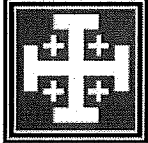


WESTMINSTER  PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

Service for the Lord's Day

Third Sunday in Lent

March 19, 2017

GATHERING

(Silence during the Prelude is requested in preparation for worship.)

PRELUDE

From Sonata III, op. 65 no. 3 Felix Mendelssohn

I. Con Moto Maestoso

Out of the depths I cry to Thee

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

(Those who are able may stand.)

The Lord is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in love.
Through the gifts of the Holy Spirit
God's love is poured into our hearts.
Let us worship God.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

**Enduring Presence, goal and guide,
you go before and await our coming.
Only our thirst compels us
beyond complaint to conversation,
beyond rejection to relationship.
Pour your love into our hearts,
that, refreshed and renewed,
we may invite others to the living water
given to us in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen!**

***HYMN 65**

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

CWM RHONDDA

CALL TO CONFESSION

If we say we have no sin,
we deceive ourselves,
and the truth is not in us.

But if we confess our sins,
God who is faithful and just
will forgive us our sins
and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

(1 John 1:8-9)

In humility and faith, let us confess our sin to God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

God, the fount of every blessing,
your streams of mercy never cease to flow.
Why do we, at the first sign of trouble, begin to doubt you?
We harden our hearts,
insisting you solve the problems we put to you.
We quarrel amongst ourselves,
and hoard what we fear we might lose.
We abandon hope,
though you shower us with your love and power.
Do not be angry with us, Lord.
Forgive our faithless hearts and make them more like yours –
steadfast and full of love.

(Silent confession)

Kyrie (Sung responsively by the choir and congregation)

James MacMillan

The musical score is written on four staves of music in 3/4 time. The lyrics are: "Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy." The score is divided into sections for "Choir:", "Congregation:", and "Choir and Congregation:". The lyrics are written below the notes, with some words underlined. The music is in a simple, melodic style with a mix of quarter and eighth notes.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

(The liturgist pours water, which reminds us of our baptism.)

In our baptism we die with Christ to sin
and are raised with him to a life of righteousness.

Believe the Good News: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!**

*The Peace

Since God in Christ has forgiven us, let us also forgive one another.
The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

(Please exchange the peace with the words, "The peace of Christ be with you.")

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

*(Everyone is asked to sign the Friendship Register,
which is located on the center aisle end of each pew.)*

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

Hear the Word of God! **Our ears are open.**

Exodus 17:1-7 *(Old Testament, page 64 in your pew Bible)*

(Sung responsively after each scripture reading.)

Create in me a clean heart, O God.
Create in me a clean heart, O God.

Renew a right spirit within me.
Renew a right spirit within me.

Psalm 95

Sing a New Song

Heinrich Schütz/Jennings

Sing a new song to God the Lord, Sing and give praise with one accord.
For His salvation He doth give, That, through his mercy, we may live.
Worship the Lord in holiness, Hymns of great joy to Him address.
Honor His works and bless His name, His grace and truth to all proclaim.
Heaven above and earth below, Ocean and field His glory show.
All of God's creatures sing His praise, Let us now too our voices raise.
Glory and thanks to God belong. Honor Him evermore in song.

John 4: 5-26 (*New Testament, pages 94-95 in your pew Bible*)

SERMON

“It’s About Time”

Donovan Drake

(A moment for meditation)

*HYMN 479

Come Now to the Water

JACOB’S WELL

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

With the whole Church let us profess our faith:

We trust in God the Holy Spirit,

everywhere the giver and renewer of life.

The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,

sets us free to accept ourselves

and to love God and neighbor,

and binds us together with all believers

in the one body of Christ, the Church.

The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles

rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,

engages us through the Word proclaimed,

claims us in the waters of baptism,

feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,

and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church.

In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage

to pray without ceasing,

to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,

to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,

to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,

and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,

we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks

and to live holy and joyful lives,

even as we watch for God’s new heaven and new earth,

praying, “Come, Lord Jesus!”

