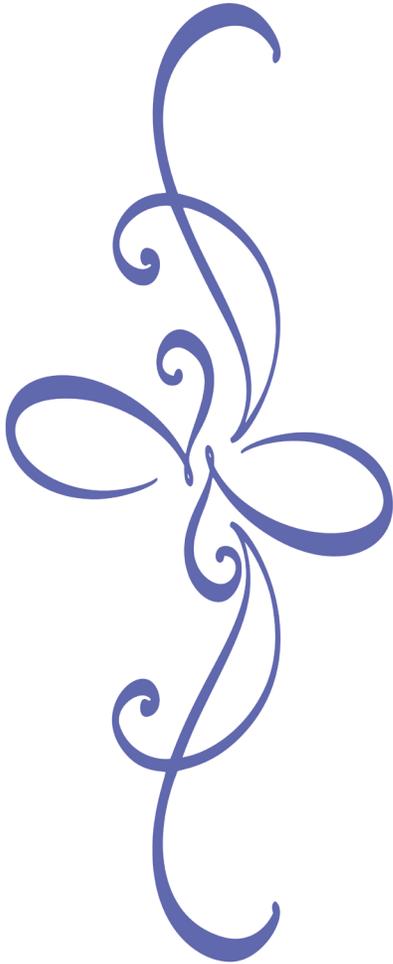


# Service for the Lord's Day

Third Sunday in Lent  
March 15, 2020



*Take my tired body, my confused mind,  
my restless soul into your arms  
and give me rest, simple quiet rest.  
Come, Lord Jesus, come. Amen.*

Henri Nouwen, *A Cry for Mercy*

**W**elcome visitors, newcomers, and friends worshipping with us today!  
Feel free to take a *Welcome to Westminster* pamphlet from the pew rack. We hope you will worship with us again, whenever possible. If you're interested in joining our church community, please speak to a pastor after worship or contact the church office, 434-293-3133.

## Preparing to Hear God's Word

Opening Voluntary

*Fugue in B Minor*

J. S. Bach

◆ Call to Worship

based on Psalm 34

*Bless the Lord at all times.*

**God is close when our hearts are broken.**

*Come. Taste and see that the Lord is good.*

**God delivers us from our distress.**

*Come and listen. Keep your tongue from evil and your lips from speaking deceit.*

**God is close when our hearts are broken.**

*Turn from wrong, and do what is right. Seek the peace of Christ.*

**God delivers us from our distress.**

*Come. Listen. The Spirit of God draws near.*

**O God, lift up our spirits and hear our songs of praise.**

◆ Hymn 49

**The God of Abraham Praise**

*Leoni*

Call to Confession

*What is the distance between God and human suffering? Why does God sometimes feel so near and yet, other times, so far away? We come this morning desiring to close the distance between God's presence and our human predicament. We long to have a closer relationship with the God who is near to the broken-hearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.*

Litany of Confession

*Holy God, we have broken the covenant. We have sinned and wandered into a far country. We hardly remember where we came from. Lord, we are so far from home.*

**Please God, draw us closer and bring us back.**

*We have distanced ourselves from the people closest to us.*

*We allow petty things to come between us, and then we let those things grow.*

*We resist reconciliation. We keep our distance. Lord, we are so far from home.*

**Please God, draw us closer and bring us back.**

*We long to return to you, but we do not know the way,*

*or we are too stubborn or weak or distracted to get there.*

*We fail to make any progress in the right direction, and here we are, Lord, we are so far from home.*

**Please, God, draw us closer and bring us back.**

Silent Prayers

Sung Response

HS 74

**Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.  
Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.  
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

Assurance of Forgiveness

*I declare to you that God in Jesus Christ still desires people  
to be free from sin's oppressive yoke. Come. God draws near.*

**We are forgiven and set free. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

◆ Sung Response

Hymn 618

**All glory to our Lord and God,  
For love so deep, so high, so broad:  
The Trinity whom we adore  
Forever and forevermore.**

◆ Sharing of the Peace

*The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.***

Announcements for the Church and Community 11:00

Time with Children and Youth 11:00

## God's Word to Us

Old Testament

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

OT pg. 2

Anthem 11:00

*Verleih Uns Frieden*

Felix Mendelssohn

Graciously grant us peace, Lord God, in our time;  
there is no one else who could fight for us except you, our God, alone.

