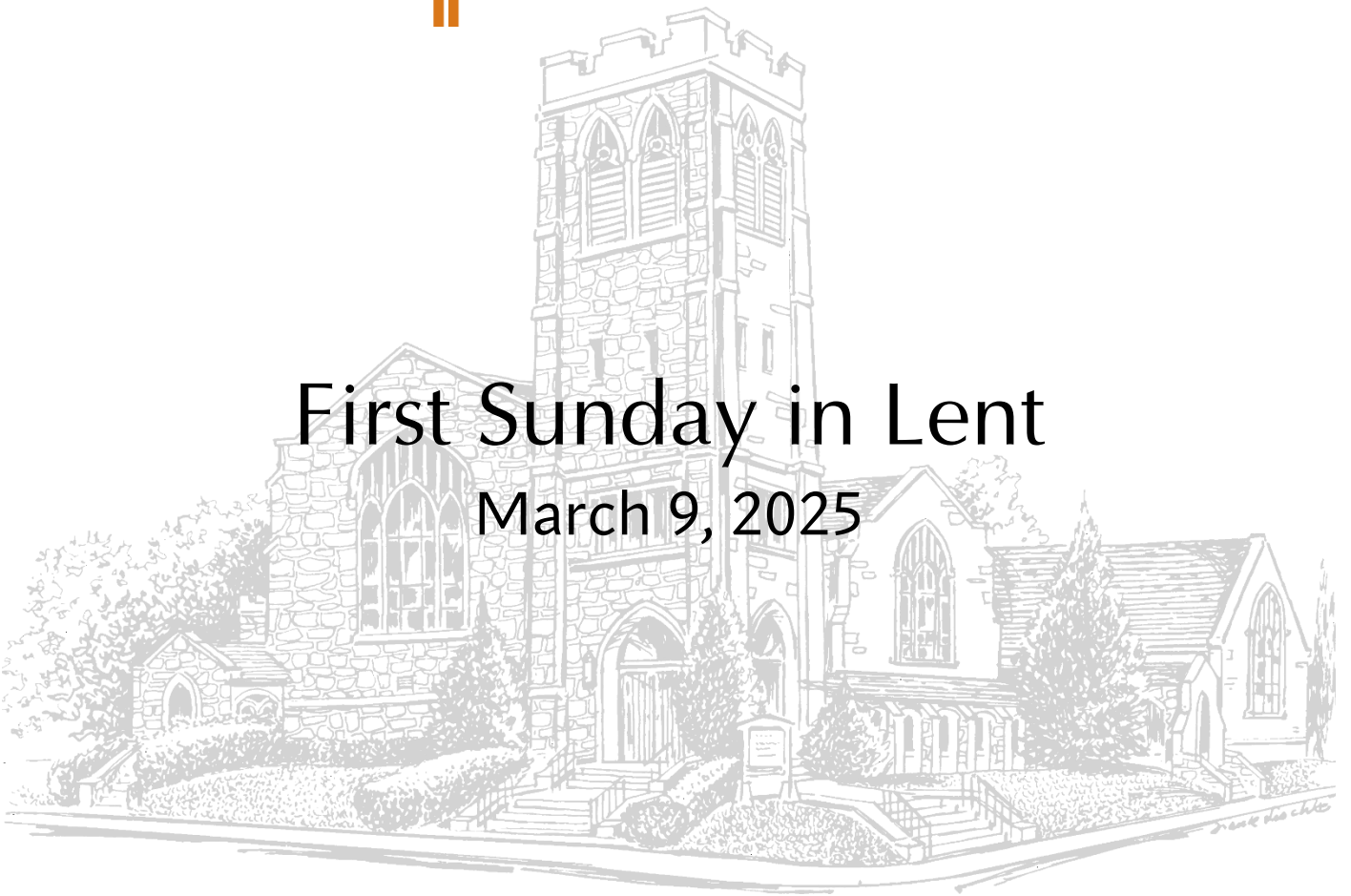




WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

First Sunday in Lent
March 9, 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

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

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

STAY CONNECTED
WITH OUR
COMMUNITY OF
FAITH!



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wpc.org



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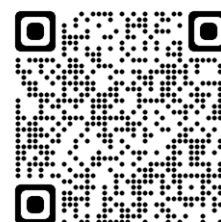


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The Music: The offertory anthem is a serenely beautiful work based on the text of Psalm 46. Michael John Trotta's anthem offers a gentle dialogue between voices and piano that offers a peaceful assurance of the psalm text. From Carnegie Hall to cathedrals and concert halls around the world, Trotta creates "elegant, singable music with a strong, spiritual heft" (*Choir and Organ Magazine*). Would you like to add your voice to the Westminster Choir? Please speak with Tony Thurman after the service or email TonyThurman@wpc.org. The choir is already rehearsing for a spring concert on May 18—the Brahms *Requiem*.

The chancel flowers are given to the Glory of God and in memory of Charles K. Enderle, father of Mike Enderle, by the Westminster Choir. Consider giving the flowers for Sunday worship to remember or honor loved ones or to celebrate an event. The currently available date is March 16. 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

Susan Spilecki

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

Gregory Knox Jones

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

PRELUDE

If Thou Be Near

J.S. Bach

CALL TO WORSHIP

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

**Therefore we will not fear though the earth should change,
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea.**

Be still and know that I am God.

