



WESTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

WE WORSHIP WITH TRADITION • WE CONNECT AS A CHURCH FAMILY • WE ENGAGE IN MISSION • WE RAISE 21ST CENTURY DISCIPLES

A Warm Welcome to All!

We seek to be an inclusive church,
and to show love and compassion in many ways.
If you are new to Westminster, join us for **coffee and donuts**
in The Commons (gym across the hall from the Sanctuary)
after worship service.

If you'd like to become more connected, please contact
Pastors Scott Paczkowski or Meghan Davis-Brass at 515-274-1534.



Livestream Camera Reminder

Please know, if you are seated in the pews on the first floor
there is a possibility that you will be seen by the cameras.
If you'd prefer to stay off-screen, please sit in the
Balcony or the back two pews of the Sanctuary.



Chancel Flowers

If you would like to donate Chancel Flowers for worship, contact
the office during regular office hours.

Flowers for today's service are donated by Ken and Sue Hough, in memory of their parents,
Elwood & Ada Kleese and Earl & Lily Hough



Internet Access

Domain: Westminster Presbyterian Church

Password: Westminster

Order of Worship

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 28, 2024

Gathering the Community of Faith

PRELUDE

Maestoso from 4 Osterpraeludien
Juli Bey- Organ

Music: Robert Führer

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Scott Paczkowski

Please let us know you are worshiping with us!

In-Person: Please fill out the pew Attendance Pad and pass it to others in your pew.

On-line: Please complete the "Attendance Form," on the livestream page.

Celebrating God's Presence

CALL TO WORSHIP

Alex Knoshaug

One: As members of Christ's tree of life,

All: We are connected, in love, to God.

One: As members of Christ's tree of life,

All: We are connected, in love, to one another.

One: As members of Christ's tree of life,

All: We strengthen our connection through worship.

*OPENING HYMN

All Are Welcome

Marty Haugen

(Music on pg. 7 of worship bulletin.)

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Acts 8, Psa. 22, 1 Jn. 4, Jn. 15)

Meghan Davis-Brass

Speak truth to our hearts, O God. Speak love to our lives, that we may remain in your love and share your love joyously with others. Speak grace to our souls, that we may rest in your grace and forgive others as we have been forgiven. Speak mercy to our world, that all the world may know your love and find redemption in your grace. In hope and trust, we pray. Amen.

DECLARATION OF PARDON (Psa. 22, 1 Jn. 4)

One: God's promises are sure.

All: The promises of forgiveness, grace, and love are true.

One: In Christ's love and grace,

All: we are forgiven and made new.

*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

One: Abiding in God's love,

All: let's share signs of love and peace with one another.

*SUNG RESPONSE:

Gloria Patri

Henry W. Greatorex, 1851

(*Music on pg. 7 of worship bulletin.*)

CELEBRATION OF NEW MEMBERS

- Suzan Morikis
- Nichole Michelle Dudley
- Amy & Isaac Allen

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/LORD'S PRAYER

Bill Ekhardt

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.**

Dedicating Our Lives and Offerings

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

O Lord We Praise Thee

Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn, 1524; arr. Mark Bender

Juli Bey - Organ

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE

Doxology

OLD 100TH

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise
God above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

CHILDREN'S SONG OF BLESSING #304

Jesus Loves Me!

William B. Bradbury

(Children up to 5th grade are dismissed for Sunday School)

Text: Anna B. Warner

Lyrics: Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so.

Little ones to Him belong. They are weak, but He is strong.

Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!

Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

Proclaiming God's Word

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Psalm 22:25-31

Alex Knoshaug

From you comes my praise in the great congregation;
my vows I will pay before those who fear him.

The poor shall eat and be satisfied;
those who seek him shall praise the Lord.
May your hearts live forever!

All the ends of the earth shall remember
and turn to the Lord,
and all the families of the nations
shall worship before him.

For dominion belongs to the Lord,
and he rules over the nations.

To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down;
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust,
and I shall live for him.

Posterity will serve him;
future generations will be told about the Lord
and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn,
saying that he has done it.

ANTHEM

I've Got the Joy

Arr. Valerie W. Stephenson

Westminster Handbell Choir - directed by Juli Bey

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

John 15:1-8

Scott Paczkowski

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

SERMON

"Pruning is a Lifelong Process"

Scott Paczkowski

Sermon Notes

WE ARE WESTMINSTER...

