



WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Second Sunday in Lent March 16, 2025



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.



A Covenant Network Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
An Earth Care Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
A Matthew 25 Church of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
A Stephen Ministry Congregation

TODAY AT WESTMINSTER

9:15 – 11:45 a.m. **Nursery Care** for infants and toddlers in Preschool Suite D

9:30 – 10:30 a.m. **Worship** in the Sanctuary

Time with Our Children (approximately 9:45 a.m.)

The young and young-at-heart are invited to join the worship leader at the front of the sanctuary. Following the TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN, young ones through fifth grade may be escorted to Children's Programming or they are welcome to remain in worship.

Children's Programming (9:45 – 10:30 a.m.)

- Preschool Sunday School: Ages 3 and 4 in the Preschool Suite Classroom C
- Joyful Noise Choir: Kindergarten–Grade 5 in the Youth Music Room

10:30 – 11:15 a.m. **Holy Toast Café!** Join us for complimentary coffee, tea, treats, and time with new and old friends in Rodney Chapel.

10:40 – 11:30 a.m. **Adult Education (see page 6)**
Coffee/tea available in Classrooms

Children and Youth Programming

- Nursery Care: Age 4 and under in Preschool Suite D
- Kids Zone Sunday School: Kindergarten–Grade 5 in Classrooms 1 and 2
- Middle School Faith Zone: Grades 6-8 in Classroom 7
- High School Connect Group: Grades 9-12 in WPC Library

5:00 – 7:00 p.m. **180° Youth Ministry (grades 6-12)** in Walton Community Hall, Classrooms 6 and 7

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FAITH!



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For descriptions of our programs for children and youth, visit wpc.org/children-youth.

The Music: The prelude is an arrangement of an Irish folk song that was employed to carry the text of *O Christ the Same*, a hymn of praise and thanksgiving written by Timothy Dudley-Smith. The final verse of each stanza addresses the past, present, and hopeful expectation of the future:

O Christ the same, who wrought our whole salvation,
we bring our thanks for all our yesterdays.

O Christ the same, to whom our hearts are given,
we bring our thanks for this the present hour.

O Christ the same, beyond our brief tomorrows,
we bring our thanks for all that is to be.

The chancel flowers are given to the Glory of God in observance of the fifth anniversary of the Covid-19 pandemic in memory of those who died and in honor of the medical professionals and scientists who worked tirelessly for the welfare of us all. Consider giving the flowers for Sunday worship to remember or honor loved ones or to celebrate an event. Currently available dates are May 4, 18, and 25. Please contact Linda Watson at (302) 571-6719 or lwatson@ycst.com.

You can contribute to Westminster Presbyterian Church by visiting our website at wpc.org and clicking the "Donate" button or scan this QR code on your smart phone. → We accept donations by bank withdrawal, credit card, and debit card.



ORDER OF WORSHIP

~ Passages in **bold** print may be spoken by all. At the asterisk (*), please stand in body or rise in spirit. ~

TOWER CHIME

Sara Gavenonis

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (Please sign and pass the friendship pads.)

Gregory Knox Jones

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Sandy King

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

PRELUDE

O Christ the Same

Irish Folk Song
arr. Katherine K. Davis

CALL TO WORSHIP

Randall T. Clayton

The Lord is our light and our salvation;
whom shall we fear?

**The Lord is the stronghold of our life;
of whom shall we be afraid?**

We seek your face, O Lord.
Do not hide your face from us!

**Do not forsake us,
O God of our salvation!**

Make us strong,
and let our hearts take courage.

**We wait for the Lord.
Let us worship God!**

—Psalm 27

*HYMN No. 610

O FOR A THOUSAND TONGUES TO SING

AZMON

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Gracious and loving God,
you call us to come to you, but too often we run the other way.
Sometimes we flee from you without realizing we have turned away.**

**The busyness of our lives
and the myriad responsibilities we carry
deafen us to the sound of your call.**

Instead of clinging to the hope you offer, sometimes we ignore the hope you offer.

