



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

24TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

NOVEMBER 15, 2020

Gathering the Community of Faith

PRELUDE *For All the Blessings of the Year with Handel's "Thanks Be to Thee"*

Music: Robert N. Quails and George Frideric Handel

Juli Bey - Organ

Arr. Carolyn Hamlin

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Scott Paczkowski

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

Celebrating God's Presence

CALL TO WORSHIP (Mt. 25)

Bob Eddy

One: God calls us to use our gifts for the building of God's kingdom.

All: But we're afraid.

One: Christ urges us to find our courage and not look back.

All: But our gifts seem so small.

One: The Spirit offers us everything we need.

All: But what if we fail?

One: Trust the gifts you have been given.

All: We will celebrate our gifts as we worship God this day.

*OPENING HYMN #485 *To God Be the Glory* Music: William Howard Doane

(Music on pgs. 7-8 of worship bulletin.)

Text: Fanny Crosby

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Mt. 25)

Faithful Steward, you bless us with gifts that are uniquely our own. We long to use the talents you bestow upon us to build your kingdom. We yearn to live with gratitude for all that you have done for us and the opportunities you place before us. Clear our vision, Holy One, and help us see the good we can do with the gifts and talents we have received.

*DECLARATION OF PARDON (Mt. 25:23)

One: Rejoice, sisters and brothers, for our gifts and talents.

All: We listen for these words of assurance:

One: *"Well done, good and trustworthy servant; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master."*

(Music on pg. 9 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 *Adagio on "Nun danket alle Gott"* Arr. Charles Callahan
Juli Bey - Organ

*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: Judges 4:1-7 (NRSV) Bob Eddy

The Israelites again did what was evil in the sight of the Lord, after Ehud died. So the Lord sold them into the hand of King Jabin of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor; the commander of his army was Sisera, who lived in Harosheth-ha-goiim. Then the Israelites cried out to the Lord for help; for he had nine hundred chariots of iron, and had oppressed the Israelites cruelly twenty years.

At that time Deborah, a prophetess, wife of Lappidoth, was judging Israel. She used to sit under the palm of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim; and the Israelites came up to her for judgment. She sent and summoned Barak son of Abinoam from Kedesh in Naphtali, and said to him, "The Lord, the God of Israel, commands you, 'Go, take position at Mount Tabor, bringing ten thousand from the tribe of Naphtali and the tribe of Zebulun. I will draw out Sisera, the general of Jabin's army, to meet you by the Wadi Kishon with his chariots and his troops; and I will give him into your hand.'"

ANTHEM

Lead Me, Lord
Westminster Choral Scholars

By: Samuel Sebastian Wesley

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Matthew 25:14-30 (NRSV)

Scott Paczkowski

"For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

Sending the Faithful into God's World

*CLOSING HYMN #426

Lord, Speak to Me, That I May Speak (v.1-4)

(Music on pg. 10 of worship bulletin.)

Music: Robert Schumann

Text: Frances R. Havergal

*BENEDICTION (1 Thess. 5)

Scott Paczkowski

One: Clothed in faith and showered in love,

All: we go forth, shining with God's light.

One: Washed in joy and bathed in hope,

All: we go forth, radiant with Christ's love.

One: Blessed with gifts far more precious than jewels,

All: we go forth, blazing with the fire of God's Spirit.

*CHORAL AMEN #587

African-American

(Westminster Choral Scholars 1st time, Congregation 2nd time)

POSTLUDE

Sent Forth by God's Blessing

Juli Bey - Organ

Music: Traditional Welsh

Arr. Douglas Wagner

* All who are able, please stand.

Participating in Worship this morning...

