



A Warm Welcome to All!

We seek to be an inclusive church,
and to show love and compassion in many ways.
If you are a visitor, we invite you to worship with us often
and to consider joining our congregation.

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

Order of Worship

BAPTISM OF THE LORD

JANUARY 10, 2021

Gathering the Community of Faith

PRELUDE *To Jordan Came the Christ, Our Lord*

Juli Bey - Organ

Music: Johann Walter, *Geistlichebüchlein*

Arr. James Mansfield

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bill Ekhardt

**Please let us know you are worshiping with us
by filling out the "Attendance Form,"
found on the livestream page.**

Celebrating God's Presence

CALL TO WORSHIP (Gen 1, Ps 29, Mark 1)

Lindsey Shane

One: God's strong voice calls us to worship, calling us to sing and offer praise.

All: God's creative voice calls us to worship, calling us to life and light.

One: God's loving voice calls us to worship, calling us to love and be loved.

All: Listen, for God's voice calls to us now.

*OPENING HYMN #462 *Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies*

Tune: RATISBON

(Music on pg. 7 of worship bulletin.)

Text: Charles Wesley

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Acts 19, Mark 1)

When our hearts are hard as stone, soften us with your grace. When our lives are riddled with sin and pain, heal us with your mercy. When our ears are ringing with self-doubt and cynicism, strengthen us with words of faith and love. When our minds are muddled with confusion and fear, enlighten us with the radiance of your wisdom. Speak to our spirits from the truth of your being, the reality of your love, and the promise of your forgiveness, that we may hear your voice clearly and follow where you call us to go. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

*WORDS OF ASSURANCE (Mark 1, Prov 8, Ps 16, Ps 147, Ps 149)

One: Hear the truth of God's voice breaking through the clouds of our lives:
"You are my child, the one I dearly love. I delight in your creation."

All: "You are my child, the one I dearly love. I delight in your creation."

(Music on pg. 8 of worship bulletin.)

Join with the Westminster Virtual Choir.

**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.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/THE LORD'S PRAYER

When the pastor says, "God of Mercy," please respond with, "Hear our 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.**

Dedicating Our Lives and Offerings

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Come Down, O Love Divine
Juli Bey - Organ

Music: Ralph Vaughn Williams
Arr. Wilbur Held

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE #592

Doxology

OLD 100TH

(Music on pg. 9 of worship bulletin.)

Join with the Westminster Virtual Choir.

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

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Proclaiming God's Word

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:

Genesis 1:1-5 (NRSV)

Justin Templeman

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Mark 1:4-11 (NRSV)

Bill Ekhardt

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

SERMON

"The Power in the Spoken Word"

Bill Ekhardt

Sending the Faithful into God's World

*CLOSING HYMN #72 *When Jesus Came to Jordan* (vs. 1, 2, 4)

(Music on pg. 10 of worship bulletin.)

Music: Frederick Mehrstens

Text: Fred Pratt Green

*BENEDICTION (Gen 1, Mark 1)

Bill Ekhardt

One: Amidst a noisy world, make way to listen for God.

All: In the busiest of days, find time to listen for God.

One: For in the listening, we finally hear this truth:

All: We are beloved children of God — created in love, created for love, created to love.

One: And now let us go in the peace and the power and the presence of God, for God goes before us, and God calls us to follow.

All: Amen and Amen.

*CHORAL AMEN

DANISH AMEN

(Westminster Virtual Choir 1st time, Congregation 2nd time)

POSTLUDE

Fanfare Postlude on "St. Thomas"
Juli Bey - Organ

Music: Aaron Williams
Arr. Douglas E. Wagner

* All who are able, please stand.

Participating in Worship this morning...

Rev. Dr. Scott Paczkowski, Senior Pastor

Rev. Dr. Bill Ekhardt, Associate Pastor, Chief of Staff

Rev. Jan Scott, Associate Pastor, Pastoral Care

Aaron Schultz, Director of Music and Art

Juli Bey, Organ

Lindsey Shane and Justin Templeman, Liturgists

Westminster Choral Scholars:

Lauren Bailey, Claudia Sloat, Krister Strandskov, Everett Reed

Westminster Virtual Choir

Drew Robertson, Youth Director - Media Engineer

Lance Bergeson and Bret Voorhees - Media Engineers

Westminster Chancel Guild

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Church Music/Streaming Licenses

CCLI: #11161622

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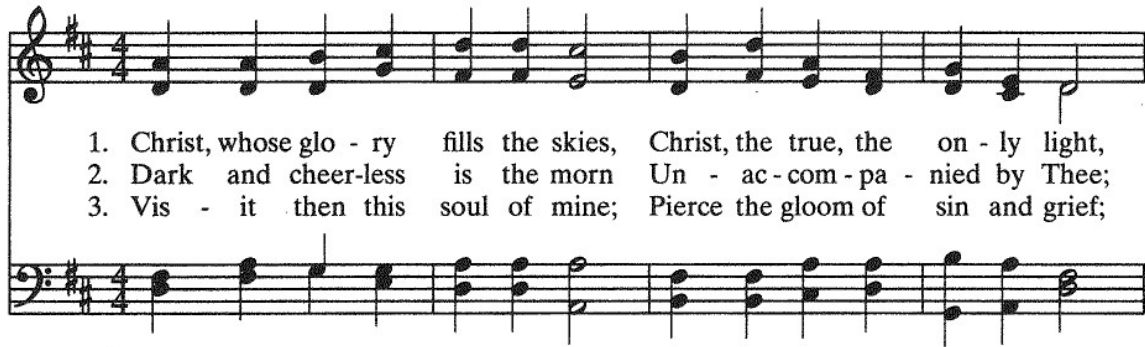
Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies

