

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

MARCH 5, 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!

*GATHERING SONG: GTG #728 *Somebody's Knocking at Your Door* (chorus, vs 1, chorus)

*INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Every week is a new week, another chance to say:

"Here I am. Use me."

Every day is a new day, another chance to say:

"Thank you for yesterday. Thank you for tomorrow."

Every hour is a new hour, another chance to say,

"Again and again, make me new."

We do not come to this place to stay the same.

We come to this place to be changed. So let us worship holy God, who created yesterday, will create tomorrow, and even now is creating something new.

*OPENING PRAYER

*SONG OF PRAISE: GTG #177 *I Will Come to You*

*TIME OF RECONCILIATION

Invitation to Confession

Silent Prayer

Prayer of Confession

Listening God: take what is closed in us and open it; take what is distracted in us and settle it; take what is hurting in us and hold it; take and transform any and all parts of us that create distance from you. For we are like Peter, O God. We argue what we don't know. We fear what we cannot see. And we almost always speak sooner than we listen. So, open us, settle us, hold us, forgive us, and transform us. We long to hear you more clearly. We long to know you more fully. We pray these things with hope and gratitude, in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Assurance of God's Forgiveness

So, rest in this good news: God invites us in. God meets us where we are. God hears our prayers. God forgives us.

Thanks be to God for a love like that.

Sung Response: GTG #582 *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me*

TIME WITH YOUNGER DISCIPLES – Noisy Offering!

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON - *Again & Again: We Are Called to Listen*

Scripture: Mark 8:31-9:8 [NRSVUE]

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God!

*SONG OF PROCLAMATION: GTG #189 *O Wondrous Sight, O Vision Fair*

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe.

Sometimes our belief is confident, like a child on a dance floor, unashamed and wildly genuine. Sometimes our belief is distant, flickering and calling out to us like a lighthouse on the sea.

We believe.

Sometimes our belief shows up as passion, guiding the way we vote, shop, give, live, trust, and hope. Sometimes our belief is like a shadow: faith stitched to our heels, un-moveable, un-lose-able, a gift for winding journeys.

We believe.

Sometimes our belief exists like growing pains. We step forward. We fall back. But again and again, Jesus invites us to listen, to grow, and to take another step.

So again and again, we speak these truths out loud: We believe.

Again and again, we believe.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation to the Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Telling the Story

These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Prayer After Communion

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 from the Westminster Handbells

*Sung Response: GTG #605 *Praise to God the Father*

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

*SENDING SONG: *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.**

SCAN TO GIVE!

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



**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.**

***CHALLENGE AND BLESSING**

And all God's people said ONLY:

Amen.

SUNG RESPONSE: GTG #745 *Now Go in Joy

POSTLUDE

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



LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS

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



WESTMINSTER CONGREGATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

NOISY OFFERING! - Bring your loose coins and support Westminster's mission giving! Each week, the young people of the congregation collect the coins that are designated for 1 of 4 different mission organizations. Each first-time visitor to Westminster gets to choose which organization will receive a portion of this offering!

CONGREGATIONAL FORUM - Learn more about Westminster's Vision 2025 Statement, and help plan our journey into the future! Join our 2023 Session Members for our next congregational forum, after worship on March 12th.

YOUTH GROUP - We are meeting together every Wednesday until Easter at the Lenten Soup Suppers hosted at Westminster from 5:00-7:00 in Fellowship Hall. Over a simple meal, we will feast upon the Word of God to us in Scripture and as portrayed in the video series *The Chosen*, season 1. You can sit with your family or with your peers for the meal and watch the video, then we will gather at one table for the discussion and community time. This will TAKE THE PLACE of our Sunday evening meetings during Lent. Our next Sunday evening meeting will be on Sunday, April 16th.

PULL TOGETHER TO SUPPORT SURVIVORS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING - The Mission Team and Green Team has another project we can all help with. Pull tabs from beverage cans, food cans and other aluminum pull tab containers are being collected. Recycled tabs will be redeemed to provide personal items for survivors of human trafficking recovering in Iowa safe houses in Ames, Sioux City, and Des Moines. Bring your tabs to church and deposit them in the box at the Green Team Donation Station.

