



April 16, 2022

THE GREAT VIGIL OF EASTER

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Service of Worship – 5:00 p.m.



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.

~ THE SERVICE OF LIGHT ~

GATHERING WORDS

Sudie Niesen Thompson

On this holy night, when Jesus passed from death to life,
we gather to tell the story of God's saving deeds:

We remember and rejoice!

How the Almighty ordered the swirling depths,
and delivered Israel through the waters of the sea;

We remember and rejoice!

How the Spirit breathed life into long-dry bones
and, then, into a sealed garden tomb.

We remember and rejoice!

On this holy night, when Jesus passed from death to life,
we gather with invincible hope to greet the risen Christ.

Let us worship God!

SCRIPTURE: John 1:1-5

The Light Shines in the Darkness

Gregory Knox Jones

The new fire is lit.

RESPONSE

The Lord Is My Light



LIGHTING OF THE PASCHAL CANDLE

The Light of Christ.

Thanks be to God!

EASTER PROCLAMATION



Rejoice, heavenly powers!
Sing, choirs of angels!
Exult, all creation around God's throne!
For Jesus Christ our King is risen!

Sung Response: Alleluia!

Rejoice, O earth, in shining splendor,
radiant in the brightness of your King!
Christ has conquered! Glory fills you!
Darkness vanishes forever!

Sung Response: Alleluia!

Rejoice, O gathered people! Exult in glory!
The risen Savior shines upon you!
Let this place resound with joy,
echoing the mighty song of all God's people!

Sung Response: Alleluia!

The congregation follows the Bearer of the Light into the sanctuary.

We ask that all worshipers wear masks as the congregation moves indoors. Those who are comfortable removing their masks during the service are invited to sit in the open-seating, mask-optional section at the front of the sanctuary; you may take off your masks once seated in this section. Those who would prefer to remain socially distanced and masked throughout the service are invited to sit in the back half of the sanctuary, including the balcony.

Please pick up pre-packaged communion elements as you enter the sanctuary.

PROCESSIONAL SONG

We Are Marching in the Light of God



~ THE SERVICE OF READINGS ~

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Open Your Ears, O Faithful People

Alexis Droke

SCRIPTURE: Genesis 1:1-2:4a

The Creation of Heaven and Earth

Robert Moore
Karissa Thacker

*HYMN NO. 15

All Creatures of Our God and King (Vs. 1 – 3 & 6)

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

SCRIPTURE: Exodus 14 & 15

The Exodus from Egypt

Confirmation Class

*HYMN NO. 276

Sing a New Song unto the Lord

SING A NEW SONG

SCRIPTURE: Ezekiel 37:1-14

The Valley of Dry Bones

Kathleen Kennan

*HYMN NO. 66

Every Time I Feel the Spirit

PENTECOST

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

~ THE SERVICE OF CONFIRMATION AND REMEMBRANCE OF BAPTISM ~

SCRIPTURE: Romans 6:3-11

Baptized into Christ

Emily Knepper

*HYMN NO. 484

Out of Deep, Unordered Water

RUSTINGTON

PRESENTATION OF THE 2021-2022 CONFIRMATION CLASS

Clark Collins

Hannah Bachman

Luke Psaros

Reuben Busick-White

Evie Saathoff

Drew Holmes

Chloe Steiner

Greer Marvel

Sophia Wolff

Ava Pfaff

Nate Zehner

QUESTIONS FOR THE CONFIRMANDS

Susan Spilecki

QUESTION FOR THE CONGREGATION

Will you who witness these vows support and pray for these young people as they continue their faith journey alongside us as full members of the Westminster Church community? **We will.**

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Diane Chandler

**In life and in death we belong to God.
Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit,
we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One,
whom alone we worship and serve.
With believers in every time and place,
we rejoice that nothing in life or in death
can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

From A Brief Statement of Faith of the PC (U.S.A.)

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

Susan Spilecki and Sandy Wermus

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

REMEMBERING OUR BAPTISM

*HYMN NO. 691

Lord, When I Came into This Life

LAND OF REST

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF DEACON EVELYN SAATHOFF

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS FOR THE CONGREGATION

Do we, the members of the church, accept Evelyn as a Deacon,
chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ?
We do.

Do we agree to pray for her, to encourage her, to respect her decisions, and to follow as she guides us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the Church?

We do.

ORDINATION PRAYER

DECLARATION OF ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION

~ THE SERVICE OF COMMUNION ~

*HYMN NO. 526

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

LINSTEAD

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, O Lord our God ...

