

MORNING WORSHIP
Why the Wounds?

GATHERING: PREPARING TO HEAR THE WORD

In Preparation for Worship

“There is a strength, a power even, in understanding brokenness, because embracing our brokenness creates a need and desire for mercy, and perhaps a corresponding need to show mercy. When you experience mercy, you learn things that are hard to learn otherwise...You begin to recognize the humanity that resides in each of us.”
—Bryan Stevenson, Just Mercy

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

"Seek Ye First"

Karen Lafferty (b. 1948)

arr. Douglas E. Wagner (b. 1952)

The text of this anthem can be found in the hymnal, hymn 175.

"Bonse Aba"

Zambian folk song

Translation from Bemba: arr. Victor C. Johnson (b. 1978)

All who sing with [the] spirit have a right to be called the children of God.

Kirk Singers

++Call to Worship

Stu Atwater

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed!

Give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good.

God's steadfast love endures forever.

The Lord is our strength and might.

The Lord has become our salvation.

The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.

This is God's handiwork; it is marvelous in our eyes.

This is the day that the Lord has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

++Hymn 817

"We Walk By Faith And Not By Sight"

Dunlap's Creek

Prayer of Confession

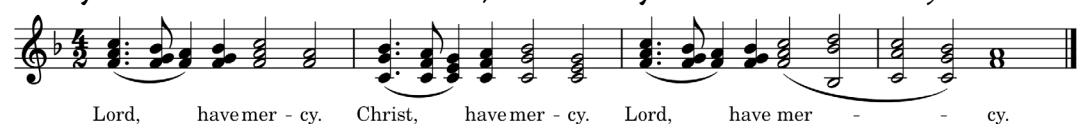
God of life, we desire to draw near to you. In times when fear and isolation, frustration and anger are ever-present, we are confronted by feelings of powerlessness. Amidst the chaos and confusion, we lose sight of your presence and the promise of resurrection. We give in to despair. We fail in love, neglect justice, and ignore your truth. Interrupt us. Show us that you are in our midst. Help us to live in the hope that you are the crucified and risen God. We believe; help our unbelief...

Silent Confession

Kyrie

"Lord, Have Mercy"

Kyrie Eleison



++ Stand in body or in spirit

Bold text is spoken by the congregation

Assurance of God's Grace

Through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, the power of sin has been defeated.

God's love is stronger still.

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

++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

"My Redeemer Lives!"

Evelyn R. Larter (b. 1953)

*I know that my Redeemer lives! What comfort sweet this sentence gives!
He lives, he lives, who once was dead; he lives, my ever-living head!
He lives to bless me with his love; he lives to plead for me above.*

*He lives and grants me daily breath; he lives, and I shall conquer death!
He lives, and while he lives, I'll sing; he lives, my prophet, priest, and king!
He lives to calm my troubled heart; he lives all blessings to impart.*

*He lives triumphant from the grave; he lives eternally to save;
he lives all-glorious in the sky, he lives exalted there on high!
He lives, all glory to his name! He lives, my Savior still the same;
he lives my mansion to prepare; he lives to bring me safely there.
O sweet the joy this sentence gives: I know that my Redeemer lives!*

Josh Leckrone, Baritone

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

John 20:19-31

New Testament p. 115

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"Why the Wounds?"

Rev. Kyle Kooyers

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

++Hymn 257

"The Risen Christ"

Woodlands

++Affirmation of Faith (from the Confession of 1967)

The life, death, resurrection, and promised coming of Jesus Christ has set the pattern for the church's mission.

His human life involves the church in the common life of all people.

His service to men and women commits the church to work for every form of human well-being.

His suffering makes the church sensitive to all human suffering so that it sees the face of Christ in the faces of persons in every kind of need.

His crucifixion discloses to the church God's judgment on the inhumanity that marks human relations and the awful consequences of the church's own complicity in injustice.

In the power of the risen Christ and the hope of his coming, the church sees the promise of God's renewal of human life in society and of God's victory over all wrong.

The church follows this pattern in the form of its life and in the method of its action.

So to live and serve is to confess Christ as Lord.

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.

Focus on Camp Henry

Executive Director Jeff "Jake" Jacobs

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

"Easter Anthem"

William Billings (1746-1800)

The Lord is ris'n indeed! Hallelujah!

Now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the first fruits of them that slept.

And did he rise?

Hear it, ye nations! He rose, He burst the bars of death and triumphed o'er the grave.

Then I rose,

Then first Humanity triumphant passed the crystal ports of light, and seized Eternal Youth.

Man immortal hail, hail. Heaven all lavish of strange gifts to man.

Thine's all the glory, man's the boundless bliss.

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.

Holy God, we come before you as ones who have heard your voice and trust in your presence. You have come into our lives, quieted our fears, and called us to embody your justice. Strengthen us to live as a Church that walks by faith, living out the hope of Easter. We return these gifts to you as a sign of our recommitment to following you and loving our neighbor. In Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

GOING OUT TO BE THE CHURCH

++Hymn 254 "That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright" Puer nobis nascitur

++Charge and Benediction

Closing Voluntary "Fanfare" William Mathias (1934-92)

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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AHEAD IN WORSHIP

May 4

Third Sunday of Easter

Abide

Rev. Kyle Nolan

Kathleen Pool, Soprano

Sanctuary Choir & Chapel Singers

May 11

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Music Celebration Sunday

Rev. Lynette Sparks

Sanctuary Choir & Instrumental Ensemble

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! Join us today, and visit the website to sign up for May 4!



Actively Engaged in the World

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Preacher Rev. Kyle Kooyers, Parish Associate

Liturgists Susan Jennings, Minister for Pastoral Care & Mission

..... Stu Atwater, Memorial Trust

..... Nancy Greidanus, Minister with Children & Families

..... Jeff "Jake" Jacobs, Camp Henry Executive Director

Musicians..... Robert Ragoonanan, Minister of Music

..... Janlee Richter, Music Ministry Associate

..... Josh Leckrone, Baritone

..... Kirk Singers

..... Sanctuary Choir

Ushers..... Mary Dirkse, Lou VanderHave, Bill Baguley, Todd Helle

..... Heather Lermont-Pape, Bob & Betty Jo Norby

AV Team Ian Dengerink-Van Til, Ricky Rivard, 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. 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.

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.

616-456-1456 / westminstergr.org / Office Hours: Mon. - Thurs. 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.



Landscape with Stars, Henri Edmond Cross

Why the Wounds?

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 27, 2025
10:00 A.M.