

The Lord's Service

The Third Sunday in Lent

MARCH 07, 2021



Westminster Presbyterian Church

POST TENEBRAS LUX

PRELUDE

Meditation on "Bedford"

HEALEY WILLAN

My Jesus, I Love Thee

A. J. GORDON

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



CALL TO WORSHIP

PSALM 136:1, 23-24

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

His mercy endures forever.

He has remembered us in our low estate.

His mercy endures forever.

He has rescued us from our foes.

His mercy endures forever.



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Gracious God, the comfort of all who sorrow, the strength of all who suffer, hear the cry of those in misery and need. In their afflictions show them your mercy, and give us, we pray, the strength to serve them, for the sake of him who suffered for us, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



HYMN OF PRAISE

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

457

CONFESSION OF SINS

Eternal God, in whom we live and move and have our being, whose face is hidden from us by our sins, and whose mercy we forget in the blindness of our hearts: Cleanse us from all our offenses, and deliver us from proud thoughts and vain desires, that with reverent and humble hearts we may draw near to you, confessing our faults, confiding in your grace, and finding in you our refuge and our strength; through Jesus Christ your Son. Amen.

THE KYRIE ELEISON

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



STANDING IF COMFORTABLE

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: spoken, sung

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

RESPONSIVE READING OF THE LAW

You shall have no other gods before me.
It is written, You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall you serve.

You shall not make for yourself a graven image.
God is a spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and in truth.

You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.
Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, or by the earth, for it is his footstool... Let what you say be simply Yes or No; anything more than this comes from evil.

Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.
The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath; so the Son of man is Lord even of the Sabbath.

Honor your father and your mother.
For God commanded, he who speaks evil of father or mother, let him surely die.

You shall not kill.
Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven.

You shall not commit adultery.
Everyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

You shall not steal.
For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery...theft...These are what defile a man.

You shall not bear false witness.
For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.

You shall not covet.
Take heed, and beware of all covetousness; for a man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.

⊗ GLORIA PATRI

735

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

INTERLUDE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

God of mercy, your faithfulness to your covenant frees us to live together in the security of your powerful love. Amid all the changing words of our generation, speak your eternal Word that does not change. Then may we respond to your gracious promises by living in faith and obedience; through our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING

PSALM 103:6-14

NEW TESTAMENT READING

JAMES 2:8-13

☒ GOSPEL READING

MATTHEW 5:1-12

☒ RESPONSE

The Word of the Lord
Praise be to God.

SERMON

Blessed Are The Merciful

☒ THE NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds: God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made: Who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man, and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried; and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. And he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, The Lord, and Giver of Life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets.

And we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. And we look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERING

(not collected, brought up by deacons)

☒ DOXOLOGY

731



STANDING IF COMFORTABLE

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: **spoken, sung**

⊗ 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

COMMUNION HYMN *At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing* 420

At the lamb's high feast we sing praise to our victorious King, who hath washed us in the tide flowing from his pierced side; praise we him whose love divine gives his sacred blood for wine, gives his body for the feast, Christ the victim, Christ the priest.	Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed; paschal victim, paschal bread; with sincerity and love eat we manna from above.
Where the paschal blood is poured, death's dark angel sheathes his sword; Israel's hosts triumphant go through the wave that drowns the foe.	Mighty victim from the sky, pow'rs of hell beneath thee lie; death is conquered in the fight, thou hast bought us life and light: hymns of glory and of praise, risen Lord, to thee we raise; holy Father praise to thee, with the Spirit, ever be.

⊗ HYMN OF DEPARTURE *You Came to Us, Dear Jesus* 596 (vv. 1-4)

⊗ CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

⊗ POSTLUDE *Chaconne* LOUIS COUPERIN

PREACHER: Rev. Kevin Chiarot

WORSHIP LEADER: Robert David (9:00AM)
Bob Maucher (11:00AM)

ORGANIST: Elaine H. Simpson

PIANIST: Diane S. Pedrosa

Blessed Are The Merciful

MATTHEW 5:7

Our beatitude: a r_____ for bitter d_____.

1. Mercy Defined

Mercy is not an acceptance of _____ and evil.

Grace focuses on sin and _____. Mercy on help and p_____.

Mercy contemplates sinners in m_____ and d_____.

Mercy is most akin to c_____.

Mercy begins with a disposition, but it moves on to _____.

2. Mercy's Source

Mercy flows from the _____ mercy of God.

God's mercy is o_____ all his _____.

Christ is the mercy of God ab_____ to _____.

He has become our _____ and f_____ high priest.

3. Mercy Shown

How much mercy you _____ is how much mercy you _____.

Mercy is not o_____, it is co_____.

We must show mercy to the h_____ of f_____.

Failure to do so indicates that we are not in _____.

If we have not shown mercy, judgment will be m_____.

In imitation of Christ, we are to show mercy to our e_____.

Mercy to all: illustrated by parable of the _____.

4. Mercy Received

The merciful shall receive mercy on the d_____ of j_____.

Mercy t_____ over _____.

We enact this weekly in the K_____.

Missions Work Highlight

WITH MISSION TO THE WORLD IN LATIN AMERICA

PRAY for our Cuban brothers and sisters who are in crisis. Food, medicine, and basic needs shortage in Cuba continues to get worse.

Thank God for the financial help that we have been able to provide the pastors during this time. Through a diaconal fund project we have at MTW we were able to send relief three times last year.

