

MORNING WORSHIP
The Stones Would Cry Out

GATHERING: PREPARING TO HEAR THE WORD

In Preparation for Worship

"Like splendid palm branches, we are strewn in the Lord's path." —Latin antiphon

Sharing the Life of Westminster

Rev. Jen Porter

As we prepare for worship, we are invited to be attentive to God's presence in our midst.

Opening Voluntary

"Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"

setting M. Burkhardt

++Call to Worship

One: With crowds from ancient times we cry,

All: Hosanna! Save us!

One: O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good!

All: God's steadfast love endures forever.

One: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

All: We bless you in the house of the Lord!

One: Lo, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he,

All: Humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

One: Let us worship the living God!

++Hymn 196

"All Glory, Laud, and Honor"

Valet will ich dir geben

Prayer of Confession

Hosanna, we pray. Save us, Lord. Save us from ourselves when we trip over pride, doubt, or fear. Save us from the systems that keep us bound when we cannot see the way out. Save us from our sins when we feel their weight pressing on our hearts. Remind us, O Lord, that crowds shouting "Hosanna" will soon be screaming "Crucify him." Save us, we pray, and do not let us be among them. In your great mercy, hear our prayer...

Silent Confession

Kyrie - Unison

"Lord, Have Mercy"

Lee J. Afdahl

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us,
Christ, have mer - cy up - on us, Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Assurance of God's Grace

One: The Lord says, "This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days. I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds. I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more." Friends, trust the good news of the gospel:

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

++Response Hymn 417 "Lord Jesus, Think on Me"

Southwell

(stanza 1)

Lord Jesus, think on me,
and purge away my sin.

From earth-born passions set me free,
and make me pure within.

++Passing the Peace of Christ

One: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

THE WORD

Scripture

Luke 19:28-40

Old Testament p. 83

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Musical

"The Stones Would Cry Out"

Script by Sherrill Vore

Luke 19:40

"Rejoice, the King Is Coming!"

Mark Patterson

Sing hosanna, praise the King of Kings. Rejoice, rejoice, the King is coming!

See Him ride through Jerusalem. Sing hosanna to the King! Welcome now the King of Kings.

See the King of Glory as He rides on through the crowd.

Lay your palms before Him as we sing to the blessed King of Kings.

Rejoice, rejoice, the King is coming! Sing hosanna, come praise the King of Kings!

"My Strength and Shield"

Robert J. Powell

The Lord is my strength and my shield;

with my heart do I trust in the Lord, my God and King.

Therefore my heart shall greatly rejoice.

With my song will I praise the Lord, my God and King.

Chapel Singers & Carol Choir

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

++Affirmation of Faith Adapted from The Confession of Belhar Rev. Lynette Sparks

One: We believe in the triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, who gathers, protects, and cares for the church through Word and Spirit. This, God has done since the beginning of the world and will do to the end.

All: We believe that Christ's work of reconciliation is made manifest in the Church, as the community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another.

One: We believe that unity is, therefore, both a gift and an obligation for the Church of Jesus Christ.

All: We believe that, through the working of God's Spirit, it is a binding force, yet simultaneously a reality which must be earnestly pursued and sought.

One: We believe that this unity of the people of God must be manifested and be active in a variety of ways:

All: in that we love one another, and that we experience, practice, and pursue community with one another.

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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Offering Our Lives

Please take a moment to sign and pass the red friendship pad located in the pew, and take note of those worshiping next to you.

Offertory "Cantilena on a Lenten Plainsong Melody" setting C. Uehlein

++Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God above, ye heavenly host;

Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost!

++Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

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

All: It is right to give thanks and praise.

We are truly grateful, Holy God, for your gift of Jesus Christ.

With thanks and praise, we rejoice in your salvation. With these gifts, we seek to follow him as he leads us into the sacrifice you desire. Amen.

GOING OUT TO BE THE CHURCH

++Closing Hymn 198 "Ride On! Ride On in Majesty!" St. Drostan

++Charge and Benediction

Closing Voluntary

"Jubilant Procession"

J. Wayne Kerr (b. 1958)

CONGREGATIONAL CHARGE

Go into the world in peace. Have courage. Hold on to all that is good. Return no one evil for evil. Do justice. Walk with those who are fainthearted. Help those who suffer. Honor all people. Love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Kyrie used by permission of the composer. "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna," "Rejoice, the King Is Coming!" "My Strength and Shield," "Cantilena on a Lenten Plainsong Melody," and "Jubilant Procession" used by permission under ONE LICENSE, License #724668-A.

