

Cover photo by Tom Snider.

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.

About Palm Sunday

The dramatic and theologically important events framed by Jesus' entry into Jerusalem feature not only the drama of the triumphal entry, trial, last supper, and crucifixion but also poignant prayers and prophetic teachings of our Lord. The week begins with Passion/ Palm Sunday and ends with the "three days" (also called the *Triduum*, from sunset on Thursday to sunset on Easter Day), the period during which we mark Jesus' trial, death, and resurrection.

As the story of Christ's journey to the cross unfolds, the crowd's shouts of praise turn into demands for his death. Jesus is handed over to be tortured and killed; the crown he receives is one of thorns. The service is established on the theological principle that Jesus' death and resurrection cannot be separated. It insists that we not avoid the cross - God's way of glory leads through the grave. This pattern of worship at the beginning of Holy Week has ancient origins, dating to at least the fourth century and reflecting the theological, pastoral, and liturgical wisdom of the early church.

GATHERING

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

PRELUDE

Mass for the Convents

François Couperin

Plein jeu - Duo sur les Tierces - Dialogue sur les grands jeux

CHORAL INTROIT

(8:30 a.m.)

Hosanna to the Son of David

Hal H. Hopson

Hosanna, hosanna to the Son of David. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

(11:00 a.m.)

Hosanna!

William Sisson

Hosanna, hosanna, with palms prepare the way,
Hosanna, hosanna, on this triumphant day.
Hosanna, hosanna, come raise your voice and sing,
Hossanna, hosanna, to praise our Lord and King.
All glory, laud, and honor to You, Redeemer, King,
To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.
Sing alleluia, sing alleluia.
Hosanna, hosanna, come raise your voice and sing

Hosanna, hosanna, come raise your voice and sing, Hosanna, hosanna, to praise our Lord and King. Hosanna, hosanna, alleluia!

*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.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, Hosanna in the highest.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Holy One,
we thank you for your promise to provide for us.
You clothe the lilies of the field and feed the sparrow.
We thank you that today hope rolls into town,
a response to all the times
we have looked around
and found no answers.
Glory to you for hearing our cries and for saving us.
On this day, remind us that you always
extend your grace to us.
May we wave our palm branches
with the assurance that you are with us,
even as you make your way to the cross. Amen.

*PROCLAMATION OF THE ENTRANCE INTO JERUSALEM

Hear the Word of God! Our ears are open.

Mark 11:1-11

(New Testament, page 47 in your pew Bible)

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN 196

All Glory, Laud, and Honor
VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

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

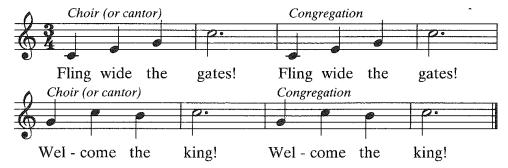
THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

About Hymn 196

These stanzas for Palm Sunday have been selected and translated from a much longer Latin poem written by a bishop who was the leading theologian in Charlemagne's court. They are sung to a 17thcentury German chorale, as adapted for these words in the mid-19th century. TEXT: Theodulph of Orleans, c. 820; trans. John Mason Neale, 1851, alt.; MUSIC: Melchior Teschner, 1614; arr. William Henry Monk, 1861.

Refrain



Let the doors of righteousness be opened; we will go in and give thanks to the Lord.

This is the gate of the Lord; it is opened for the righteous.

We will give praise, for God has heard us and has come to save us. *Refrain*

The stone, which the builders rejected as worthless, has become the cornerstone.

This is your work, O Lord, a marvel in our eyes.

Lord, you have made this day;
let us rejoice and be glad. *Refrain*

Send salvation, O Lord; Lord, grant us victory.

Blessed be your name, O Lord.

We bless you from your temple.

Lord God, you have given us light;
with waving branches we march around the altar. *Refrain*

You are our God; we give you praise; we will proclaim your greatness.

