

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

2155 University Ave, Dubuque, IA 52001 | (563) 583-1729 | <http://wpcdbq.org>

Inviting All. Exploring Faith. Experiencing God.

MORNING WORSHIP, 9:30AM

FEBRUARY 26, 2023



WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT WESTMINSTER!

We're delighted to worship with you today and hope your experience of worship is meaningful and uplifting. If you are comfortably able, we invite you to stand during the portions of worship marked with an asterisk (). The congregation reads the portions of the worship **listed in bold text**. Also, our worship service is always livestreamed and there are multiple cameras in the sanctuary. You may be on camera during your worship experience with Westminster.*

Everyone is welcome at Westminster! We are always delighted with the presence of (and sometimes the sounds of!) children in worship. They are welcome to use any of the resources in our Pray Ground (located behind the pews). If you prefer, we also provide nursery care for children 5 years of age and under. For those who need them, please note that assisted listening devices are available at the back of the sanctuary. Any of our greeters will be happy to offer assistance to you with locating and using them.

PRELUDE

The beginning of the prelude is a call to silent, personal preparation for the worship of God.

TIME OF WELCOME

God be with you!

And also with you!

LENTEN INVITATION

The Blessing of the Ashes

*GATHERING SONG: GTG #450 *Be Thou My Vision*

During the singing, you are invited to come forward to receive ashes.

*INVITATION TO WORSHIP

God meets us in the night.

Before the sun rises,

Before the wound heals,

Before there are answers,

Before there is closure.

God meets us in the light.

Where joy is effervescent,

Where laughter is contagious,

Where flowers bloom from cracks in the sidewalk,

And where people gather around the table.

God meets us at the threshold.

At the edge of the water,

At the beginning of the wilderness,

At the start of something new,

On the edge of faith.

And if God meets us in all those places,

Then surely God meets us in between.

Staying with us through the wilderness.

We are not alone. God is all around.

**So, let us worship the God of the here and now,
The God of every time and place and season.**

*OPENING PRAYER

*SONG OF PRAISE: GTG #434 *Restore in Us, O God*

*TIME OF RECONCILIATION

Invitation to Confession

Silent Prayer

Prayer of Confession

Family of faith, please pray with me.

God who meets us where we are: there is nowhere we can go that you are not.

You were with Jesus at his baptism, you were with him in the wilderness, and even in between. You were there, saying aloud, "This is my beloved."

We know that you are with us too: in the good, the bad, and everything in between. But so often we act like we are alone.

Instead of coming to you with our hurt, we hold it in or cast it onto others. Instead of coming to you with our joy, we credit ourselves and offer you nothing.

How can we long for a deeper relationship with you while living like you are nowhere to be found?

Forgive our self-centered ways. Remind us that in every breath, in every step, you are there.

You are the God who meets us where we are.

Before and behind, above and below, within and around. Amen.

Assurance of God's Forgiveness

Family of faith, if you hear nothing else today, hear this: God is here. God sees you. God knows you. God meets you at the edge of every new beginning, And God calls you beloved.

We are washed by the water. We are called beloved. Thanks be to God for a love like that.

Sung Response: GTG #581 *Glory Be to the Father*

TIME WITH YOUNGER DISCIPLES

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON - Again & Again: God Meets Us

Scripture: Mark 1:9-15 | Genesis 9:8-17 [NRSVUE]

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God!

*SONG OF PROCLAMATION: *Build a Longer Table*

**Build a longer table, not a higher wall,
feeding those who hunger, making room for all.
Feasting together, stranger turns to friend,
Christ breaks walls to pieces; false divisions end.
Build a safer refuge, not a larger jail;
where the weak find shelter, mercy will not fail.
For any place where justice is denied,
Christ will breach the jail wall, freeing all inside.
Build a broader doorway, not a longer fence.
Love protects all people, sparing no expense.
When we embrace compassion more than fear,
Christ tears down our fences: all are welcome here.
When we lived as exiles, refugees abroad,
Christ became our doorway to the reign of God.
So must our tables welcome those who roam.
None can be excluded; all must find a home.**

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**We believe in a God who is everywhere and right here,
Bigger than the sky and in the smallest details,
All at once and in every moment.
We believe that God meets us where we are:**

**In heartbreak and high hopes,
Around crowded tables and in quiet homes,
In joy and in suffering,
In loneliness and in connection,
In sanctuaries and in living rooms,
In marches and in waiting rooms.
We believe that nothing we do or leave undone
Can distance us from God's love.
God is forever drawing us close and pulling us in.
Again and again,
God meets us where we are
And invites us into wholeness.
Thanks be to God for a love like that.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Joys & Concerns

Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayers.

Pastoral Prayer

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.

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

Musical Offering

*Sung Response: GTG #606 *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

*SENDING SONG: GTG #618 *O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High*

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

And all God's people said ONLY:

Amen.

*SUNG RESPONSE: GTG #748 *Go with Us, Lord*

SCAN TO GIVE!

Use your
smartphone
camera to scan this
code and give
online.



POSTLUDE

Unless otherwise noted, the liturgy in today's worship is adapted from resources by Sarah Are, A Sanctified Art LLC, sanctifiedart.org



WESTMINSTER CONGREGATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION will be held TODAY after worship. All friends and members are welcome to participate either in the sanctuary or via Zoom. **Zoom mtg ID#: 880 5640 5671 Zoom password: 719296**
The 2022 Annual Report was emailed last Wed., Feb. 15th. Printed copies are available in the racks near the Information Station.