We Worship with Tradition • We Connect as a Church Family

We Engage in Mission • We Raise 21st Century Disciples

INCLUSIVITY STATEMENT

We welcome all persons as participants in our congregation, regardless of age, race, gender, marital status, physical condition, gender identity, sexual orientation, ethnic background, economic status, or any other human condition.

You're Invited to our Vacation Bible School!

“Story Time with Jesus!”

Monday, July 8 - Friday, July 12 from 9:00 to noon.
(early drop starting off at 7:30 a.m. available)

Crafts,
Games,
Tie-Dye,
Theater
and
More!

Something
for all ages!

Under 4 years - Nursery Activities
4yr to 5th Grade - VBS Activities
6th to 12th Grade - Volunteer
Adult- Volunteer
Volunteer info at
westpres.org/vbs

\$15 per
child
(scholarships
available)

We will
learn
about the
stories
Jesus told
to teach us
important
lessons
about the
world and
God.



Register

Register at westpres.org/vbs



More Info

Westminster Announcements

Vacation Bible School- Vacation Bible School sign-up is now open! You can sign up for VBS online at www.westpres.org/vbs.

Foundation Sunday -Foundation Sunday will be May 5 this year. We will be celebrating the Foundation's 50th Anniversary. That calls for a festivity. The entire congregation is invited to a meal and program following the service on the 5. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us!

LGBTQ+ Partnership Meeting- After worship on Sunday, the LGBTQ+ Partnership will be meeting in Simmerman Lounge to plan for the Capital City Pride parade and festival booth. All are welcome to attend!

Envelope Fundraiser-This Sunday is the final Sunday to donate to the Youth Envelope Fundraiser, the final fundraiser before the youth head to California this summer. Stop by The Commons/Gym this Sunday to pick up an envelope from the board. Each envelope is marked with a donation amount. The goal of the fundraiser is to have a donation of all 100 Envelopes on the board. Can you help us clear the board? The board will be in the commons following Worship.

Pastor Scott's Daily Devotions- Looking to get more from your church? You can sign up to receive Pastor Scott's Daily Devotion! Go online to www.westpres.org/daily-devotions to read the archive of devotions and sign up at the bottom of each post.

Year of Gratitude- a Gratitude Wall has been set up in The Commons. Everyone – of all ages - is invited to add something that they are grateful for onto the wall. Sticky notes are available. You can write as many and as often as you wish.

Prayer Requests- If you have a prayer request that you'd like to share with your church family, please select the Prayer Request button on the website's livestream worship page or contact Susan Denton at sdenton@westpres.org.

Bedtime Bible Podcast - Help your children prepare for bed with our prayer and relaxation podcast. Each podcast will feature calming music, scripture, and prayers to help children unwind from their day. Stories and prayers are geared toward younger children but are loved by all ages. You can stream them anywhere you get your podcasts.

How Can I Contribute My Offering or Pay My Pledge When Not at Church?

- **Online** - At <https://www.westpres.org/howtogive>
- **Mail** - Westminster Church, 4114 Allison Ave., Des Moines, IA 50310-3398
- **Text** - WPCDSM to 73256
- **Call the Church Office** - 515-274-1534 for credit card or ACH contribution.
- **Scan the QR Code**



Prayer Requests

Please fill out prayer card in the pew and place in the offering plate or e-mail sdenton@westpres.org



The LGBTQ+ Partnership will be meeting in Simmerman Lounge to plan for Capital City Pride

Envelope Fundraiser!

Stop by the Commons to pick up an envelope from the board to donate to Westminster Youth!

Loose Coin Donations

Loose Coin Donations will be donated to CROSS this month.

Pastor Scott's Daily Devotions

Find the Daily Devotions on our website, westpres.org

Bedtime Bible

WESTMINSTER KID'S PRAYER PODCAST

Listen to the Bedtime Bible Children's Podcast wherever you stream your podcasts.

Chancel Flowers

Purchase Chancel Flowers for worship by contacting the office during regular office hours.



New Gallery Exhibit: Leslie Leavenworth

Head downstairs to enjoy an exhibit of paintings by award-winning artist Leslie Leavenworth.

Weekly Newsletter

Learn all about the announcements in the bulletin in our weekly newsletter. Sign-up to receive it via e-mail or paper mailing by contacting Simon at Simon@westpres.org or call 515-274-1534.