

Westminster Presbyterian Church

A Telling Presence in the City

Easter Festival Worship
March 31, 2024 | 9 and 11am



Easter Cross, Illustration by Barbara Beshoar McIlrath

We enter this church not as strangers, but as children of God.

Preparing for the Word

Our service begins with the Prelude, inviting us to prepare for worship.

Prelude

<i>Psalm XIX: The Heavens Declare the Glory of God</i>	Benedetto Marcello
<i>Rest</i>	Ralph Vaughan Williams
<i>Easter Anthem</i>	William Billings
<i>Aria for Winds, HWV 410</i>	George Frederic Handel
	Douglas Carlsen and Marissa Benedict, trumpet; Michael Gast, horn; R. Douglas Wright, trombone; Jason Tanksley, tuba
<i>Fugue in E-flat, BWV 552</i>	Johann Sebastian Bach
	Joseph Trucano, organ
<i>Contrapunctus IX from Die Kunst der Fuge</i>	Johann Sebastian Bach

Easter Greeting

The Rev. Dr. Meghan Gage-Finn

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Introit *Haec est dies*

Jacobus Gallus

Westminster Choir; Dr. Amanda Weber, conductor

(sung in Latin)

This is the day the Lord has made;

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Alleluia!

***Call to Worship** (from Psalm 118:22-23)

One: The stone that the builders rejected

All: has become the chief cornerstone.

One: This is the Lord's doing;

All: it is marvelous in our eyes.

One: Christ is risen!

All: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

One: Let us worship God!

***Processional Hymn** No. 232 *Jesus Christ Is Risen Today*

Jeffrey Gram, timpani

*Please stand as you are able.

***Prayer of Adoration and Confession** (unison)

The Rev. Dr. David Tsai Shinn

Holy God, Lord of life, we praise you for raising Christ and defeating death. Forgive us for not trusting this good news and remaining bound to fear. We give you thanks for your abundant mercy. You have freed us to rejoice in the redeeming power of the Holy Spirit, and to receive your Easter love that never ends. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray.
Amen.

Anthem *This Joyful Eastertide*

Trad. Dutch Carol, arr. Philip Ledger

Text by George R. Woodward

This joyful Eastertide, away with sin and sorrow!
My Love, the Crucified, hath sprung to life this morrow.
Had Christ, that once was slain, ne'er burst his three-day prison,
Our faith had been in vain: but now hath Christ arisen.

Death's flood hath lost his chill, since Jesus crossed the river:
Lover of souls, from ill my passing soul deliver.
Had Christ, that once was slain, ne'er burst his three-day prison,
Our faith had been in vain: but now hath Christ arisen.

Listening for the Word

A Time with Children

The Rev. Alexandra Jacob

Sung Response *Hallelujah* from *Messiah*

G.F. Handel

Kenneth Vigne, organ

Please find music for the Hallelujah Chorus in the pew and join the choir in singing with Easter joy. At the end of worship, please leave music in the pew.

Prayer for Illumination

The Rev. Margaret O. Fox

Readings from Holy Scripture

Isaiah 25:6-9 (OT, p. 612)

Mark 16:1-8 (NT, p. 47)

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon *Where Is This Story Going to End?*

The Rev. Dr. Matthew Skinner

Responding to the Word

***Hymn** No. 485 *We Know That Christ Is Raised*

***Affirmation of Faith (United Church of Canada)**

The Rev. Alanna Simone Tyler

We are not alone, we live in God's world. We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God. We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

Pastoral Prayer and 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.

Offertory Invitation

You are invited to give online via Realm. Please assist the ushers in passing the offertory plates in the pews. To learn more about how to make a gift online, please see the back of the bulletin. Thank you for supporting the mission and ministry of Westminster.

Offertory Anthem *O God Beyond All Praising*

Gustav Holst; arr. Richard Proulx

The congregation is invited to join on the melody, as indicated below.

