



Westminster PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MARCH 3, 2024 AT 11AM | 3RD SUNDAY IN LENT

An open and welcoming Christian community in service to God and neighbor

We Come Into God's Presence with Joy

Gathering Music

Life of the Church

Prelude

* Call to Worship

Gail Arnold, liturgist

(based on Psalm 19:1-6)

The heavens tell of the Lord's glory,

And the skies proclaim the work of our God!

Every day and every night,

There is another chance to know God more.

Creation needs no words, nor the earth a voice,

Yet they proclaim to all the wonders of the Creator!

As steadfast as the rising and setting sun,

Our God is mighty to save.

Let us offer our praise to Jesus the Christ,

The author of our salvation, through whom all creation is held together.

Let us worship the Lord!

* *You are invited to stand as you are able.*

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

Holy God, we confess that we too often look the other way when you call to us. We let other habits take up the space that you deserve. We let hurtful practices become normal. We get defensive when you move in our lives. We would rather settle for less instead of responding to your challenge. In your mercy, Lord, help us to let go of all that is worthless. Bring us into new life again.

Silent prayers of confession.

Assurance of God's Presence and Promise

*Jesus, our Savior and friend, has borne the weight of sin and broken its power.
By His mighty name, you are forgiven.*

Thanks be to God! Amen.

* Passing the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

* Song of Response #609 *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

† **Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.**

Praise God, all creatures high and low. Alleluia, alleluia!

Praise God, in Jesus fully known: Creator, Word and Spirit one.

Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

We Hear God's Word

First Reading of The Word **Psalm 19:7-14**

Anthem

*Lord, Who Throughout
These Forty Days*

arr. Lani Smith

Westminster Choir; Gail Arnold, flute

Lord, who throughout these forty days for us did fast and pray,
Teach us with you to mourn our sins, and close by you to stay.
As you with Satan did contend, and did the victory win,
O give us strength in you to fight, in you to conquer sin.
And through these days of penitence, And through your Passion-tide,
Yes, evermore, in life and death, O Lord with us abide.
Abide with us, so when this course of life on earth is past,
An Easter of unending joy we may attain at last, at last!

Second Reading of the Word **John 2:13-22**

Sermon

Making Room

Nate Veldhoff

We Respond to God's Word

* Preparation for Prayer #469 **Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying**

Lord, listen to your children praying.

Lord, send your Spirit in this place.

Lord, listen to your children praying.

Send us love; send us power; send us grace.

Prayers of the People and 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.**

Offering and Prayer of Dedication

Invitation to the Offering

* Song of Response #711 *Lord of All Good* TOULON
**Father, whose bounty all creation shows;
Christ, by whose willing sacrifice we live;
Spirit, from whom all life in fullness flows:
to you with grateful hearts ourselves we give.**

* Prayer of Dedication

* Hymn #366

*Love Divine,
All Loves Excelling*

HYFRYDOL

We Go Forth to Serve

* Benediction

. . . and let all God's people say, "**Alleluia! Amen!**"

Postlude

Preaching this morning is our very own Communications and Media Director, Nate Veldhoff. Nate attended the University of Michigan where he received a degree in Architecture. He completed his Master of Divinity degree from Moody Theological Seminary in the Spring of 2021. In addition to his work at Westminster, he also regularly leads worship and preaches at The Greenroom Church in Ann Arbor on Monday nights as well as with several other area churches on Sunday mornings. When not in church-world, you can find Nate pouring coffee at Vertex Coffee Roasters in Ann Arbor or playing gigs with several local musicians.

We pray for our Westminster family

Current needs: Richard LeSueur

Ongoing needs: Donna Greyerbiehl, Kathy Kamm, Elke Kramer

Condolences: to the family of Peter Quiroz on the February 17 death of Peter.

Please email prayer requests to Gail Arnold (garnold@umich.edu) for listing here and in the *Friday Good Things Are Happening* email; or contact Jill Fairchild, prayer chain coordinator (jill@thefairchilds.net or 734-417-0816). You can join our email prayer chain by contacting Jill. To keep us current, please share updates on those for whom we are praying.

This Week's News

Communion for the month of March will be served next Sunday, 3/10.

You're invited to bring a loaf of fresh-baked bread to worship, which we'll deliver the following Wednesday to guests at Riverside Community Gathering, as a way of sharing the grace of the Lord's table with them.

Easter Flowers: Today is the last day to order Easter flowers! Thank you to all who have purchased flowers for the deacons to deliver to our at-home members. When ordering, you also have the option to take your plant home on Easter Sunday after the service. Order form can be found at westpresa2.org

Holy Week Service: Thursday, March 28th, from 6-8pm. This special service will combine the liturgy and traditions of Maundy Thursday and Good Friday on the same day and include a simple meal together. We are in need of people to help with bringing food, setting up tables and cleaning up after the meal and service. Sign up sheets are on the bulletin board near the library. If you have questions, contact Lynda Berg (lrwberg@sbcglobal.net).

March Third Friday Event: Sign up on the bulletin board to join us on Friday, March 15. At 6pm, we will share a St. Patrick's Day themed meal with traditional Irish food (and lots of green!) and will be followed by a presentation at 7pm by Betty Chaffee: "Decluttering your medicine cabinet: The Power of De-Prescribing". More information at westpresa2.org.

Habitat House of Faith: Westminster's next work day for Habitat House of Faith is on Sat, 3/16. We will also have two dates in April (4/5, 4/26). Sign up on our website, or contact Ron Fairchild for more info (ron@thefairchilds.net).

One Great Hour of Sharing: From now until Easter, we have the opportunity to support PC(USA)'s annual special offering, One Great Hour of Sharing. Contributions can be made online at westpresa2.org/online-giving or by check to Westminster with "One Great Hour of Sharing" in the memo line.

Grow in Faith and Friendship

Reading Through the Bible Group meets Sundays at 9:30am. Please contact Marcia Anderson (hilden.anderson@gmail.com; 734-757-4305) for more info.

Sunday Morning Adult Ed meets in the fellowship hall at 9:30am. For the season of Lent, we are reading *Hard and Holy Work* by Tyler D. Mayfield & Mary Alice Birdwhistell.

Monday Conversations are weekly at 1pm online. The Zoom invitation is in the Friday *Good Things* and Sunday podcast emails.

Mary Martha Group meets the first and third Mondays at 7pm via Zoom. Please contact Margaret Klammer (mklammer@comcast.net) for more information.

Matthew 25 Study Group meets at 7pm on the second and fourth Mondays of each month. For meeting information please contact Elizabeth Tidd (lizbeth0405@yahoo.com) or Carol Hufnagel (carol.hufnagel@tetrattech.com).

Thursday Book Club meets weekly at 1pm at Westminster and over Zoom. The current book is *We Belong to the Land* by Elias Chacour. Please contact Sue Flynn for more information. (cafelapeninsula@comcast.net).

Welcome to Westminster

Our Values: Love, Compassion, Connection, Inclusion, Earth-Care, Service

Our Mission: Show the love of Jesus Christ by welcoming everyone, without exception, into the full life of the church; participating in the joyful worship of God; engaging in regular study, reflection, prayer and sharing of our faith; committing ourselves and our resources to the spiritual and physical needs of our church family and neighbors near and far; seeking to be a good neighbor in our neighborhood.

Sunday worship podcasts are at bit.ly/westpres_online.

For deacon care, please contact Gail Arnold (garnold@umich.edu).

Thank you for continuing to fulfill your pledges and financial commitments in support of the mission and ministry of Westminster Presbyterian Church.

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