**We put our hope in the things we own,
in what we can acquire,**

and in the accumulation of our resources which we save for tomorrow.

Forgive us when we turn away from you.

**Remind us of your desire to gather us together under your wings
as a mother hen gathers her brood under her wings. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN (See "Today at Westminster" on page 2 for more information.)

SCRIPTURE LESSON

LUKE 13:31-35

NEW TESTAMENT, PAGE 66
Lay Reader, Dave Máthé

SERMON

*HYMN NO. 215

What Wondrous Love Is This

WONDROUS LOVE

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Bring Many Names

Carlton R. Young

Bring many names, beautiful and good,
celebrate, in parable and story,
holiness in glory, living, loving God.
Hail and Hosanna! Bring many names!

Old, aching God, gray with endless care,
calmly piercing evil's new disguises,
glad of good surprises, wiser than despair:
Hail and Hosanna, old, aching God!

Strong mother God, working night and day,
planning all the wonders of creation,
setting each equation, genius at play:
Hail and Hosanna, strong mother God!

Young, growing God, eager, on the move,
saying no to falsehood and unkindness,
crying out for justice, giving all you have:
Hail and Hosanna, young, growing God!

Warm father God, hugging every child,
feeling all the strains of human living,
caring and forgiving till we're reconciled:
Hail and Hosanna, warm father God!

Great, living God, never fully known,
joyful darkness far beyond our seeing,
closer yet than breathing, everlasting home:
Hail and Hosanna, great, living God!
—Brian Wren

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.**

*HYMN NO. 728

Somebody's Knocking at Your Door

SOMEBODY'S KNOCKIN'

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Fanfare on AZMON

Frederick L. Swann

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Sermon Series on Seven Psalms

Dr. Jones is preaching a sermon series on seven psalms that cover a variety of topics and moods: praising God, declaring trust, lamenting hardship, pleading with God, confessing sin, grappling with mortality, voicing doubt, and expressing gratitude. Here is the schedule:

February 23

Psalm 104

God is Creator of the world

March 2

Psalm 88

Does God care that I'm hurting?

March 9

Psalm 46

God is our stronghold in times of trouble

March 23

Psalm 51

Forgive me

March 30

Psalm 90

Teach us to number our days

April 13

Psalm 22

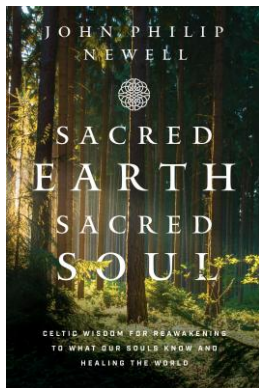
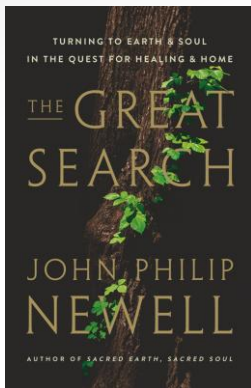
Why has God forsaken me?

May 4

Psalm 150

Thanks and praise to God

John Philip Newell Book Sale



Today and Sunday, March 23

John Philip Newell is coming to Westminster May 17 and 18! In preparation for his visit, we are selling his newest book, *The Great Search* (\$15), and *Sacred Earth Sacred Soul* (\$12). Stop by the table in the reception area and pick up a copy of one or both and be on the lookout for discussion group opportunities in March. Pay by cash, check (payable to Steve Steinwedel), Venmo (@Steve-Steinwedel), or Zelle (see Steve for details).

NEW TO WESTMINSTER? Welcome. We are glad you are here. We hope that you will join us following worship in Rodney Chapel for refreshments and fellowship. There will be a member standing near the blue "Welcome Visitors" sign at the entrance of Rodney Chapel who can answer any questions you might have about Westminster. The Friendship Pad will be passed during the service. We hope you sign it and give us your email or home address so that we might welcome you with a follow-up contact. A gender-neutral, accessible restroom is located between the pulpit transept and the tower entrance.

Please see the "I'm New" page of our website at wpc.org for more information about us.