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AHEAD IN WORSHIP

Thursday, March 28, 7:30 p.m.
Maundy Thursday Tenebrae Service
Sacrament of the Lord's Supper
Sanctuary Choir & Jill Warne, Cello

Friday, March 29, 12:00 p.m.
Community Good Friday Service
LaGrave Avenue Christian Reformed Church
Scripture, Music, and Prayers
Ecumenical Choir

March 31, 10:00 a.m.
Easter Sunday
Community Resurrected
Rev. Lynette Sparks
Mark 16:1-8
Sanctuary Choir & Joel Burns, Trumpet

April 7, 10:00 a.m.
Second Sunday of Easter
This We Declare
Rev. Lynette Sparks
1 John 1:1-2:2
Sanctuary Choir & Maria Schoon, Soprano

Ahead in Adult Faith Formation

February 18-March 24, 11:15 a.m., Chapel: Howard Thurman's *What Makes You Come Alive* Howard Thurman, known as the spiritual guide of the Civil Rights movement, becomes our guide through the weeks of reflection and preparation we are all called to during Lent. Using the vast collection of Thurman's teachings on spiritual maturity and spiritual discernment and drawing from Lerita Coleman Brown's book "What Makes You Come Alive," we reflect on our own spiritual lives and commitments. Join Rev. Jen for these weeks of learning, reflection, and conversation.

March 24, 11:15 a.m., Parlor: Digital Security Class Do things like Browser Cookies and "Advanced" options when installing a program sound intimidating to you? The Communications Committee is offering a class for absolute beginners to Digital Security. Our very own Nate Roosien, Director of Information Security at Meijer, will be leading a discussion about why it's so important, and we'll provide simple, easy, practical ways you can protect your online presence as well as raise awareness about your privacy in an increasingly digital world. Digital Security is not as intimidating once you understand it, so join us with all of your questions!

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

LiturgistsRev. Jen Porter, Associate Pastor
.....Rev. Lynette Sparks, Senior Pastor

Music.....Janlee Richter, Piano & Organ
.....Chapel Singers, Director Jackie Schoon
.....Carol Choir, Director Lindsey Doody

Ushers.....Doug Dowling, Joanie Dowling, Keith Combs, Kari Fuller
.....Chris Fuller, Ann Jarvis, Jim Jarvis, Rich Zimmerman, Sharon VanderWilp

Rock.....Frances Heethuis
Chip.....Marian Wenzel
Quarry.....Jackson Reid
Granite.....Kyah VanBrouwer
Jesus.....Shay Venema
Disciples.....Robin Gregg, Oliver Jordan, Norah VanBrouwer
.....Evie Wolters, Olivia Zallar, Benji Coke
Woman and Widow.....Eleanor Engbers
Pharisee.....Elise Gerville-Réache
Child and Rich Woman.....Eva DeVries
Rich Man.....Ed Engbers

Stage Directors.....Bernice Houseward with Maren Gregg, Assistant

Special Thanks to Deborah Kammer, Marcia Fortner, Ron Bouwense and the Stage Crew, Dan VanTil, Elise Gerville-Réache, Deanna Clark, Dan Cisler, Sam Putt, Christine Davis, Nicole Koetje, Grant Kelly, Ted Koopmans, Nancy Greidanus, and all the parents who support this program.

Welcome to Westminster

MEMBERSHIP

If you have questions about the life of the church or becoming a member, please email Nicole Koetje at nicolek@wpcgr.org. More information about worship and updates from the church can be found at westminstergr.org. You are welcome and celebrated here!

ACCESSIBILITY

If you'd like a large-print bulletin please ask one of the ushers at a Sanctuary entrance. For T-loop hearing assistance, set your hearing aid to T.

We have accessible, all-gender, companion bathrooms available off of the Dining Room.

CHILDREN

Ask an usher if you'd like special worship bags, folders, or children's bulletins to help your kids engage in worship. The nursery (babies through two-year-olds) is available during the service. There are no children's centers or church school this week.

YOUTH

If you would like more information about youth ministry, please contact our Minister with Youth and Young Adults Kat Jonker at katj@wpcgr.org.



*Western Wall in Jerusalem
James Blake Wiener (CC BY-NC-SA)*

The Stones Would Cry Out

PALM SUNDAY

**MARCH 24, 2024
10:00 A.M.**

Announcements

TAKE A MEMBER DIRECTORY PHOTO! March 24, 11:00 a.m., Library Take a new member directory photo after the service!

GATHERING PLACE FLOWERS: The flowers in the Gathering Place were donated by Kirsten & Tim Weller in gratitude to everyone involved with hosting the Grinnell Singers last Monday.

CHILDREN'S SCHEDULE CHANGES AND ACTIVITIES FOR SPRING: **Palm Sunday:** Children's musical, no choirs or church school after the service. **Easter Sunday:** Bring in your Fish Banks, no choirs or church school. **April 7:** No choirs or church school. **April 28:** End of program year celebration for families.

HOLY MONDAY LABYRINTH OUTING: March 25, 1:00 p.m., Gathering Place First United Methodist Church invites us to share their new labyrinth, a 36-foot Chartres design painted onto heavy canvas. Walk yourself at any time (hours at grfumc.org) or join a group from Westminster for a Holy Monday walk.

ECUMENICAL GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE: March 29, 12:00 p.m., LaGrave Avenue Christian Reformed Church You are invited to the annual ecumenical Good Friday service that takes place in cooperation with other downtown churches. This year, the service will take place at LaGrave Avenue Christian Reformed Church (107 LaGrave Avenue SE). The service will include an ecumenical choir and clergy from participating churches, including Westminster.