... joining the song of the universal Church and the heavenly choir:

**Holy, holy, holy, the Lord God the Almighty,
who was and is and is to come.
Blessing and glory and wisdom
and thanksgiving and honor
and power and might
be to our God forever and ever!**

... Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

**Dying you destroyed our death,
rising you restored our life.
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

THE LORD'S 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.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER FOLLOWING COMMUNION

**Gracious God, you have made us one
with all your people in heaven and on earth.
We have remembered your mighty acts in holy history.
We have seen your power
in sending light to conquer darkness,
water to give us life,
and the bread of heaven to nourish us in love.
Send us out now with the good news of resurrection
and a message of joy for all the world,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*HYMN NO. 234

Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain

ST. KEVIN

SCRIPTURE: Luke 24:1-12

The Resurrection

Susan Williamson

SENDING

Christ is risen! **Christ is risen!**
Christ is risen! **Christ is risen!**
Christ is risen! **Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE

Toccata in F Major

C.M. Widor

TOWER CHIME

Susan Spilecki

The Confirmation Class invites you to view their "Thoughts on Prayer" video, a collaborative project they created as part of the confirmation process. The video is in Rodney Chapel and [online](#). Many thanks to Westminster member Chris Hickey for producing the video.

2021-2022 Confirmation Class

Confirmation Leaders:

Susan Spilecki, Diane Chandler, Emily Knepper, Sandy Wermus

<u>Confirmand</u>	<u>Date of Baptism</u>
Hannah Elizabeth Bachman	August 14, 2005
Reuben Constantine Busick-White	November 9, 2014
Andrew David Holmes	October 18, 2009
Greer Suplee Marvel	October 9, 2005
Ava Natalia Pfaff	May 14, 2006
Luke Kallos Psaros	July 9, 2006
Evelyn Renee Saathoff	June 11, 2006
Chloe Dillon Steiner	April 1, 2006
*Elizabeth Grace Thomas	July 9, 2006
*Owen Spencer Thomas	July 9, 2006
Sophia Emma Wolff	July 8, 2007
Nathaniel Sanderson Zehner	June 28, 2006

**Indicates those who will be confirmed at a later date*

Image Credit: Hochhalter, Cara B.. Easter Morning, from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=59270> [retrieved April 8, 2022]. Original source: Cara B. Hochhalter, *A Challenging Peace in the Life and Stories of Jesus*, 2019.

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NEW COVID-19 Mask Policy and Safety Measures

Updated March 29, 2022

Mask Policy and Sanctuary Seating

The side transepts and the first five pews in the center section of the sanctuary (the nave) are open seating and mask optional. You may sit where you wish in these sections. Please access these sections via the lectern-side transept door off the main hallway. Masks and social distancing are required in the back part of the nave and the balcony. Masks must fully cover the nose and mouth and be worn at all times in these sections. Please access these sections through the narthex (behind the screen at the rear of the sanctuary). Ushers at the sanctuary entrances will be available to direct you to your preferred section. The choir will wear their masks when singing, but may remove them when they are not singing. Everyone is still required to wear masks in the remainder of the building. This includes Rodney Chapel, the main hallway, restrooms, classrooms, and Community Hall. This is to protect our young children who are not eligible for a vaccine and those who are immunocompromised. Again, masks must fully cover the nose and mouth.

Safety Measures

We are committed to your safety during the pandemic. No-touch hand sanitizing stations are located near the doors and in the hallways. The sanctuary, Rodney Chapel, the main hallway and the staff wing are all equipped with the same high grade air filters as in hospitals plus air purifying devices that use needle-point bi-polar ionization on the air handlers that operate in these areas. These devices break down viruses, bacteria, mold, allergens, smoke, and odors in the air. These devices, along with the fact that we have a very high vaccination rate among our worshipers, makes Westminster one of the safest environments you can find.

PASTORAL STAFF

The Rev. Dr. Gregory Knox Jones, Head of Staff
The Rev. Sudie Niesen Thompson, Associate Pastor
The Rev. Jill Getty, Pastoral Care Assistant

MUSIC STAFF

Dr. F. Anthony Thurman, Director of Music/Organist
Alexis Droke, Director of Music for Children and Youth
Rebecca Hughes, soprano; Margaret Mezzacappa, mezzo soprano; Jerry Polman, bass; Section Leaders

VIDEOGRAPHERS

Tanner Freeman (lead videographer), Rich Albert, Drew Holmes, Chip Pfleegor, Roger Reinicker,
Baden Saathoff, Aaron Wemhoff and Sophia Wolff

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES STAFF

Kathleen Kennan, Director of Christian Education and Youth Ministry
Beatrice Taylor, Kristen Wolanski, Nursery

YOUTH LEADERS

Tommy Neilson, 180 Leader
Josh Cox and Molly McPheeters

SUPPORT STAFF

Susan Alexander, Reception Area Supervisor
Mary Clark, Office Assistant for Data and Archives
Paul Crothamel, Director of Facilities and Security
Colleen Falasco, Director of Financial Operations
Nicole Hughes, Director of Marketing and Communications
Jerry Hunter, Manager of Accounting and Reporting
Suzie Hurlock, Administrative Assistant
Cathy Lang, Administrative Assistant
Sextons: Robert King, Daniel Steele, Joan Truitt, John Young

