

Westminster At Worship

5th Sunday of Easter

May 2, 2021

10:30 a.m.



GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

WESTMINSTER AT WORK - Mother's Day Baby Shower

†CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: In the wilderness, water brings life.

People: Seek us out, O God, and take us to the water.

Leader: In the Word of God, the good news gives light.

People: Seek us out, O God, and fill us with understanding.

Leader: In the bread and the wine, the body of our Savior
nourishes everyone.

People: Seek us out, O God, and give us yourself.

Leader: Here is the water of life, the word that feeds, the food of
eternity. Come and praise the vine that gives all
goodness.

MUSIC

"I Love to Tell the Story"

Trio

CALL TO CONFESSION

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Source of love and life, your glory knows no bounds. We yearn
to set aside our fears, but we are often afraid. We long to**

love our sisters and brothers, but we often feel alienated from them. We desire to abide in you as you abide in us, but we can't seem to figure out how.

Show us once more how to love, for only love can cast out our fear.

Show us how to love one another well, for only then can we truly know you.

Show us how to abide in your vine, for only then can we bear the fruit that glorifies your name.

— *Silent Prayer* —

Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

You have already been cleansed by the word that God has spoken to you. In baptism God claimed you and joined you to Christ, as branches to a vine. Believe the promise given to you: in Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

Thanks be to God.

†SHARING GOD'S PEACE

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

READINGS FROM THE SCRIPTURES

First Lesson

1 John 4:7-21

7 Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. **8** Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. **9** God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. **10** In this is love, not that

we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. **11** Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. **12** No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. **13** By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. **14** And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. **15** God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. **16** So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. **17** Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. **18** There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. **19** We love because he first loved us. **20** Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. **21** The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

Second Lesson

Acts 8:26-40

26 Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) **27** So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship **28** and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. **29** Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." **30** So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" **31** He replied, "How can I,

unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. **32** Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: "Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. **33** In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth." **34** The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" **35** Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. **36** As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" **38** He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. **39** When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. **40** But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

SERMON

"Going Where the Spirit Leads"

Rev. Jamie Milton

†AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, light from light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin

Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen

CHORAL ANTHEM

“Rejoice, the Lord is King!”

Trio

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD

MUSICAL REFLECTION

Wendy Tally

†UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Through our offerings, O God, give your loving Spirit to a world in need of comfort. Make our many gifts one offering for the world; in the name of Jesus. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S SUPPER

Leader: Come to the table of grace, for Christ is the vine,
and we are the branches.

People: Come, Holy Spirit, come.

Leader: Come to the table of love, for whoever does not
love, does not know God.

People: Come, Holy Spirit, come.

Leader: Come to the table of blessing, for Christ is here to
abide in us, as we abide in him.

People: Come, Holy Spirit, come.

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Sanctus

Leader: Holy God, creator of the universe...Therefore,
we join our voices with all those who sing your
praise:

**People: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna
in the highest. Blessed is the One who comes in
the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

The Memorial Acclamation

Leader: We praise you, most holy God...Great is the
mystery of faith:

**People: Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.**

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.

The Memorial Acclamation

Leader: The gifts of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

BEING SENT WITH GOD'S WORD

HYMN OF DEDICATION

"Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ"

Trio

CHARGE & BENEDICTION

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Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year B, Volume 1 @ 2014

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Elaine Edwards
Dawn Auger
Peggy Hanson
Wendy Tally
Heather Heidtman
Harold Miller
Judy Harrelson

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR MAY 2, 2021

OUTDOOR HYMN SING: It has been wonderful to be able to return to in-person worship with our safety guidelines in place. One thing that we are still unable to do safely indoors is sing together. Knowing we all miss that part of worship, we plan to hold some outdoor hymn sings. Following worship, join us on the north lawn for a time of masked singing. During the month of May, we plan to sing together on May 2, 16, and 30.