Rev. Dr. Scott Paczkowski, Senior Pastor

Scott@westpres.org

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

Bill@westpres.org

Rev. Jan Scott, Associate Pastor, Pastoral Care

JScott@westpres.org

Aaron Schultz, Director of Music and Art

ASchultz@westpres.org

Juli Bey, Organ and Piano

Juli@westpres.org

Bob Eddy, Liturgist

Westminster Virtual Choir

Westminster Choral Scholars:

Lauren Bailey, Claudia Sloat, Krister Strandskov, Everett Reed

Drew Robertson, Youth Director - Media Engineer

DRobertson@westpres.org

Laura Sherlock, Communications Director - Media Engineer

LSherlock@westpres.org

Lance Bergeson, Greg Shane - Media Engineers

Westminster Chancel Guild

Church Music/Streaming Licenses

CCLI: #11161622

CCS: #12829

485

To God Be the Glory

TO GOD BE THE GLORY 11.11.11 with refrain

Fanny Jane Crosby, 1875

William Howard Doane, 1875

1. To God be the glo - ry, great things He hath done!
 2. Great things He hath taught us, great things He hath done,

So loved He the world that He gave us His Son,
 And great our re - joic - ing through Je - sus the Son;

Who yield - ed His life an a - tone - ment for sin,
 But pur - er, and high - er, and great - er will be

And o - pened the life - gate that all may go in.
 Our won - der, our trans - port, when Je - sus we see.

- continued, next page

To God Be the Glory - continued

MORNING AND OPENING HYMNS

Refrain

The musical score is written for a single melodic line on a treble clef staff, with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a common time signature. The melody is simple and hymn-like, consisting of eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics are printed below the staff, with some words hyphenated across lines. The score includes a refrain and four verses of lyrics, each with a corresponding musical line.

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, Let the earth hear His voice!

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, Let the peo - ple re - joice!

O come to the Fa - ther through Je - sus the Son,

And give Him the glo - ry: great things He hath done!

Glory Be to the Father

Gloria Patri

Henry W. Greatorex, 1851

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.

SERVICE MUSIC

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 heav - en - ly host;

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

* Or "God."

Lord, Speak to Me, That I May Speak 426

Frances Ridley Havergal, 1872

CANONBURY LM

Robert Schumann, 1839

1. Lord, speak to me, that I may speak In liv - ing
 2. O lead me, Lord, that I may lead The wan - dering
 3. O teach me, Lord, that I may teach The pre - cious
 4. O fill me with Thy full - ness, Lord, Un - til my

ech - oes of Thy tone; As Thou hast sought, so
 and the wa - vering feet; O feed me, Lord, that
 things Thou dost im - part; And wing my words, that
 ver - y heart o'er - flow In kin - dling thought and

let me seek Thine err - ing chil - dren lost and lone.
 I may feed Thy hun - gery ones with man - na sweet.
 they may reach The hid - den depths of man - y a heart.
 glow - ing word, Thy love to tell, Thy praise to show.

Westminster Announcements

Please return your pledge cards - If you have not submitted your pledge card for 2021, please do so as soon as possible. If you haven't received a pledge card, please call the church office, 274-1534. Fill your card out and return it to Westminster, 4114 Allison Ave., Des Moines, IA 50310-3398. Thank you for your ongoing faith and commitment to Westminster!

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.

Bedtime Bible for Adults, too! - This podcast was originally designed for children, but our members tell us that people of all ages are enjoying it! Listening to Bible stories, hearing beloved hymns and praying is a calming way to end your day. Each episode has an interactive prayer, Bible story, song and closing prayer. 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!

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.

Sanctuary Visits - You are invited to visit the Sanctuary and feel the calm and peace of the space. During this time of COVID-19, while we do not feel comfortable having in-person worship services yet, we know that many of you miss having quiet time in the Sanctuary. To maintain social distancing rules, times will be scheduled throughout the week. To sign up, please call the office, 274-1534.

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.

Westminster Artists Invited to Participate in 2021 Reopening Exhibit - The Visual Arts Committee invites all Westminster artists to participate in our next Sanctuary art exhibit, which will celebrate the reopening of the church and the resumption of in-person worship services. While we do not know the date when this will take place, we anticipate it may be next spring or early summer. By giving artists the theme now, and a canvas (if needed), this will allow plenty of time to complete the art. The theme is "A time to Rejoin & Rejoice!" - to express joy being together again and to celebrate the future, and God's presence and grace throughout our pandemic journey. If you are interested in participating, please contact: Judy Sebern Beachy, jsebern@aol.com; Jan Davison, janpolk@msn.com; Beth Hurst, bclh0330@outlook.com; or Carolyn Larson, carolynjlarsen@icloud.com.

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.