We will offer thanks because of your goodness; your love endures forever. *Refrain*

SCRIPTURE

Mark 11:7

(New Testament, page 47 in your pew Bible)

The Word of God! Thanks be to God!

SERMON "...this, too, is Good News!" Donovan Drake

(A moment for meditation)

*HYMN 209 My Song Is Love Unknown LOVE UNKNOWN

About Hymn 209

The opening line here could equally well have been a courtier's lament for a secret affair, but it soon becomes a path into a vivid and poignant reflection on Christ's Passion. This 17thcentury text is beautifully embraced by its sensitive and lyrical 20th-century tune. TEXT: Samuel Crossman, 1664; MUSIC: John Ireland, 1918.

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Christ Jesus,
though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited,
but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form,
he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death even death on a cross.

Therefore, God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess to the glory of God:

Jesus Christ is Lord! Amen. (Philippians 2:5-11)

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 (8:30 a.m.) Thy Will Be Done

Craig Courtney

Our cup was filled with darkness.
Our cup was filled with death.
Christ took our cup and drank it,
and gave us life, and gave us hope, gave us Himself.

My Father, let this cup pass from me; vet not my will, O Lord, but Thine be done.

In blackest night we hear him in dark Gethsemane. Pleading with the Father for one more way, for one more hope, for one more day.

My Father, let this cup pass from me; yet not my will, O Lord, but thine be done.

Then they took our Savior, and led Him to a tree; and there they broke His body, poured out his life, put Him to death to rise again!

My Father, let this cup pass from me; yet not my will, O Lord, but thine be done. Thy will be done. To GIVE, please scan the QR code below:



About Thy Will Be Done

Perhaps the best word to describe Craig Courtney's first and best-selling anthem composed in 1984 is "dramatic.' Each verse and refrain has an entirely different texture and atmosphere, from a slow caravan march to the pounding nails of the crucifixion. Courtney is an American pianist, vocal coach, and choral conductor who served as a piano professor at the Mozarteum in Salzburg, Austria. He now heads Beckenhorst Music Press in Columbus, OH, and has an extensive list of popular anthems in print.

About Solus ad Victimam

The literal translation of solus ad victimam is "only the victim" or "the only victim." The musical setting of this poignant text is not one you may be whistling as you walk away from worship, but I maintain it is one of the most effective musical settings for Palm/ Passion Sunday. This anthem is one of those with harmonies and sonorities that may not sound correct when they are. Worshipers will hear the sparseness of the choir singing in simple octaves, and in the next moment, harsh dissonances between the voices appear.

While this 12th-Century text is definitely a Passiontide one, my favorite aspect is that it foreshadows Easter and the Resurrection. The word-play of the music that accompanies "laughter" in the text is notable. The choral voices rise higher in pitch, and the full choir ends literally on the highest note they sing, after which the organ accompaniment steals the show with great dissonant chords, only to land on a huge, bright E Maior chord. Talk about foreshadowing Easter! Yes, Palm Sunday is celebrated today, and we begin the journey of Holy Week, but as Christians, we know what comes three days later. Death is not the victor, thanks be to God!

- John Semingson

Anthem (11:00 a.m.) Solus ad Victimam Kenneth Leighton

Alone to sacrifice thou goest, Lord, Giving thyself to Death whom thou hast slain. For us thy wretched folk is any word? Who know that for our sins this is thy pain? For they are ours, O Lord, our deeds. Why must thou suffer torture for our sin? Let our hearts suffer in thy Passion, Lord, That very suffering may thy mercy win. This is the night of tears, the three days' space, Sorrow abiding of the eventide, Until the day break with the risen Christ, And hearts that sorrowed shall be satisfied. So may our hearts share in thine anguish, Lord, That they may sharers of thy glory be; Heavy with weeping may the three days pass, To win the laughter of thine Easter Day.

Text by Peter Abelard (1079-1142)

*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.** 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.

Lead us, O God, in the way of Christ.

