



Westminster PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MARCH 22, 2026 AT 11AM | 5TH SUNDAY IN LENT

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

We Come Into God's Presence with Joy

Life of the Church

Prelude

* Call to Worship

Rachel Croxton, liturgist

*This is not the time for platitudes,
for simple answers and tired clichés.*

This is the time for breaking hearts and weary spirits.

**Let our worship be the arms
that can hold all that grieves us.**

*This is not the place for blame,
for pointing fingers and second guessing.*

This is the time for angry tears and aching wails.

**Let our worship be the witness
that journeys alongside us even as we break.**

*When we are standing at the edge of the tomb,
staring into the truth of the death-dealing forces of our world,
when there is nothing left to do but to go and weep,*

**Let our worship be the song
calling us forth from the grave, to be set free.**

Adapted from a prayer by Dr. Sharon R. Fennema

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

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

**God of Resurrection,
We know the power of death.
We have seen its works, we have felt its sting.
We have been in the valley of despair,
And felt like there was no chance for life.
We struggle to believe in your power to resurrect.
We struggle to believe in your power to redeem our pain,
And fashion something beautiful of this broken world.
Have mercy on us. We cry from the depths—
However faint our call may be,
We pray you hear our voice.**

Adapted from "Call to Worship" Volume 56.1

Silent prayers of confession.

Sung Response

Lord Have Mercy

by Steve Merkel

**Lord have mercy,
Christ have mercy.
Lord have mercy on me.**

Assurance of Grace

* Passing the Peace

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

* Song of Response #288

Spirit of the Living God

† **Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.**

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

We Hear God's Word

First Reading of The Word

Ezekiel 37:1-14

Anthem

Wayfaring Stranger

by Howard Helvey

Westminster Choir; Eric Klooster, soloist

I'm just a poor wayfaring stranger, I'm traveling through the world below;
There is no sickness, nor danger, in that bright world to which I go.
I'm going there to see my father, I'm going there no more to roam;
I'm just a going over Jordan, I'm just a going over home.
I know dark clouds will gather over me, I know my pathway's rough and steep;
But golden fields lie out before me, where weary eyes no more shall weep.
I'm going there to see my mother, she said she'd meet me when I come;
I'm just a going over Jordan, I'm going over home.
I'll soon be free from every trial, this form will rest beneath the sod;
I'll drop the cross of self-denial, and enter in my home with God.
I'm going there to see my Saviour, who shed for me His precious blood;
I'm just a going over Jordan, I'm just a going over home.

† *You are welcome to sign as you are comfortable and able.*

We include this practice as a way to engage our whole selves in worship.

A Moment to Wonder

Children are invited to come forward for a short lesson on the chancel steps.

Second Reading of the Word **John 11:17-44**

Sermon

If You Had Been Here

Rev. Hannah Lundberg

We Respond to God's Word

* Preparation for Prayer #471

O Lord, Hear My Prayer

O Lord, hear my prayer.

O Lord, hear my prayer.

When I call, answer me.

O Lord, hear my prayer.

O Lord, hear my prayer.

Come and listen to me.

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

Offertory

* Song of Response #654 *In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful*

In the Lord I'll be ever thankful;

in the Lord I will rejoice!

Look to God; do not be afraid.

Lift up your voices, the Lord is near.

Lift up your voices; the Lord is near.

* Prayer of Dedication

* Hymn #840

When Peace like a River

VILLE DU HAVRE

We Go Forth to Serve

* Dismissal

And let all God's people say:

Go with us God.

Postlude

This Week's News

Holy Week Service: The Worship Ministry Team is planning a Holy Week Service for Thursday, April 2. This service combines the liturgy and traditions of Maundy Thursday and Good Friday on the same day. It will begin at 6pm with a modest meal in Fellowship Hall where we will also hear the traditional scriptures of Maundy Thursday and partake in holy communion. We will then move to the Sanctuary to continue our worship focusing on the liturgy and events of Good Friday. There are sign up sheets on the bulletin board to help provide food: soup in crockpots, crackers and cookies. We also need help with the setup and/or cleanup. If you have questions, contact Lynda Berg (lrwberg@sbcglobal.net).

Kid's Easter Party! On Saturday, April 4, we will host our annual Kid's Easter Party. Come by Westminster 10am-11:30am to enjoy a small-animal petting farm, crafts, story time, and of course, an Easter Egg Hunt! Bring your kids and grandkids, invite your neighbors, and join the fun!

Easter Sunday: Join us for a time of fellowship before the service on Easter morning! On Sunday, April 5, there will be some extra treats to enjoy from 10-11am by the coffee bar. Let's celebrate the joy of the resurrection together!

Habitat House of Faith: Westminster has another opportunity coming up this month to serve with Habitat for Humanity: 3/27, 9am-3pm. We are looking for 4 volunteers for this service date. No experience necessary, and all tools will be provided! Visit our website for more information and to sign up, or contact Ron Fairchild with questions (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 in Room 34 and via Zoom. Contact Marcia Anderson (hilden.anderson@gmail.com; 734-757-4305) for more information.

Sunday Morning Adult Ed meets in the fellowship hall at 9:30am.

Children and Youth Faith Formation meets on the second and third Sundays of each month at 9:30am. Contact Cathy Daniels (catld1121@gmail.com) for more info.

Monday Conversations are weekly at 1pm online: an opportunity to discuss Sunday's sermon in a small group. 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. 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. Contact Linda Harnisch for more information (rlharnisch@gmail.com).

We pray for our Westminster family

Current needs: Tom Brown

Ongoing needs: Elke Kramer, Fran Bolhouse, Cara Doane

For deacon care, contact your deacon directly or send an email to the deacon moderator, Amy Welzenbach (awelzenbach411@gmail.com). To list prayer requests here, in the *Friday Good Things Are Happening* email, or Prayer Chain, contact Jill Fairchild (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.

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 westpresa2.org/online-sermons.

For deacon care, please contact Amy Welzenbach (awelzenbach411@gmail.com).

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

Westminster Staff may be reached by phone at 734-761-9320

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