sung in German

Gospel

Luke 8:40-66

NT pg. 64

Sermon

Jesus and Social Distancing

Ken Henry

◆ Affirmation of Faith

adapted from the Iona Community

*We believe that God is present in the darkness before dawn; in the waiting and uncertainty  
where fear and courage join hands, conflict and caring link arms, and the sun rises over barbed wire.  
We believe in a with-us God who sits down in our midst to share our humanity.*

**We affirm a faith that takes us beyond the safe place:  
into action, into vulnerability and into the streets.**

**We commit ourselves to work for change and put ourselves on the line;  
to bear responsibility, take risks, live powerfully and face humiliation;  
to stand with those on the edge; to choose life and be used by the Spirit  
for God's new community of hope. Amen.**

◆ Hymn 178 11:00 **The Woman Hiding in the Crowd** *Simmons*

Prayers of the Congregation and the Lord's Prayer hymnal, p. 35

The Offering

Offertory

8:30

*Prelude on Leoni*

Richard Proulx

11:00

*A Prayer of St. Richard of Chichester*

L. J. White

O holy Jesus, most merciful redeemer, friend and brother,

may I know thee more clearly, love thee more dearly, and follow thee more nearly. Amen.

**Please come forward to place your offering in the baskets.**

◆ Presentation of the Offering HS 52

**Lord, whose love in humble service bore the weight of human need,**

**Who upon the cross, forsaken, worked your mercy's perfect deed:**

**We, your servants, bring the worship, not of voice alone, but heart;**

**Consecrating to your purpose every gift which you impart.**

Prayer of Dedication

**Thank you, Lord, for providing us with the resources we need so we can pursue,  
with joy, the life you have called us to live.**

**We are grateful for days of health, laughter, friendship, and grace.**

**Every day is a gift, every moment a treasure.**

**Remind us that our true life-purpose is not to cling to what we have  
or to store up our wealth in bigger barns.**

**Help us to love freely and to grow stronger each day.**

**In the name and by the power of Christ Jesus. Amen.**

◆ Hymn HS 39 **I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say** *The Rowan Tree*

◆ The Charge and Benediction

Closing Voluntary

*If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee*

J. S. Bach

During the season of Lent, the congregation will be seated during the closing music for a short period of meditation.

◆ Please stand, as you are able.



## Participants in Worship

**Liturgists**

Lynne Clements

Dorothy Piatt

**Fellowship Team**

Ruth Wadlington

Sally Telford

**Deacon of the Day**

Leanna Whitmore

**Lay Reader**

8:30 Betsy Donohoe

11:00 Jana Surdi

**Greeter**

8:30 Lucille Digges

11:00 David Garth

Debbie Garth

**Sound Engineer**

8:30 Elton Oliver

11:00 Mike Moore

**Acolytes**

8:30 Tommy Rockwell

11:00 Andrew

Stetkevych

**Ushers**

8:30 Dave Spence

Candace Spence

11:00 Dave Spence

Phil Best

Hal Collums

## New Member Classes

### **Interested in becoming a Westminster member?**

Looking for a place to call home and learn more about what it means “to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with your God?” (Micah 6:8). If you find yourself answering “yes” to any of these questions, then come to one or both of these new member classes: Sundays at 9:45 a.m. in room 208.

**March 22: What is our mission?** In this class, Dorothy Piatt, with other church leaders, will talk about our benevolence giving and our commitment to other nonprofit organizations in

Charlottesville, as well as how our church feels called to reach out to UVA students and faculty.

**March 29: What does it mean to be a Presbyterian?** We are a congregation of the Reformed tradition in the Presbyterian Church(USA). For hundreds of years, our motto has been “Reformed and Always Reforming.” Ken will speak about the roots of the Protestant Reformation.

Questions? Contact Kate, [kbrinkley@westminsterva.org](mailto:kbrinkley@westminsterva.org) or 434-293-3133.

**I**t's time for Fish Banks! Fish Banks are a fun way for children, youth, and families to live out their faith during Lent by participating in the One Great Hour of Sharing offering. Our coins and dollars bring relief to people experiencing a crisis. We can be like the boy who gave his loaves and fish (John 6:9-13); God will multiply our gifts! Fish banks are available in church school classrooms and the Gathering Place.

The **One Great Hour of Sharing** offering supports three programs: Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People. Each of these work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope.



