

Westminster Presbyterian Church

THE LORD'S DAY OF WORSHIP — 22 January 2023

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 (1 Corinthians 1:18-25)

For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written,

"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,

and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

Welcome + Announcements

God Calls Us to Worship Him (Psalm 96:1-3)

Call to Worship:

Leader: Oh, sing to the Lord a new song;
sing to the Lord, all the earth!

People: Sing to the Lord, bless His name;
tell of His salvation from day to day.

All: Declare His glory among the nations,
His marvelous works among all the peoples!

Prayer of Invocation + Adoration

Hymns of Praise + Adoration

Hallelujah, Praise Jehovah (Songbook #56)

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Hail to the Lord's Anointed (Songbook #55)

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God Graciously Renews Us in Christ

Corporate Confession of Sin:

Leader: The Psalmist has said, "*If you, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?*" (Psalm 130: 3). Let us then confess our sins saying ...

People: Almighty God, our most merciful Father, we have sinned against You and against others—in thought and in word and in deed—in the evil we have done and in the good we have not done, through ignorance, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault.

We are truly sorry for our sinfulness and repent of all of our sins. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us for our wandering ways; and grant that we may serve You in newness of life to the glory of Your most holy Name, we pray....

Silent Confession & Reflection

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

Leader: I declare this sure promise: *He Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, so that we might die to sin and live for righteousness; by His wounds you have been healed. For you were like sheep going astray, but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.* (I Peter 2:24-25).

People: Amen!

Hymn of Renewal:

I Will Glory in My Redeemer (Songbook #71)

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God Calls Us to Make Offerings

Tithes + Offerings:

The Offering of the Prayers of the People: Titus Bagby

Missionaries: McCanns and their RUF outreach at TAMU

RUF interns- Emma Pearson and George Devaney

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

The Presentation of our Tithes + Offerings

Prayer of Dedication

Hymn of Preparation:

The Church's One Foundation (Hymn #347) vs. 1, 3, 4

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God Gives Us His Word

Morning Lesson

The Power of Story

Romans 11:11-24

REV TREE TRIOLO

Hymn of Response:

The Church's One Foundation (Hymn #347) vs. 2, 5-6

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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

Communion Hymn:

We Will Feast in the House of Zion (Songbook #154)

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Taking Together the Bread and Cup

God Blesses Us and Sends Us Forth

Benediction:

Ephesians 3:17-19

Leader: ... so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

People: **AMEN!**

Doxology

Benediction vs. 1 (Songbook #26)

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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."