

On the cover: Westminster Home Connection clients. Photos submitted by Keith Branson.

About the Prelude

The Prelude is a musical offering to help move the hearts and minds of the gathering community from the daily struggles of life to the worship of God.

Today is the first Sunday of the season of Lent. It is a time for growth in faith through prayer, spiritual discipline, and selfexamination in preparation for the commemoration of the dying and rising of the Lord Jesus Christ. Lent begins with Ash Wednesday and concludes at sunset on Holy Saturday, at the start of the Great Vigil of Easter.

About Hymn 166

Like many of this author's hymns, this text was written primarily for children but works equally well in reminding adults how Lent connects us with Christ's temptation in the wilderness and prepares us for Easter. The 16thcentury English psalm tune provides sturdy support. TEXT: Claudia F. I. Hernaman, 1873; MUSIC: Day's Psalter, 1562.

GATHERING

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

PRELUDE

Adagio in G Minor

Tommaso Albinoni/arr. Hopson

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Let us worship God!

(Those who are able may stand.)

The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in love. God's promise is for all generations; God's covenant is with every living thing.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

God of all faithfulness,
you have opened the gate for mercy for your people and you are always ready to welcome those who turn to you.
Look on us in your compassion,
that we may gladly respond to your love and faithfully walk in your way through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

*HYMN 166

ST. FLAVIAN

Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days

CALL TO CONFESSION

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

In the name of Christ, I urge you: **Be reconciled to God.**

Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

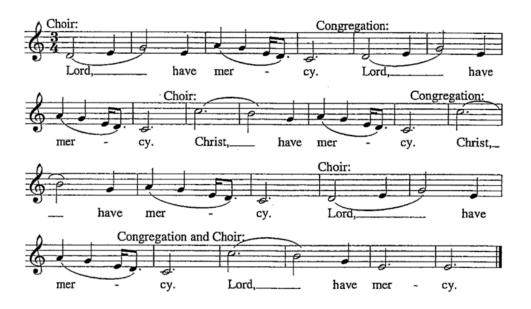
PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God our Redeemer, we confess that we are people of ashes and dust.
You have claimed us in your covenant, yet we forget your steadfast love.
You seek us out in the wilderness, yet we continue to wander in our sin.
Forgive us, God of grace.
Wash us clean, once again, so that we may return to you and follow your holy way;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(Silent confession)

Kyrie

(Sung responsively by the choir and congregation)



ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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.") expresses God's initiative in calling for repentance and promising forgiveness in Christ. As members of Christ's body, we confess the reality of sin, captivity,

Call to and Prayer of Confession

A call to confession

and brokenness in personal and common life and ask for God's saving grace.

About the Kyrie

James MacMillan

The Kyrie (Greek "kyrios" [Lord]) is a corporate musical prayer for grace.

Assurance of Pardon

A declaration of forgiveness proclaims the good news of God's mercy and offers the assurance of pardon in Jesus' name. The liturgist pours water into the font, which reminds us of the grace and cleansing of our Baptism, and the baptismal call to new life in Christ.

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

(Everyone is asked to sign the Friendship Pad, which is located on the center aisle end of each pew.)

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

Hear the Word of God! Our ears are open.

Genesis 9:8-17

(Old Testament, page 7 in your pew Bible)

(Sung responsively after each scripture reading.)

Create in me a clean heart, O God. Create in me a clean heart, O God. Psalm 51:10

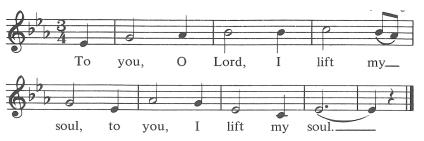
Renew a right spirit within me. **Renew a right spirit within me.**

Psalm 25:1-10 To Y

To You, O Lord

Marty Haugen

Refrain



Lord, make me know Your ways, teach me Your paths, and keep me in the way of Your truth, for You are God, my Savior. *Refrain*

For the Lord is good and righteous, revealing the way to those who seek God, gently leading the poor and the humble. *Refrain*

To the ones who seek the Lord, who look to the Word, who live God's love, God will always be near; God will show them true mercy. *Refrain*

Prayer for Illumination

A Prayer for Illumination calls on the Holy Spirit to empower the reading, understanding, proclaiming, and living of God's word. This sense of utter reliance on the illumination of the Spirit is an important and distinctive mark of the Reformed tradition.