ADULT EDUCATION

TODAY, MARCH 16

Wait, That's Friendship House???

Presented by Kim Eppehimer, Executive Director, Friendship House

10:40–11:30 a.m. | Classroom 6 and Zoom

Zoom link (case-sensitive): bit.ly/wpc-adult-ed-zoom

Zoom Meeting ID: 493 720 0361 | Passcode: 999506



Have you heard of Daughtry House, Clark House, or Burton House? How about the Clothing Bank or Code Purple? Come learn about the specific programs run and managed by Friendship House as we first listen then engage in conversation on how this organization has become a critical framework to the human services network throughout Delaware.

“The Way” by Adam Hamilton

Presented by the Rev. Jill Getty

Today and March 23

10:40–11:30 a.m. | Classroom 5

Join us for Hamilton’s engaging six-session DVD study, *Walking in the Footsteps of Jesus*, where he explores the life and ministry of Jesus Christ in the Holy Land. This unique experience includes on-location video footage.

NEXT SUNDAY, MARCH 23

How to Choose a Retirement Community

Presented by Janine Davis, Life Care Consultant

10:40–11:30 a.m. | Classroom 6 and Zoom

Zoom link (case-sensitive): bit.ly/wpc-adult-ed-zoom

Zoom Meeting ID: 896 1330 5150 | Passcode: 999506

Learn about available options, how to evaluate options, financial and healthcare considerations, resident life, and finding the right “fit.”

“The Way” by Adam Hamilton

Presented by the Rev. Jill Getty | **10:40–11:30 a.m. | Cl. 5**

Join us for Hamilton’s engaging six-session DVD study, *Walking in the Footsteps of Jesus*, where he explores the life and ministry of Jesus Christ in the Holy Land. This unique experience includes on-location video footage.

Paths to Belief *presented by Richmond Williams*

10:40–11:30 a.m. | Ruth Christie Room

Topics include C.S. Lewis’ thoughts about the existence of God and the case for Christianity as reflected in his book, *Mere Christianity*; and a column by David Brooks in the *New York Times* entitled, “I Found Faith in a Crowded Subway Car.”

ONGOING/WEEKLY

Online Bible Studies

Midweek Manna Bible Study

Wednesdays | 12 p.m. | Zoom

Contact: Robin Rosser (rlrosser@aol.com)

Thursday Evening Bible Study

Thursdays | 6–7 p.m. | Zoom

Facilitators: Randy Williamson

(randywilliamson1@comcast.net)

and Mary Anne Peters

Peace and Justice Thursday Evening Education Event

Racism in America – The Role of the Christian Church: What Have We Done? What Must We Do?

With insights from books written by Robert P. Jones and Jemar Tisby

March 20 | 7 p.m. | Zoom

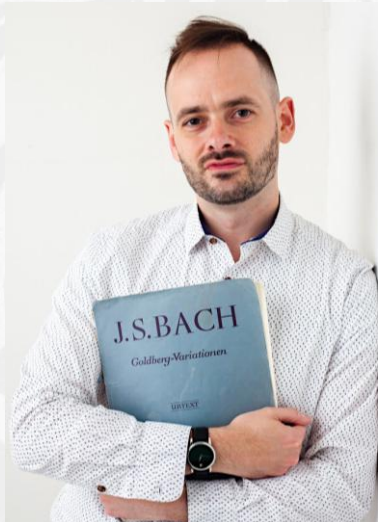
Zoom link: bit.ly/peace-justice-zoom

Hosted by our Peace & Justice Work Group.
zoom.us/join | Meeting ID: 860 2752 1655

For full descriptions of our programs and more adult education and small group opportunities, visit WPC.ORG/ADULTS or check our events calendar at WPC.ORG/EVENTS. Select adult education programs are available as a livestream/recording on our [YouTube channel](#).

