

MORNING WORSHIP
The Way of Resurrection

GATHERING: PREPARING TO HEAR THE WORD

In Preparation for Worship

“Death cannot keep back love; love is stronger than death. The meaning of Good Friday and Easter Sunday is that God’s path to human beings leads back to God.”

—Dietrich Bonhoeffer

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

"Trumpet Tune"

Henry Purcell (c. 1659-95)
arr. E. Power Biggs (1906-77)

++Call to Worship

Christ is risen!

Elder Deb Flietstra (9:00 a.m.)

Elder Ben Boerkoel (11:00 a.m.)

Christ is risen indeed!

Alleluia!

On this day we celebrate resurrection.

The power of life overcomes the power of death.

Alleluia!

The light of love shatters the darkness of fear.

Alleluia!

The way of peace prevails against the violence of empire.

Alleluia!

We worship the God of resurrection power.

Christ is risen indeed!

++Hymn 232

"Jesus Christ Is Risen Today"

Easter Hymn

++Prayer of Adoration

Praise be to you, O God of Resurrection, for you have defeated the powers of sin and death. In raising Christ Jesus, you displayed your holy power and transformed all of creation. In your steadfast love, you have redeemed us once and for all. In place of pain, scarcity, and despair, you show us wholeness, abundance, and hope. Holy Spirit, inspire us to live as your new creation, working to make things on earth as they are in heaven. Amen.

++Response Hymn 246

"Christ Is Alive!"

Truro

(stanza 5)

Christ is alive, and comes to bring good news to this and every age, till earth and sky and ocean ring with joy, with justice, love, and praise.

++Passing the Peace of Christ

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Ministry of Music "The Angel Rolled the Stone Away"

Spiritual

arr. Betty Jackson King (1928-1994)

The angel rolled the stone away.

'Twas on a bright and shiny morn, when the trumpet began to sound.

Sister Mary came a-runnin' at the break of day.

Brought the news from heaven that the stone had rolled away.

I'm a-lookin' for my Savior, tell me where he lay.

High upon the mountain and the stone had rolled away.

Sanctuary Choir

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 24:1-12

New Testament p. 90

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"The Way of Resurrection"

Rev. Lynette Sparks

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

++Hymn 245

"Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!"

Llanfair

++Affirmation of Faith (from 1 Corinthians 15)

This is the good news we have received,

In which we stand, and by which we are saved:

Alleluia, the Lord is risen indeed!

That Christ died for our sins, and was buried,

And rose again on the third day.

Alleluia, the Lord is risen indeed!

He appeared to Peter, and to the twelve,

And to many faithful witnesses.

Alleluia, the Lord is risen indeed!

At last he came to us, that we might come to believe

And proclaim this good news to the world.

Alleluia, the Lord is risen indeed!

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.

Commissioning of Cuba Travelers

Susan Jennings

Offering Our Lives

In addition to our regular offering, we invite you to contribute to One Great Hour of Sharing, which provides people with safety, sustenance, and hope through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Presbyterian Self Development of People. Envelopes are in the pews. Please take a moment to sign and pass the red friendship pad located in the pew, and take note of those worshipping next to you.

Offertory

"The Music of Living"

Dan Forrest (b. 1978)

Giver of life, Creator of all that is lovely, teach me to sing the words to Your song.

I want to feel the music of living; and not fear the sad songs,

but from them make new songs composed of both laughter and tears.

Giver of life, Creator of all that is lovely, teach me to dance to the sounds of Your world.

I want to move in rhythm with your plan. Help me to follow your leading,

to risk even falling, to rise and keep trying, for You are leading the dance.

++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.

Eternal God, your glory has dawned on us and brought us into this Day of Resurrection. We rejoice that the grave could not hold your Son, and that he summons us into new life. By your Spirit, lift us from doubt and despair, and set our feet in Christ's holy way. We give all praise, glory, and thanksgiving to you, our God, forever and ever. Amen.

GOING OUT TO BE THE CHURCH

++Hymn 536

"Rise, O Church, like Christ Arisen"

arr. David Cherwien

Stanza 1 & 4: Choir and congregation

(b. 1957)

Stanza 2 & 3: Choir

If you would like to sing the Hallelujah Chorus with the choir, walk up during the hymn and join! Sheet music is located next to each staircase leading up to the choir.

++Response

"Hallelujah!" from Messiah

G.F. Handel (1685-1759)

Hallelujah! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth,

The kingdom of this world is become the kingdom of our Lord,

And of His Christ. And he shall reign forever and ever.

King of Kings, and Lord of Lords. Hallelujah!

++Charge and Benediction

Closing Voluntary

"Rubrics, A Liturgical Suite for Organ"

Dan Locklair (b.1949)

V. "The people respond - Amen!"

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.