SESSION

Taryn Albert, Adam Blackford, Michelle Butler, Clark Collins, Bob Cox, Jessica Fischer, Rob Gooderham,
Dick Jolly, Carla Krupanski, Faith Kuehn, David Máthé, KC Morrison, Dave McBride, Kelly McCulloch,
Susan McPheeters, Jan Patrick, Chip Pfleegor, Todd Piercy, Carrie Saathoff, Laura Scanlan,
Kent Smith, Janet Steinwedel, Karissa Thacker, Gill Timon

BOARD OF DEACONS

Amy Bickhart, Jennifer Blackford, Heather Brooks, Russ Butler, Kyle Carrick, Ron Carrick,
Diane Chandler, Eadie Churchill, Jack Coleman, Joe Daley, Tammy Daley, Kendra Gallagher,
Jamie Hickey, Barbara Jobe, Sheran Kegerise, Paul Kelly, Arun Loptes, Elaine Lunardi, Sarah Mentzer,
Robert Moore, Gathoni Murugi-Jenkins, Dan McAllister, Debbie McCullough, Roland Pamm, Lynne Perkins,
Emily Pfaff, Paula Piercy, Sandie Reinicker, Patti Ridout, Robin Rosser, Evie Saathoff, Carol Tatnall, Liz Thomas,
Owen Thomas, Lois Underhill, Ginger Ward, Sandie Reinicker, Sue Weissinger, Sandra Wermus, Pam Wilson

TRUSTEES

Rich Albert, Nancy Fleming, Mark Gerstenschlager, Lou Hering, Brock Jobe, Sue Linderman,
Robert Love, Tom Preston, Kris Qualls, Bob Ridout, Stan Stevenson, Bruce Weber, Dan Weintraub

PARTNERS IN WORLDWIDE MINISTRY

DR Congo – PCUSA Mission Co-workers: Jeff and Christi Boyd, Larry and Inge Shreshley;
Kananga Presbytery and Members of Kamulumba-Ditalala Parish
Iran, Iraq, Syria and Lebanon – PCUSA Mission Co-workers: the Reverends Elmarie and Scott Parker
Fellowship of Middle East Evangelical Churches, Ibillin and Haifa, Israel/Palestine – Peace Drums Steel Band
Guatemala - CEDEPCA, AJPU, the Association of Mam Christian Women for Development,
PCUSA Mission Co-workers Betsey & Eric Moe

Holy Week AT WESTMINSTER

PALM/PASSION SUNDAY (APRIL 10)

Worship – 9:00 a.m. (Sanctuary) and 11:15 a.m. (Rodney Chapel)

Palm Sunday begins the final week in the life of Jesus. The Westminster Choir, joined by trumpet and organ, will herald Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem. Join us in person or watch the 9 a.m. service live on our [YouTube channel](#).

MAUNDY THURSDAY (APRIL 14)

Worship – 7 p.m. (Sanctuary)

The service includes scripture passages recounting the Passion and death of Christ, told by our Biblical Storytellers, *Westminster By Heart*, with stirring music by the Westminster Choir and organ. Join us in person or watch live on our [YouTube channel](#).

EASTER VIGIL (TODAY)

Worship – 5 p.m. (begins on Westminster's front lawn)

Since the early days of the church, Christians have gathered on the eve of Easter to remember God's work throughout time, beginning with creation and culminating in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Join us for a family-friendly worship service on this Saturday evening as we tell the story of God's love for us, receive our Confirmation Class into membership, and celebrate communion. Please note: The Easter Vigil is a traveling service and includes opportunities for congregational participation, so comfortable clothes and shoes are recommended! Join us in person or watch live on our [YouTube channel](#). The livestream of the Easter Vigil service will begin when the congregation enters the sanctuary (approximately 5:10 p.m.).

EASTER SUNDAY (APRIL 17)

Worship – 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. (Sanctuary)

Christ is risen! Join us for festive worship services celebrating Christ's triumphant resurrection, with an inspirational sermon by Dr. Jones and joyous music led by the Westminster Choir, the Philadelphia Brass, percussion, and organ. Craig Checkel and Susan Spilecki will play Easter hymns on the tower chime before and after the services. Join us in person or watch the 9 a.m. service live on our [YouTube channel](#).

Easter Celebration – 10 a.m.

See announcement below.

Easter Celebration!

**Sunday, April 17
10–11 a.m.**

The WPC Deacons are excited to host an Easter Celebration on the church lawn between the two worship services!

Lawn Games • Mini Bounce House for Younger Children • Easter Egg Hunt for All Ages

The Easter Egg Hunt will begin at 10:15 a.m. for ages 4 and under, followed by a hunt for ages 5–8, and then a hunt for ages 9 and older. We will have bags for anyone to decorate, but of course you are welcome to bring your own basket. If you aren't up for games, just stop by to reconnect or make new friends! Donuts, muffins, bananas, and beverages (coffee, tea, juice, and water) will be served for your enjoyment. We hope to see you there!

