



“Where Faith and Life Connect”

The Order of Worship January 21, 2018
9:00 and 11:00 A.M.

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

THE CHURCH GATHERS . . .

Welcome to Westminster Church! We are a family of Christians gathered from many traditions and neighborhoods, worshipping here with the goal of connecting faith and life. If you are a visitor, we pray you will feel welcome and blessed by our worship. We invite you to consider making Westminster your church home. Please let us have your contact information so we may be in touch.

When the prelude begins let us quietly prepare for the worship of almighty God.

PRELUDE “...No darkness at all...” Ned Rorem
‘God is light, and in Him is no darkness at all...’
—Walt Whitman, recalling fifty years later how Elias Hicks thus quoted Christ.
(from *A Quaker Reader*)

Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern Johann Christoph Bach
How Brightly Shines the Morning Star

OPPORTUNITIES AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 63
Leader: O God, you are my God, I seek you; my soul thirsts for you as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.
People: So we gather together in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory.
Leader: Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you!
People: For you have been my support, O Lord, and in the shadow of your wings I sing for joy!

TO PRAISE AND CONFESS ...

*HYMN NO. 483 (blue hymnal) Sing Praise to God, Who Reigns Above
Mit Freuden zart

*CALL TO CONFESSION
*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)
Gracious God, we confess that it is difficult to hear your voice among the many voices clamoring for our attention, time, and commitments. Forgive us of the many ways that we try to put narrow boundaries around your ever-expanding love and mercy. Forgive us when we fail to understand Christ’s call to repentance as a daily invitation to be the people you would have us become. We ask forgiveness for our mistakes, healing in our brokenness, and strength for our continuing journey toward your just and loving kingdom.
Amen.

*KYRIE ELEISON NO. 574 (blue hymnal) arr. David N. Johnson
Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON
Leader: Friends, believe the Good News!
People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

*RESPONSE Gloria Patri No. 576 (blue hymnal) Jacques Berthier

TO EXPERIENCE GOD’S WORD AND RESPOND ...

SCRIPTURE READING Mark 1:14-20
A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN (11:00) Amy Rawe
Children age 4 through 2nd grade are invited to go downstairs and participate in Children’s Worship.

SCRIPTURE READING selections from Jonah
SERMON “A Fishy Story but a whale of a Sermon” Rev. Dr. Buran Phillips
*HYMN NO. 298 (blue hymnal) There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy *In Babilone*
*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Unison) from *Speaking Christian*, Marcus J. Borg
Christians have often made being Christian very complicated, especially those forms that emphasize believing the right beliefs. When Christianity is about “correct beliefs,” it does become complex.

But ultimately, the central message of Christianity is simple. It is about loving God and loving what God loves. That means loving God as disclosed in the Bible and most decisively revealed in Jesus. Jesus is the incarnation, the embodiment, of what can be seen of God’s character and passion in a life lived among us. His passion was the kingdom of God – what life would be like on a transformed earth. The world is God’s passion.

Christianity is a magnificent tradition. Like all religious and human traditions, it has its shadow side. But at its best, it is about truth, goodness, and beauty. And it addresses the two great human yearnings – our longing for personal transformation and our desire that the world be a better place. The Christian message reduced to its essentials is: love God (as known in Jesus) and change the world.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE ... The Lord’s Prayer
During the Prayers of the People there will be a time of silence. You are invited to use this time for personal reflection, confession, thanksgiving, and prayer.

THE OFFERING
Please sign and pass the Friendship Register found on the pew nearest the center aisle.

OFFERTORY
(9:00) Lord, for Thy Tender Mercies’ Sake Richard Farrant
trans. Peter Van Eenam
Brass Choir
(11:00) Farewell, Dear Love Robert Jones
Bransle Simple (from *Terpsichore*) Michael Praetorius
Recorder Ensemble

*AT THE PRESENTATION Doxology No. 514 (red hymnal) *Old Hundredth*
Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.
*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

TO GO FORTH AND SERVE ...

*HYMN NO. 322 (red hymnal) (11:00) Jesus Calls Us, O’er the Tumult *Galilee*
*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION
*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE NO. 586 (blue hymnal) Amen Danish melody
*POSTLUDE Toccata or Prelude on the First Tone Matthias Weckmann

*Indicates standing.

NOW THE SERVICE BEGINS

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR TODAY

PASTORAL CARE ELDERS FOR THE WEEK: Leigh Dunlap and Jay Schmid
CARE TEAM COORDINATOR FOR JANUARY 16-31: Cindy Spangler
LARGE PRINT HYMNALS AND HEARING DEVICES are available from the ushers.

PLEASE place your bulletin into a blue recycling bin located at the Narthex door if you do not care to take it home.

SERVING TODAY
ACOLYTES (11:00): Hannah Mathews and Anna Grace Gilbert
GREETERS (11:00): Scott and Linda Rutherford
MINISTRY OF MUSIC:
 (9:00) Brass Choir
 (11:00) Recorder Ensemble
SAFETY TEAM: Buz Johnson
SENIOR USHER: Hap McSween
USHERS:
 (9:00) Donnie and Connie Graham
 (11:00) Sue Caradine, Brenda Seip, Bob Daverman, Andrew and Kristi Gordon

FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY are given to the Glory of God and in thanks for Westminster by Ellen Anderson.

