


**WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

Service for the Lord's Day

Second Sunday in Lent

February 28, 2021

GATHERING

(Silence during the Prelude is requested in preparation for worship.)

PRELUDE

Aus der Tiefe rufe ich
(Forty Days and Forty Nights)

C.P.E. Bach

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Let us worship God.

(Those who are able may stand.)

From water to wilderness:

**God's covenant continues;
God's kingdom comes near.**

On stone and in hearts:

**God's covenant continues;
God's kingdom comes near.**

From the ancestor of nations to the Son lifted up:

**God's covenant continues;
God's kingdom comes near.**

We follow Jesus

for where he is, we would be also.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

**God of mercy,
you are full of tenderness and compassion,
slow to anger, rich in mercy, and always ready to forgive.
Grant us grace to renounce all evil and to cling to Christ,
that in every way we may prove to be your loving children;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, forever and ever. Amen.**



1 The God of A-braham praise, who reigns en-throned a-bove,
2 Your spir - it still flows free, high surg - ing where it will.
3 Your good - ly land we seek, with peace and plen - ty blest,
4 You have e - ter - nal life im - plant - ed in the soul;



the An - cient of E - ter - nal Days, the God of love!
In proph-et's word you spoke of old and you speak still.
a land of sa - cred lib - er - ty and Sab - bath rest.
your love shall be our strength and stay, while a - ges roll.



The Lord, the great I AM, by earth and heaven con-fessed,
Es - tab-lished is your law, and change-less it shall stand,
There milk and hon - ey flow, and oil and wine a - bound,
We praise you, liv - ing God! We praise your ho - ly name:



we bow be - fore your ho - ly name, for - ev - er blest.
deep writ up - on the hu - man heart by your strong hand.
and trees of life for - ev - er grow with mer - cy crowned.
the first, the last, be - yond all thought, and still the same!



CALL TO CONFESSION

We cannot earn God's grace or favor.
**It comes to us, not as something owed,
but as a gift freely given.**

**Confident in God's love for us,
even when we are ungodly,
we confess our sins in faith.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

**God of mercy,
you sent Jesus Christ to seek and save the lost.
We confess that we have strayed from you
and turned aside from your way.
We are misled by pride,
for we see ourselves pure when we are stained,
and great when we are small.
We have failed in love,
neglected justice,
and ignored your truth.
Have mercy, O God, and forgive our sin.
Return us to paths of righteousness
through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

(Silent confession)

Kyrie *(Sung responsively by the choir and congregation)* James MacMillan

The musical score is written on four staves of music, each with a treble clef and a 3/4 time signature. The lyrics are written below the notes, with some words underlined. The performance instructions are written above the notes.

Staff 1: **Choir:** Lord, have mer - cy. **Congregation:** Lord, have

Staff 2: mer - cy. **Choir:** Christ, have mer - cy. **Congregation:** Christ,

Staff 3: have mer - cy. **Choir:** Lord, have

Staff 4: **Congregation and Choir:** mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

(The liturgist pours water, which reminds us of our baptism.)

In our baptism we die with Christ to sin
and are raised with him to a life of righteousness.

Believe the Good News: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!**

***The Peace**

Since God in Christ has forgiven us, let us also forgive one another.
The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

(Please exchange the peace with the words, "The peace of Christ be with you.")

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

Hear the Word of God! **Our ears are open.**

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

(Sung responsively after each scripture reading.)

Create in me a clean heart, O God.
Create in me a clean heart, O God.

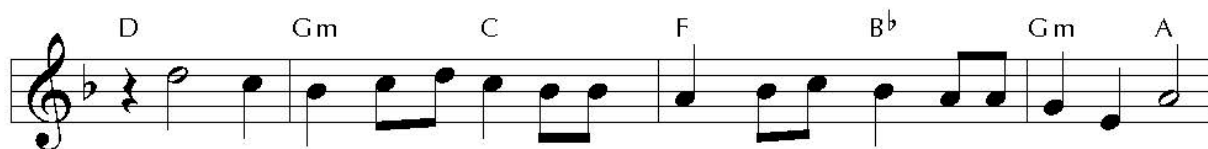
Renew a right spirit within me.
Renew a right spirit within me.

Psalm 22:23-31 (*Singing together, Hymn 631*)

