

Westminster Presbyterian Church



Easter Sunday Worship

10:30 a.m.

Westminster At Worship

A Celebration of Worship

Easter Sunday

“Christ is Risen!”

March 31, 2024

10:30 a.m.

Please silence your cell phones prior to entering the sanctuary.

†Those who are able to stand may do so.



GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD

PRELUDE

BRINGING IN THE LIGHT

WELCOME

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

OPENING OF THE ALLELUIA BOX

†CALL TO WORSHIP

LEADER: Yesterday we thought death had won.
Yesterday we thought all was lost.
Yesterday we thought Christ was gone.

PEOPLE: But not today.
Today we know that love has won.
Today we know that hope is real.
Today we know that Christ is here.

LEADER: We have reason to hope.

PEOPLE: We have reason to sing!

LEADER: Alleluia!

PEOPLE: Alleluia!

LEADER: Christ is risen today.

†OPENING HYMN

“Jesus Christ is Risen Today”

EASTER HYMN

*Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!
Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!
Suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!*

*Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!
Unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia!
Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!
Sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!*

*But the pains which he endured, Alleluia!
Our salvation have procured. Alleluia!
Now above the sky he’s King, Alleluia!
Where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!*

*Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!
Praise eternal as God’s love. Alleluia!
Praise our God, ye heavenly host, Alleluia!
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!*

CALL TO CONFESSION

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

LEADER: The stone is rolled away!

PEOPLE: **We assume it is a mistake.**

LEADER: The angels say, “He is not here!”

PEOPLE: **We assume their news is fake.**

LEADER: The women tell the story,

PEOPLE: **but we do not want to hear it.**

LEADER: Peter runs to the tomb,

PEOPLE: **but we do not understand.**

LEADER: Forgive us, God, for thinking an empty tomb is nothing more than a prank.

PEOPLE: **Forgive us for seeing discarded burial cloths and still holding tight to death.**

LEADER: Forgive us for pushing away reasons to hope when you are alive and well in the world.

PEOPLE: **Teach us to see what you see.**

LEADER: Unravel the threads of our unbelief.

— *A Time of Silent Confession* —

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

†GLORIA

"Glory to God"

(The organ will play through once, then the congregation will join in)

*Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!
Glory to God, glory to God, alleluia, alleluia!*

†SHARING GOD'S PEACE

Christians throughout the centuries: Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

CHORAL ANTHEM

"Sing an Easter Alleluia"

MCDONALD

Chancel Choir

David Weemhoff on trumpet

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

READINGS FROM THE SCRIPTURES

Gospel Lesson

Luke 24: 1-12

Second Lesson

Acts 10:34-43

SERMON

"And I hope"

Rev. Jamie Milton

†AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We may weep through the longest nights.

We may stare at the empty tomb with more questions than answers.

We may run our fingers over the burial cloths and still long for more.

But today, we are a people of hope.

We believe in new beginnings.

We believe that the God who created the world is stronger than death.

We believe that Jesus abides among us, healing, teaching, and leaving fingerprints throughout this world.

We believe that a tomb could not hold him.

We believe that the sun does rise.

We believe that Peter was there with questions, awe, and faith the size of a mustard seed.

We believe that the story is not over yet, for God is among us.

Today we are a people of hope.

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“Christ is Risen, Alleluia!”
Chancel Choir
David Weemhoff on trumpet

ALTHOUSE

~ Please record your presence on the “Friendship Pad” ~

†DOXOLOGY

*Praise God, from whom all blessing flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

†UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Almighty God, by your grace, accept the fruit of our labor and the offering of our lives in union with our risen Lord who lives and reigns with you forever. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Prayers of the people and the Lord’s Prayer

PEOPLE: 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.

SHARING IN THE BREAD AND CUP

You are invited to come forward to receive communion. Once you receive a piece of bread and a cup of juice, please take communion before returning to your seat. If you wish to remain seated, someone will bring communion to your seat. If you require gluten free bread, please let the Pastor know.

UNISON PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Gracious God, you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth.

You have fed us with the bread of life, and renewed us for your service.

Help us who have shared Christ's body and received his cup to be his faithful disciples so that our daily living may be part of the life of your kingdom, and our love be your love reaching out into the life of the world; through Jesus Christ our Risen Lord. Amen.

