

Service for the Lord's Day

Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 17, 2024

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



Preparing to Hear God's Word

Prelude

Intermezzo

Denis Bédard

Welcome

◆ Call to Worship

Burgess and Polhill

In winter and springtime, in summer and harvest,

God speaks to us.

In struggle and suffering, in death and resurrection,

God speaks to us.

In word and action, in prayer and promise,

God speaks to us.

Holy God,

give us a happy heart.

Holy God,

give us a seeking mind.

Holy God,

give us gentle hands.

Holy God,

give us courage and joy.

◆ Hymn HS 35

When Christ Was Lifted from the Earth

ST. BOTOLPH

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

O Holy One...

Forgive us, O Lord, and transform us by your grace.

Forgive us, O Lord, and free us from all that keeps us bound.

Assurance of Forgiveness

God invites us to see the world through a lens of love.

Beloved, open your eyes.

God is God, and we are not, so God invites us to give up control.

Beloved, relax your arms.

God is freeing us from the systems that keep us bound.

Beloved, open your hands.

God is calling us to free one another.

Beloved, reach a hand toward a neighbor.

Hear this good news and proclaim it together:

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven and freed to try again. Amen.

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

- ◆ Passing of the Peace
May the peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

God's Word to Us

A Time with Children and Youth

Young children are invited to depart to the education building for a time of unstructured play.

Sung Prayer for Illumination

May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
 be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.

First Reading

Jeremiah 31:31-34

OT p. 691
 David Martin

Anthem

God So Loved the World

John Stainer

God so loved the world, that God gave the only begotten son,
 that who so believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.
 For God sent not the son into the world to condemn the world;
 But that the world through him might be saved.

Second Reading

John 12:20-33

NT p. 100

Sermon

The Story of an Hour

Jewell-Ann Parton

Responding to God's Word

- ◆ Affirmation of Faith
 written by two 14-year-old boys at a worship workshop on Iona
**We believe in God, who made the sun and the sky, the stars and the sea,
 who calls us to live responsibly.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ, who became human, healed the sick,
 who talked to children, who made friends with sinners.
 He burned brightly and offended many.
 His journey was one of life and death and resurrection.
 His light continues to shine in darkness.**

We believe in the Holy Spirit, who inspires the scriptures and whose breath we breathe.

**We believe that God calls us to be a community, committed to one another,
 offering a welcome to everyone, old and young, rich and poor, strong and weak.**

**We believe that God calls us to be peacemakers, workers for justice, siblings in Christ,
 a light for our world. Amen.**

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.**

The Offering

Offertory

We Adore You, O Christ

Richard Proulx

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you
because by your cross you have redeemed the world.
We glory in your cross, O Lord God;
we praise and glorify your holy resurrection;
by virtue of your cross joy has come.
O Savior, by your holy cross, save us and help us, O Lord.
By your holy cross you have redeemed us all. Amen.

◆ Presentation of the Offering

Hymnal Supplement no. 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

**Lord, we bring our gifts as symbols of our gratitude and of our first loyalty to you.
Bless them that they might be signs of Christ's continuing presence in the world. Amen.**

◆ Hymn HS 41

Be Thou My Vision

SLANE

◆ Charge and Benediction

Choral Benediction Response May the Lord, Mighty God
May the Lord, mighty God, bless and keep you forever;
Grant you peace, perfect peace, courage in every endeavor.
Lift up your eyes and see God's face, full of grace forever;
May the Lord mighty God, bless and keep you forever.

Pao-chen Li

◆ Please stand, as you are able.

*The flowers in the sanctuary today are given by Jorgen and Laura Vik,
in loving memory of his father, Cato Vik.*

What's Happening

at Westminster

Sunday, March 17

Fifth Sunday of Lent

9:30 a.m. Church School Hour

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

12:15 p.m. Deacons meeting in the Upper Lounge

Monday, March 18

11 a.m. Memorial Service for Sally Nelson in the Sanctuary,
followed by a reception in the Fellowship Hall

6:30 p.m. UKirk Dinner and Discussion in Common Grounds

6:30 p.m. Prayer Shawl Gathering in the Lower Lounge

6:30 p.m. IMPACT Nehemiah Action Assembly at the MLK Performing Arts Center

Thursday, March 21

8 a.m. Breakfast Club gathering in the Gathering Place

7 p.m. Choir rehearsal in the Choir Room

Saturday, March 23

10 a.m. Westminster Walkers

Sunday, March 24

Palm Sunday

9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Labyrinth Walking and Embodied Prayer in the Fellowship Hall

9:30 a.m. Church School Hour

10:55 a.m. Palm Parade: children and youth interested in being in the palm parade
meet on the patio outside the Sanctuary

11 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary: a worship service that includes a processional, and
the waving of palms.

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

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

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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 Christ Was Lifted from the Earth

35

Brian Wren (b. 1936)

ST. BOTOLPH, CM

Gordon Slater (1896-1979)

1. When Christ was lift - ed from the earth, his
2. Still east and west his love ex - tends and
3. Where gen - er - a - tion, class or race di -
4. Thus free - ly loved, though ful - ly known, may

arms stretched out a - bove through ev - ery cul - ture,
al - ways, near or far, he calls and claims us
vides us to our shame, he sees not la - bels
I in Christ be free to wel - come and ac -

ev - ery birth, to draw an an - swering love.
as his friends and loves us as we are.
but a face, a per - son, and a name.
cept his own as Christ ac - cept - ed me.

Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said 718

1 Take up your cross, the Sav - ior said, if
 2 Take up your cross; let not its weight fill
 3 Take up your cross; heed not the shame, and
 4 Take up your cross, then, in Christ's strength, and

you would my dis - ci - ple be; take up your cross with
 your weak spir - it with a - larm; Christ's strength shall bear your
 let your fool - ish pride be still; the Lord for you ac -
 calm - ly ev - ery dan - ger brave: it guides you to a -

will - ing heart, and hum - bly fol - low af - ter me.
 spir - it up and brace your heart and nerve your arm.
 cept - ed death up - on a cross, on Cal - vary's hill.
 bun - dant life and leads to vic - tory o'er the grave.

Written by a nineteen-year-old in Connecticut, this challenging text has been widely printed on both sides of the Atlantic. It is strengthened by its resolute repetition of the same four words at the beginning of each stanza and by the appropriately stark shape note tune.

Be Thou My Vision

41

Irish, ca. 8th century, tr. Mary Elizabeth Byrne, 1905
versified Eleanor H. Hull, 1912; alt.

SLANE, 10.10.10.10

Irish traditional melody

1. Be thou my vi - sion, O joy of my heart;
2. Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word,
3. Rich - es I heed not, nor vain emp - ty praise,
4. Great God of heav - en, thy vic - to - ry won,

naught be all else to me save that thou art,
I ev - er with thee, and thou with me, Lord;
thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways;
my I reach heav - en's joys, O bright heaven's sun!

thou my best thought, by day or by night,
thou lov - ing par - ent, thy child may I be,
thou and thou on - ly, the first in my heart,
Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
thou in me dwell - ing, and I one with thee.
great God of hea - ven, my trea - sure thou art.
still be my vis - ion, O rul - er of all.