Our Lenten Journey

Trusting in Christ's resurrection, we listen for the word of God in the time-honored stories of the Church's Lenten journey. We follow Jesus into the wilderness, resist temptation, fast, and proceed "on the way" to Jerusalem, and the cross. Our journey is one of metanoia ("turning around"), of changing directions from self-serving toward the self-giving way of the cross.

Mark 1:9-15

SERMON

(New Testament, pages 34-35 in your pew Bible)

Donovan Drake

(A moment for meditation)

"Believe the Good News"

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Jesus lived a truly human life. Jesus was what we should be. He served his Father with complete trust and unwavering obedience. He loved all kinds of people and accepted their love.

In constant dependence upon the Holy Spirit, Jesus allowed no temptation or threat to keep him from loving God with his whole being and his neighbor as himself.

We recognize in Jesus what God created us to be. He exposes our failure to live as he lived. He demonstrates the new humanity God promises to give us through him.

(from A Declaration of Faith)

THE EUCHARIST

OFFERING

Anthem (8:30 a.m.)

Lonesome Valley

American Folksong, arr. Martin

Jesus walked his lonesome valley, he had to walk it for himself; Nobody else could walk it for him, he had to walk it for himself.

Jesus went to stand his trial. He had to stand it for himself; Nobody else could stand it for him, he had to stand it for himself.

I must walk my lonesome valley, I have to walk it for myself, Nobody else can walk it for me. I have to walk it for myself. I must walk my lonesome valley. Affirmation of Faith

Responding to the word proclaimed, we affirm our faith in the holy, triune God. The affirmation of faith is drawn from sentences of scripture or the creeds, confessions, and catechisms.

To GIVE, please scan the QR code.



Anthem (11:00 a.m.)

A Lenten Walk

American Folksong, arr. Hopson

Jesus walked this lonesome valley, he had to walk it by himself; Oh, nobody else could walk it for him, he had to walk it by himself.

We must walk this lonesome valley, we have to walk it by ourselves; Oh, nobody else can walk it for us, we have to walk it by ourselves.

Jesus bore the cross of sorrow; he had to bear it by himself; Oh, nobody else could bear it for him, he had to bear it by himself.

We must take our cross and follow; Yes, we must follow by ourselves. Oh, nobody else can follow for us, we have to follow by ourselves.

*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.

***PREPARATION OF THE LORD'S TABLE**

***INVITATION**

*GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And also with you. Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We do give you thanks and praise, great and loving God.... you call us back to your love.

Doxology

A short hymn of praise to the triune God (God, Jesus Christ, Holy Spirit).

Therefore, we lift our voices with the faithful of every time and place, and the choirs of the Kingdom, who forever sing of your goodness and love: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might, Bless - ed_ is he who comes in the name of the Lord._ Hoheav-en and earth_are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na in___ the high - est. san - na in____the high est, ho san - na in the high - est. (The congregation may be seated.) You sent Jesus to speak to the world... and we remember his story. Great is the mystery of faith: 0 Christ has died; ____ Christ is ris-en; Christ wil come a - gain. Christ died;____ Christ will Christ has is ris-en; come a - gain. Today we gather around this table to do as he asked us.... Come, Holy Spirit. Draw near to us. and hear the words of our feeble lips as we strive to pray. men,_ A men._ a 1 a men. THE LORD'S PRAYER (Prayed in unison, see page 35 of your hymnal for words.) **BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

About Communion

The Presbyterian Church (USA) practices "open Communion" without regard to denominational affiliation. All who seek to become more faithful to Christ are welcome at the Lord's Table. Westminster celebrates the "Eucharist," meaning "thanksgiving," on the first Sunday of each month, on the first Sunday of each liturgical season, and on every Sunday during the Season of Easter, except Baptism Sundays.

About Hymn 167

This text, given sharper focus by being reduced from nine stanzas to five, reflects both on Christ's temptation in the wilderness and on the purpose and goal of Lent as preparation for Easter. It pairs well with a 17th-century German chorale setting for Psalm 130. TEXT: George Hunt Smyttan, 1856; MÚSIC: attr. Martin Herbst, 1676.

About the Postlude

The Postlude is considered the final Alleluia of worship.

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COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

Music during Communion

Anthem

Sacred Harp/arr. David Bone

Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy

Come, ye sinners, poor and needy, weak and wounded, sick and sore; Jesus ready stands to save you, full of pity, love, and power. *I will arise and go to Jesus; he will embrace me with his arms; in the arms of my dear Savior, O there are ten thousand charms.*

Come, ye thirsty, come, and welcome; God's free bounty glorify; true belief and true repentance, every grace that brings you nigh. *I will arise*...