AHEAD IN WORSHIP

April 27, 10:00 a.m.
Second Sunday of Easter

Rev. Kyle Kooyers
Josh Leckrone, Baritone
Kirk Singers & Sanctuary Choir

May 4, 10:00 a.m.
Third Sunday of Easter

Rev. Kyle Nolan
Kathleen Pool, Soprano
Chapel Singers & Sanctuary Choir

Ahead in Adult Faith Formation:

FAITH FORMATION & YOUTH TOGETHER: April 27 & May 4, 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

A unique invitation for adults to engage in conversation with our seniors and other high schoolers attending the trip to Washington state this summer. Sign-ups are rolling for two discussion groups that will focus on the perspectives of two Indigenous authors and ask, 'What now?' Lunch is provided—please RSVP so we can make needed accommodations! Visit the website to sign up.



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.

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.

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

PreacherRev. Lynette Sparks, Senior Pastor

LiturgistsRev. Jen Porter, Associate Pastor
..... Deb Fliestra, Clerk of Session (9:00 a.m.)
..... Ben Boerkoel, Elder for WDCD (11:00 a.m.)
..... Nancy Greidanus, Minister with Children & Families
..... Susan Jennings, Minister for Pastoral Care & Mission

Musicians.....Robert Ragoonanan, Minister of Music
..... Janlee Richter, Music Ministry Associate
..... Jonathan Ruffer & Dylan Griffor, Trumpets
..... Kia Weeldreyer, Timpani
..... Sanctuary Choir

Acolytes..... Ben Coke & Vedant More (9:00 a.m.)
..... Lilli Muir & Phoebe Lowry (11:00 a.m.)

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. 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.

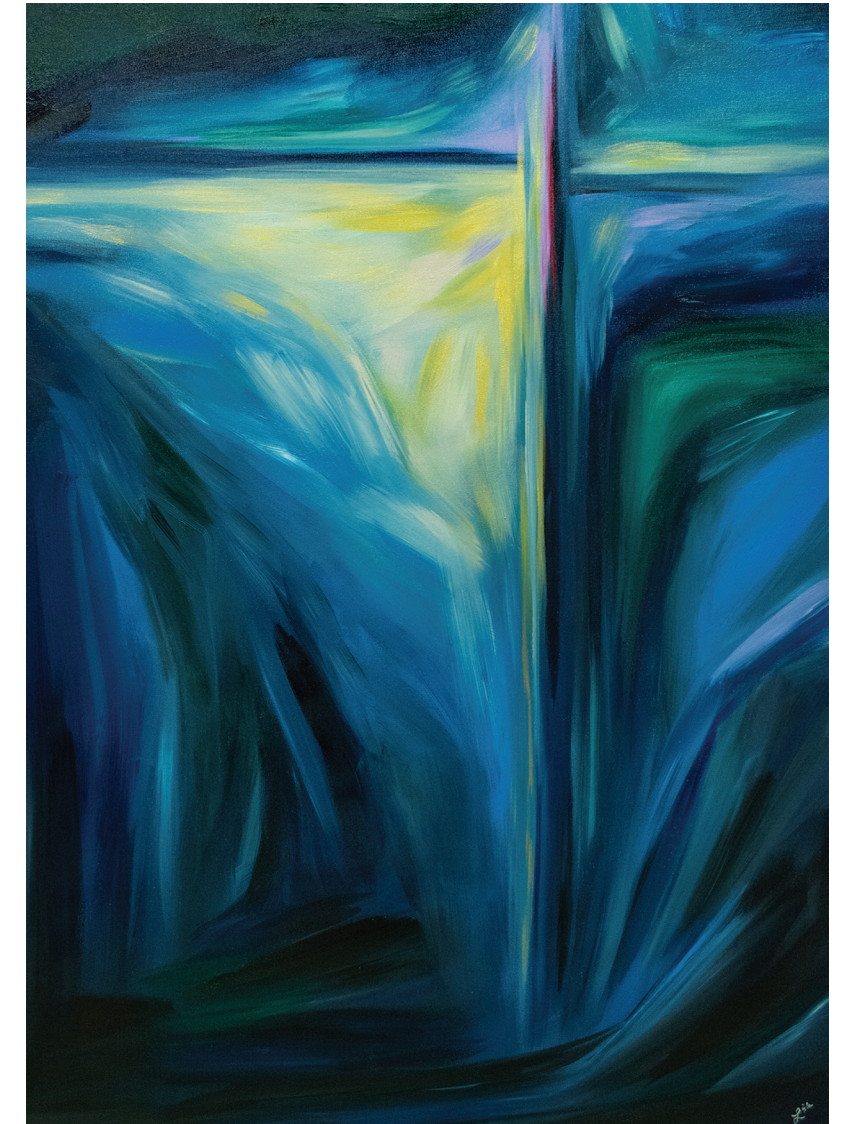
We have accessible, all-gender, companion bathrooms available off of the Dining Room.

CHILDREN

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 & YOUNG ADULTS

For more information about youth or young adult ministry, please contact our Minister with Youth and Young Adults Kat Hand at kath@wpcgr.org.



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The Way of Resurrection

EASTER SUNDAY

APRIL 20, 2025
9:00 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.