462

RATISBON 7.7.7.7.7

Charles Wesley, 1740

Freylinghausen's *Gesangbuch*, 1704
Rev. in Werner's *Choralbuch*, 1815
As in *Old Church Psalmody*, 1847



1. Christ, whose glo - ry fills the skies, Christ, the true, the on - ly light,
2. Dark and cheer-less is the morn Un - ac - com - pa - nied by Thee;
3. Vis - it then this soul of mine; Pierce the gloom of sin and grief;



Sun of Righ-teous - ness, a - rise, Tri - umph o'er the shades of night;
Joy - less is the day's re - turn Till Thy mer - cy's beams I see,
Fill me, ra - dian - cy di - vine; Scat - ter all my un - be - lief;



Day-spring from on high, be near; Day - star, in my heart ap - pear.
Till they in - ward light im - part, Cheer my eyes and warm my heart.
More and more Thy - self dis - play, Shin - ing to the per - fect day.

Glory Be to the Father

Gloria Patri

Henry W. Greatorex, 1851

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on a bass clef staff. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: 'Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost; As it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world with-out end. A - men, A - men.' The piano accompaniment features chords and moving lines in the left hand, with some triplets in the final system.

Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the

Ho - ly Ghost; As it was in the be - gin - ning, is

now, and ev - er shall be, world with-out end. A - men, A - men.

592 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH LM

Thomas Ken, 1695, 1709

Genevan Psalter, 1551

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; Praise *Him, all crea-tures

here be-low; Praise *Him a-bove, ye heaven-ly host;

Praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost. A-men.

* Or "God."

When Jesus Came to Jordan

72

DE EERSTEN ZIJN DE LAATSTEN 7.6.7.6

Fred Pratt Green, 1973

Frederik August Mehrrens (1922-1975)

1. When Je - sus came to Jor - dan To be bap - tized by John,
 2. He came to share re - pen - tance With all who mourn their sins,
 3. He came to share temp - ta - tion, Our ut - most woe and loss;
 4. So when the dove de - scend - ed On him, the Ho - ly One,

He did not come for par - don, But as God's Ho - ly One.
 To speak the vi - tal sen - tence With which good news be - gins.
 For us and our sal - va - tion To die up - on the cross.
 The hid - den year had end - ed, The age of grace be - gun.

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Music: From *Liedboek voor de Kerken*, © 1973 by Interkerkelijke Stichting voor het Kerkenlied, Boekencentrum, The Hague, Netherlands.

Westminster Announcements

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.

Daily Devotion - Each weekday, Pastor Scott posts a daily online devotion. If you wish to receive Pastor Scott's Daily Devotion by email, please contact Susan in the church office, sdenton@westpres.org or 274-1534.

2020 Contribution Statements will be mailed out mid-January. Please contact Ruth Bloxham at 274-1534, or rbloxham@westpres.org, if you have questions.

Virtual Choir Participants Needed - You are invited to join members of the Westminster Chorale and the community, to prepare an anthem for one of our upcoming live-stream worship services. Please email Westminster Music Director Aaron Schultz, aschultz@westpres.org, for more details.

Westminster Kids' Newsletters - Hey, Kids! Here's a newsletter just for you! Sent weekly to your homes, each newsletter focuses on our upcoming Sunday's Bible verses. Have fun coloring and learning at the same time! Parents: Three newsletters are available (one for ages 2-3; another for 3-7 year-olds; and one for 8-11 year-olds). If you'd like to receive this newsletter for your children please contact the office, 274-1534, or email Laura at lsherlock@westpres.org.

WPC Youth, Grades 6-12, meet virtually, Wednesdays and Sundays. They are encouraged to be themselves, ask questions and to be appreciated for who they are and where they are in their faith lives. If you'd like to be included in their text messages, please send WPC YOUTH to 474747. Please reply with your first and last name. If you have other questions, please contact Drew Robertson at DRobertson@westpres.org.

End Your Day with "Bedtime Bible" - Although this podcast was originally designed for children, people of all ages are enjoying Bedtime Bible! Listening to Bible stories, hearing beloved hymns and praying is a calming way to end your day. New episodes are added each weekday. You may subscribe to receive these podcasts daily, or log-on to BedtimeBible.org. For more info, contact Laura Sherlock at LSherlock@westpres.org. Pleasant dreams!

How Can I Contribute My Offering or Pay My Pledge?

- **Mail** - Westminster Church, 4114 Allison Ave., Des Moines, IA 50310-3398
- **Online** - At www.westpres.org/donate
- **Text** - WPCDSM to 73256
- **Call the Church Office** - 515-274-1534 for credit card or ACH contribution, ask for Ruth Bloxham, accountant. Thank You!



4114 Allison Ave • Des Moines, Iowa 50310
www.westpres.org • 515-274-1534

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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.