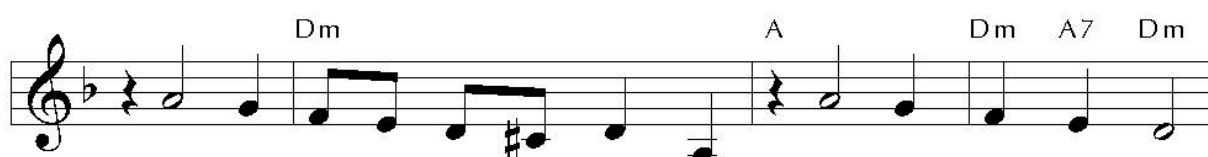
CELEBRATION



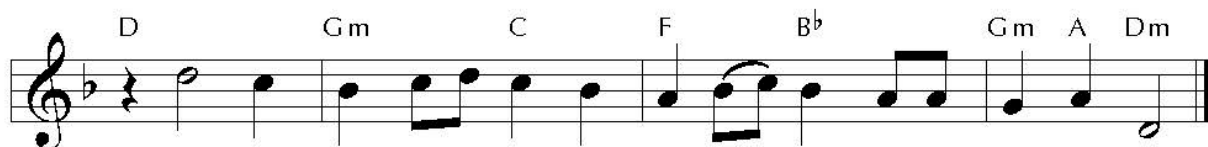
1 In the pres-ence of your peo - ple I will praise your name,
 2 All who love you sing your prais - es and pro - claim your power,
 3 All who seek your rule will praise you and be sat - is - fied;



for a - lone you are ho - ly, en - throned on the prais - es of Is - ra - el.



Let us cel - e - brate your good - ness and your stead - fast love;
 You have not ig - nored our suf - fering but have heard our cry;
 All - the peo - ples of the na - tions will bow down to you;



may your name be ex - alt - ed here on earth and in heaven a - bove.

Mark 8:31-38

³¹ Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³² He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³ But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

³⁴ He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵ For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. ³⁶ For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷ Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸ Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

(A moment for meditation)

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**We trust in Jesus Christ,
fully human, fully God.**

**Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:
preaching good news to the poor
and release to the captives,
teaching by word and deed
and blessing the children,
healing the sick
and binding up the brokenhearted,
eating with outcasts,
forgiving sinners,
and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.**

**Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition,
Jesus was crucified,
suffering the depths of human pain
and giving his life for the sins of the world.**

**God raised this Jesus from the dead,
vindicating his sinless life,
breaking the power of sin and evil,
delivering us from death to eternal life.**

(From A Brief Statement of Faith)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

THANKSGIVING

OFFERING

Anthem

Take Up Your Cross

Rebecca Groom te Velde

Take up your cross, the Savior said, if you would my disciple be;
take up your cross with willing heart, and humbly follow after me.

Take up your cross; let not its weight fill your weak spirit with alarm;
Christ's strength shall bear your spirit up and brace your heart and nerve your arm.

Take up your cross; heed not the shame, and let your foolish pride be still;
the Lord for you accepted death upon a cross, on Calvary's hill.

Take up your cross, then, in Christ's strength, and calmly every danger brave:
it guides you to abundant life and leads to victory o'er the grave.

*DOXOLOGY

OLD HUNDREDTH

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all creatures here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

**God of compassion,
we praise you that you look upon our frail lives
with love and understanding,
and that you desire for us all
new life in Jesus Christ.**

**We are overwhelmed by your love,
which goes to the cross for us,
endures the grave, and leads us to new life.**

**By your Spirit,
strengthen our souls to be brave and bold in Christ's service.
Take our offerings, and use them and us for your purposes,
in the name of Jesus Christ, our crucified and risen Lord. Amen.**

*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.

SENDING

*HYMN 819

Be Still, My Soul

FINLANDIA

1 Be still, my soul: the Lord is on thy side.
2 Be still, my soul: thy God doth un - der - take
3 Be still, my soul: the hour is has - tening on

The first system of music consists of a treble and bass staff in 4/4 time, key of B-flat major. The treble staff contains the melody with lyrics underneath. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment.

Bear pa - tient - ly the cross of grief or pain.
to guide the fu - ture sure - ly as the past.
when we shall be for - ev - er with the Lord;

The second system of music continues the melody and accompaniment from the first system, ending with a final chord in the treble staff.

Leave to thy God to or - der and pro - vide,
 Thy hope, thy con - fi - dence let noth - ing shake;
 when dis - ap - point - ment, grief, and fear are gone,

who through all chang - es faith - ful will re - main.
 all now mys - te - rious shall be bright at last.
 sor - row for - got, love's pur - est joys re - stored.

Be still, my soul: thy best, thy heaven - ly Friend
 Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know
 Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past

through thorn - y ways leads to a joy - ful end.
 his voice who ruled them while he dwelt be - low.
 all safe and bless - ed we shall meet at last.

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Create in me a clean heart, O God.
Create in me a clean heart, O God.

Renew a right spirit within me.
Renew a right spirit within me.

POSTLUDE

Tocatta on Aus der Tiefe

Christopher Tambling

*(*Those who are able may stand.*)

SERVICE NOTES

WORSHIP LEADERS: Liturgist: Katie Gossage, Associate Director of Youth and Programming.

MUSICIANS: Alec Koukol, soloist; John W. Semingson, Director of Music Ministries; Polly Brecht, Organist.

LENT: The word “Lent” is derived from the Old English word *lencten*, meaning “Spring,” which in turn derives from the Old High German *lenzin*, referring to “the lengthening of days.” The season we know as Spring was originally called Lent. Lent gradually adhered strictly to church practice, and Spring came to designate the season following Winter.