Come, ye weary, heavy laden, lost and ruined by the fall; if you tarry till you're better, you will never come at all. *I will arise*...

Let not conscience make you linger, nor of fitness fondly dream; all the fitness he requireth is to feel your need of him. *I will arise*...

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

SENDING

*HYMN 167

AUS DER TIEFE RUFE ICH Forty Days and Forty Nights

***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 If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee Paul Fey (Hymn 816)

*(Those who are able may stand.)

Welcome

Westminster Presbyterian Church welcomes you to share our common journey to become more faithful disciples of Christ. Any who are interested in joining us in this journey are invited to contact Heidi Hudnut-Beumler, Associate Pastor for Congregational Care, hhudnutbeumler@nashvillewpc.org, 615.292.5526.

Today @ Westminster

WORSHIP LEADERS

Preaching Rev. Dr. Donovan Drake Pastor and Head of Staff

Liturgist Sophie Maness *Executive Director of Family Ministries*

Lay Liturgists

8:30 AM Suzie Lane 11:00 AM Lynne Trost

Communion Preparation Alice and Mike Russell

Music

Sara White, Cantor 8:30 AM Laudate Youth Choir 11:00 AM Westminster Choir

Dr. John Semingson Director of Music Ministries

Dale Nickell Organist and Associate Director of Music Ministries

EASTER LILIES: DEADLINE MARCH 17

Lilies will grace our Sanctuary on Easter Sunday, March 31, 2024. If you would like to purchase a lily (\$10) in memory or in honor of a friend or family member, please place your order online at www.nashvillewpc.church or by email to Terri Eckert at teckert@nashvillewpc.org. The deadline to order is March 17.

WHAT IS LENT ALL ABOUT?

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, we adopt a more penitential posture in worship. There are no flowers; no festive choir processional; no *Act of Praise* following the *Confession and 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."

Mask Policy

Westminster Presbyterian Church, Nashville is mask optional. The balcony remains masks required.

Hearing Assistance

We offer personal FM Receivers with an ear-piece, located in the Narthex and in the Parlor on the Welsh dresser. Instructions can be found at each location.

Large Print Hymns

Looking for large-print hymns? They can be found in the Narthex at the Sanctuary entrance or in the Parlor on the Welsh dresser.

Recorded Worship Services

To watch a service at a later time, go to www.nashvillewpc.church and scroll down to the Worship Service Archive. Click on the service you would like to view.

Dial-a-Sermon

Dial 629.206.1073 after 10:15 AM each Sunday morning to listen to the sermon. The sermon will be available all week.

Childcare

Childcare is available on Sundays from 8:15 AM to 12:00 PM.

Nursery - Room 146

Toddlers & 2s - Room 152

<u>3s, 4s, 5s and Kindergarten</u> -Room 151

Our Mission

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)





Jesus was in the wilderness with Satan and the wild beasts. What were you up against in your wilderness days?

How does the news of the world impact your soul?

What would have to go into the turn towards Good News for you?

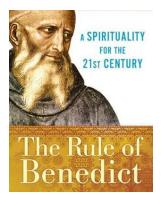
SUNDAY SCHOOL

Adult Education Classes start at 9:45 AM



Covenant Class • Fellowship Hall

Centering and Celebrating Women and Our Stories with Claire K. McKeever-Burgett, M.Div. Join Claire for an interactive and embodied conversation on storytelling, writing as spiritual practice, and the importance of centering and celebrating women. She will share (a little) about her book, *Blessed Are the Women*, and invite you to consider your own story as it intersects with others. Through deep breathing, reflective practice, and collaborative conversation, Claire will lead you through a creative and thoughtful time you don't want to miss!



The Rule of Benedict: Crafting Our Own Rule of Life Room 208

This class will continue our earlier examination of Christian spiritual practices and how to adapt them to our busy lives by focusing specifically on the Rule of Benedict. We will use Joan Chittister's book *The Rule of Benedict: A Spirituality for the 21st Century* as a guide to explore Benedict of Nursia's 1,500-year-old text, the cornerstone of Western monasticism. In learning more about this spiritual classic, we also discuss its relevance to our spiritual life today and work together on crafting our own rule of life.



Adult Education Classes start at 9:45 AM

Coffee & Conversation: Sunday School for Parents of Youth and Young Adults No class today.

