

The Lord's Service

The Third Sunday of Easter

APRIL 23, 2023



Westminster Presbyterian Church

POST TENEBRAS LUX

PRELUDE

Please use the prelude as a time of silent preparation for the worship of the Triune God.

GREETING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

⌘ WESTMINSTER SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 83:

Q. Are all transgressions of the law equally heinous?

A. Some sins in themselves, and by reason of several aggravations, are more heinous in the sight of God than others.

⌘ CALL TO WORSHIP

PSALM 89:15-16

Blessed are the people who know the festal shout,
who walk, O Lord, in the light of your face,
who exult in your name all the day
and in your righteousness are exalted.

⌘ PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, through your only Son you overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life. Grant that we who celebrate our Lord's resurrection, may, through the renewing power of your Spirit, arise from the death of sin to the life of righteousness; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

⌘ HYMN OF PRAISE

My Song Forever Shall Record

99

CONFESSION OF SINS

Almighty God, in raising Jesus from the grave, you shattered the power of sin and death. We confess that we remain captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways that lead to death. We fail to proclaim the gospel in word and deed, we ignore your call to discipleship. We overlook the poor and the hungry, and pass by those who mourn. Forgive us, God of mercy! Help us to trust your power to change our lives and make us new, that we may know the joy of life abundant, given in Jesus Christ, the risen Lord. Amen.

THE KYRIE ELEISON

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.



⊗ RESPONSIVE READING OF THE LAW

Hear, O people of God, the law that the Lord speaks in your hearing this day, that you may know his statutes and walk according to his ordinances.

Teach us, O Lord, the grace of your law, and give us life by your Word.

The God who saved us in Jesus Christ gave this law, saying: I am the Lord your God! You shall have no other gods before me.

We will worship the Lord our God and serve only him.

You shall not make for yourself an image of anything to worship it.

Living no more in bondage to earthly gods, we will worship the Lord our God in spirit and in truth.

You shall not misuse the name of the Lord.

We will use the holy name of God with reverence, praising him in everything we do and say.

You shall observe the Sabbath day by keeping it holy, for in six days you shall labor and do all your work.

This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

You shall honor your father and mother, that you may live long in the land the Lord your God is giving to you.

As children we will be obedient to our parents in the Lord; as parents we will correct our children and guide them in the training and instruction of the Lord; we will respect the lawful authorities appointed by God.

You shall not murder.

We will be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave us.

You shall not commit adultery.

We will use our bodies in ways that are holy and honorable, and abstain from immorality and impurity.

You shall not steal.

We will do what we can for our neighbor's good, and work faithfully so that we may share with the poor.

You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

We will speak the truth with our neighbor in love, render judgments that are true and make for peace, and not devise in our hearts any evil against anyone.

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

We will be content whatever the circumstances through the strength of Christ within us.

Thus, we must love our neighbor as ourselves.

For the Lord requires of us to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with our God. Amen!

⊗ ASSURANCE OF PARDON

INTERLUDE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Creator Spirit, who hovered over the waters at creation's birth, who descended in the form of a dove at Jesus' baptism, who was poured out under the signs of fire and wind at Pentecost: Come to us, open our hearts and minds, so that we may hear the Word of life and be renewed by your power, for you live and reign with the Father and the Son, now and forever. **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING PSALM 89:8-18 *p. 586*

NEW TESTAMENT READING 1 PETER 3:18-22 *p. 1205*

⌘ PSALM OF RESPONSE: PSALM 16 *To You, O Lord, I Fly* 692

⌘ GOSPEL READING MATTHEW 8:23-9:13 *p. 967*

⌘ RESPONSE
The Word of the Lord
Praise be to God.

SERMON *Disturbing Authority*

⌘ THE ATHANASIAN CREED PART 2

Whosoever will be saved, before all things it is necessary that he hold the catholic faith. And the catholic faith is this:

That we worship one God in Trinity, and Trinity in unity, neither confounding the persons, nor dividing the substance.

The Father was neither made nor created nor begotten; the Son was neither made nor created, but was alone begotten of the Father; the Spirit was neither made nor created, but he proceeds from the Father and the Son.

Thus there is one Father, not three fathers; one Son, not three sons; one Holy Spirit, not three spirits.

And in this Trinity, no one is before or after, greater or less than the other; but all three persons are in themselves, coeternal and coequal; and so we must worship the Trinity in unity and the unity in Trinity. Whoever desires to be saved should think thus about the Trinity.

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERTORY



DOXOLOGY

731



SURSUM CORDA

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 our thanks and praise.



PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING



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.

