

2023 LENT



Seeking:

honest questions
for deeper faith

Westminster Presbyterian Church



February 26, 2023 | 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

THE CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

WE GATHER TOGETHER

Prelude

Prelude, Fugue, and Variation

César Franck

Welcome and Announcements

*Share the Peace of Christ

*Introit

I Want Jesus to Walk with Me

Traditional Spiritual

I want Jesus to walk with me.

All along my pilgrim journey, Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

*Call to Worship

Leader: In a world full of noise,

People: **we believe that God is speaking.**

Leader: In a world full of chaos,

People: **we believe that God is singing.**

Leader: In a world full of temptation,

People: **we believe that God is healing.**

Leader: We will listen

People: **for the laughter of children,
for the sound of open doors,
and for God's voice, who calls us beloved.**

***Opening Hymn No. 166**

Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days

ST. FLAVIAN

- 1 Lord, who throughout these forty days for us did fast and pray,
teach us with you to mourn our sins and close by you to stay.
- 3 And through these days of penitence, and through this Passiontide,
yes, evermore, in life and death, O Lord, with us abide.
- 4 Abide with us, till when this life of suffering shall be past,
an Easter of unending joy we may attain at last.

***Prayer of Confession**

Holy God, too often we treat your word like a radio station—something we can tune in and out of when it's convenient. Our minds are full of ads, emails, news updates, and notifications. In the midst of this clutter, we tend to gravitate toward the voices that think like us—easily ignoring the voices being silenced, easily ignoring your voice. Forgive us for failing to listen. Forgive us for getting caught in distractions. Forgive us for forgetting what your voice sounds like. Drain the distractions from our minds and help us turn once again toward you. With earnest hearts, hear our prayer...

(A time of silence for personal confession)

***Assurance of God's Love and Forgiveness**

Leader: Friends, believe the good news.

People: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

***Sung Response**

O How He Loves You and Me

PATRICIA

O how he loves you and me! *(two times)*
He gave his life. What more could he give?
O how he loves you; O how he loves me;
O how he loves you and me!

Prayers of the People and 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.

Response

Sevenfold Amen

Lutkin

WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD

Scripture Lesson

Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Seeking: Whose voice will you listen to?

Jo Forrest

WE OFFER OUR GRATITUDE

Offertory Anthem

How Lovely Are the Messengers from *St. Paul*

F. Mendelssohn

How lovely are the messengers that preach us the gospel of peace!
To all the nations is gone forth the sound of their words.

*Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

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

*Prayer of Dedication

WE GO OUT TO SERVE

*Closing Hymn No. 451

Open My Eyes, That I May See

OPEN MY EYES

- 1 Open my eyes, that I may see glimpses of truth thou hast for me.
Place in my hands the wonderful key that shall unclasp and set me free.
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my eyes; illumine me, Spirit divine!
- 2 Open my ears, that I may hear voices of truth thou sendest clear.
And while the wave notes fall on my ear, everything false will disappear.
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my ears; illumine me, Spirit divine!
- 3 Open my mouth, and let me bear gladly the warm truth everywhere.
Open my heart, and let me prepare love with thy children thus to share.
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my heart; illumine me, Spirit divine!

*Benediction

*Benediction Response

Christ, We Do All Adore Thee

Dubois

Christ, we do all adore thee, and we do praise thee forever,
For on the holy cross thou hast the world from sin redeemed.

Postlude

Little Prelude in E Minor

J.S. Bach

*Please rise in body or in spirit.

Leading in worship: Jo Forrest, Jim Burns, Christine Hestwood, Nolan Daniele, the Quartet, and the Chancel Choir

Prayers of Concern and Thanksgiving
Recent surgery, hospitalization, or illness
Hester Joseph

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today

Congregational Annual Meeting

Session has called the annual congregational meeting to present the 2022 Annual Report as well as the 2023 financial budget. Please join us today, following the 11:00 a.m. worship service in the sanctuary.



Social Justice League for Teens

Sponsored by Veritas
Sunday, February 26
6:00 p.m.
Youth Wing

A group for teens ready to do social justice work in our community and the world. We will meet on the last Sunday of each month to discuss future projects.

For more information, contact Becky Boyer at 724-344-7642 or boyer@westminster-church.org.

Worthy Notes and Upcoming Events



Seeking: A Lenten Devotional Group Conversation

Begins February 27
Mondays - 10:00 a.m.
Tuesdays - 6:30 p.m.
Wednesdays - 4:30 p.m.

This weekly group will follow the Lenten Devotional materials "Seeking: honest questions for deeper faith." These casual discussion groups enrich our reflection on God's love for us and our response to God's call. There are several options for groups and times to join and no need to register. For more information, go to: <https://westminster-church.org/lent-2023-westminster>.



