

# Westminster Presbyterian Church

THE LORD'S DAY OF WORSHIP — 24 October 2021

## The Sanctuary: A House of Prayer and Preparation

Welcome to Westminster! We offer a short time for meditation at 9:40, before the service starts. Join us to prepare your heart for worship, and we will begin our time of announcements and the call to worship at 9:45.

## Offering Stones

If you give financially to Westminster online or by mail, please take a stone as you enter the sanctuary. You may place your stone in the offering plate as it comes your way during the offertory as a physical token of your offering to the LORD. (This is also a great way to teach children and others about sacrificial giving.)

## Meditation: Preparing our Hearts for Worship

*Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent His only Son into the world, so that we might live through Him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and His love is perfected in us. 1 John 4:7-12*

## Welcome + Announcements

## God Calls Us to Worship Him

Psalm 103:1-5

Leader: Bless the LORD, O my soul,  
and all that is within me,  
bless His holy name!  
Bless the LORD, O my soul,  
and forget not all His benefits,

People: Who forgives all your iniquity,  
Who heals all your diseases,

Leader: Who redeems your life from the pit,  
Who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,

Unison: Who satisfies you with good  
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

### Prayer of Invocation + Adoration

### Hymns of Praise + Adoration

#### How Great Thou Art (Hymn #44)

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#### My Faith Has Found a Resting Place (Hymn #468)

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# God Graciously Renews Us in Christ

## Preparation for Confession of Sin

### CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

Leader: The Prophet proclaimed: *The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it? 'I the Lord search the heart and examine the mind, to reward a man according to his conduct, according to what his deeds deserve.'* (Jeremiah 17:9-10). Let us then confess our sins saying...

People: Almighty God, we believe that You are coming again in power to judge the earth. But we confess that we have not lived as those who daily expect Your kingdom.

We have spoken harsh words, thought impure thoughts, and lived casual lives. We have ignored Your promised judgment by not loving You with our whole hearts or our neighbors as ourselves.

Have mercy on us and forgive us for all our offenses. In Your tender kindness, embrace us with Your fatherly love, and fill our hearts with the joyful expectation of seeing You soon, face to face. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, we pray ...

Silent Confession & Reflection

The Words of the Gospel for those who repent and believe:

Leader: I declare this sure promise: *The name of the LORD is a strong tower; the righteous run to it and are safe.*  
(Proverbs 18:10).

People: Amen!

## Hymn of Renewal: I Boast No More (Songbook #67)

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# God Calls Us to Make Offerings

## Tithes + Offerings:

The Offering of the Prayers of the People: Glenn Dowling

Missionaries: William & Katherine Bondurant ~ RUF @ Texas A & M University  
Restorative Justice Ministries

People: 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.

## The Collection of our Tithes + Offerings

While there are many ways to contribute financially to God's Kingdom, the church is the primary means by which that kingdom is established on earth. Thus, God calls us first and foremost to be faithful in the regular, ongoing support of one's local church body through tithes and offerings. If you haven't made tithing a practice, please consider adopting tithing or generous giving as a spiritual practice—that you might grow in faith and that together we might increase Westminster's capacity to be the body of Christ in Bryan & College Station for the world.

If you give to Westminster online or by mail, please take a stone as you enter the sanctuary. You may place your stone in the offering plate as it comes your way as a physical token of your offering to the LORD. (This is also a great way to teach children and others about sacrificial giving.) If you would like to participate with your giving in real time, visit our website to give online, under the Giving + Membership tab. Or, set up text giving: text the number of an amount to 979-200-4600 and then enter your credit card information.

## Offertory: Is He Worthy

## The Presentation of our Tithes + Offerings

## Prayer of Dedication: Andy Crane

## Hymn of Preparation:

## Nothing But the Blood of Jesus (vv 1-2) (Hymn #307)

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# God Gives Us His Word

## Morning Lesson

*Grafted: The Just and Justifier*

Romans 3:21-31

REV. WADE COLEMAN

## Hymn of Response:

### Nothing But the Blood of Jesus (vv 3-4) (Hymn #307)

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## God Feeds Us His Covenant Meal

### The Lord's Supper:

#### A Word about Communion at Westminster

This is a time for all people to seek the Lord. For Christians, Communion (also called the Lord's Supper or The Eucharist, which means 'thanksgiving') is a time to meet with their Savior by faith, to be strengthened and renewed by Him as they eat bread and drink wine. All baptized Christians who trust in Christ alone as their Savior and Lord, belong to an evangelical church that embraces the gospel, are at peace with their fellow neighbor, and seek strength and grace to live more faithfully to Christ, are invited to participate. If you are not a Christian, or if you are not prepared to share in this meal, we encourage you to spend this time in prayer and to consider more deeply your relationship to Jesus Christ. We also ask that children who have not yet publicly professed their faith in Christ refrain from partaking until doing so.

### Preparation for Communion

#### Words of Institution: I Corinthians 11:23-26

#### Invitation + Warning

#### Prayer + Setting Apart the Bread and Wine

## Holy Communion

Westminster uses wine and grape juice in serving the Lord's Supper. You will find pre-packaged cups of grape juice marked "J" on the outer row of each tray and pre-packaged wine marked "W" in the inner rows of the tray. Each person may take the element according to his or her conscience.

We offer an alternate bread wafer for those with gluten and dairy allergies (also soy and egg free). These cups are marked gluten free in the service trays.

### Prayers for Those Not Communing:

Lord Jesus, You claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. If what You claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who You are. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following You as I consider the reasons for doing so. Give me an understanding of You that is coherent, convincing, and leads to the life that You promise. Amen. **Prayer of Searching for Truth**

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but through You, I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared to hope. I thank You for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross, and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that You have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive You as my savior. Amen. **Prayer of Believing on Jesus**

Lord Jesus, grant that I may see in You the fulfillment of all my needs and may turn from every false satisfaction to feed on You, the true and living bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely to me and run with perseverance the race that You have set before me, looking only to You, the pioneer and champion of my faith. Amen. **Prayer of Struggling Against Sin**

### Distribution of Communion Elements

#### I Will Glory in My Redeemer (Songbook #71)

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### Taking Together the Bread and Cup

# Confession of Faith

## The Apostles' Creed<sup>1</sup>

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; He descended into hell<sup>2</sup>; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church,<sup>3</sup> the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

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<sup>1</sup> **The Apostles' Creed** is an ancient creed (or, statement of faith) of the Church and historically has been widely used and cherished by believers. Although it was not written by the Apostles, we believe it to be a concise summary of their teachings. It may have originated as a baptismal formula around the 2<sup>nd</sup> century, and developed into its present form by the 6<sup>th</sup> or 7<sup>th</sup> century.

<sup>2</sup> **Jesus' descent into hell** consisted in His priestly act of offering Himself up as a sacrifice for sins, undergoing the wrath of God on the Cross, and remaining under the power of death for three days before being vindicated in His resurrection.

<sup>3</sup> The term "**catholic**" means "**universal**" and hence does not refer to one particular church, but to Christ's universal Church, wherever she may be found gathering in Christ's name.



# God Blesses Us and Sends Us Forth

## **Benediction: Numbers 6:24-26**

*The LORD bless you and keep you;  
the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;  
the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.*

**People: Amen!**

## **Benediction Song (Verse 1)**

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## **Passing of the Peace**

**Minister:** The peace of Christ be with you.

**All:** And also with you.

GREET ONE ANOTHER WITH A SIGN OF FRIENDSHIP SUCH AS:  
"THE PEACE OF CHRIST BE WITH YOU" & "AND ALSO WITH YOU."