For more info, please contact Fran Linley, fran. linley@gmail.com.

Young Families • Overlook Room

Fellowship Sunday

For more info, please contact Krissie Self, krissiebself@gmail.com.

Faith & Fellowship • 214

Join us for an exploration of the Seven Letters of Paul. We will discuss the letters individually and collectively discovering their purpose of the time, the collective themes of the letters, and what the letters/scripture say to us today.

For more info, please contact Donna Schwaber, dkschwaber@gmail.com.

Murdoch MacLeods • Library

We will discuss this week's gospel lesson.

For more info, please contact Paul DeWitt, pdewitt@comcast.net.

Winter New Member & Inquirer Class Goodpasture Hall

Led by: New Member Committee, church leaders and staff

This class series is for people exploring Westminster, those feeling ready to join, and recent new members. To sign up for this class, please contact: Sherri Givens, sgivens@nashvillewpc.org.

Youth Ministry

9:45 ам President's Weekend

Please join us next week for Sunday School and Youth Group.

Youth & Children Choirs

President's Weekend

Please join us next week for rehearsals.

Children's Ministry

9:45 ам • Sunday School

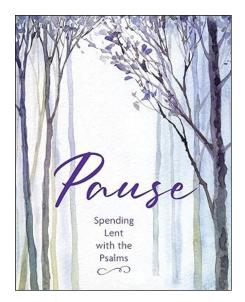
2s are in room 149 3s are in room 161 4s are in room 163

Godly Play/ Kindergarten in 183

5th and 6th in room 292

1st - 4th Chapel first and then will be picked up in rooms.



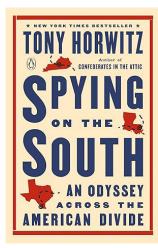


Starting February 21 Westminster Academy 6:30 рм • Overlook Room

Lent is an ideal time to step back and reflect on the deeper movements of the spirit, and Elizabeth Caldwell helps readers do this through a simple but profound approach. *Pause: Spending Lent with the Psalms* invites us to take up the spiritual practice of encountering, sinking into, and deeply engaging with one psalm each week during Lent and Holy Week.

We hope you will join us for this special Lenten study.

Books available in the office. Cost \$17.



February 27 WPC Book Group 9:30 AM • Fellowship 10:00 AM • Program Room 10 Leader: Dr. Carole Bucy

Spying on the South: An Odyssey Across the American Divide By Tony Horwitz

Beloved best-selling author Tony Horwitz retraces Frederick Law Olmsted's epic journey across the American South in the 1850s, as he too searches for common ground in a dangerously riven nation.



March 14 <mark>Music Box</mark> 11:00 ам Goodpasture Hall

We hope you can join us for a jazz trio featuring Michael Alvey, piano; John Alvey, drums; and Jim Ferguson, bass.

The **Michael Alvey**

Trio developed it's unique sound exploring the musical styles and repertoire of classic jazz piano trios. These trios include Bill Evans, Bud Powell, Oscar Peterson, and Herbie Hancock. Pianist Michael Alvey, bassist Jim Ferguson, and drummer John Alvey combine their talents to perform arrangements of popular show tunes, jazz standards and original compositions.





Turn towards the light...

Recently in a committee meeting of Hands on Mission, we heard a call to engage in Lent, with a turning toward the light of our faith. We want to invite each of us at Westminster to connect:

- with another person and jointly

- enter into an activity together that serves others

We invite you to choose one of our existing missions of this church (a list is in the pews), or another one you already know or identify a need you see and want to help fill.

We invite all of us to reflect on such activity and how it informs our faith during this solemn Lenten season as we move toward Easter. 1) if you are willing, share the other organizations where you currently participate.

2) 2) Let us know if you are currently volunteering to serve in an organization connected to Westminster.

3) Finally, at the end of Lent, we hope you will share something of the experience of this period.

If you are willing, tell us your responses to (1) and (2) at I.Volunteer.Here.Now@gmail.com or use the form with this request in the pew racks and place in the offering plate.

We hope this will help all of us encounter this Lenten season with a special experience.

February 18

Young Adult Lunch 12:00 рм Goodpasture Hall

For more info on this group, please contact Esther Kang, estherkang1992@gmail.com.

Journey with Jesus 5:00 рм • Zoom

Join us for a Lenten study with the book *Have a Beautiful, Terrible Day!*

For more info on this study, please contact Suzie Lane, suzielane0@gmail.com.