THE COMMUNION

*Let thy blood in mercy poured,
let thy gracious body broken,
be to me, O gracious Lord,
of thy boundless love the token.
Thou didst give thyself for me,
now I give myself to thee.*

*Thou didst die that I might live;
blessed Lord, thou can'st to save me;
all that love of God could give
Jesus by his sorrows gave me.
Thou didst give thyself for me,
now I give myself to thee.*

*Let Thy Blood in Mercy Poured
By the thorns that crowned thy brow,⁴²⁹
by the spear wound and the nailing,
by the pain and death, I now
claim, O Christ, thy love unfailing.
Thou didst give thyself for me,
now I give myself to thee.*

*Wilt thou own the gift I bring?
All my penitence I give thee;
thou art my exalted King,
of thy matchless love forgive me.
Thou didst give thyself for me,
now I give myself to thee.*



HYMN OF DEPARTURE

O God, Most Holy Are Your Ways

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CHARGE AND BENEDICTION



POSTLUDE

MINISTER: Rev. John Hanna
WORSHIP LEADER: Adam Kuliszewski
ORGANIST: Wilma de Jager

NOTES

Missions Work Highlight

BEACON OF LIGHT PREGNANCY SUPPORT CENTER, INC.

Serving Pregnant Women in Need

We are ever so grateful for God's faithfulness, for our prayer warriors and for all those serving in this ministry. And we are thankful for the wonderful and supportive connection we have with Westminster Church. Beacon of Light could not do what it does without the support of people like yourselves.

Every Friday morning My Choice has a virtual prayer meeting open to all and it is growing. We have seen mothers draw strength from these meetings and change their mind about aborting their child. We also continue to hold those women in prayer who call our office but do not make an appointment or cancel a scheduled one. Our Maternity Home levies no charge on the women living here with their babies. Our prayer for current and past residents is that they encounter the Living God and find salvation in Christ.

Pray with us for two additional nurses for the clinics, new board members, a house manager for the Maternity Home, and new ways to make our ministry better known in our communities.

Announcements

It is our joy to have Rev. John Hanna minister the Word and Sacrament for us today. Rev. Hanna is a Teaching Elder in the West Hudson Presbytery of the PCA. He is currently serving with Ministry to State, a PCA ministry to government. He is the minister to the state government of New Jersey, and will be sharing his work with us in the adult Sunday School hour.

Vacation Bible School at WPC— Save The Date: August 7-11, 2023 (9-12pm). If interested in helping, please see Brenda Grammer.

Reminder: Annual reports for the Congregational meeting from chair members are due in office on 4/24.

The annual congregational meeting will be held on 5/7 during the Sunday School hour. There will be no Sunday School on that day.

- Mike Bonagura and James Phillips will be standing for election as ruling elders.
- David Babick and Noah Watson will be standing for election as deacons.

Spring Church clean up will be held on Saturday, May 13 at 10AM (Rain date 5/27)

We are in need of Nursery Helpers for the months of April, May and June. Please look for the sign-up sheets in the Nursery. We appreciate your help!

The Safety Team is seeking volunteers. Please see Joe Schlegel.

WELCOME TO WESTMINSTER

Westminster Church is both a place and a people. We gather in this sacred space to worship, to learn, and to serve God as he meets us in Christ. To this end we dedicate our time, our talent, and our resources. Here the Gospel of Christ is freely proclaimed: *We are weaker and more sinful than we ever dared admit, but through Christ we are more loved and accepted than we ever dared hope.* As a community of Christians, we are building a bridge to the future through faith and friendship. To this end, we pray God will give us strength, vision, and wisdom. We are thankful that you could join with us today. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Welcome to Westminster!

Westminster Stated Services

Worship	10:00AM
Sunday School (<i>Sept–June</i>)	11:45 AM
Sunday Evening Service	6:00 PM

Christ's Church of the Hudson Valley

Worship	11:00 AM
Sunday School	12:30 PM

Church & Office Location

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Cover

The Celtic cross reminds us, as Presbyterians, of our historical roots in the British Isles dating back at least to the fifth century. *Post Tenebras Lux* is a Latin slogan from the 16th-century Protestant Reformation meaning *After Darkness, Light*. The cross and the slogan combine to express our desire to be rooted in the ancient faith and to embrace the attainments of the Protestant Reformation.

Westminster was organized in 1854 and is affiliated with the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA).

Senior Minister

The Reverend Kevin Chiarot, Ph.D.

Session (Ruling Elders, with Class Year)

Bob Maucher (2023), Johnson Chang-Fong (2024),
Adam Kuliszewski (2024), Robert David (2025)

Board of Deacons (with Class Year)

Paul Mowat (Chair: 2023), Jim Rutigliano (2023),
Joe Hall (2024), Bill Cooke (2025),
Ed Timberger (2025)

Board of Trustees

Bob Maucher (Chairman)
Adam Kuliszewski (Vice-Chairman)

Staff

Administrative Secretary	Jo-Anne Weber
Christian Education	Brenda Grammer
Choir Director	Elaine H. Simpson
Evangelism	Johnson Chang-Fong
Fellowship	JoAnn Maucher
Music Committee	Lori Steinberger
Organist	Elaine H. Simpson
Property Manager	Joe Schlegel
Sexton	Rachel McDuffie
Treasurer	Kevin Quirk