MISSION PARTNERSHIP AT WESTMINSTER UPDATE: One of the organizations Westminster annually contributes to through the Mission Partnership committee is the Haiti Nursing Foundation (HNF). HNF improves health in the Republic of Haiti by supporting quality nursing education. There are 117 nurses per 10,000 individuals in the US but there are only 1.8 nurses per 10,000 in Haiti. Westminster is grateful to have the resources available to support the foundation with our 2024 contribution of \$4,000, which will cover the expenses for an individual nursing scholarship.

TOGETHER WEST MICHIGAN ORGANIZING TRAINING: April 12 & 13 Strong relational power-building and action only happen when everyday community members get engaged, build, and exercise skills as leaders in public life! Attend a Together West Michigan training to learn about Broad-Based Organizing and how to build relational power around issues that affect you and your community. Visit our website to register.

WPA MAY BUS TRIP: May 8 After fellowship at church over coffee and donuts, we'll travel to Frankenmuth for a full day including a relaxing sightseeing tour on the Cass River aboard the Bavarian Belle Riverboat, lunch at Zehnder's Restaurant, and a tour of the historic St. Lorenz Lutheran Church. There is a \$10 cost for this event. Register on our website or fill out a hard-copy registration found at the Welcome Desk by April 10.

WCDC RECEIVES EXEMPLARY ACCREDITATION: Congratulations are in order for the Westminster Child Development Center for receiving a "Demonstrating Quality" rating from Great Start to Quality! Demonstrating Quality is the top rating in the Classroom Assessment Scoring System, and WCDC not only achieved this rating, but also far exceeded the Michigan average. When you see WCDC staff, be sure to congratulate them for providing such an excellent experience for their students.

WESTMINSTER CAMP 2024: August 29-September 1, Camp Henry Absolutely everyone is welcome! Visit our website to register! Contact Nancy Greidanus at nancyg@wpcgr.org if you have questions.



DONATIONS: Donations can be made by scanning the QR code, through our secure online giving site, or by check sent to the church office. Email angiek@wpcgr.org or call (616) 717-5533 with questions.

This Week's Calendar

SUN. MARCH 24

- 10:00 a.m. Worship ServiceSanctuary
- 11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour Gathering Place
- 11:00 a.m. Member Directory Photos..... Library
- 11:15 a.m. Adult Faith Formation..... Chapel
- 11:15 a.m. Digital Security Conversation Parlor
- 11:15 a.m. Church School & Choirs Various Locations
- 11:15 a.m. Civil Rights Trip Meeting Conference Room

MON. MARCH 25

- 11:00 a.m. Quilting GroupMultipurpose Room
- 1:00 p.m. Labyrinth Outing..... Gathering Place

TUES. MARCH 26

- 4:00 p.m. Personnel Committee Meeting..... Online

WED. MARCH 27

- 6:30 a.m. Youth Prayer BreakfastWolfgang's
- 6:30 p.m. West Michigan Gay Men's Chorus..... Choir Room
- 7:00 p.m. Youth Bible Study Parlor

THURS. MARCH 28

- 10:30 a.m. Food Pantry Front Lobby
- 3:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service Porter Hills
- 6:30 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal Choir Room
- 7:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service Sanctuary

FRI. MARCH 29

- 12:00 p.m. Ecumenical Good Friday Service..... LaGrave

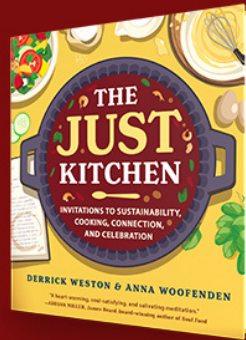
SUN. MARCH 31

- 9:00 a.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal Choir Room
- 10:00 a.m. Easter Sunday ServiceSanctuary
- 11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour Gathering Place

THE JUST KITCHEN

INVITATIONS TO SUSTAINABILITY, COOKING,
CONNECTION, AND CELEBRATION

DERRICK WESTON
& ANNA WOOFENDEN



We are joined this spring by Derrick Weston, author of “The Just Kitchen” and member of PC(USA) Creation Justice Ministries, as we explore our own relationship with food and justice. We join the invitation to reprioritize the kitchen as a space for healing, community, activism, and celebration.

April 7: Westminster food ministry panel facilitated by Kyle Kooyers Community Food Club, Pat Hornick; Degage Ministries, Heather and/or Mike Lunt; Downtown Food Pantry, Angie Kelley; Family Promise, Jane French; Sandwich Brigade, Anita Sukenik

April 13: 6:00 - 8:30 p.m. “The Just Kitchen” Dinner and Conversation with Derrick Weston
\$25 per person (assistance available)
Register at westminstergr.org

April 14: Rev. Derrick Weston preaching in the service and leading Adult Faith Formation conversation

April 21: Earth Sunday 2024 “Plastic Jesus”
Developed by PC(USA) Creation Justice Ministries