**

Have you not heard?

**The Lord does not faint or grow weary;
God's understanding is beyond our reach.**

The One who stretched out the heavens gathers us in.

The One who numbers the stars calls us each by name.

God is great in strength, mighty in power.

Let us worship God!

*HYMN NO. 645

“Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above”

MIT FREUDEN ZART

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God –

There is none like you!

**We hear that those who hope in you
will renew their strength.**

But we weary of waiting.

**When life's challenges overwhelm us,
we seek comfort in empty promises and easy answers.**

**When our energies ebb and our certainties crumble
we rely on quick fixes and simple routines that hold our anxieties at bay.**

Forgive us, Lord.

Lift us from despair and doubt;

teach us to embrace hope and to risk faith,

and open us to the promise of a life transformed once more by your love.

*Passages in **bold** print may be said by all. At the asterisk (*), please stand as you are able*

SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN

*Children through Grade 6 may leave for Godly Care, Godly Play 1, and Sing-to-Praise Choir,
or they may remain in worship.*

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Isaiah 40:21-31

Old Testament, page 627
Jerry Spilecki, Lay Reader

SERMON

"Have You Not Heard?"

Sudie Niesen Thompson

OFFERING

*"With a freewill-offering I will sacrifice to you;
I will give thanks to your name, O LORD, for it is good."*

~ Psalm 54:6

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

"There Is a Balm in Gilead"

arr. William Dawson

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

*The Lord's Supper is open to all who trust in Christ.
For those who have wheat allergies, we provide gluten-free rice crackers with the communion bread.*

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

On the day of the Lord,
God will make for all people
a feast of rich foods and well-aged wines.

Inspired by Isaiah 25:6-9

**The Lord will destroy the shroud that is cast over us;
God will swallow up death forever
and wipe away every tear.**

On that day, the people of God will say:

**This is the Lord, for whom we have waited;
let us be glad and rejoice in God's saving love.**

*HYMN NO. 504

"We Come as Guests Invited"

WIE LIEBLICH IST DER MAIEN

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Eternal God...

LORD'S PRAYER (page 35 in our *Glory to God* hymnal, using "debts" and "debtors")

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

“I Will Come to You”
“Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”

David Haas
William Bradbury

PRAYER FOLLOWING COMMUNION

**Holy God, we thank you for this feast of grace.
As we have been served, help us to serve our neighbors.
As we have been fed, help us to feed all who are hungry.
As we have been loved, help us to love the world —
because in Christ Jesus you have loved us. Amen.**

*HYMN NO. 744

“Arise, Your Light Is Come!”

FESTAL SONG

BENEDICTION

CHORAL POSTLUDE

“God Be In My Head”

Rob Landes

God be in my head, and in my understanding;
God be in my eyes, and in my looking;
God be in my mouth, and in my speaking;
God be in my heart, and in my thinking;
God be at my end, and in my departing. Amen.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING (Brief!)

GOING FORTH

New to Westminster?

Welcome! We are so glad you are here.

Here is some information you might find helpful:

- Hymnals are located on a shelf under the pew in front of you, or at the ends of the pew. Please join us in singing!
- A red Friendship Pad at the end of the pew will be passed during the service. We hope you will sign it and let us know how we can welcome you with a follow-up contact.
- There will be an Ambassador at the back of the church at the end of worship, who would love to answer any questions you might have or give you more information about Westminster.
- For more information about our community of faith, sign up for our weekly e-newsletter from the home page of our website (www.wpc.org) or contact the Rev. Sudie Niesen Thompson at sniesenthompson@wpc.org or (302) 654-5214 ext. 103.

Please join us for coffee or tea in Community Hall after the service.

Ask someone to show you the way!



Sunday Seminars

Parables of Jesus in Luke: A Video Series by Dr. Ken Bailey

Today, February 11, 18 and 25

Classroom 3

Facilitator: Randy Williamson

This four-week series, facilitated by Randy Williamson, is a continuation of a series started in October that focuses on Jesus as a Theologian through the study of selected parables from the Gospel of Luke. Each section will begin with a video presentation of Dr. Bailey providing his insights into the parable using his experience of living over 40 years in the Middle East. We will engage in open discussion of each parable and its theological message. We will be challenged to fit each session into our available 50 minutes, so participants are urged to arrive by 10:10.

Positive Parenting Strategies for Living with Young Children

Today, February 11, 18 and 25

Classroom 5

Facilitator: Yvonne Nass, Certified Parent Educator

Session 1: Understanding Your Child – Will explore how a child finds his place in the family covering birth order, family values and family environment.

Session 2: Building Your Child's Self- Esteem – Will learn the stages of self-esteem development and how we can encourage our child towards feeling "Lovable and Capable."

Session 3: Building a Strong Relationship with Effective Communication Skills – Will cover how to listen and invite cooperation.

Session 4: Deciding on Discipline – Will explore a method of discipline that will encourage a child to become responsible for their actions. It will also look at prevention strategies.

Where Are We in History? Learning to Cope with an Age of Conflict

Today, February 11, 18, and 25

Classroom 6

Facilitator: Dave McBride

The rise and fall of civilizations is the heartbeat of history. All civilizations experience conflict triggered by a variety of interrelated social, economic and political problems. Most civilizations have succumbed to such crises, but Western Civilization uniquely has endured and prevailed over such crises in the past. These four classes will examine our current age of conflict and assess the hope that we, like our ancestors, also will prevail over the present challenges. This class is nonpartisan and will rely upon a historical analysis of the cycles of civilizations. We seek conservatives, moderates and progressives to contribute to the discussion.



2018 Souper Bowl of Caring TODAY

Today is Super Bowl Sunday, and our 180° youth will be standing at the exits after each worship service holding soup bowls to receive your monetary donations for the “Souper Bowl of Caring.” The collection total will be divided between Hanover Presbyterian Food Closet and St. Stephen’s Lutheran Food Pantry. Please help our youth in this extraordinary mission effort!

MORE THAN 140 MILLION AMERICANS WATCH THE SUPER BOWL GAME. IMAGINE THE IMPACT WE WOULD HAVE ON HUNGER IF EACH OF THOSE PEOPLE GAVE JUST ONE DOLLAR TO HELP THOSE IN NEED.



A S H

W E D N E S D A Y

February 14, 2018

Worship service at 6:00 p.m. in the sanctuary
Soup supper in Community Hall following worship