

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 12, 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: *Wondrous Love* by Elliott Del Borgo

WPC BAND

Pachelbel's Canon arr. by Fred Mills

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 2, chorus)

*INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Again and again,

We come to this space.

Again and again,

We gather as a community.

Again and again,

We move closer to God.

And again and again,

God is here.

We are met.

We are heard.

We are shown the way.

So again and again, let us worship holy God.

*OPENING PRAYER

*SONG OF PRAISE: GTG #394 *Christ is Made the Sure Foundation*

*TIME OF RECONCILIATION

Invitation to Confession

Silent Prayer

Prayer of Confession

God of Justice, we are guilty of building tables.

We have built tables that oppression dines on, that sexism thrives on, and that racism lives on.

God of Justice, we are guilty of forgetting where we are:

Of turning faith into a negotiation tool and the church into a place reserved for insiders.

God of Justice, we are guilty of ignoring the point.

You taught that the temple was for worship You taught that your message of God's love and grace was for all.

God of our hearts,

Be in our decision making. Draw near to our choices. Forgive our mistakes.

And as you do,

Flip every table, habit, belief, or point of view that needs to be transformed.

For we pray all these things with hope for a better world, and in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Assurance of God's Forgiveness

Friends, we are held, loved, and forgiven by a just and merciful God.

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 Shown the Way*

Scripture: John 2:13-22 | 1 Corinthians 1:18-25 [NRSVUE]

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God!

*SONG OF PROCLAMATION: GTG Build a Longer Table (see link below for sheet music)

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1oBp2cEtY8tAwPsUzHuhrOJvQp1/view?usp=sharing>

**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 knows holy rage: a God who stands with the underdog, who passionately protects the suffering, and who overturns systems of corruption.

We believe in a God who leads by example: feeding the hungry, welcoming the children, offering water to the Samaritan, eating with the tax collector, healing the sick, preaching from the mountaintop, and offering second chances.

We believe in a God who knew that we would lose our way, and still said, "This is my body broken for you." We believe in a God who knew our capacity for mistakes, And still said, "I'm going to prepare a place for you."

And because of this love, we believe that God shows us the way: again and again and again. Thanks be to God. Amen.



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 Choir

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

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

*SENDING SONG: GTG # 821 My Life Flows On

*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

CONGREGATIONAL FORUM TODAY AFTER WORSHIP - 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 TODAY.

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!

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!

WPC BOOK CLUB - *Solito: A Memoir* by Javier Zamora, Discussion 3/29th at 3:30 in the Narthex

HAPPY 16TH ANNIVERSARY TO OUR CUSTODIAN, TIM TILL - on Tues., March 14th. Tim started at Westminster in 2007.

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: Dan & Marilyn Emmert
Adult Handbells Director: DeLano Cain-Watson	Ushers: Julie Woodyard & Randy Roos
WPC Band: Sally Stulken	Hospitality Set Up: Carolyn Dausener
Organist/Pianist: Dr. Luke Tyler	Clean Up: Lizz Tyler

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Continued prayers for Bill Seiffert as he recovers from open-heart surgery.
- Prayers for Lewy McMahan, Linda & Tom Stovall's grandson, who has pneumonia.
- 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 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 is having surgery March 21st on a tumor on her right arm. 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.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

FABULOUS FRIDAYS CONCERT SERIES AT ST. LUKE'S AT NOON:

MARCH 17TH - University of Dubuque Choir – Kristin Eby, director

MARCH 24TH - Upper Main Street Jazz/Swing Band – Ric Jones, director

THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

MARCH 12TH – MARCH 19TH

Mary Kay out of office thru 3/16
Margaret Anne Vacation
3/13 thru 3/18

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

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.

Sunday, March 12

8:20 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, SA
8:45 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

Monday, March 13

9:00 a.m. Garden Team, FH
11:30 a.m. Westminster Tables, FH, K
4:30 p.m. Adult Handbells Rehearsal

Tuesday, March 14

9:00 a.m. Tai Chi
5:00 p.m. ISU Class, Meet the Meat, FH
7:00 p.m. Grief Support Grp., Library

Wednesday, March 15


11:00 a.m. Journey of the Heart, BR
5:00 p.m. Lenten Soup Suppers, FH
5:15 p.m. PIN, BR
7:00 p.m. WPC Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 16

11:00 a.m. Finance Meeting, BR

Sunday, March 19

9:00 a.m. Coffee, Donuts, & Fellowship
9:30 a.m. Worship
10:45 a.m. Children's Sunday School
1:30 p.m. Worship at Bethany Home



FROM YOUR WESTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN FOUNDATION:

Is God's will for Westminster
Presbyterian Church remembered in your
will?

GREEN TEAM TIP – Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

Remember the 3 R's! **Reduce** the use of items that harm God's creation. **Reuse** or repurpose items rather than throwing them away. **Recycle** those things that can be. And, here is a 4th R – **Rot**, which means to compost those things that can be and keep them out of the landfill.



SUPPORT THE YOUTH PROGRAM BUY SCRIP!

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