CONCERT: Nathan Carterette, Piano

Friday, March 21 | 7:30 p.m. | Rodney Chapel



The fourth and final concert of the 2024—2025 Rodney Chapel Concert Series will be performed by pianist Nathan Carterette. Nathan is known for his brilliant and engaging performances of Bach. He has performed the complete *Well-Tempered Clavier* in concert, and the *Goldberg Variations* dozens of times, in America, Asia, and Europe. This is your chance to enjoy the transcendent music of J.S. Bach in the warmth and intimacy of Rodney Chapel with our new Steinway & Sons concert grand piano. Make it a date night! A wine and cheese reception follows.

***In person only* | Limited seating**

Advance tickets required (\$25): wpc.org/music

Tickets will not be sold at the door.

CALLING ALL KIDS IN KINDERGARTEN THROUGH 5TH GRADE **Next Youth Service Corps Event**

Saturday, March 22 • 9:45–11:30 a.m. • Friendship House Clothing Bank



We'll meet in the Friendship House Clothing Bank parking lot (1603 Jessup Street, Wilmington, DE, 19802) at 9:45 a.m., tour and learn about the facility, organize donations, and create cards for Clothing Bank guests. We need adults to assist the kids with lifting donation bags and sorting items (especially for our younger participants). You are welcome to bring new or gently used clothing and shoes for men, women, and children to donate.

Please contact Teresa (teresalunardi@gmail.com) or Kara (karalee.francis@gmail.com) with questions or to RSVP (we need to let them know how many to expect). We hope you can make it! **You may invite non-WPC friends! :)**

PASTORAL STAFF

The Rev. Dr. Gregory Knox Jones, Head of Staff
The Rev. Dr. Randall T. Clayton, Bridge Associate Pastor
The Rev. Jill Getty, Pastoral Care Assistant

MUSIC STAFF

Dr. F. Anthony Thurman, Director of Music/Organist
Rebecca Hughes; Margaret Mezzacappa; Teddy Austin; Jerry Polman, Section Leaders
Marjorie Eldreth, Director of Music for Children and Youth
Madelyn Testa, Choral Assistant for Children and Youth

VIDEOGRAPHERS

Deanna Sparling (lead videographer), Rich Albert, Chip Pfleegor,
Roger Reinicker, Aaron Wemhoff and Sophia Wolff

COMMUNION STEWARDS

Dan Weintraub and Jenn Barrington

CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRIES STAFF

Kathleen Kennan, Director of Christian Education and Youth Ministry
Stephanie Burris-White, Director of Preschool Ministries
Sasha Latina and Ava Herring, 180 Youth Leaders
Ava Herring and Beatrice Taylor, Nursery Caregivers

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Beth Bouchelle, Dave Brinkley, Mary Clark, Administrative Assistants
Paul Crothamel, Director of Facilities and Security
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Doug Gerds, Manager of Accounting and Reporting
Nicole Hughes, Director of Marketing and Communications
Delilah Gainey; John Jordan; Robert King; Joan Truitt, Sextons
Craig Checkel, Office Support and Security

SESSION

Brud Bacon, Brenda Bilous, Adam Blackford, Michelle Butler, Sally Buttner, John Carpenter, Clark Collins,
Bob Cox, Sara Dubberly, Mike Gnade Jr., Chris Hickey, Laura Holmes, Carla Krupanski, Tara Lee, Daniel Malzhan,
Jen Máthé, KC Morrison, Dave McBride, Susan McPheeters, Carol Neff, Chip Pfleegor,
Roger Reinicker, Dan Weintraub, Helen Zumsteg

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DR Congo – PC(USA) Mission Co-workers: Jeff and Christi Boyd, Larry and Inge Sthreshley;
Kananga Presbytery and Members of Kamulumba-Ditalala Parish, Conserv Congo: Adams Cassinga
Middle East (Syria, Lebanon, Palestine) - Fellowship of Middle East Evangelical Churches (Syria, Lebanon)
PC(USA) Mission Co-Worker Elmarie Parker (Syria, Lebanon);
Wi'am Palestinian Conflict Transformation Center in Bethlehem (Palestine)
Guatemala - CEDEPCA, AJPU, the Association of Mam Christian Women for Development.