



# **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

**PALM/PASSION SUNDAY**

**April 5, 2020**

## Gathering the Community of Faith

PRELUDE

*Palm Sunday Prelude*  
Juli Bey – organ

Arr. Lindsay Lafford

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Scott Paczkowski

**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. 21)

One: With palm branches and joy, we shout:

**All: "Hosanna to Christ our Lord!"**

One: With blessings and songs we come:

**All: to worship and to praise.**

One: With humility and love,

**All: Christ comes to meet us now.**

\*OPENING HYMN #89

*Hosanna, Loud Hosanna*

Tune Name: ELLACOMBE

Text: Jennette Threlfall

**Hosanna, loud hosanna, The little children sang:  
Through pillared court and temple The joyful anthem rang;  
To Jesus, who had blessed them Closefolded to His breast,  
The children sang their praises, The simplest and the best.**

**From Olivet they followed 'Mid an exultant crowd,  
The victor palm branch waving, And chanting clear and loud;  
The Lord of earth and heaven Rode on in lowly state,  
Nor scorned that little children Should on His bidding wait.**

**"Hosanna in the highest!" That ancient song we sing,  
For Christ is our Redeemer, The Lord of heaven our King.  
O may we ever praise Him With heart and life and voice,  
And in His blissful presence Eternally rejoice.**

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Mt. 21 & 26)

One: For the times we have mocked rather than blessed,

**All: forgive us.**

One: For the moments we deny you and others,

**All: reclaim us.**

One: For the times we have forsaken bonds of friendship,

**All: renew us.**

One: When we are the ones being mistreated,

**All: bless us.**

One: When we are the ones being denied and betrayed,

**All: love us.**

One: Strengthen us to face the time of trial O God,

**All: that we may remain faithful to you, faithful to one another, and faithful to your gospel of love.**

One: In hope and humility, we pray.

**All: Amen.**

\*DECLARATION OF PARDON (Psa. 118)

One: Give thanks to God, for God's faithful love lasts forever!

**All: In this faithful love, we are forgiven and strengthened in Christ.**

\*SUNG RESPONSE #88

*All Glory Laud and Honor* (refrain only)

Tune Name: VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

**All glory, laud, and honor To Thee, Redeemer, King!  
To whom the lips of children Made sweet hosannas ring.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

As pastor says, "God of mercy," please respond with "Hear our prayer."

Dedicating Our Lives and Offerings

PRESENTATION OF OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY

*Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee*  
Juli Bey - piano

Arr. Randall Hartsell

\*OFFERTORY RESPONSE #591

*Doxology*

OLD 100TH

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;**

**Praise Christ, all people here below;**

**Praise Holy Spirit evermore;**

**Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen**

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

## Proclaiming God's Word

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Philippians 2:5-11 (p. 954 pew Bible) NRSV

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,  
who, though he was in the form of God,  
did not regard equality with God  
as something to be exploited,  
but emptied himself,  
taking the form of a slave,  
being born in human likeness.  
And being found in human form,  
he humbled himself  
and became obedient to the point of death—  
even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him  
and gave him the name  
that is above every name,  
so that at the name of Jesus  
every knee should bend,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
and every tongue should confess  
that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

ANTHEM

*Jerusalem*  
Westminster Choral Scholars

Chilean Text and Melody  
Setting: Gerhard Crawford

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Psalm 31:9-16 (pp. 439-440 pew Bible) NRSV

Scott Paczkowski

Be gracious to me, O Lord, for I am in distress;  
my eye wastes away from grief,  
my soul and body also.  
For my life is spent with sorrow,  
and my years with sighing;  
my strength fails because of my misery,  
and my bones waste away.

I am the scorn of all my adversaries,  
a horror to my neighbors,  
an object of dread to my acquaintances;  
those who see me in the street flee from me.  
I have passed out of mind like one who is dead;  
I have become like a broken vessel.  
For I hear the whispering of many—  
terror all around!—

as they scheme together against me,  
as they plot to take my life.

But I trust in you, O Lord;  
I say, "You are my God."  
My times are in your hand;  
deliver me from the hand of my enemies and persecutors.  
Let your face shine upon your servant;  
save me in your steadfast love.