Give us courage to take up our cross
and, in full reliance upon your grace, to follow him.

Help us to love you above all else
and to love our neighbor as we love ourselves,
demonstrating that love in deed and word
by the power of your Spirit.

Through Christ, all glory and honor are yours,
almighty Father,
with the Holy Spirit in the holy church, now and
forever. Amen.

*THE LORD'S PRAYER (Singing together)

(Please refer to the inside back cover of your hymnal for the words and music for this hymn.)

SENDING

*HYMN 198

Ride On! Ride On in Majesty! ST. DROSTANE

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Mass for the Convents François Couperin Offertoire sur les grands jeux About Hymn 198

This 19th-century Palm Sunday text is better understood as the reflections of someone standing outside the event rather than as coming from those participating in the actual procession. This poignant text is set to a tune written especially for it later in the same century. TEXT: Henry Hart Milman, 1827; MUSIC: John Bacchus Dykes, 1862.

About the Postlude

The Postlude is considered the final Alleluia of worship.

^{*(}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, 615.292.5526 or hhudnutbeumler@nashvillewpc.org.

TODAY@ WESTMINSTER

WORSHIP LEADERS

Preaching

Rev. Dr. Donovan Drake Pastor and Head of Staff

Liturgist

Rev. Heidi Hudnut-Beumler Associate Pastor for Congregational Care

Lay Liturgists

8:30 AM Fran Linley 11:00 AM X Lucas

Music

8:30 AM Laudate Youth Choir 11:00 AM Alleluia, Gloria and Jubilate Choirs (Susan Ramsey,

Roberta Rodgers and Ali Hard, directors,

Westminster Choir

Dr. John Semingson Director of Music Ministries

Dale Nickell Organist and Associate Director of Music Ministries

EASTER FLORAL CROSS

Become part of the wonderful tradition that is Westminster's Easter Floral Cross to be displayed in front of the church on Easter Sunday morning, March 31st! Please bring flowers - either from your garden or purchased - to decorate our cross. Special helpers will be outside the front doors of the Sanctuary before and after each service to help you add your floral offerings.

RESERVE YOUR DATE FOR SANCTUARY OR PARLOR FLOWERS

Several dates in April, May, June, and July remain open to reserve the Sanctuary or Parlor for flowers. Honor your friends and loved ones with beautiful arrangements created by the very talented members of our Flower Guild.

The Sanctuary (\$150) is available April 28; May 19; June 2, 23, and 30; and July 7 and 14. The Parlor (\$75) is available on all dates through the end of July except May 12 and June 9.

Contact Terri Eckert at teckert@nashvillewpc.org to reserve your date today!

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

3s, 4s, 5s and Kindergarten - Room 151

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

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)



"Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.'"

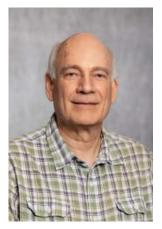
Mark 11:2-3

What was the last thing someone told you to do for them?

Could that moment be an act of Christian discipleship?

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Adult Education Classes start at 9:45 AM

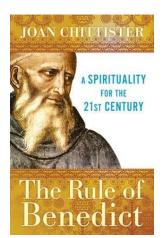


Covenant Class • Fellowship Hall

Four-Part Series: The Pursuit of Paradise: Arabs and Israelis, Holy Lands and Homelands

In this four-part series, Dr. Echerd will teach us about the creation of the modern state of Israel, the origins of the Palestinian refugee problem, and the role of the Holy Places in this whole story.

Dr. Art Echerd comes to us from Harpeth Hall School, where he has taught European and World History for over thirty years.



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

Please join the class in Fellowship Hall.

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

Young Families • Overlook Room

"Life is like a box of chocolates..." At least we know it's chocolate.

What we know and what we don't know about Westminster's future.

Join us for a discussion with Donovan Drake.

