



# 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.



#### **Meet the Pastor**

Today at 10:30 a.m., visitors are invited to join Pastor Jan via Zoom at 10:30 a.m. following worship. This reception is designed for visitors to become more familiar with Westminster and ask questions about our church.

# Order of Worship

#### SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

JULY 12, 2020

## Gathering the Community of Faith

PRELUDE

Récit de Nazard

By: Jean-Jacques Beauvarlet-Charpentier

Juli Bey - Organ

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Scott Paczkowski

SANCTUARY UPDATE

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 (Mt. 13)

Gary Hartsock

One: We are like seeds on the wind, set free by the Sower.

All: The hand of God saves us from the rocky pathways and the thorny ground.

One: In Christ, we find good soil.

All: The Holy Spirit nourishes us as we grow.

One: Come! Let us worship the Sower, who plants us in the fields of life.

\*OPENING HYMN #460 Holy God, We Praise Your Name (vs. 1, 4)

(Music on pg. 7 of worship bulletin.)

Tune: GROSSER GOTT

Text: Ignaz Franz

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Mt. 13, Rom. 8, Psa. 119)

Dear God, Caretaker of our souls, we yearn to resist the allures of status and prestige, for we often pierce ourselves with wounds of our own making. We long to bloom where we are planted, that righteousness and peace might flower in our lives. Free us of the fear of appearing foolish before others, as we seek new growth in your Spirit. Nurture us with your grace and mercy, that we might blossom as followers of Christ. Amen.

\*DECLARATION OF PARDON (Rom. 8, Mt. 13)

One: Those who abide in the Spirit are set free. Those who reside in Christ find no condemnation.

All: Rejoice that we have been planted in the fertile ground of God's love and mercy.

(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.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Justin and Hannah Miller present their son, Brooks Robert, for the sacrament of Baptism.

#### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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**

PRESENTATION OF OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY Thy Word Arr. Phillip Keveren

\*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.

## Proclaiming God's Word

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Psalm 119:105-112 (NRSV) Gary Hartsock

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

<sup>\*</sup>PRAYER OF DEDICATION

I have sworn an oath and confirmed it, to observe your righteous ordinances.

I am severely afflicted; give me life, O Lord, according to your word.

Accept my offerings of praise, O Lord, and teach me your ordinances.

I hold my life in my hand continually, but I do not forget your law.

The wicked have laid a snare for me, but I do not stray from your precepts.

Your decrees are my heritage forever; they are the joy of my heart.

I incline my heart to perform your statutes forever, to the end.

ANTHEM

Oh How I Love Jesus

Juli Bey - Piano/Bells; Aaron Schultz - Bells

Arr. Brian Childers

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23 (NRSV) Scott Paczkowski

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!"

"Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

**SERMON** 

"Setbacks Won't Win"

Scott Paczkowski

## Sending the Faithful into God's World

\*CLOSING HYMN #559 We Gather Together (vs. 1, 2) Tune: KREMSER (Music on pg. 10 of worship bulletin.) Text: Netherlands Folk Hymn

\*BENEDICTION (Psa. 119, Mt. 13)

Scott Paczkowski

One: God's word is a lamp to our feet.

All: Christ's teachings are a light to our path.

One: May God's word take root in our lives.

All: May Christ's love nourish us like sunshine and spring rain.

One: God's word is a lamp to our feet.

All: Christ's teachings are a light to our path.

\*CHORAL AMEN DANISH AMEN

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

POSTLUDE On What Has Now Been Sown Tune: DARWALL'S 148TH

Juli Bey - Organ Arr. Edwin T. Childs

## 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

Scott@westpres.org

JScott@westpres.org

ASchultz@westpres.org

Gary Hartsock, Liturgist

Westminster Choral Scholars:

Claudia Sloat, Krister Strandskov

Westminster Virtual Chorale

Drew Robertson, Youth Director - Media Engineer Laura Sherlock, Communications Director - Media Enginer Greg & Austin Shane, Bret Voorhees, Media Engineers

Westminster Chancel Guild

DRobertson@westpres.org LSherlock@westpres.org

<sup>\*</sup> All who are able, please stand.

## Holy God, We Praise Your Name

GROSSER GOTT, WIR LOBEN DICH 7.8.7.8.7.7



# Glory Be to the Father



# 592 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow



# We Gather Together

559

KREMSER 12.11.12.11



# **Westminster Announcements**

**Pastor's Reception After Worship Today -** Visitors and Newcomers, join Pastor Jan this morning at 10:30 a.m. via Zoom. This is a great way to connect with Westminster and ask questions about our church community.

**Pastor Scott's Zoom Class on the Book of Revelation -** You are invited to join Pastor Scott's Zoom class on the book of Revelation, at 10:30 a.m. today, following our live-stream worship service. Scott offers a presentation and then breaks the class into Zoom small groups for discussion. The class lasts about 30 minutes.

**Pastor Scott's Lecture Series on Revelation** - For those who wish a deeper understanding of the book of Revelation, Pastor Scott also provides a weekly lecture on that topic which is available on the church website. There are currently six videos on westpres.org/class. A new lecture is uploaded each week on Monday.

**Hunger Simulation** - Join us next Sunday, July 19, at 10:30 a.m. via Zoom for the Des Moines Area Religious Council's interactive Virtual Hunger Simulation. In this simulation you take on the identity of a real person with food insecurity, and work to get proper nutrition for your family, by exploring options available. Sarah Trone Garriot, from DMARC will facilitate the event. RSVP to Susan Denton at sdenton@westpres.org, or 274-1534, by Wednesday, July 15.

**VBS "RE: FOCUS 2020"** - Saturday, July 25, is Vacation Bible School. Families, sign up for your time-slot. Travel together as a group and spend time at each station, enjoying VBS activities as a family! Social distancing will be observed for everyone's safety. Registration is free. Register at westpres.org/vbs. For further information, contact Tiffany Hays at thays@ westpres.org.

**VBS and Westminster Food Drive -** For VBS this year, we are raising money to buy peanut butter for our neighbors in need. A jar of peanut butter costs the Des Moines Area Religious Council \$1.15. We want to buy 1000 jars of peanut butter to help feed hungry folks in our community. To contribute, make your check payable to Westminster, with "peanut butter" in the memo line, or go to https://www.westpres.org/donate, and select the VBS-Peanut Butter Challenge fund.

**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.

**VBS Volunteers Needed** - We are looking for individuals to help lead our stations during VBS, Saturday, July 25, and a few volunteers to assist each station leader. We also need folks to help with setup, tear down and staffing the welcome table. If you have any questions, please contact Kyla Routson at kylak6@aol.com or Tiffany Hays at thays@westpres.org. To sign up go to: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B084CAAAA23A5F94-2020.

**Westminster Artists -** The Visual Arts Committee is planning its firstever online art exhibit, featuring works by Westminster artists. The theme is "Pandemic Expressions." For more information, contact Jan Davison at janpolk@msn.com.

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

**Lunchtime Devotions -** Join Pastor Scott Monday through Thursday, at noon, on Facebook Live for "Lunchtime Devotions." Scott reads his daily devotion and then offers a prayer. You can access the Westminster Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/WestPres/.

**Upper Room** and **These Days Devotionals Available** - The current issues of these devotional booklets are available in the office. Call Susan or Joan at 274-1534, if you'd like one mailed to you.

#### **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

### **Please Follow Westminster on Social Media!**







WestPresDM

#WestPresDM

#### 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.