With believers in every time and place,

we rejoice that nothing in life or in death

can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

(From A Brief Statement of Faith)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

THANKSGIVING

OFFERING

Anthem (8:30 a.m.)

The Lord is a Mighty God

Felix Mendelssohn

The Lord is a mighty God and mighty ruler
over all false idols. (Psalm 95:3)

Anthem (11:00 a.m.)

My God is a Rock

Spiritual/arr. Parker & Shaw

*My God is a rock in a weary land, shelter in a time of storm.
I know He is a rock in a weary land, shelter in a time of storm.*

Stop 'n' let me tell you 'bout the Chapter One,
When the Lord's work was just begun,
Stop 'n' let me tell you 'bout the Chapter Two,
When the Lord God's written His Bible through.
Stop 'n' let me tell you 'bout the Chapter Three,
When the Lord God died on Calvary. *My God is...*

Stop 'n' let me tell you 'bout the Chapter Four,
When the Lord God visit 'mong the poor,
Stop and let me tell you 'bout the Chapter Five,
When the Lord God brought the dead alive,
Stop 'n' let me tell you 'bout the Chapter Six,
He went in Jerusalem and healed the sick. *Oh, my God is...*

Stop, let me tell you 'bout the Chapter Seven,
Died and risen and went to Heaven.
Stop, let me tell you 'bout the Chapter Eight,
John seen Him standing at the Golden Gate.
Stop and let me tell you 'bout the Chapter Nine,
Lord God turned the water to wine.
Stop and let me tell you 'bout the Chapter Ten,
John says He's coming in world again. *O, my God is a...*

***DOXOLOGY**

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all creatures here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you. And also with you.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Almighty and merciful God,
from whom comes all good, and every perfect gift,
we praise you for your mercies,
for your goodness that has created us,
your grace that has sustained us,
your discipline that has corrected us,
your patience that has borne with us,
and your love that has redeemed us.
Help us to love you,
and to be thankful for all your gifts
by serving you and delighting to do your will,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***THE LORD'S PRAYER** *(Singing together)*

*(Please refer to the inside back cover of your hymnal
for words and music to this hymn.)*

SENDING

***HYMN 547**

Go, My Children, with My Blessing

AR HYDY NOS

***BENEDICTION**

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE**

Create in me a clean heart, O God.
Create in me a clean heart, O God.

Renew a right spirit within me.
Renew a right spirit within me.

POSTLUDE

Toccata Rathbun
In the Cross of Christ I Glory

David Cherwein

**(Those who are able may stand.)*

SERVICE NOTES

WORSHIP LEADERS: Liturgist: Sophie Maness, Director of Christian Education; (8:30 a.m.) Lay liturgist: Laura Reinbold; (11:00 a.m.) Lay liturgist: Ann Harris.

The liturgist for each worship service leads the “Assurance of Pardon” and “The Peace” from the Baptismal Font. The intention is to emphasize the connection between forgiveness and baptism. In baptism we die symbolically to sin and are raised to new life through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The water and the words of baptism remind us of God’s cleansing, restoring grace.

MUSICIANS: (8:30) Lindsay Cunningham, Ally Hard, Colby White, Mark Whatley, Jane Kirchner, flute; (11:00) Westminster Choir, Mark Whatley, soloist, Jane Kirchner, flute. John W. Semingson, Director of Music Ministries; Polly Brecht, Organist.

USHERS: (8:30 a.m.) Suzanne Allen, Terry Allen, Paul Lyle, Patricia Lyle, David Wyatt; (11:00 a.m.) Jim Jenkins, Emily Jenkins, Katherine Jenkins, Whit Polley. *Should a congregant need assistance at any time during the service, please contact one of the ushers in the Narthex.*

LENT: The word “Lent” is derived from the Old English word *lecten*, meaning “Spring,” which in turn derives from the Old High German *lenzin*, referring to “the lengthening of days.” The season we know as Spring was originally called Lent. Lent gradually adhered strictly to church practice, and Spring came to designate the season following Winter.