Lent lasts for forty weekdays plus Sundays, a number richly grounded in Biblical tradition. In the Bible there are 120 references to the number forty, among them: the days of Noah’s deluge; the days that Moses spent on the mountain; the years Israel wandered in the wilderness; the days of Elijah’s journey to the cave of the “still, small voice;” and Jesus’ forty-day wilderness sojourn in which he was tempted by Satan.

Lent has traditionally been a time in which Christians have engaged in self-reflection, fasting, prayer, confession and repentance in anticipation of the celebration of the Resurrection of Christ. At Westminster, in order to emphasize the meaning of Lent, we adopt a more penitential posture in worship. There are no flowers; no festive choir processional; no *Act of Praise* following the *Confession and Assurance of Pardon*; and at several points in the service we incorporate the ancient and plaintive supplication from Psalm 51: “Create in me a clean heart, O God.”

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES: In-person worship services in the Sanctuary at 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. continue today, February 28, 2021. Indoor Service protocols (<https://bit.ly/39K0gOX>) will be maintained. Reservations must be made in advance.

If you are interested in attending a worship service, please reserve your spot below, and let us know how many people will be in your party. You will be able to see immediately if space is still available. Attendance is capped at 63 people. In the reservation comment section, you will be able to address any needs you may have during the service.

Please [click here](#) to make a reservation for the 8:30 am service.

Please [click here](#) to make a reservation for the 11:00 am service.

We will continue streaming our weekly online services at 8:30 am on Sundays. Midweek services will continue to be LIVE streamed on Wednesdays at 11:45 a.m.

If you miss the service, you can watch it later in the day or week. Go to nashvillewpc.org and in the Quick Links box, click on WPC Live Stream Services. The newest service may not yet be dated.

WELCOME: Westminster Presbyterian Church welcomes you to share our common journey to become more faithful disciples of Christ. If you are interested in learning about membership, please contact Melissa Threatt (864.506.0267; melissa.threatt@gmail.com) or Rev. Heidi Hudnut-Beumler (615.292.5526; hhudnutbeumler@nashvillewpc.org).

THE EARTH CARE TASK FORCE will help the Nashville Tree Foundation plant trees at Shelby Bottoms Greenway on March 6th from 9:30 a.m. - 12:30. p.m. Interested? Contact Curtis Baysinger (cbaysinger2@gmail.com).

LENTEN MID-DAY PRAYER EVERY WEDNESDAY THROUGH LENT: Westminster's staff will be leading Lenten Mid-Day Prayer in the Sanctuary every Wednesday from 11:45 a.m.—12:15 p.m. beginning Wednesday, February 24th to March 31st. The services will be simple and meditative, befitting the season.

EASTER LILIES: This year, our Easter worship services may be different, but we will continue with our treasured tradition of gracing our Sanctuary with lilies on Easter Sunday, April 4, 2021. [Click here](#) to order a lily (\$10 each) in honor of or in memory of a loved one, complete a form from the Information Desk or in the Church Office, or email your order to Terri Eckert at teckert@nashvillewpc.org. *The deadline for submitting names to be included in the Easter bulletin is Sunday, March 21, 2021.*

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING—TODAY, FEBRUARY 28: The Session of Westminster Presbyterian Church has called a congregational meeting to convene on Sunday, February 28, 2020, beginning at 9:45 a.m. via electronic platform Zoom and LIVE stream. The purpose of the meeting is (1) to elect Elders for the Class of 2024; (2) to elect members of the Church Nominating Committee for the Class of 2024; (3) to elect Trustees for the Westminster Presbyterian Church Legacy Fund for the Class of 2024; (4) to review the church’s annual budget for 2021 and our pastors’ “Terms of Call”; (5) to hear a report on the State of the Church; and (6) to act on any other matters arising out of the above. A minimum of 200 participants is required to reach quorum.

If you are live-streaming the service, we ask that you send any questions or objections to the Class of 2024 slate of officers (listed below) or to the motion by the Personnel Committee for our pastors to receive a 3% cost of living raise, to our Clerk of Session, Suzanne Allen, (sallen2009@gmail.com) prior to the meeting.

Class of 2024

Elders: James Boswell, Kim Crafton, Luke Gebhard, Ron Harris, Moe Hill, Deb Hudson, Janet Kuhn, Leighton Liles, Fran Linley, Denise Linn, Harriet Sewell, David Thombs.

Nominating Committee: Virginia Patten, Derek Bryant.

Legacy Fund Trustees: Lew Conner, Anders Hall, Richard Warren.

Please [click here](#) to make your reservation. **Please leave "1" as your quantity and then below that put how many in your household will be watching.**

COPYRIGHT INFORMATION: The music used in the service this morning is copyrighted under Christian Copyright Licensing International, Inc., No. 11221525.

Westminster Presbyterian Church

Purpose Statement

*Ordinary people testifying to the extraordinary light
found in our Lord Jesus Christ.*

“For it is the God who said, ‘Let light shine out of darkness,’ who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us.” (2 Corinthians 4:6-7)

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