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

Youth Ministry

Sunday School 7th - 12th grade 9:45 AM Koinonia Youth Café

Senior High Youth Group 12:30 PM

Students are invited to meet T.J. for food and fellowship at the White Bridge Rd. Chipotle!

Middle School Youth Group 6:00 PM Koinonia Youth Café

Youth & Children Choirs

4:00 PM Tintinnabulation Rehearsal

5:00 PM Laudatate Choir Rehearsal

Children's Ministry
9:45 AM ● 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.

GETCONNECTED



March 28
New Book Study
To Love as God Loves
9:30 - 11:00 AM ● Room 89

Join us as we read through and discuss Roberta Bondi's *To Love as God Loves*. For more information, please contact Will Wellman, wwellman@nashvillewpc.org.

Spiritual Growth

April 6, 7 NaCoMe Retreat for 7th & 8th Graders

The Youth Ministry will be doing a youth-focused retreat, coinciding with the all-church NaCoMe retreat! Join us for games, fellowship, cinnamon rolls, a ropes course activity, and diving into your faith, all while staying in our own youth cabins. We hope you'll join us! Scan the QR code to register.







April 6, 7
NaCoMe Weekend

Please join us for a fun, unplugged weekend with your church family!! We will have so much fun, eat well, and stay in cabins. Scan the QR code to register.

Family Fun

GETCONNECTED



Earth Care Reflections and A Great **Documentary to View**

The Presbyterians for Earth Care has a series of reflections and devotions that will guide thought about our relationship to God's creation. Please scan the green QR code below to access them.

If you are interested in joining Presbyterians for Earth Care, or just want their monthly newsletters, you can sign up by scanning the blue QR code.





Oil Painting Classes

Intermediate Oil Painters

(some experience with oils) April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, May 7 9:00 ам - Noon \$50 for 6 days

Beginner Oil Painters

April 3, 10, 17, 24, May 1, 8 9:00 AM - Noon \$50 for 6 days



Please scan the OR code to register for a class.

March 26 **Westminster Book** Group

9:30 AM Fellowship 10:00 ам Program **Location: Room 10** Leaders: Dr. Ken Hande and **Dr. Terry Allen**

Being Mortal: Medicine and What Matters in the End By Atul Gawande

July 21 - 27 Montreat Youth Conference

The Montreat Youth Conference affirms youth in their calling to be and to shape the church of Jesus Christ.

Scan the QR code to register. For more info, please contact T.J. Piccolo,

tjpiccolo@nashvillewpc.org.

September 9 **Westminster Golf Outing**

1:00 PM Shotgun

The outing benefits Westminster Home Connection.

CAFÉ ACTIVITIES



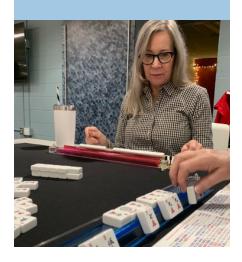
Tuesday - Friday 8:00 AM - Noon

Where you find that two or three are gathered... I'm there!"

Matthew 18:19-20

Mah-Jongg

March 26



Tuesdays 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Mah-Jongg is a game of Chinese origin usually played by four players with 144 tiles that are drawn and discarded until one player secures a winning hand.

Please contact Beth Drake, beth@westminsterjoy.org, for more information.



Scan the QR code to register to play.

Scripture Reflection

March 27



Wednesdays 9:15-10:30 AM

This is a beautiful opportunity to experience the joy of watercolor while sharing life through scripture.

RSVPs are encouraged. Scan QR code.



Songwriters Circle

March 28



Thursdays 10:00 AM - Noon

If you are a songwriter or just want to listen, you are welcome!



TURNING TOWARDS THE LIGHT

Help the Youth

The Oasis Center builds relationships that advance youth well-being. Provide sack lunches or snacks, hot meals, or donate items for homeless youth; assist with Bike Workshops at a Metro schools or tutor at Nashville State.

Contact Beth Moore, BMoore@srvhlaw.com.





