

Service for the Lord's Day

Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 30, 2023

Westminster Presbyterian Church
400 Rugby Road, Charlottesville, Virginia
www.westminsterva.org · 434-293-3133



Welcome visitors, newcomers, and friends worshipping with us today! If you're interested in joining our church community, please speak to a pastor after worship or contact the church office, 434-293-3133. We hope you will worship with us again, whenever possible.

Preparing to Hear God's Word

Prelude

Offertorium

James Macmillan

Welcome

◆ Passing of the Peace

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

◆ Call to Worship

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.

**Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff – they comfort me.**

*You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.*

**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.**

Let us worship God!

◆ Hymn 52

When Israel Was in Egypt's Land

GO DOWN MOSES

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Lord, we hear your voice, but yet we resist your call. We want to be in control, to find our own paths and direction even when they lead us away from the ways of life and toward the ways of death. Forgive us. Guide us back into your presence that we may know the fullness of joy. Bring us back into your fold through the gates of your redeeming love.

Silent Prayers

Sung Response

Glory to God hymnal 576

**Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy on us.**

Assurance of Forgiveness

Hear the good news! In baptism you were buried with Christ. In baptism also you were raised to life with him, through faith in the power of God, who raised Christ from the dead. If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. By the grace of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

◆ Sung Response

GTG 232

**Hymns of praise now let us sing: Alleluia!
Unto Christ our heavenly king: Alleluia!
Who endured the cross and grave: Alleluia!
Sinners to redeem and save: Alleluia!**

God's Word to Us

A Time with Children and Youth

Sung Prayer for Illumination

O Word of God incarnate, O Wisdom from on high,
O Truth unchanged, unchanging, O Light of our dark sky:
We praise you for the radiance that from the hallowed page,
A lantern to our footsteps, shines on from age to age.

First Reading

Acts 2:42-47

NT p. 112
Bobby Bruner

Second Reading

1 Peter 2:18, (19)-20

NT p. 219

Sermon

Choosing an Alternative Ethic

Jewell-Ann Parton

Responding to God's Word

◆ Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church;
the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body;
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

◆ Hymn HS 29

My Shepherd Is the Living Lord

RESIGNATION

Prayers of the Congregation and the Lord's 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.**

Offertory

Christ, My Encircler

Russell Schulz-Widmar

My Christ, my shield, my encircler:
Each day, each night, each light, each dark, be near me,
Uphold me, my treasure, my triumph.

◆ Presentation of the Offering

GTG 607

**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

Generous God, you are our portion and our cup. In you our hearts are glad, our souls rejoice, and our bodies rest. Bless and multiply our offerings and pledges that they may bring the joy of your presence more deeply into the world.

◆ Hymn (see insert)

For Everyone Born

◆ Benediction

Postlude

Psalm 150

Toon Hagen

◆ Please stand, as you are able.

*The flowers in the sanctuary today are given by Kathy and Dick Redding,
in memory of Jack McNabb, loving father and grandfather.*

What's Happening at Westminster

Sunday, April 30

Food Drive Collection in Memory of Barbara Deaver concludes

9:30 a.m. Church School

11 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary

Noon UKirk and 20/30/40 CreW Bagel Brunch at Common Grounds

12:15 p.m. Singers Rehearsal in the Choir Room

Monday, May 1

1 p.m. The Courage to Grieve Series in Room 208

6 p.m. UKirk Dinner and Discussion in Common Grounds

Wednesday, May 3

5:30 p.m. Fellowship on Tap (off-site)

7 p.m. 20/30/40 CreW Wind-Down Wednesday (off-site)

Thursday, May 4

7 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal in the Choir Room

Saturday, May 6

10 a.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal in the Sanctuary

Sunday, May 7

Special Music Sunday

9:30 a.m. Church School

11 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary

12:15 p.m. Singers Rehearsal in the Choir Room

12:30 p.m. Session Meeting in the Library

1 p.m. UKirk and 20/30/40 CreW Feeding Families Service Project

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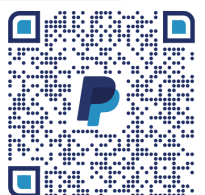
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Welcome to the Westminster community. Make sure you're signed up for our eNews, Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram accounts, @westminsterville. Visit www.westminsterva.org.