TERPSICHORE, published in 1612 by German composer Michael Praetorius, is a collection of more than 300 instrumental dances and is named for the muse of dance. Rather than composing new tunes, Praetorius arranged existing melodies predominantly from the French dance repertoire of the period.

KIDS CORNER

Nursery: (9:00) 0-5 year olds during Worship Service
 (10:00) 0-2 year olds during Sunday School
 (11:00) 0-2 year olds during Worship Service

Sunday School: Pre-K (3-5 YO), K-1st grade, and 2nd-4th grades. Children meet at 10:00 in the downstairs Fellowship Hall before splitting into small groups.

Children's Worship: Kids age 3 through 2nd grade are invited to join us for Time With The Children before heading downstairs for Children's Worship.

Adult Sunday School

Bible Study - Adult Bible study meets in the library and is led by Scott Brunger. The class is studying Ephesians.

The Wired Word - Led by a rotating group of teachers, this class takes a look at how scripture addresses current topics. All you need is a smart phone or tablet. The class meets in the Prayer Room.

Feasting on the Word - This lectionary-based study provides some background for the scriptures read during worship each week. Also led by a teaching team, this class meets in the Fellowship Hall.

Faith and Life - Larry Ridley is leading a series entitled “The Gifts of Empathy” using video and discussion. He'll meet you in the McKinnon Room.


SHOW and WAMS will be meeting at Laser Quest tonight from 5:15 to 7:00 pm. Please bring \$10 to help offset the cost of the event.

WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY will meet Monday at 7:00 pm in the Library.

WEDNESDAYS WITH WESTMINSTER will run through February 7. Dr. Phillips will continue his lectures on Dietrich Bonhoeffer and Nazi Germany. The Bucket List class with Barbara Adamcik and Angela Shilling will offer a series of “out of the box”, can't miss, one-night projects you will LOVE! This week, they are teaching marbling on cloth or paper. This ancient art is the process of floating paint on water and carrageenan (kinda like a thin jello), then splashing paint on it. You swirl, comb, and splatter gorgeous designs, and transfer it to paper. This is so much fun, and so satisfying (almost impossible to mess up!!)

MEN’S BREAKFAST FELLOWSHIP will be Thursday January 25th at 7:30 am. The lesson will be presented by Tim Crais and breakfast will be provided courtesy of Bill Rogers. All men of the church are welcome. Come and bring a friend.


LADIES’ LUNCH BUNCH will meet again February 15 at 11:30 AM.



ORGANIST NATHAN LAUBE will be heard in recital at Westminster Church on Friday evening, January 26, at 8:00, as part of this season’s *Musica Organi* recital series. Mr. Laube is Assistant Professor of Organ at the Eastman School of Music, an internationally acclaimed recitalist, and prizewinning recording artist. His program will include works by J. S. Bach, Bruhns, Cabanilles, and Mendelssohn. One of the leading journals for organists included in a review that “His playing was flawless, inspired, and for want of a better word, transporting.” Couple this with our outstanding instrument and we’re all set for a wonderful evening of great organ music! The entire *Musica Organi* committee invites you to come out in the cold of winter and enjoy and experience something truly special. A nursery will be provided.

**WESTMINSTER’S ANNUAL
PROGRESSIVE DINNER**
Friday, February 16, 6:00 pm

The Progressive Dinner is a great way to get to know new members as well as catch up with members you’ve known for a while. Sign-up sheets are in the Schilling Gallery. Please note whether you’ll being an appetizer or will contribute to the beverage fund. If you need a gluten free dinner, please also note that on the sign-up sheet. **Please RSVP by February 11.** We begin the evening with appetizers and fellowship at 6:00 p.m. at Buckingham Clubhouse, 7303 Manderly Way, 37909. At 6:30 we divide into groups and go to our host’s homes for dinner and dessert. Our dinner menu is lasagna, salad, bread, and dessert. The cost of \$12 per person is collected when we gather for appetizers.



Progressive Dinner!

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Rev. Dr. Buran Phillips, Pastor
Rev. John Linton Muntz, Parish Associate
Peter Van Eenam, Organist and Choirmaster
Barbara Adamcik, Director of Youth and Connectional Ministries
Allie Brewington, Director of Children’s Ministries
Mary Boyd, Education Coordinator
Renee Wiesehuegel, Office Manager/Bookkeeper
Melissa Everett, Administrative Assistant
Debbie Bendy, *Abbey* Editor

THE SESSION

Class of 2018 Leigh Dunlap JP Mackay Linda Van Beke Wes Williams Michael Yates Youth Elder: Clara Oakes Clerk of Session: Georgann Byerley	Class of 2019 Debbie Babelay Daniel Collins Vicki Mayfield Cindy Pearman Jay Schmid	Class of 2020 Scott Brunger James Everett Andrew Gordon Susan McKeehan Shawn Owens
TRUSTEES Paul Jorden	Alice Mercer	Reed Ellis