Lent lasts for forty weekdays plus Sundays, a number richly grounded in Biblical tradition. In the Bible there are one hundred-twenty references to the number forty, among them: the days of Noah’s deluge; the days that Moses spent on the mountain; the years Israel wandered in the wilderness; the days of Elijah’s journey to the cave of the “still, small voice;” and Jesus’ forty-day wilderness sojourn in which he was tempted by Satan.

Lent has traditionally been a time in which Christians have engaged in self-reflection, fasting, prayer, confession and repentance in anticipation of the celebration of the Resurrection of Christ. At Westminster, in order to emphasize the meaning of Lent, we adopt a more penitential posture in worship. There are no flowers; no festive choir processional; no *Act of Praise*, following the *Confession and Pardon*; and at several points in the service we incorporate the ancient and plaintive supplication from Psalm 51: “Create in me a clean heart, O God.”

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME: Westminster Presbyterian Church welcomes you to share our common journey to become more faithful disciples of Christ. Our love and acceptance of each other affirm the inherent worth and dignity of every person, regardless of our differences, and bear witness to the love of God for all people and our commitment to Christ. If you are interested in learning about membership, please speak with a greeter in the Sanctuary (by the Baptismal font) following worship on Sunday mornings, and receive a packet of information about WPC. The Greeters for today are (8:30 a.m.) Judi Larson, and (11:00 a.m.) Bob and Donna Littleton. As a vibrant and inclusive congregation, Westminster seeks to foster a caring, diverse, and deeply spiritual community of faith. With a spirit of gratitude and love, all are welcome here!

LARGE-PRINT BULLETINS AND ASSISTIVE HEARING DEVICES are available in the Narthex from one of the ushers.

NEW MEMBER CLASSES: Our spring series of classes continues today at 9:45 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. There will be six classes in the series (no class on April 16th), and new members will be received by Session and welcomed into the congregation on April 23rd. Today's class will cover *What We Believe*. All interested in membership are highly encouraged to attend. To sign up for the classes, please contact Trisha Biggs at tbiggs@nashvillewpc.org.

A SERVICE OF WHOLENESS WILL BE HELD TODAY, MARCH 19 in the Chapel immediately following the 11:00 a.m. worship service. This brief and informal service (roughly 15 minutes) will include a time of centering ourselves in God's love and light, sharing concerns and joys, and individual and communal prayer. Rev. Heidi Hudnut-Beumler and Claire Harris Kramer co-lead this service.

EASTER LILIES: Beautiful white lilies will grace our Sanctuary on Easter Sunday, April 16, 2017. If you would like to provide a lily in memory or in honor of loved ones or friends, please place your order via email to Terri Eckert at teckert@nashvillewpc.org, go online to www.nashvillewpc.org, or complete the form in the upcoming newsletter and mail it to the church office. A contribution of \$10 per name is requested. Checks should be made payable to "Westminster Presbyterian Church" and designated "Lilies." *The deadline for submitting names to be included in the Easter bulletin is Sunday, April 2, 2017.*

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HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

APRIL 9 – PASSION/PALM SUNDAY

PROCESSION OF PALMS
ALLELUIA, GLORIA, AND JUBILATE CHILDREN'S CHOIRS

APRIL 13 - MAUNDY THURSDAY

7:00 P.M. SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION IN THE SANCTUARY
STRIPPING OF THE CHANCEL
LAUDATE YOUTH CHOIR AND JANE KIRCHNER, FLUTE

APRIL 14 - GOOD FRIDAY

7:00 P.M. CHORAL SERVICE OF DARKNESS IN THE SANCTUARY
WESTMINSTER CHOIR

APRIL 16 - THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

SERVICES: 7:30 A.M., 9:15 A.M., AND 11:00 A.M.
WITH CHOIRS AND BRASS ENSEMBLE
(*HOLY COMMUNION AT THE 7:30 A.M. SERVICE ONLY*)

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