BEING SENT WITH GOD'S WORD

†HYMN

#447

"Because He Lives"

RESURRECTION

*God sent his Son, they called him Jesus;
he came to love, heal, and forgive;
he lived and died to buy my pardon,
an empty grave is there to prove my Savior lives.*

Refrain:

*Because he lives I can face tomorrow;
because he lives all fear is gone;
because I know he holds the future,
and life is worth the living just because he lives.*

*How sweet to hold a newborn baby,
and feel the pride and joy he gives;
but greater still the calm assurance:
this child can face uncertain days because he lives. (Refrain)*

*And then one day I'll cross the river;
I'll fight life's final war with pain;
and then as death gives way to victory,
I'll see the lights of glory and I'll know he lives. (Refrain)*

BENEDICTION

HALLELUJAH CHORUS

POSTLUDE



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A Sanctified Art

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Margaret Hanson
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Seth Cunningham
Rachel Webb
Heather Heidtman
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ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR MARCH 31, 2024

PRAYERS AND SYMPATHY of the congregation are extended to the family and friends of Samantha Kosta. Sam passed away, Saturday, March 23rd. Funeral arrangements are pending.

THANK YOU! Many thanks to David Weemhoff and Dave Crook for sharing their talents on trumpet with us this morning. And thank you Tom Tolles for the beautiful wooden crosses you made for our church family this Easter morning.

NURSERY CARE is available for infants and toddlers during the worship service. Our nursery is equipped with a paging system. Quality childcare is provided by Elaine Edwards who is infant/CPR trained.

PER CAPITA 2024 Per capita for 2024 is \$29.50. Remember that Per Capita goes to fund the greater church including our Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly, which in turn, provides great support to Westminster. **Look for the blue envelopes in the pew backs or in your box of envelopes.**

FOOD PANTRY CHALLENGE: We asked you to fill-up the Food Pantry and you not only did that, but filled up an additional room! Over 1700 items have been donated! THANK YOU to everyone who has made this such a success!!

The **CHURCH OFFICE** will be closed tomorrow, Monday, April 1st. We'll be back Tuesday at 8:00 a.m.

HOSPITAL STAYS: Please remember to contact the church office if you are in the hospital. Pastor Jamie and Rev. Linda are available for visits or a phone call; prayers and comforting words during this time.

BAY CHORALE CONCERT: Music lover's we're so lucky to have so much talent in our area! The Bay Chorale will be having a concert, entitled "Dream" Friday, April 19th at 7:00 p.m. at the Garber High School Auditorium. Tickets are available at the door \$12.00 for Adults, \$10.00 for students, and 12 and under free. You can also purchase tickets from Dawn Auger, Buzz West, Ken Wright, Don Clough, or Judy Harrelson.

NINE ESSENTIAL THINGS I'VE LEARNED ABOUT LIFE: Our book study on the the best-selling book by Rabbi Harold Kushner, continues this Tuesday at 1:00 p.m.

COMMITMENT/ESTIMATE OF GIVING CARDS: Pledge cards are at the back of the sanctuary, if you still need to turn in a 2024 Commitment Card.

LENTEN/EASTER DEVOTIONAL SERIES: Our Adult Bible Study/Devotional continues next Thursday, April 4th at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom and wraps up next Sunday, April 7 at 9:00 a.m. or Thursday, April 11th at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom.

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY: Starting April 14th at 9:00 a.m. in the Conference Room, we'll begin another study on a specific book in the Bible. This session will focus on the book of Ephesians, using the book "Practice Resurrection" by Eugene Peterson as our guide. Check out the April Log for more details. Books are available in the office.

THURSDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY: Beginning April 18th at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom, we'll start the next Follow Me unit "Care for Creation". The Bible invites us to be good stewards of the Earth. God created and called that creation good. We'll begin by noticing the good all around us and how individually and together we can care for it. The April Log has more details. Books are available in the office. If you would like to be added to the Zoom invitation list, please call Rev. Linda or the church office.

MATTHEW 25 CAFE AT THE SALVATION ARMY: Westminster serves lunch at the Matthew 25 Cafe on the second Tuesday of each month. Crews work from 9-11 a.m. with with meal prep, or 11-1:00 p.m. serving and cleaning up. Join us on April 9th or May 14th. Scan the QR code or call the Church office to sign up.