To give, scan the QR code to the right.



When Israel Was in Egypt's Land 52

1 When Is - rael was in E - gypt's land, let my peo - ple go;
 2 "Thus saith the Lord," bold Mo - ses said, "Let my peo - ple go!
 3 "No more shall they in bond - age toil: let my peo - ple go!
 4 O let us all from bond - age flee; let my peo - ple go!

op - pressed so hard they could not stand, let my peo - ple go!
 If not, I'll smite your first - born dead. Let my peo - ple go!"
 Let them come out with E - gypt's spoil: let my peo - ple go!"
 And let us all in Christ be free: let my peo - ple go!

Refrain

Go down, (go down,) Mo - ses, (Mo - ses,) way down in E - gypt's

land; tell old Pha - raoh: let my peo - ple go!

Nothing in Hebrew Scripture resonated more deeply with the experience of African Americans in North America than Israel's slavery in Egypt. In this spiritual's recurring line, "Let my people go," past and present became one, as they still do for all who are oppressed.

My Shepherd Is the Living Lord

29

Psalm 23

Thomas Sternhold, 1549; alt.

Isaac Watts, 1710; alt.

The Southern Harmony, 1835

RESIGNATION, CMD

1. My Shep-herd is the liv - ing Lord, noth - ing there - fore I need;
2. When I walk through the shades of death, thy pres - ence is my stay;
3. The sure pro - vi - sions of my God at - tend me all my days;

in pas - tures fair, near pleas - ant streams I'm sure - ly set to feed.
a word of thy sup - port - ing breath drives all my fears a - way.
O may thy house be mine a - bode, and all my work be praise.

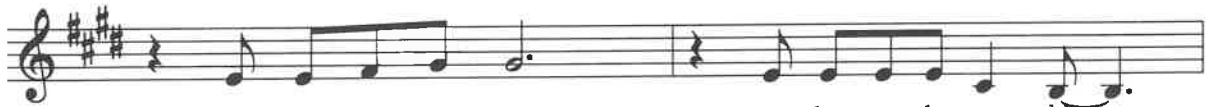
O bring my wandering spir - it back when I for - sake thy ways,
Thy hand, in sight of all my foes, doth still my ta - ble spread;
There would I find a set - tled rest, while oth - ers go and come:

and lead me for thy mer - cy's sake in paths of truth and grace.
my cup with bless - ings o - ver - flows, thine oil a - noints my head.
no more a stran - ger or a guest, but like a child at home.

For Everyone Born

Shirley Erena Murray

Brian Mann



1 For ev - ery - one born, a place at the ta - ble,
2 For all who have breath, a place at the ta - ble,
3 For you and for me, a place at the ta - ble,
4 For ev - ery - one born, a place at the ta - ble,



for ev - ery - one born, clean wa - ter and bread,
a co - ve - nant shared, a wel - com - ing space,
though wound - ed and sore, with need to for - give,
to live with - out fear, and sim - ply to be,



a shel - ter, a space, a safe place for grow - ing,
a rain - bow of race and gen - der and col - or,
in an - ger, in hurt, a mind - set of mer - cy,
to work, to speak out, to wit - ness and wor - ship,



for ev - ery - one born, a star o - ver - head,
for all who have breath, the cha - lice of grace,
for you and for me, a new way to live,
for ev - ery - one born, the right to be free,



and God will de-light when we are cre - a - tors of jus - tice and



joy, com - pas - sion and peace: yes,



God will de-light when we are cre - a - tors of jus - tice, jus - tice and joy!