SERMON

"Almost Beyond Hope"

Scott Paczkowski

## The Sacrament of Holy Communion

### THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

The Invitation

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving/The Lord's Prayer

Sharing the Bread and the Cup:

*Please partake of the bread when you are ready.*

*When you receive the cup, please hold it so that all may partake together.*

Communion Music Meditation *Let Us Break Bread Together* Arr. Cindy Berry

Prayer after Communion

## Sending the Faithful into God's World

\*CLOSING HYMN #97

*Go to Dark Gethsemane*

Tune Name: REDHEAD

Text: James Montgomery

**Go to dark Gethsemane, All who feel the tempter's power;  
Your Redeemer's conflict see, Watch with him one bitter hour;  
Turn not from His griefs away, Learn from Jesus Christ to Pray.**

**Follow to the judgment hall, View the Lord of life arraigned;  
O the wormwood and the gall! O the pangs His soul sustained!  
Shun not suffering, shame, or loss; Learn from Christ to bear the  
cross.**

**Calvary's mournful mountain climb; There, adoring at His feet,  
Mark the miracle of time, God's own sacrifice complete;  
"It is finished!" hear Him cry; Learn from Jesus Christ to die.**

**Early hasten to the tomb Where they laid His breathless clay;  
All is solitude and gloom. Who has taken Him away?  
Christ is risen! He meets our eyes. Savior, teach us so to rise.**

\*BENEDICTION (Mt. 26)

Scott Paczkowski

One: In the hours and days and week ahead, Christ goes with us,  
leading the way.

**All: Where Christ leads, we will follow.**

One: Let us journey together to the cross.

**All: Where Christ leads, we will follow.**

\*CHORAL AMEN:

DANISH AMEN

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

POSTLUDE

*O Sacred Head, Now Wounded*

Arr. John Leavitt

\* 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 - Video Engineer

Bill@westpres.org

Rev. Jan Scott, Associate Pastor, Pastoral Care

JScott@westpres.org

Aaron Schultz, Director of Music and Arts

ASchultz@westpres.org

Juli Bey, Piano and Organ

Juli@westpres.org

Westminster Choral Scholars:

Lauren Bailey, Claudia Sloat, Krister Strandskov, Everett Reed

## **Westminster Announcements**

---

**Congregational Care Continues** - Pastor Jan Scott is heading up a team of 12 lay leaders who are in the process of calling many of our church family. If you are struggling, please be sure to call the church, 274-1534, or email Pastor Jan at JScott@westpres.org. This outreach is so we may inquire how each other is doing. In our best effort to connect in some way with each of you, if your contact information may have changed (home phone, preferred phone, email, mailing address), be sure to let Susan Denton know in the church office. If you would like to volunteer to make calls or assist in some other way, email Susan at sdenton@westpres.org.

**Easter Flowers** - Decorating our chancel on Easter Sunday with a variety of beautiful flowering plants has always been a tradition at Westminster. This year, given our current situation with livestream services only, we will have a few flowers on the chancel to celebrate this special Sunday. Instead of ordering flowers, we are taking memorial requests at no charge. Please email your memorial request to Susan in the church office at sdenton@westpres.org. **The deadline for your memorial to be included in the Easter Bulletin is Wednesday, April 8.**

## 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](http://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!

**Holy Week Events** - We encourage you to join in our Holy Week events, while we continue our worship from home:

**Lunchtime Devotions - Daily at Noon** - Join Pastor Scott each weekday on Facebook Live for "Lunchtime Devotions." At noon each weekday, he will read a daily devotion and then offer a prayer. You can access the Westminster Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/WestPres/>.

**Good Friday - April 10** - This year for Good Friday, you and your families are welcome to participate in a service created for the home. It can be accessed on the church website. The service will consist of prayers, poems, Scripture readings, Stations of the Cross icons, videos and music.

**Easter Sunday, April 12** - This live-streamed service at 9:15 a.m. will have festive music by a small brass and vocal ensemble, and a powerful sermon by Pastor Scott as we celebrate the pinnacle of the liturgical year. This might be the only Easter when you can go to church in your pajamas! Each Sunday, Easter included, WPC Kids have a self-guided online Sunday School and the Jr. and Sr. High Youth will have Sunday School via Zoom starting at 11:00 a.m. and ending around 12:00 p.m.



4114 Allison Ave • Des Moines, Iowa 50310  
[www.westpres.org](http://www.westpres.org) • 515-274-1534

### Please Follow Westminster on Social Media!



WestPres



WestPresDM



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.