

MORNING WORSHIP  
An Inverted World View

GATHERING: PREPARING TO HEAR THE WORD

In Preparation for Worship

"In those moments of self-giving, inmost desire and outward deed overflow together.  
Our divided selves are made whole, and we experience God's blessing."

—Barbara A. Gerlach

Sharing the Life of Westminster

Susan Jennings

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

Introit

"This Is the Day"

Fijian folk song

arr. Les Garrett (1943-2017)

This is the day that the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Cherub Choir

++Call to Worship based on Psalm 1 and Jeremiah 17:8

Rev. Jen Porter

Blessed are those who trust in the Lord,

**whose confidence is in God.**

They will be like a tree planted by the water,

**sending out roots by the stream.**

This tree does not fear when heat comes;

**its leaves are green, its fruit endures.**

So come, let us place our trust in God.

**Let us live in faith together.**

++Hymn 772

"Live into Hope"

Truro

Prayer of Confession

**Sustaining God, you want us be deeply rooted in you, finding strength**

**in your word and nourishment in your grace. More often, though, we**

**live as chaff, blown here and there by the winds of circumstance.**

**Forgive our failure to follow your call. Grow our faith, that we might**

**be firmly planted in your promises and open to the life you have**

**shown us in Jesus Christ...**

Silent Confession

Kyrie

"Lord, Have Mercy"

Swee Hong Lim



Lord, have mer - cy.



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

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text  
MUSIC: Swee Hong Lim, 1990  
Music © 1990 Swee Hong Lim (admin. General Board of Global Ministries U/a C.B.C.Musik)

SINGAPURA

Assurance of God's Grace

Hear the good news: Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. We know this love through Jesus Christ, and by this love, we know that we are forgiven!

**We can now live in peace. Thanks be to God!**

++ Stand in body or in spirit

Bold text is spoken by the congregation

++Response Hymn 755 "Alleluia! Laud and Blessing"

Weisse Flaggen

(stanza 1)

**Alleluia! Laud and blessing to our God, whose Word is sure;  
by whose grace we find redemption, in whose love we live secure.  
Righteousness and rich compassion shall attend us all our days;  
may God's promise to be faithful echo through our songs of praise!**

++Passing the Peace of Christ

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

Ministry of Music

"Lift Every Voice and Sing" James Weldon Johnson (1871-1938)

Bell Choir

arr. Sonja Schultz Fryer

Blessings with Younger Disciples

Nancy Greidanus

Children three years through second grade may finish their time of worship in the Worship Centers. Children's worship leaders or parents will shepherd them from the Sanctuary to their rooms. Parents may pick them up in their worship rooms following the service.

**Congregation: As you worship together, may God be with you.**

Children: And also with you.

**Congregation: Go in peace!**

THE WORD

Scripture

Luke 6:17-26

New Testament p. 64

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

"An Inverted World View"

Rev. Lynette Sparks

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

++ Hymn 773

"Heaven Shall Not Wait"

Heaven Shall Not Wait

++Affirmation of Faith from A Brief Statement of Faith, PC(USA)

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God.

Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:

**preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives,**

**teaching by word and deed and blessing the children,**

healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted,

**eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners,**

**and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.**

Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified,

suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of

the world.

**God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life,**

**breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to**

**life eternal.**

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. We invite you to fill out any of the pew cards and place them in the offering plate.

Offertory

"Десять Священных Хоров"

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

(Ten Sacred Choruses)

(1840-93)

IV. Тебе поем (We Hymn Thee)

Translation from Church Slavonic:

We hymn Thee, we bless Thee, we give thanks to Thee, O Lord,

and we pray unto Thee, O our God.

Sanctuary Choir

++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

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

**We praise and thank you, Lord God, for the majesty of your work,**

**the wisdom of your word, and the generosity of your grace. Let the**

**gifts of our lives bear witness to your goodness and mercy, your**

**faithfulness and justice, and your steadfast love for all. Amen.**

GOING OUT TO BE THE CHURCH

++Hymn 756

"O God of Every Nation"

Llangloffan

++Charge and Benediction

Closing Voluntary

"Every Time I Feel the Spirit"

Adolphus Hailstork (b. 1941)

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.

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Worship liturgies adapted from Call to Worship Journal, Teri McDowell Ott, and the Presbyterian Outlook. Bulletin Image from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN

**AHEAD IN WORSHIP**

**February 23**

Rev. Lynette Sparks  
Luke 6:27-38

Westminster Winds, Kirk Singers, & Sanctuary Choir

**March 2**

Rev. Lynette Sparks  
Exodus 34:29-35  
Sanctuary Choir

**Ahead in Adult Faith Formation**

**Open Door Ministry: Past, Present, & Future**

**February 16, Chapel 15 minutes following worship**

Our Community Resource Coordinator, Brian Kamstra, will share how Westminster is using the church building during the week to serve the Heartside community.

**Youth Fundraiser: Pasta Banquet & Silent Auction**

**February 23, Dining Room, 11:30 a.m.**

Join us next Sunday for our silent auction and pasta banquet! This is sure to be a very lively community event. Our theme is "Spring Cleaning" because we will be auctioning several home improvement projects completed by youth. Will your yard need weeding? Do you have a garage that needs a clean-out? We hope you will come bid on these projects as well as many other great experiences and items including a cabin stay in Northern Michigan, a walleye fishing trip, second row Griffins Tickets, and much more! Purchase tickets on the website so that we can make food preparations.

**PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE**

Preacher..... Rev. Lynette Sparks, Senior Pastor

Liturgists ..... Susan Jennings, Minister for Pastoral Care & Mission  
..... Rev. Jen Porter, Associate Pastor  
..... Nancy Greidanus, Minister for Children & Families

Musicians.....Robert Ragoonanan, Minister of Music  
..... Janlee Richter, Music Ministry Associate  
..... Cherub Choir, Director Lindsey Hoekstra  
..... Bell Choir, Co-Directors Sonja Schultz Fryer & Sarah Faasse  
..... Sanctuary Choir

Acolytes..... William Huntington & Vedant More

Ushers.....Bernie Smith, Kathy Smith, John Boerman  
..... Stephen Marshall, Sherrill Vore, Marian Vanderwall  
..... Tom DeVries, Ralph Hammond, Ben Boerkoel

AV Team ..... Ian Dengerink-Van Til, Rachel Kamstra, Stella Sheckler

**Welcome to Westminster**

**MEMBERSHIP**

If you have questions about the life of the church or becoming a member, please email Crystal Hovey at [crystalh@wpcgr.org](mailto:crystalh@wpcgr.org). More information about worship and updates from the church can be found at [westminstergr.org](http://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**

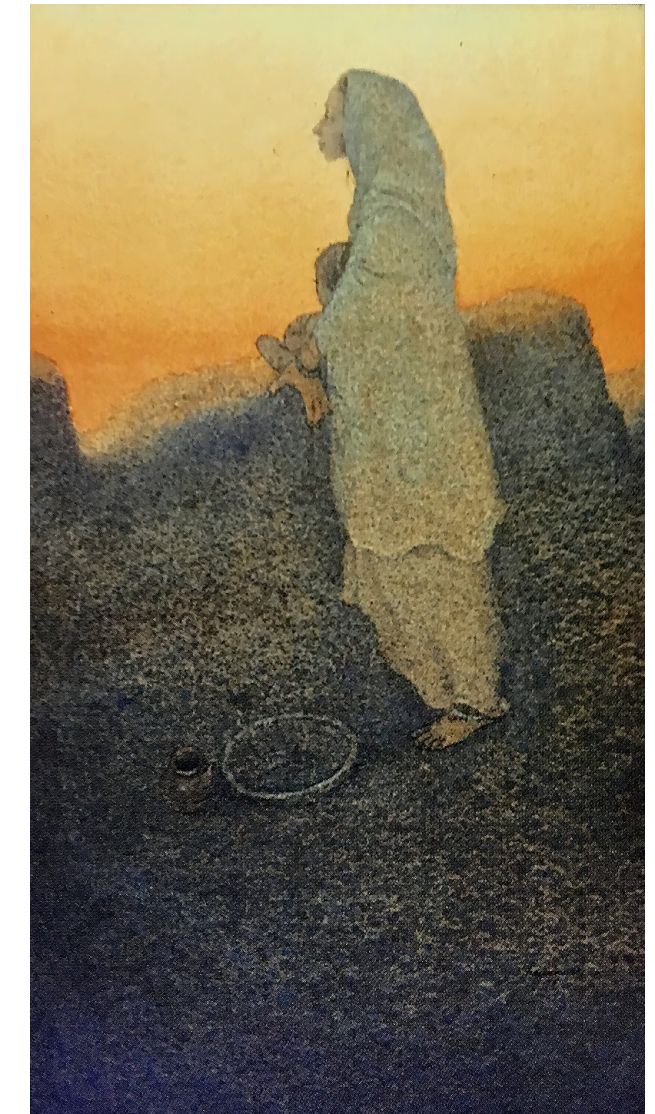
Parents of three-year-olds to fifth graders, come to the children's check-in tables in the Gathering Place before the service to sign in. Ask an usher if you'd like special worship bags, folders, or children's bulletins to help your kids engage in worship. The nursery (babies through two-year-olds) is available during the service. Children (ages 3 through 2nd grade) will begin worship in the Sanctuary and be invited to continue worship in the interactive settings of our worship centers. Leaders will shepherd them to their centers, but parents are welcome to lead them as well. Children will wait for you at the end of the service in the Children's Ministry hallway off the Gathering Place.

**YOUTH**

If you would like more information about youth ministry, please contact our Minister with Youth and Young Adults Kat Hand at [kath@wpcgr.org](mailto:kath@wpcgr.org).

**YOU ARE INVITED TO WEAR A NAMETAG!**

We encourage you to wear a nametag every Sunday to help us learn to know one another better and extend our welcome. If you would like a reusable nametag, please email Crystal at [crystalh@wpcgr.org](mailto:crystalh@wpcgr.org).



*Blessed Are the Poor, Frank Wesley*

**An Inverted World View**

**SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY**

**FEBRUARY 16, 2025**  
**10:00 A.M.**



**WE ARE A**  
**MATTHEW 25 Church**

Matthew 25:31-46 calls all of us to actively engage in the world around us, so our faith comes alive and we wake up to new possibilities. Convicted by this passage, the Presbyterian Church (USA) decided to act boldly and compassionately to see our neighbors through Jesus' eyes and and serve those who are marginalized or in need, by building congregational vitality, dismantling structural racism, and eradicating systemic poverty.