

Westminster Presbyterian Church

THE LORD'S DAY OF WORSHIP — 26 March 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 (Colossians 1:15-20)

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross. (ESV)

Welcome + Announcements

God Calls Us to Worship Him (Psalm 98:1-4)

Call to Worship:

Leader: Oh sing to the Lord a new song,
for He has done marvelous things!
His right hand and His holy arm
have worked salvation for Him.

People: The Lord has made known His salvation;
He has revealed His righteousness in the sight of the nations.

Leader: He has remembered His steadfast love and faithfulness
to the house of Israel.
All the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation of our God.

All: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth;
break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

Prayer of Invocation + Adoration

Hymns of Praise + Adoration

10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord) (Songbook #28)

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I Will Praise Him Still

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God Graciously Renews Us in Christ

Corporate Confession of Sin:

PREPARATION FOR CONFESSION OF SIN

Call to obedience: For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it. (James 2:10)

The Ten Commandments

Exodus 20:1-17

Leader: And God spoke all these words, saying, *I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.* Let us, therefore, confess our sins saying ...

People: You shall have no other gods before Me.

You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.

You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.

Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.

Honor your father and your mother.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

You shall not covet.

Silent Confession & Reflection

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

Leader: I declare this sure promise: *Come to Me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.* (Matthew 11:28-30)

Hymn of Renewal:

Jesus! What a Friend For Sinners

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God Calls Us to Make Offerings

Tithes + Offerings:

The Offering of the Prayers of the People: Mike McDonald

Missionaries: Joy Soas - RUF Outreach in Nashville

Restorative Justice

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:

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

God Gives Us His Word

Morning Lesson

Don't Look Back

Luke 9:51-62

REV WADE COLEMAN

Hymn of Response: Great Is Thy Faithfulness (vs. 1&3)

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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: The Wonderful Cross

Chris Tomlin | Isaac Watts | J. D. Walt | Jesse Reeves | Lowell Mason © 2000 Rising Springs Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)
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Taking Together the Bread and Cup

God Blesses Us and Sends Us Forth

Benediction:

Numbers 6:24-26

Leader: *The Lord bless you and keep you; The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you; The Lord turn His face toward you and give you peace.*

People: **AMEN!**

Doxology Praise to God the Father Sing

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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."