Extended Communion

Sunday, March 5
10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

The Deacons will be taking communion to anyone unable to attend Sunday worship. If you would like to receive communion or know of anyone to add to the list, please contact Jo Forrest, forrest@westminster-church.org, or call the church office 412-835-6630.



Westminster Seminars

On the Way to Easter with John's Gospel
James E. Davison

Sundays, March 5, 12, 19, and 26
9:45 a.m.
Galbreath Chapel/Zoom

The Gospel of John is markedly different from the other three Gospels. One major difference is the amount of space that John gives to conversations between Jesus Christ and individual people. In this series, we will look at major persons and groups toward the end of the Gospel, and how they participate in the events leading to Good Friday and Easter. What do they think of Jesus, and what does their response to him say about faith and life for them and for us? Learn more at <https://www.westminster-church.org/events/event-list/westminster-seminars>.



Pocket Change Project

Through April 2

Once again, the Cherub Choir is in mission on a mission for the Pocket Change Project this Lenten season. Through Palm Sunday, the Cherubs are leading the campaign to collect as much pocket change as possible to support school children in Haiti. Please consider joining them by collecting your own pocket change and combining it with theirs during a special collection on Sunday, April 2, during all three services.



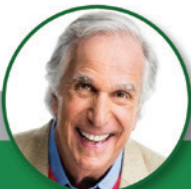
THANK YOU! We packaged 40,000 meals yesterday. Thank you to the 300+ volunteers who made it possible!

Rise Against Hunger will distribute these meals to schools and orphanages where the need is the greatest.

THS TOWN HALL *South*
SPEAKER SERIES



2023 | 2024 DAYTIME
SPEAKER SERIES
For tickets, visit - TownHallSouth.org



Henry Winkler
October 3, 2023



Lynsey Addario
November 7, 2023



Ruth Reichl
December 5, 2023



Kobie Boykins
February 6, 2024



Douglas Brinkley
April 9, 2024

ANNOUNCEMENTS (continued)



"Love Builds Up" Lenten Family Devotional

Anytime during Lent!

Here's the challenge: For each of the six weeks of Lent, spend some time at the beginning of the week (Sunday night, maybe?) reading that week's Bible passage together. Talk as a family about the suggested topic, using the devotional's optional conversation prompts if you like. You can pick up Devotional booklets on Sunday mornings after each worship service and at Wednesday Food and Fellowship.

Or download a copy at the following link:

<https://bit.ly/lovebuildsup>



Veritas Spring Retreat to Splash Lagoon

Veritas Youth
March 24-26
Transportation
leaves at 6:00 p.m.

Do you like Veritas and water slides? Come with us this spring for an opportunity to share in fellowship and explore your faith while sitting in a lazy river. **Registration deadline is March 1.**

Cost is \$75 per student. Contact Laura Ecklin with questions, 412-835-6630 x211 or

ecklin@westminster-church.org.



JAM Retreat

March 25-26
Crestfield Camp and
Conference Center

Register here by
March 10:

bit.ly/JAMretreat

Join us for a fun-filled 24 hours at Crestfield Camp and Conference Center that will include games, food, large group times, small group times, exploring, and even sleeping. We'll have a blast while connecting with God and each other. Participants will meet on Saturday morning at Westminster and return Sunday morning. For more information, contact Faith Kemmler.

Volunteer Opportunities

To volunteer for the following opportunities, contact Jan Baumann at baumann@westminster-church.org 412-559-1034



Town Hall South Is Looking for New Board Members

Tuesday a.m. meetings,
September through April

The Town Hall South Speaker Series is a great asset to Westminster and to the community. Come be a part of the organization that puts on these lectures by becoming a board member. If you are interested in engaging our community in discussion on important issues, this might be for you. If you have questions, email us at townhallsouth@gmail.com.

THIS WEEK @ WESTMINSTER

FEB 26 - MAR 4, 2023



Scan here for complete church calendar



Scan here for a full WROC schedule & information

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26

8:30	Traditional Worship Wiggle Room**	Sanctuary Rm. 239
9:00	Welcome Center	North Main Entry
9:45	Bridge Contemporary Worship Bridge Sunday School PreK-4th Grade Wiggle Room - The Bridge** Westminster Seminar Sacrament Class	WROC/Lvstrm. Rm. 176 WROC Fitness Galbreath Chapel Rm. 238
11:00	Traditional Worship Wiggle Room** Sunday School* (PreK-4th Grds)	Sanctuary/Lvstrm. Rm. 239 Rm. 233
11:45	Annual Congregational Meeting	Sanctuary
6:00	Social Justice League (Teens)	Youth Dept.
7:00	Youth Choir	Rm. 268

***Sunday School** - 9:45 a.m., dismissed from worship after children's message; 11:00 a.m., report directly to Room 233. A time for children in PreK through 4th grade to explore the Bible, enjoy fellowship together, and grow in their faith.