All:

**O God, beyond all praising, we worship you today
And sing the love amazing that songs cannot repay;
For we can only wonder at ev'ry gift you send,
At blessings without number and mercies without end:
We lift our hearts before you and wait upon your word,
We honor and adore you, our great and mighty Lord.**

Choir:

The flow'r of earthly splendor in time must surely die,
Its fragile bloom surrender to you, the Lord most high;
But hidden from all nature the eternal seed is sown—
Though small in mortal stature, to heaven's garden grown:
For Christ the one from heaven from death has set us free,
And we through him are given the final victory.

All:

**Then hear, O gracious Savior, accept the love we bring,
That we who know your favor may serve you as our King;
And whether our tomorrows be filled with good or ill,
We'll triumph through our sorrows and rise to praise you still:
To marvel at your beauty and glory in your ways,
And make a joyful duty our sacrifice of praise.**

***Prayer of Dedication for the Offerings Received**

***Hymn** No. 246 *Christ Is Alive!*

***Charge and Benediction**

***Passing of the Peace**

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

Postlude *Toccata from Organ Symphony No. 5*

Charles-Marie Widor
Joseph Trucano, organ

Easter Flowers Have Been Given

To the Glory of God in the Memory of:

William Abel	Dolores Gair	Bob Monroe
Sarah Luanne Appelwick	Paul Granlund	Siong-Peck Ng and Siew-Hwa Ong
Dominic Arbisi	Rev. Elizabeth Downing Heller	Ong
Charles Bamberger	Ron Hemstad	Kerry Ogren
Norma Jean Bamberger	Warren Hoffman	Parents of Collins and Barbara Cavender
Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Bell	Richard L. Howell, Sr.	Infant Son Peitzman
Hjalmar and Otilie Bergdahl	James Andrew Huey	Karen Lea Peitzman
Paul Frederick Bowlin	Kaia Huntington	Richard and Gloria Perkins
Judy Busse	Linda Huntington	Judy Polenek
Alice and Donald Campbell	Michael Janasz	Isabel Snyder Rice
Timothy David Carmichael	Judy Johnson	Robert E. Rice
Jim and Nancy Carter	Eda Kelley	C. Glenn Rye
Mr. and Mrs. Ogden A. Confer	Robert Kendig	Shirley F. Rye
Miss Ruth Confer	Dr. Fulton Koehler	John C. Salzsiedler
John Costigan	Mrs. Mary C. Koehler	Kenneth L. Snyder
Gretchen Crosby	Dale and Donna Krach	Karen Somers
Katherine Pierson Crosby	Laura Krach	Samuel Somers
Thomas M. Crosby, Jr.	Paul and Merilyn Krause	Spenser Somers
Tom and Ella Crosby	Stanley and Dorothy Kriel	Herbert, Helen, and Linda Sootsman
Keith Davis	Virginia and Charles Krusell	Cristella and Clarence Starkson
James Dayton	Lillie T. Leick	Hubert and Velma Sunderman
Robert Dayton	Carey Lennox	Dr. Everett O. and Helen J. Thomas
Irene Donaldson	Mac Lennox	Sally and William Weaver
Joyce and Roy Dworakoski	Charles Austin and Emma Louise Logue	Phoebe McCabe Wiethoff
Jim Edwards	Doris L. Logue	Francisca S. Winston
E. F. Englund, MD	Everett Eugene and Willa Eugenia Logue	Frederick and Elizabeth Winston
Glennis Englund	John White and Sarah Austin Logue	Otilie R. Wollan
Paul Englund	Dale Miller	Joe Zappa
Marion Etwiler	Robert D. Miller	
Michael Fetterman	Robert Mitchell, Jr.	
Timothy P. Flanagan		
Marina Flores		
Odilon Flores		

To the Glory of God in the Honor of:

Cynthia Arbisi
George McCabe III

Maundy Thursday flowers in loving memory of:

Mr. & Mrs. Harold B. Finch,
Mr. & Mrs. Harold B. Finch, Jr.,
Martha Finch and Arthur Stock
by Barbara Stock

In Eternal Rest

Craig Muntifering, March 17, 2024

Barbara Freeman, March 21, 2024

Daily Phone Devotions

612.332.7087

March 31 Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
April 1 1 Corinthians 15:35-49
2 1 Corinthians 15:50-58
3 Mark 16:1-8
4 Acts 4:32-35
5 Psalm 133
6 1 John 1:1-2:2
7 John 20:19-31

Welcome to Westminster

We are grateful for your presence and invite you to participate in our worship, mission, and programs.