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**Hearing Enhancement** – Westminster is equipped with personal hearing assistance devices for use by our worshippers. These are available in the narthex, to be checked out from the ushers before services. Our sanctuary is equipped with “T-coil” technology.

**Children and Worship** – Families are encouraged to worship together, whenever possible. We strive to include children who are first graders and older in our worship service. Children’s pew Bibles, children’s bulletins, and worship bags are available from the ushers. A “comfort room” is available downstairs for those with small children who might need a place to rest or play. A speaker in that room makes it possible to hear the service.

**Large-Print** versions of the bulletin, *Glory to God* hymnal, and our own *Hymnal Supplement* are available for use during the service. If you would like to use any of these large print copies, please ask an usher.

## Coming Up

**Sunday, March 15**

**Third Sunday in Lent**

8:30 & 11 a.m. Worship

9:30 a.m. Christian Formation  
Classes

12:15 p.m. Fellowship Hour

Deacons Meeting, lounge

Singers rehearsal, choir room

**Monday, March 16**

6 p.m. Prayer Shawl Gathering,  
lower lounge

**Tuesday, March 17**

1:30 p.m. Women's Retreat Cmte  
lower lounge

**Wednesday, March 18**

4:30 p.m. Benevolence Cmte.,  
lower lounge

**Thursday, March 19**

4 p.m. Choristers, choir room

7 p.m. Adult Choir, choir room

**Sunday, March 22**

**Fourth Sunday in Lent**

8:30 & 11 a.m. Worship

9:30 a.m. Classes

12:15 p.m. Fellowship Hour

Singers rehearsal, choir room

## Westminster Staff

Ken Henry, *Pastor*

khenry@westminsterva.org

Lynne Clements, *Associate Pastor*

lclements@westminsterva.org

Dorothy Piatt

*Assoc. Pastor for Social Justice  
and University Mission*

dpiatt@westminsterva.org

Megan Sharp

*Director of Fine Arts*

Jonathan Schakel

*Organist*

Sanford Wilcox

*Administrator*

Kate Brinkley

*Office Manager*

Steve Brown

*Finance Administrator*

Tom Mullen, *Sexton*

Alonzo Williams

*Assistant Sexton*

## WESTMINSTER NEWS & EVENTS

**We Choose Welcome:** There will be several events at Westminster in the spring built around the “We Choose Welcome” campaign to embody biblical inclusion and stand in solidarity with our immigrant and refugee neighbors. The first session, offered at 9:30 a.m. today in the library, will address a theological rationale for supporting immigrants and refugees.

As you may have noticed, the **PACEM homeless shelter** is in residence at Westminster! We are collecting gift cards for our guests. If you would like to make a donation, \$5 cards from MacDonald's and CVS are ideal, or cash/checks may be put in the basket in the Gathering Place or at the church office.

The **Prayer Shawl Ministry:** Please join us Monday, March 16, from 6:30-8 p.m., in the lower lounge. For questions regarding this ministry, email Beth Hochstetler, [whoch24@gmail.com](mailto:whoch24@gmail.com).

On March 22 at 9:30 a.m., come to the library to hear Earl Swift discuss his celebrated book, **Chesapeake Requiem: A Year with the Watermen of Vanishing Tangier Island**. Located in the middle of Chesapeake Bay, the island is known as the “soft-shell crab capital of the world.” Unfortunately, its inhabitants might also prove to be among the first climate refugees in the U.S. Tangier has lost more than two-thirds of its landmass, and in the absence of expensive coastal restoration and protection efforts, the island will likely be uninhabitable within 25-50 years.

Save the dates: **June 15-21 for Westminster Musical Week!**

We will meet each evening from 5-8 pm to produce an intergenerational musical on Sunday, June 21, in worship. Please take a look at the insert in this bulletin and fill out the form if you're interested in this wonderful event! Please put your form in the offering plate or leave it at the church office.

**Adult Lunch Friends** – due to our hosting PACEM this month, we have changed the dates for our Spring Adult Lunch gatherings. The new dates are April 2, May 14 and June 11. We look forward to sharing a meal and fellowship again in the warm weather.

## CHRISTIAN FORMATION

**Classes at 9:30 a.m., March 22**

**Earl Swift: Vanishing Tangier Island, Library**

**New Member Class, Room 208**

**Faith and Family, Lounge**

**Contemporary Theology, Room 207**

**Opening Doors, Room 209**