Pray for the continuation of our training program and ministry in Cuba during this pandemic time. We have taught two WhatsApp courses that have been well received, yet due to their “survival mode” situation they are weary and are having a hard time concentrating on their reading. We are prepared to write a series of “how to” documents on everyday counseling issues that our students are facing.

PRAISE God for the technological developments that are making it possible for Richard and Robyn to minister in Cuba at a distance.

PRAISE God that the Gospel is being preached in Cuba and that His Kingdom is spreading!

Announcements

WPC's Lenten services will be held Wednesdays at 7:00 P.M.

Daylight saving time resumes. Please set clock forward 1 hour on 3/13.

We are pleased to acknowledge **Jon Pilsworth's completion of the “God and Life” Christian education program.** Congratulations Jon!

Northern Frontier Camp is a Christ-centered summer camp for boys in New York's Adirondack Mountains. There are programs for boys ages 8 - 16 years, Father and Son trips, and one and two week fishing, kayaking and rock climbing trips for the older boys. View the video and read about the programs on www.northernfrontier.org.

Please contact **Steve Flewelling** at shflewelling@gmail.com if you have any questions.

Scripture Texts

PSALM 103:6-14

⁶The Lord works righteousness and justice for all the oppressed.

⁷He made known his ways to Moses, his deeds to the people of Israel:

⁸The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love.

⁹He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger forever;

¹⁰he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities.

¹¹For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him;

¹²as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

¹³As a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord has compassion on those who fear him;

¹⁴for he knows how we are formed, he remembers that we are dust.

JAMES 2:8-13

⁸If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, “Love your neighbor as yourself,” you are doing right.

⁹But if you show favoritism, you sin and are convicted by the law as lawbreakers.

¹⁰For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it.

¹¹For he who said, “You shall not commit adultery,” also said, “You shall not murder.” If you do not commit adultery but do commit murder, you have become a lawbreaker.

¹²Speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law that gives freedom,

¹³because judgment without mercy will be shown to anyone who has not been merciful. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

Scripture Texts, *continued*

MATTHEW 5:1-12

- ¹ Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him,
- ² and he began to teach them. He said:
- ³ “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- ⁴ Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
- ⁵ Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.
- ⁶ Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.
- ⁷ Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.
- ⁸ Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.
- ⁹ Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.
- ¹⁰ Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- ¹¹ “Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me.
- ¹² Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

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Samuel ... named it Ebenezer, saying, "Thus far has the LORD helped us." 1 Sam. 7:12

1. Come, thou fount of ev - 'ry bless - ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
 2. Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer; hith - er by thy help I'm come;
 3. O to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con - strained to be;

streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
 and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
 let that grace now, like a fet - ter, bind my wan - d'ring heart to thee.

Teach me some me - lo - dious son - net, sung by flam - ing tongues a - bove;
 Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan - d'ring from the fold of God:
 Prone to wan - der—Lord, I feel it—prone to leave the God I love:

praise the mount! I'm fixed up - on it, mount of God's un - chang - ing love.
 he, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.
 here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for thy courts a - bove.

You Came to Us, Dear Jesus

Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.
Matt. 25:40

Unison

1. You came to us, dear Je - sus, in our dy - ing,
2. You came to us, dear Je - sus, in our yearn - ing,
3. You came to us, dear Je - sus, in our fear - ing,
4. You came to us, dear Je - sus, in our sigh - ing,

as bro - ken, bleed - ing we could make no sign.
as faint and fam - ished we be - fore you stood;
our dread the lash - ing waves, the tem - pest shrill.
for blind and lame and par - a - lyzed we lay.

Com - pas - sion, Lord, brought you where we were ly - ing,
com - pas - sion, Lord, our emp - ti - ness dis - cern - ing,
Com - pas - sion, Lord, drew you to us, and near - ing,
Com - pas - sion, Lord, turned you to still our cry - ing

to lift us up, to pour on oil and wine.
moved you to mul - ti - ply the loaves for food.
to wind and wa - ter you said, "Peace, be still!"
and touch our dark - ened eyes with light of day.

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	9:00 AM, 11:00AM
Sunday School (<i>Sept–June</i>)	11:45 AM
Sunday Evening Service	6:00 PM

Westminster Kingston

Sunday School	10:00 AM
Worship	11:00 AM

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.

Assistant Minister

The Reverend Mark D. Diedrich

Session (Ruling Elders, with Class Year)

Robert Van Gent (2022), Ron Bonagura (2022), Robert David (2021), Steve Flewelling (2021), James Phillips (2021), Bob Maucher (2023), Elder Emeritus: Neil Fick

Board of Deacons (with Class Year)

John Grammer (2021), Ed Weber (2021), Matt Kniffin (2022), Joe Schlegel (Chair: 2022), Tim Elmendorf (2022), Paul Mowat (2023), Eric Moller (2023), Jim Rutigliano (2023)

Board of Trustees

Robert Van Gent (Chairman)
Robert David (Vice Chairman)

Staff

Administrative Secretary	Jo-Anne Weber
Christian Education	Brenda Grammer
Choir Director	Elaine H. Simpson
Evangelism	Johnson Chang-Fong
Fellowship	JoAnn Maucher
Financial Recording Secretary	Esther Riffard
Organists	Neil Fick, Elaine H. Simpson
Sexton	Rachel McDuffie
Treasurer	Kevin Quirk
Worship Committee	Lori Steinberger