If you are new to Westminster

Accessible Worship. Large print bulletins, hearing assistance devices, and Hearing Loop information are available from ushers during 10:30am worship.

Welcome, Children! Young ones are always welcome in worship at Westminster. We also offer Nursery care for children 3 years old and younger, and the child-friendly Children's Tower Room (in the southwest balcony corner) is open with the service livestreamed for those who may need to step away for nursing or to tend to children's needs.

Coffee Hour. Join us in Westminster Commons for coffee and fellowship, following Sunday morning worship.

Membership. The next New Member class will take place on Sunday, May 5, following 10:30am worship. For information about membership, contact the Rev. Dr. Meghan Gage-Finn at mgage-finn@wpc-mpls.org or Janice Teliczan at jteliczan@wpc-mpls.org.

If you seek to deepen your involvement

Justice & Mission. Get involved in serving and seeking justice; contact the Rev. Alanna Simone Tyler, atyler@wpc-mpls.org.

Families, Youth, and Children. Connect with Church School, youth groups, Confirmation, parent offerings, and special events; contact the Rev. Alexandra Jacob, ajacob@wpc-mpls.org.

Congregational Care. Join dedicated volunteer teams providing support for members through prayer, meals, and visitations; contact the Rev. Dr. David Tsai Shinn, dshinn@wpc-mpls.org.

Adult Ministries. Enjoy faith formation with other adults of the church through classes, small groups, and forums; contact the Rev. Margaret Fox, mfox@wpc-mpls.org.

Worship & the Arts. Offer your artistic gifts in worship, participate in adult or children's music ensembles, or connect with other artists; contact Dr. Amanda Weber, aweber@wpc-mpls.org.

Westminster Cares

Births, Adoptions, and Baptisms. Contact Janice Teliczan, jteliczan@wpc-mpls.org.

Pastoral Care. Contact Deb Wagner about hospitalization, illness, death, or prayer requests, 612.332.3421 or dwagner@wpc-mpls.org.

Free parking is available on Sundays in the public ramp at 11th St. & Marquette Ave. **from 7am-2pm.**

At the ramp, take a ticket when you enter & pick up a parking voucher at Westminster. Use both your ticket and the voucher to exit the ramp.

Free parking for those who need it is also available on Sunday mornings in the Westminster parking garage at Alice Rainville Place.

Our Life in Christ: Opportunities

Spring Men's Retreat

Saturday, April 6 | 8am-Noon | Meisel Room

Men of the church are invited to our annual men's spring retreat. We will gather at 8am for breakfast. The morning session will begin at 9am, which will include a presentation by the Cuba Partner Ministry Team. **Register on Realm.**

Macalester Sunday

Sunday, April 7

Westminster Presbyterian Church celebrates Macalester Sunday the week following Easter each year as a way to highlight the historic ties between the College and the Presbyterian Church. **Dr. Suzanne M. Rivera, President of Macalester College, will preach during worship at 10:30am on April 7.**

All-Church Book Read Discussion Groups

Sundays, April 7 and 14 | 9:15am | Recreation Room

This year's All-Church Book Read title is *Solito*, by Javier Zamora. Discussion groups will meet on April 7 and 14 during Education Hour. **Sign up on Realm.**

Prayer Companions

First Sundays | 11:30am | Chapel

Members of the Prayer Companion Ministry Team, will be available in the Chapel each first Sunday of the month, following 10:30am worship. All are welcome.