****Wiggle Room** - 9:45 - Upstairs WROC Fitness Room; 8:30/11:00 - Room 239. Available to **families with children from birth through age 3** who would prefer a separate space to step away while listening to the worship service. Please see an usher if you need help finding the Wiggle Room.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27

12:00	AA	Rm. 176
6:00	Cub Scout Den Meeting	Rm. 107
7:00	The Grace - Westminster Book Club Zoom Deacon Meeting	Rm. 238 Rm. 238

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28

7:00	Tuesday Morning Men's Group	Rm. 238
8:45	Town Hall South Board Meeting	Rm. 231
10:00	Staff Meeting	Rm. 238
4:30	Single Women's Group Dinner	Galleria
6:30	Seeking:Lenten Devotional Group Conversations	Rm. 231
7:00	Al Anon	Rm. 131
7:30	Scout Troop 366	Rm. 107

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1

12:00	Westminster Book Group	Library
4:30	Youth Bible Study Seeking:Lenten Devotional Group Conversations	Rm. 283 RM. 238
4:45	Cherub Choir (Grds K-2) Junior Choir (Grds 3-6) Little Ones & Loved Ones	Rm. 176 Rm. 268 Rm. 194
5:30	Wednesday Food & Fellowship	Fellowship Hall
6:00	JAM - Youth Group (Grds 5-6) Kids' Connection (3rd/4th Grds) Kids' Connection (PreK-2nd Grd) Veritas Youth Group (Grds 7-12)	North Main Entry Rm. 176 Rm. 233 Youth Dept.
7:30	Westminster Ringers	R. 268

Wednesdays @ Westminster have something for everyone! From children's choirs to Children's & Family Ministry programs, Food & Fellowship, Veritas Youth Group, Bible studies, and more, make plans to be here. Visit our website or scan the QR codes below for details.

THURSDAY, MARCH 2

6:00	Cub Scout Den Meeting	Rm. 176
7:00	Chancel Choir Nar Anon	Rm. 268 Rm. 131
7:30	NA	Rm. 107

FRIDAY, MARCH 3

6:30a	Fishers of Men	Rm. 231
7:00	AA Al Anon	Rm. 107 Rm. 231

SATURDAY, MARCH 4

8:00a	Rotary Pancake Festival	Fellowship Hall
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Children's & Family Ministry



Food & Fellowship Menu



Music & Choirs

STAFF PROGRAM/MINISTRY CONTACTS

Jo Forrest, Senior Pastor, Head of Staff, forrest@westminster-church.org

Jan Baumann, Volunteer Coordinator, baumann@westminster-church.org

Christine Hestwood, Director of Music, hestwood@westminster-church.org

Faith Kemmler, Director of Children's & Family Ministry, kemmler@westminster-church.org

Kathy Long, Director, Westminster Recreation & Outreach Center, long@westminster-church.org

Ed Sutter, Director of Youth Ministry & Family Counseling, sutter@westminster-church.org

Carol Webber, Director of Finance & Operations, webber@westminster-church.org



Giving to Westminster

ONLINE: <https://www.westminster-church.org/give>

TEXT-TO-GIVE: Text WPCUSC to 73256. Standard text messaging rates may apply.



Westminster Staff Contact Information

We would love to hear from you. Give us a call, drop us an email, or stop by the church office.



[Westminster.Pittsburgh](https://www.facebook.com/Westminster.Pittsburgh)



[wpc_pgh](https://www.instagram.com/wpc_pgh)



[WestminsterUSC](https://www.youtube.com/WestminsterUSC)



[veritalk.podbean.com](https://www.veritalk.podbean.com)

Westminster on Social Media

Watch worship videos, listen to the Veritas podcast, share Westminster events, find prayers, scripture, and more to like and share!

Photos/Videos at Westminster: We would like to make you aware that by participating in Westminster Presbyterian Church worship and activities, you may be photographed and/or videotaped and therefore assign and authorize the producer, Westminster Presbyterian Church, all rights to reproduce, copy, exhibit/publish, and distribute any such videotape and photography. If you have any concerns, please contact Anna Hiner, Communications & Database Manager, at hiner@westminster-church.org or 412-835-6630x207.



WESTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

A PC(USA) Congregation

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