NEW MEMBER CLASSES: Have you been participating in the life and worship of Westminster and want to know more about what it means to become a member of the church? You are invited to attend our New Member classes! These two, one-hour classes will be held at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday, May 9 and May 16. Participants will learn about our PC(USA) denomination and what it means to be an active member of Westminster Presbyterian Church. There is no obligation to join the church after taking the class, but the classes are required for those seeking to become members.

MOTHER'S DAY BABY SHOWER: During this past year of the pandemic, babies continued to be born, and mommies were still in need. With the help of members of Deborah Circle, the Mother's Day Baby Shower (with some modifications) will again be held at Westminster Presbyterian Church. Beginning today through Sunday, May 16, we will be collecting baby items at the church. While we welcome items for babies of any age, newborn to 6 months is particularly requested. Purchase items for the shower or donate handmade items — all are welcome! We do ask for new items only. We plan to donate our items to the Salvation Army, Good Samaritan Rescue Mission, and Bay Area Women's Center. Thank you!

THURSDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY: Join us on Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom as we delve into the Book of Acts. Acts is all about stories — activities, actions, actors. And with that, the promise that it will never be dull! As always, the reason to study the Bible is not to simply know the facts, but to reflect on how these activities, actions, and actors connect to our 21st century lives. The book, *Acts from Scratch*, is available in the church office (donation appreciated). Any questions regarding the class or for Zoom information, contact Rev. Linda at 989-686-1360 or email at parishassoc@wpcbc.org.

THE WIRED WORD ADULT FAITH FORMATION: Join us on Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom. Enjoy lively conversations about current events in the news and the Bible passages that relate to those events. Any questions regarding the class or for Zoom information, contact Rev. Linda at 989-686-1360 or email at parishassoc@wpcbc.org.

THE BOOK CLUB will meet on Tuesday, May 25 at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom. We will discuss the book, *The Red Tent* by, Anita Diamant. Books are available at church this month. They are available in the church office for check-out and can be picked up during regular

business hours. Contact Nikelle at cedirector@wpcbc.org to receive Zoom login information.

DEBORAH CIRCLE: Ladies, you are invited! The Deborah Circle will meet via Zoom on Tuesday, May 25 at 7:00 p.m. Contact Darlene Kusterer or the church office for Zoom information.

JOIN US ON FACEBOOK: Westminster Presbyterian Church - Bay City.

This Week at Westminster

Today, Sunday, May 2, 2021

- 10:30 a.m. Worship Service
- 11:30 a.m. Outdoor Hymn Sing

Monday, May 3

- 7:00 p.m. Deacon Meeting

Tuesday, May 4

- 6:00 p.m. Personnel Meeting

Wednesday, May 5

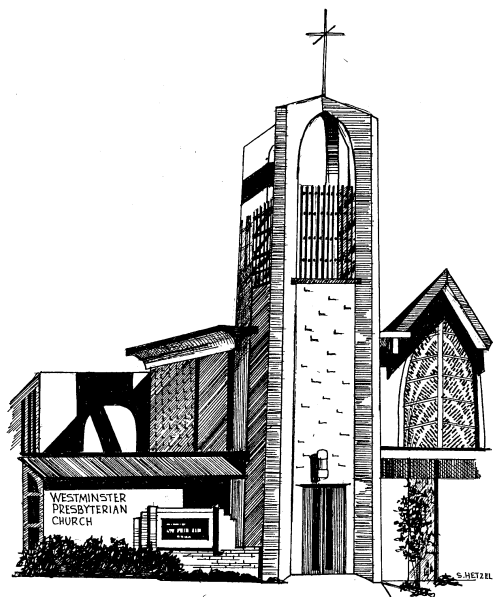
- 1:00 p.m. The Wired Word via Zoom
- 6:00 p.m. Property Meeting
- 7:00 p.m. Mission Partnerships

Thursday, May 6

- 5:00 p.m. Food of Faith at Messiah Lutheran
- 7:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study via Zoom

Next Sunday, May 9

- 9:00 a.m. New Member Class
- 10:30 a.m. Worship Service



Westminster Presbyterian Church

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Office Hours

Monday - Thursday

8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

lunch 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.

Friday

8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