29:11 International Exchange Residency

April 8-14

Westminster is thrilled to welcome back the South African musical group, 29:11 International Exchange. They will interact with many church groups throughout their week-long residency and will help to lead worship on April 14.

Third Age Forum: Wendy Brown-Báez

Wednesday, April 10 | 11am-1pm | Westminster Hall and Livestream

Westminster Artist-in-Residence, Wendy Brown-Báez will speak at the next Third Age Forum on April 10. The forum is free. An optional light lunch will be served, with a \$5 suggested donation. **Register on Realm.**

Beyond Sunday Connections: Kay Thomas

Monday, April 22 | 6-8:30pm | Westminster Hall

Join us for the last event of the 2023-2024 season as we hear from Westminster member, Kay Thomas. **Learn more and register on Realm by Monday, April 8.**

Spring Women's Retreat

April 26-28 | Presbyterian Clearwater Forest Camp & Retreat Center

Westminster women are invited to join us for the Spring Women's Retreat at beautiful Presbyterian Clearwater Forest Retreat Center, for a weekend of reflection, fun, and relaxation. The theme of the retreat is *Crossing Thresholds*, and it will be led by the Rev. Julie Neraas. **Register on Realm by Monday, April 8.**

This Week at Westminster | March 31-April 7

Visit westminsternpls.org/events for more details about events.

Easter Sunday, March 31

8am-12:30pm | *The Journey to Easter* exhibition | Westminster Gallery

8:45-10am and 10:45am-Noon | Nursery Hours | Nursery

9am | Worship: The Rev. Dr. Matthew Skinner preaching | Sanctuary*

11am | Worship: The Rev. Dr. Matthew Skinner preaching | Sanctuary*

Easter Monday, April 1

Church offices closed. A pastor will be available on call.

Wednesday, April 3

9am | Women of Westminster (WOW) | Meisel Room and Zoom

Noon | Centering Prayer | Bates Room

4pm | Spiritual Journaling | Lowe Library

6:30pm | WestConnect | Hunter Room

Friday, April 5

6:30-8pm | Moms Group: The Local | Meet at Westminster Reception

Saturday, April 6

8am-Noon | Men's Retreat | Fellowship Hall and Meisel Room

10am | Downtown Coalition for Grief | Rooms 209-210

Macalester Sunday, April 7

8am-12:30pm | *The Journey to Easter* exhibition closes | Westminster Gallery

8:15-11:30am | Nursery Hours | Nursery

8:30am | Worship: Artistic Reflections on Thomas | Westminster Hall*

9:15am | Family Matters | Bates Room

9:15am | Gathering Time & Church School | Chapel and Classrooms

9:15am | Social Justice Forum | Meisel Room*

9:15am | All-Church Book Read | Recreation Room and Zoom

10:30am | Worship: Dr. Suzanne M. Rivera preaching | Sanctuary*

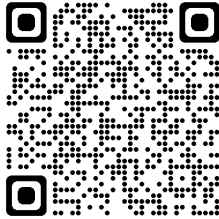
11:30am | Prayer Companions | Chapel

*** May also be viewed via Livestream westminsternpls.online.church**

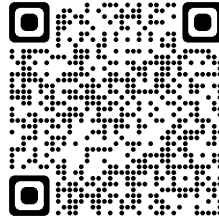
Giving to Westminster

You can sustain the church's ministry and mission by making a donation to the church online! To support Westminster, point your smartphone camera at the QR codes below or visit: onrealm.org/westminsternpls/give

One-Time Gift



Make a Pledge



**Join us for worship in-person,
via livestream at westminsternpls.online.church,
or facebook.com/westminsternpls**

Sundays

8:30am Worship (Westminster Hall)

10:30am Worship (Sanctuary)

Wednesdays *(Resumes April 10)*

6pm Evening Worship (Westminster Hall)



1200 Marquette Avenue | Minneapolis 55403
westminsternpls.org | 612.332.3421



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