FOOD OF FAITH: Did you know Food of Faith has been going strong on the west side of the city for over 20 years! Join our amazing team from Westminster. We'll be serving a dinner on Thursday, April 18th at Messiah Lutheran. Help with cooking and meal prep starting at 2:00 p.m. or help with serving and clean up at 4:00 p.m. Use the QR code or call the Church office to sign up.



VBS REGISTRATION IS OPEN: Bay Shore's Day Camp on the Road is coming to Westminster August 5-8 from 8:30 a.m.- 4:30 p.m for fun week of VBS! The cost is \$99.00/child but full and partial scholarships are available. Click on the QR code to



2024 Easter Flower Dedications



The names of those who contributed
Easter flowers,
their dedications, and type
are listed below.

For those who ordered flowers, you
may take them after the service.
Thank you!

**DIANA BALL, MARILYN POTGIESSER,
JOY SPONSELLER & BILL GAREISS:**
In memory of Mary Kay Prudden (2
pink tulips and 1 azalea)

MARILYN BECHTEL: In memory of
Jerry Bechtel (2 pink tulips)

BEV BUCHANAN: In honor of my
sister, Alicen Rogers (azalea)

RICK & CEIL BUCHANAN: In
memory of Bruce & Peg Rice and June
Buchanan (hydrangea and 2 azaleas)

CAROL CAMPBELL: In memory of
Curtis G. Campbell (daffodil)

ELIZABETH DORE: In memory of
Arthur Chambers and Robert Dore
(2 gerbera daisies)

NEIL AND PAT EVERSON: In honor of
our 6 grandchildren (6 pink tulips)

**JUSTIN & HEATHER, COLLIN AND
DYLAN HEIDTMAN:** In memory of
Herman & Louise Heidtman and Pati
LaLonde (lavender mum)

SHARON HIGNITE: In honor of all my
children and grandchildren (daffodil)

**TOM & MARILYN KAYNER AND
DALE SNELLER & KAREN KAYNER
AND FAMILY:** In memory of Allen &
Judy Kayner, Alfred & Dorothy
Kayner, Gordon & Beverly Parks,
Gordon Parks, Jr., Ray & Pearl Miller
Roy & Anna Sneller and Dale Sneller I
(1 pink and 1 white tulip)

STEVE & DARLENE KUSTERER: In
memory of Sue Gustafson, Sandy
Thibo, our parents and siblings
(2 gerbera daisies)

JOHN AND MARILYN LEN: In memory of Kathryn & Henry Len and Gerald & Hilda Paul and Keith Paul (2 gerbera daisies)

THOMAS & MARGARET MAJCHRZAK: In memory of Ross & Jessie McNab and Robert & Rita Majchrzak (2 daffodils)

BONNIE MARSH In celebration of my church family (red, pink, purple and white tulip)

FRED & MARY ANN MEYER: In memory of Oliver & Gladys Allen and Fred & Audry Meyer (hydrangea)

KAREN MITCHELL: In memory of my parents, Ralph & Helen Davidson (yellow mum)

LARRY & DEB PRYCE: In memory of Jason Bleshenski (2 hydrangea)

BEVERLY RECTOR: In memory of Homer & Lynda Rector and George and Ann Holley (daffodil and hydrangea)

ALICEN ROGERS: In celebration of the life of Jesus (yellow and white mum)

KAREN & RIC RUSSELL: In memory of our family in heaven (pink tulip)

KAREN SCHOEPPACH: In memory of Lloyd & Carmen Schoeppach and Delynn (Wenz) Lynch (2 purple tulips and yellow mum)

JACK & JANET SMYLIE: In loving memory of our parents and in honor of our children and grandchildren (2 gerbera daisies)

NANCY SWANTEK: In memory of Jerry Swantek (2 gerbera daisies)

DICK TALBOT In memory of Liz Talbot (azalea)

MARTHA TAPLEY: In memory of Linwood & Helen Tapley, Rev. Elliot & Dorothy Bodwell, Jim Tapley, and David Bodwell and John Tapley (gerbera daisy)

CHRISTINE THURMAN: In memory of Nadine & Ernest Casper and Dean & Helen Schroer and Carol Schroer (3 gerbera daisies)

PATTI WESENICK: In loving memory of Russ and Lois Marvin and honoring my sister, Ellen Lesniak (2 lavender mums)

LARRY & SUE WILSON: In celebration of our family and neighbors (3 red tulips)