

Westminster Presbyterian Church

THE LORD'S DAY OF WORSHIP — 17 November 2024

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 (Matthew 5:2-12)

And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

"Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

"Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you. ESV

Welcome + Announcements

God Calls Us to Worship Him (Psalm 121:1-4)

Call to Worship:

Leader: I lift up my eyes to the hills.
From where does my help come?

People: My help comes from the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.

Leader: He will not let your foot be moved;
he who keeps you will not slumber.

All: Behold, he who keeps Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep.

Prayer of Invocation + Adoration

Hymns of Praise + Adoration

Blessed Be Your Name (Songbook #30)

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Though Troubles Assail Us

John Newton, 1779, arr. by S. Hampton, 2023.

God Graciously Renews Us in Christ

Corporate Confession of Sin:

Leader: *Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your steadfast love; according to Your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin! (Psalm 51:1-2)*

Let us then confess our sins saying ...

All: O Father, thank You for Your Word that is a lamp unto my feet,
and a light unto my path.
It shows me the way of Your Kingdom
and reminds that all true pleasures are found at Your right hand.
Your Word also exposes my shortcomings—
my hidden tendency toward selfishness and greed,
envy and lust, bitterness and anger.
It shows me how impatient I am
with difficult people and trying circumstances.
Again and again it proves me to be a weak and needy creature,
vulnerable before You to whom we must all give account.
Thank You, though, that in my frailty,
Your Word takes me to the Lord of the Word,
My blessed and gracious Savior, Jesus.
May He who obeyed Your Word perfectly for me
now be my love and joy, mercy and peace,
hope and freedom, both now and forevermore.

Silent Confession & Reflection

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

Leader: *And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the LORD, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the LORD who is the Spirit. (2 Corinthians 3:18).*

All: Amen!

Hymn of Renewal

The Wonderful Cross (Songbook # __)

God Calls Us to Make Offerings

Tithes + Offerings:

The Offering of the Prayers of the People: Pat Wells

Missionaries: Ryan & Katie (MTW)

Ministry: Hope Pregnancy Center

WPC Ministry: Share - Men's Ministry [Bible Studies]

All: 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 wpcbryan.org to give online, and navigate to the Giving + Membership tab. You may give online using a credit card or bank draft through our ChurchTrac portal. If you prefer to set up text giving, text the number of an amount to 844-987-4483 and you'll be guided through setup.

Offertory

The Presentation of our Tithes + Offerings

Prayer of Dedication

Dismissal for Worship Kidz

God Gives us His Word

Reframing our Suffering

I Peter 4:12-19

TITUS BAGBY

Hymn of Response:

Jesus I My Cross Have Taken (Songbook #82)

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God Feeds Us His Covenant Meal

The Lord's Supper:

Preparation for Communion

Words of Institution: I Corinthians 11:23-26

Invitation + Warning

Prayer + Setting Apart the Bread and Wine

Holy Communion

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

Confession of Faith

The Twenty-Third Psalm

Unison: *The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not be in want.
He makes me lie down in green pastures,
He leads me beside quiet waters.
He restores my soul.
He guides me in paths of righteousness for His name's sake.*

*Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil, for You are with me;
Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.*

*You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies.
You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.
Surely goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life,
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.*

Amen.

God Blesses Us and Sends Us Forth

Benediction:

Jude 24, 25

Leader: *o Him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you before His glorious presence without fault and with great joy – to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore!*

All: **AMEN!**

Praise To God the Father Sing (SB #44b)

Passing of the Peace

Leader: 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."