I am exalted among the nations, I am exalted in the earth!

The God of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. —Psalm 46

*HYMN NO. 41

O Worship the King, All Glorious Above!

LYONS

CALL TO CONFESSION

Randall T. Clayton

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Loving God, we confess that our faith is often weak
and we fail to trust your promise to be our strength and deliverer.
We have doubted your assurance that you never forsake us,
and we have been anxious and despairing when life becomes difficult.
Whenever darkness envelops our lives,
grant us the awareness of your loving presence
transmitted to us through the love of others.
Bring healing and wholeness to our lives
in order that we may once again enjoy the blessings of life
and gratefully acknowledge your steadfast love.**

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

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

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Daisy Elise John, Daughter of Nicole and Alex John

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

PRESENTATION OF THE PARENTS AND CHILD

Laura Holmes

OPENING WORDS

People brought little children to see and to hear Jesus.

The disciples tried to turn them away, but Jesus said:

**"Let the little children come to me and do not stop them:
For it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs."**

And Jesus took the children in his arms, laid his hands on them and blessed them.

PROMISES OF COMMITMENT

Nicole and Alex, do you acknowledge Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior? **We do.**

Relying on God's grace, do you promise to live the Christian faith and to teach that faith to your daughter Daisy? **We do.**

CONGREGATION

Will we, the people of the church, nurture and support Nicole and Alex, and will we encourage Daisy to become a faithful Christian? **We will.**

CHILDREN

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

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

ACT OF BAPTISM

PRAYER FOLLOWING BAPTISM

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalm 46

Old Testament, pages 480-481
Jennifer Barrington, Lay Reader

SERMON

*HYMN NO. 329

God Is Our Refuge and Our Strength

WINCHESTER OLD

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Be Still and Know

Michael John Trotta

Even if the mountains were to fall into the sea,
Waters were to surge upon the earth,
Hope still lives in a most holy place,
A place that shall not move for I am here.
Be still and know that I am your God.
Be still and know and you'll find rest, a refuge for your soul.
When nations roar and kingdoms fall still you shall not fear,
My strength and hope will keep you on your way.
Wars shall cease and the shields melt with fire,
Listen then for you will hear my voice.
Keep your mind on things above and not on earthly things,
You're hidden with me in the safest place.
Your old self has died and is risen again;
Your death shall be what brings you to new life.
—Ps. 46, adapt. M.J.T.

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.**

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

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.

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Be Still and Know, Michael John Trotta.

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ADULT EDUCATION

TODAY, MARCH 9

Walking With Courage: A Special Program

Presented by the Rev. Dr. Tracy Keenan, and the Rev. Shannon Hanson, New Castle Presbytery, and WPC members Lynne Kielhorn, and Mike and Shelley Gnade

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

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

Zoom Meeting ID: 833 7844 6774 | Passcode: 999506

Those who participated in the pilgrimage to Montgomery and Selma, Alabama, in September will share their encounters and reflections from the powerful experience, reminded that the fight for equality requires the courage to face hard truths with faith and love.

The Way by Adam Hamilton

Presented by the Rev. Jill Getty

March 9, 16, and 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 16

Wait, That's Friendship House???

Presented by Kim Eppehimer, Exec. Dir., 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 more 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 and throughout Delaware.

The Way by Adam Hamilton

Presented by the Rev. Jill Getty

March 16 and 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.

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

War and Peace: Four Thoughts on Preventing and Ending War

With David McBride

Join us as Dave McBride shares his perspectives on four topics.

March 13 | 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



Our Rodney Chapel Concert Series continues with Bach's *Goldberg Variations* performed by Nathan Carterette, piano. A wine and cheese reception follows.

***In person only* | Limited seating**
Advance tickets required (\$25):

wpc.org/music

The online ticketing system will be available until
Noon on March 21 or until the event is sold out.
Tickets will not be sold at the door.

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 Eva Herring, 180 Youth Leaders
Ava Herring and Beatrice Taylor, Nursery Caregivers

SUPPORT STAFF

Susan Alexander, Reception Area Supervisor
Beth Bouchelle, Dave Brinkley, Mary Clark, Administrative Assistants
Paul Crothamel, Director of Facilities and Security
Colleen Falasco, Director of Financial Operations
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

BOARD OF DEACONS

Liz Bacon, Susan Baddorf, Lisa Bianchi, Russ Butler, Beatty Chadwick, Diane Chandler,
David Cole, Tammy Daley, Erin Downing, Beth Emmons, Ellie Furry, Sara Gavenonis,
Jamie Hickey, Rick Holmes, Charlie Ingersoll, Barbara Jobe, Elaine Lunardi, Sarah Mentzer, Pattie Miller,
Gathoni Murugi-Jenkins, Lynne Perkins, Rachel Psaros, Patti Ridout, Robin Rosser,
Carrie Saathoff, Robin Shaeffer, Zora Stevens, Carol Tatnall, Claudia Van Lenten, Sue Weisinger,
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Rich Albert, Dave Brinkley, Tom Brooks, Gary Bryde, Matt Fischer, Nancy Fleming,
John Gavenonis, Lou Hering, Sue Linderman, Laura Scanlan, Craig Stabler, Stan Stevenson

PARTNERS IN WORLDWIDE MINISTRY

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.