TODAY'S FLOWERS are in memory of Susan Taylor's parents, Fred & Mary Ann Taylor's, wedding anniversary.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER WITH OUR VERY OWN SAM WU – Reflecting on TAIWAN & Its Culture. Fri., March 3rd 10:00 Service 9:30 gathering at Westminster's Sanctuary

JOINT YOUTH GROUP TONIGHT @ WPC'S MEDIA ROOM- Wear comfy clothes!! Bring a friend or two!! 5:00-6:30pm for grades 6th thru 12th.

LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS

With *The Chosen* Video Series
Every Wednesday During Lent - 5-7 pm Fellowship Hall



WESTMINSTER LIFE AND MINISTRY

Church Office Number: 563-583-1729 | For Pastoral Care emergencies: **563-279-4545**

Pastor: Rev. MargaretAnne Overstreet
Director Christian Formation: Bonnie Sue Lewis
Care Ministry Coordinator: Lisa MacNaughton
Director of Music: Dr. Luke Tyler
Adult Choir: Steve Peake
Timbrel & Lyre Director: Dr. Luke Tyler
Adult Handbells Director: DeLano Cain-Watson
WPC Band: Sally Stulken
Organist/Pianist: Dr. Luke Tyler

Church Administrator: Mary Kay Pancratz
Financial Secretary: Becky Jenkins
Custodian: Tim Till
Digital Storytelling Director: Clare Kysely
Worship Technology: Monson Nguyen
Greeters: Doug & Jean Cheever
Ushers: John & Pam Adams
Hospitality Set Up: Tom & Judi Schutt
Clean Up: Robin Beadle

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Continued prayers for Bill Seiffert as he recovers from heart surgery.
- Prayers for Janet Neumeister's cousin June to get her sight back in one eye.
- Prayers for Dick McMurray who is now at Stonehill recovering.
- Continued prayers for Wendell Comer who is dealing with serious health issues.
- Prayers for Elaine Woodrum whose sister, Marilyn, passed away suddenly.
- Prayers for the family of Linda Johns, who passed away Sat., Feb. 18th. She is the mother of A.J. Johns, Laura Barrett's son-in-law, married to her daughter, Jillian Becker. A memorial service will be held March 4th at Siegert Funeral Home.
- Prayers for pain relief and improvement for Russ Hibben who is now at Grand Meadows, in Butler, Rm. #125, 5300 Grand Meadow Dr. Asbury, 52002.
- Prayers for comfort and healing for Lisa MacNaughton who had knee surgery 3 weeks ago and has swelling on her kneecap the size of a grapefruit.
- Prayers for HannaRose, daughter of Adam and Tarra Etheredge, as she continues to manage her brain health.
- Continued prayers for Janice and Wayne Lewis' daughter, Stephanie, who had brain surgery at Mayo Clinic for an advanced tumor. She is doing fair and will be receiving radiation and chemo.
- Prayers for Julie Woodyard who has a tumor on her right arm and is anticipating surgery. Her address is: 2015 Washington St. 52001
- Prayers for Mary Kay's friend, Mary Schroeder, for a successful return to health.
- Please pray for those whose lives were lost in Turkey and for the survivors.
- Wayne & Janice Lewis would like to thank everyone who called Janice and/or Wayne. Also, for ALL the food, the cards and the prayers. You have all been wonderful! Wayne's leg is better.
- Jim Edwards is doing better and thanks everyone for their prayers and concern.

THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

FEB. 26TH – MARCH 5TH

BECKY'S SCHEDULE: TUESDAY, WED. &
THURSDAY UNTIL 12:45 P.M.

Sunday, February 26

9:00 a.m. Coffee, Donuts, & Fellowship

9:30 a.m. Worship

10:45 a.m. Congregational Annual Mtg.

10:45 a.m. Children's Sunday School

5:00 p.m. Joint Youth Group, Media Rm.

Monday, February 27

9:00 a.m. Garden Team, FH

11:30 a.m. Westminster Tables, FH

4:30 p.m. Adult Handbells Rehearsal

5:00 p.m. Hospitality Team Mtg., BR

6:00 p.m. Den Mtgs., classrooms

Tuesday, February 28

9:00 a.m. Tai Chi

10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting

Wednesday, March 1

11:00 a.m. Journey of the Heart, BR

5:00 p.m. Lenten Soup Suppers, FH

7:00 p.m. WPC Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 2

5:30 p.m. Young Living Class, FH

Friday, March 3

9:30 a.m. World Day of Prayer, SA

Sunday, March 5

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

9:00 a.m. Coffee, Donuts, & Fellowship

9:30 a.m. Worship

10:45 a.m. Children's Sunday School

5:00 p.m. Joint Youth Group, Media Rm.

CHANCEL FLOWERS - Please consider providing Chancel Flowers in memory or honor of a loved one, to recognize a special event, or simply as a gift to our worshipping community. Call Mary Kay in the church office (563-583-1729) to sign up.



FROM YOUR WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN FOUNDATION:

Planning ahead is part of effective stewardship. Plan your will now – and include a bequest to WPC.

GREEN TEAM TIP – Car Maintenance

Make sure your car gets regular maintenance. This will reduce emissions, give you better gas mileage and save you money. Keep your tires inflated to the proper level. Low tire pressure causes more wear, lessened gas mileage, harms the environment and costs you money. Practice good driving habits, avoid jack rabbit starts and quick panic stops.



**Buy Scrip
in the
WPC office
M – Th,
9 a.m. to
2 p.m.**