A COMMUNITY-WIDE BOOK STUDY - *Laudato Si': On Care For Our Common Home.*

This is Pope Francis' Encyclical on caring for God's creation, climate change and environmental concerns. The book is available at River Lights Book Store and they are giving a 30% discount for those in the book study group. The Green team in conjunction with the Interfaith Coalition Group are sponsors. There will be 3 sessions held on Thursday evenings at 7:00 PM: March 23 at Immanuel Congregational UCC Church, April 13 at Loras College Alumni Center, and May 11 at Westminster.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY KITS FOR FAMILIES IN NEED - Another great mission project YOU can help with. The Mission Team is launching a new project to assemble "Happy Birthday Kits" for families in need that might not be able to provide a simple birthday for one of its members. The kits will be given to the Dubuque Food Pantry to distribute to families who need them. The kits will provide a baking pan, box of cake mix, can of frosting, birthday candles, can of soda, a generic birthday card and a message of love from Westminster. How can YOU help? WPC members are asked to help by providing any number of boxes of cake mix (any flavor), cans of frosting (any flavor) and birthday candles. Please continue to bring these items over the next several weeks and place in the blue wagon in the hallway by the narthex. We will schedule a Birthday Kit Building Party in the next few months and YOU will be invited to that as well. We hope to provide 100 kits!

INT'L WOMEN'S DAY - MARCH 8TH – St. Luke's, 12:00 p.m. Bells will be ringing to Celebrate Achievements of Women & Girls and to Raise Awareness to Accelerate Equality

WESTMINSTER LIFE AND MINISTRY

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

Pastor: Rev. MargaretAnne Overstreet

Church Administrator: Mary Kay Pancratz

Director Christian Formation: Bonnie Sue Lewis

Financial Secretary: Becky Jenkins

Care Ministry Coordinator: Lisa MacNaughton

Custodian: Tim Till

Director of Music: Dr. Luke Tyler

Digital Storytelling Director: Clare Kysely

Adult Choir: Steve Peake

Worship Technology: Monson Nguyen

Timbrel & Lyre Director: Dr. Luke Tyler

Greeters: Tom & Linda Stovall

Adult Handbells Director: DeLano Cain-Watson

Ushers: Bonnie Sue & Carolyn Dausener

WPC Band: Sally Stulken

Hospitality Set Up: Pat Judge

Organist/Pianist: Dr. Luke Tyler

Clean Up: Pat Edwards

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Dick McMurray is doing better and home. He thanks everyone for their prayers.
- Lisa MacNaughton sends a very sincere thank you to everyone for the cards, food and prayers during her recovery. She is feeling better and hopes to be up and running soon.
- 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.
- Continued prayers for Wendell Comer who is dealing with serious health issues.
- Prayers for Elaine Woodrum whose sister, Marilyn, passed away suddenly.
- Prayers for pain relief and improvement for Russ Hibben who is at Grand Meadows, in Butler, Rm. #125, 5300 Grand Meadow Dr. Asbury, 52002.
- 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.

If you have a pastoral care need, if you would like to have your name on our congregational prayer list, or if you would like your prayer concern to be distributed to our Prayer Chain, please call the Westminster Pastoral Care Hotline at (563) 279-4545.

THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

MARCH 5TH – MARCH 12TH

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

Mary Kay out of office 3/9-3/16

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

Monday, March 6

9:00 a.m. Garden Team, FH

10:30 a.m. PEO, FH, K

4:30 p.m. Adult Handbells Rehearsal

6:00 p.m. Pack 20 Parent Mtg., BR

Tuesday, March 7

9:00 a.m. Tai Chi

10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting

1:00 Property Mtg, BR

Wednesday, March 8

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 9

11 a.m. Women's Bible Study, BR

Sunday, March 12

8:20 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, SA

8:40 a.m. WPC Band Rehearsal, SA

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

9:30 a.m. Worship

10:45 a.m. Congregational Forum

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

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:

Who needs a will? Everyone who cares what happens to what they leave behind...and anyone who wants to leave a bequest to WPC.

GREEN TEAM TIP – Wise Transportation

Try to use your car less and reduce emissions into the air we breathe. When possible use public transportation or carpooling to get where you are going. Even better yet, walk or bike for better health for you and the environment!

When buying a new car do some research to find the most environmentally friendly one that will also save you money.



SUPPORT THE YOUTH PROGRAM BUY SCRIP!

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