Pray for a Community

MyLifeSpeaks is a nonprofit ministry based in Neply, Haiti committed to developing a Christ-centered culture, one life at a time, by equipping Haitians to help Haitians create a sustainable, long-term impact in their communities. Volunteer to pray for Haiti daily. Learn more by scanning the QR code.



We hope this Lenten season was a special experience.

We invite all you to reflect on any volunteer activity you may have participated in and how it informs our faith during this solemn Lenten season as we move toward Easter.

We are asking, if you are willing, share the other organizations where you currently participate.

Also, let us know if you are currently volunteering to serve in an organization connected to Westminster.

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

Please share your experience at I.volunteer.here.now@gmail.com or with one of the Hands on Mission cards found in the pew racks or on the table in the Parlor.

THIS WEEK @ WESTMINSTER

Sunday, March 24

8:30 AM Worship

9:45 AM Sunday School

11:00 AM Worship

12:30 рм Senior High Youth

4:00 PM Tintinn Rehearsal

5:00 PM Laudate Rehearsal

6:00 PM Middle School Youth

Monday, March 25

10:00 ам Таі Chi

11:45 AM Centering Prayer

5:00 PM Pickleball

Tuesday, March 26

7:00 AM Daybreak Believers

7:30 AM Bible Study

Westminster Café

9:00 AM Harvard Handbells

9:30 AM Westminster Book Group

Wednesday, March 27

7:00 AM Men's Bible Study

8:00 AM Westminster Café

9:30 AM Westminster Bells

10:00 AM Tai Chi

6:00 рм Room In The Inn

7:00 PM Men's Basketball

7:00 PM Westminster Choir

Thursday, March 28

7:30 AM Westminster Café

9:30 AM Women's Bible Study

10:00 AM Knitting & Crocheting

6:00 рм Dinner

7:00 PM Maundy Thursday Service

Friday, March 29

7:00 AM Men's Bible Study

7:30 AM Westminster Café

10:00 ам Таі Chi

5:00 PM Pickleball

7:00 PM Good Friday Service

Saturday, March 30

11:30 AM AA



MARCH 28 - MAUNDY THURSDAY

6:00 P.M. DINNER
7:00 P.M. SERVICE OF HOLY
COMMUNION IN THE SANCTUARY
STRIPPING OF THE CHANCEL
LAUDATE YOUTH CHOIR

MARCH 29 - GOOD FRIDAY

7:00 P.M. CHORAL SERVICE OF DARKNESS IN THE SANCTUARY WESTMINSTER CHOIR

MARCH 31 - THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

SERVICES: 7:30 A.M., 9:15 A.M.,
AND 11:00 A.M.
WITH BRASS QUINTET
LAUDATE YOUTH CHOIR
WESTMINSTER CHOIR
(HOLY COMMUNION AT THE
7:30 A.M. SERVICE ONLY)

Join us for dinner on Thursday night before the Maundy Thursday service. Please scan the QR code below to make reservations, write your name on the the pew pad and put it in the offering plate, or call the office at 615.292.5526.



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



Our Covenant

As we look to Westminster's future, we are truly hopeful for "God-Sized Dreams" to become realities. In these efforts, we seek to let our light shine before others (Matthew 5:16), to become ministers of reconciliation loving all compassionately (because God loved us first), and to transform and renew our community and world. As unique individuals, as a collective congregation and recognizing we are all children of God, we seek to:

- grow in the knowledge of God revealed in Jesus and in our own personal and communal experiences
- love one another, being slow to judge and quick to pardon
- embody God's unifying grace and forgiveness in all our relationships, in all aspects of our lives
- be open-minded to the diversity of opinions in our congregation and the world, and to consider our opinions in light of the command to love God and our neighbor, and
- promote the Kingdom of God on earth, knowing that nothing can separate us from God's love.

We enter into this covenant freely, promising to abide by its claim on our lives.



Palm Sunday March 24, 2024



Palm Sunday March 24, 2024



Palm Sunday March 24, 2024