February 28 Midweek Service 11:45 AM • Sanctuary

Please join us for our midday services during Lent. The services are simple and meditative, befitting the season.





February 25 Annual Congregational Meeting 9:45 AM Fellowship Hall

You'll hear how Crazy Glue can bring good news. You'll hear how we can help your children fill out their 1040's. If you're left-brained, we have lots of numbers you can add up. If you're right-brained, there will be things that will make you smile because they don't add up at all. You'll get the latest on what's up and where we're going! Show up!

The purpose of the meeting is (1) to elect Elders for the Class of 2027; (2) to elect members of the Church Nominating Committee for the Class of 2027; (3) to elect Trustees for the Westminster Presbyterian Church Legacy Fund for the Class of 2027; (4) to review the church's annual budget for 2024 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.

Financials

Each month, the Finance Committee provides a summary of the church operating income and expenses.

If any members wish to have more information about church finances, please contact:

Mike Koban, Finance Committee Chair mkoban@prodigy.net

Suzanne McLemore, Treasurer suzannegm58@gmail.com

Jo Ann McFarlin, Administrator jmcfarlin@nashvillewpc.org or 615.292.5526 x231.

January 2024

	Month	Year to Date	
	\$787,009 <u>\$264,538</u>		5787,009 5264,538
Net Income (loss): \$522,471		\$	522,471



"You give us a gift with each class, a gift without price, literally and figuratively. You are consistent in your directions/instructions, endlessly patient, generous with your time, and find something to praise in each person's efforts."

a quote from members of this class about their instructor, F. Clark Williams, Jr.





М-W-F ● 10:00 ам Tai-Chi

Experience the benefits of Taijiquan play as you learn warm-up exercises, fundamental movements and the 37-posture Yangstyle "form".



March 6, 13, 20, 27 Acrylic Painting Class 4:00 - 6:00 PM Fee: \$25.00 for the 4 days, includes all supplies.

Instructor: Emily Coleman

To register for this class, please scan the QR code.



Thursdays Knitting & Crocheting 10:00 ам • Parlor

This lovely group of ladies welcomes all levels of knitters and crocheters. They work on servicerelated needs, individual needs and baptism caps.



THIS WEEK @ WESTMINSTER

Sunday, I	-ebruary 18		
8:30 am	Worship		
9:45 ам	Sunday School		
11:00 ам	Worship		
12:15 рм	Young Adults Planning Mtg		
5:00 рм	Kate Bowler Lenten Bible Study		
Monday, February 19			
10:00 am	Tai Chi		
11:45 ам	Centering Prayer		
5:00 рм	Pickleball		
Tuesday,	February 20		
7:00 ам	Daybreak Believers		
7:30 ам	Bible Study		
	Westminster Café		
9:00 am	Harvard Handbells		
Wednesd	ay, February 21		
7:00 ам	Men's Bible Study		
7:30 ам	Westminster Café		
9:30 am	Westminster Bells		
10:00 am	Tai Chi		
10:30 am	Better Decisions		
11:45 ам	Midday Lenten Service		
6:00 рм	Room In The Inn		
6:30 рм	Westminster Academy		
7:00 рм	Men's Basketball		
7:00 рм	Westminster Choir		
	, February 22		
7:30 ам	Westminster Café		
9:30 ам	Women's Bible Study		
10:00 am	Knitting & Crocheting		
7:00 рм	Session		
Friday, February 23			
7:00 ам	1		
7:30 ам	Westminster Café		
10:00 am			
5:00 рм	Pickleball		

For more information on the events listed here, please contact the church office, 615.292.5526.

Join us this week....

Wednesday, February 21 10:30 AM - Noon Westminster Cafe

RSVP to Sacred Grounds Event to learn more about Better Decisions.

Join us in the Café as we learn more about Better Decisions, a local nonprofit, which equips incarcerated and otherwise vulnerable women with decision-making strategies and skills through structured curriculum and one-to-one mentoring.

We invited you to bring yarn (any kind) to donate to the women involved in the program as they love to knit!

Hands-on project:

After learning about the work of Better Decisions, we will write encouraging notes to women involved in the program.

The Cafe's Sacred Grounds series is designed to shine a light on local nonprofits in our community by discussing the mission and needs of these organizations, including ways to volunteer.

Although not required, RSVPs are encouraged. Scan the QR code below to RSVP.





3900 West End Avenue Nashville, Tennessee 37205-1899 615.292.5526 | www.nashvillewpc.church