

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Inviting All, Exploring Faith, Experiencing God

2155 University Ave, Dubuque, IA 52001 | (563) 583-1729 | <http://wpcdbq.org>



FEBRUARY 5, 2017

9:30 A.M.

"Take a hard look at Jesus. He's the centerpiece of everything we believe."

(Hebrews 3:1 The Message)

"And what about you? Who do you say that I am?" (Mark 8:29)

TO OUR GUESTS: WELCOME! Thanks for joining us for worship. More information about Westminster Presbyterian Church is available on the Welcome Table in the back of the Sanctuary. We encourage you to fill out the Friendship Binder found in your pew and please join us for coffee and conversation in the Narthex after the service. In the Spring and Fall, Pastor Murry hosts "Welcome to Westminster" orientation meetings for anyone who would like to know more about Westminster or is considering the possibility of church membership. Watch the bulletin for announcements.

- Large print bulletins are available from the ushers.
 - Childcare for children 5 and under is provided in the Nursery down the hall from the Sanctuary.
 - Children's activities, books and crayons are on the small table in the back of the Sanctuary.
 - * All who are able may stand.
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Prelude "Blessed Assurance" Luke Tyler
by Marilyn Hamm Pianist

Words of Greeting Ruth 2:4 Hal Murry
Leader: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.

Welcome and Announcements

**Greeting Our Neighbors*

**Introit* "Gather Us In"
Here in this place the new light is streaming, now is the darkness vanished away; see in this space our fears and our dreamings, brought here to you in the light of this day. Gather us in the lost and forsaken; gather us in, the blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall awaken; we shall arise at the sound of our name.

**Call to Worship* (based on Psalm 112) Adam Etheredge

Leader: Praise the Lord! Those who honor the Lord, who adore God's commandments, are truly happy!

People: They shine in the dark for others who do right. They are merciful, compassionate, and righteous.

Leader: These sorts of people will never be shaken; the righteous will be remembered forever!

People: They won't be frightened at bad news. Their hearts are steady, trusting in the Lord.

Leader: Let us worship God...

**Hymn #314 - insert*

"Christ, Be Our Light"

**Invitation to Confession*

Adam Etheredge

**Unison Prayer of Confession*

Almighty God, on too many occasions, we are quick to ask for your righteous judgment against others, and slow to acknowledge the sin in our own lives. We worship you on Sunday, yet dishonor you by our actions on other days. We pray for you to end suffering, yet fail to practice compassion and generosity. The world's great religions are too often sources of quarreling rather than testimony to your grace. Forgive our self-righteousness. Bless us with integrity of heart, that our light will shine in the darkness, and the world will know that we are yours. Amen.

(Moment of silence for personal reflection.)

**Assurance of God's Forgiveness*

Hal Murry

**Response*

"O Lamb of God"

*O Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world; have mercy on us,
Lamb of God, and grant us your peace.*

Children's Message

"Doing What We Say We'll Do"

Hal Murry

Anthem

"God Gave Us Music"
by Dale Wood

Chancel Choir

Sermon: "Then Your Light Will Shine in the Darkness"

1. About Isaiah
2. "Darkness" re-emerges
3. Today's Scripture: Isaiah 58:1-12
4. God's people have BIG hearts!

Scripture Lesson: Isaiah 58:1-12 (CEB) - see insert

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

**Hymn #443*

"O Christ, the Great Foundation"

**Affirmation of Faith* (from "A Brief Statement of Faith") Hal Murry

We trust in God whom Jesus called Abba, Father.

In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community.

But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God's condemnation.

Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation.

In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth.

Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage.

Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.

Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

Giving of Our Offerings

Please use this time to pass the Friendship Binder found at the inside end of your pew.

Offertory

"Suo Gan"
arr. Linda Lamb

Adult Handbells

**Song of Thanksgiving* "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all creatures high and low. Alleluia, alleluia! Praise God, in Jesus fully known: Creator, Word, and Spirit one. Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

**Prayer of Dedication*

Hal Murry

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Hal Murry & Mark Oberhoffer

Breaking of the Bread; Pouring of the Wine (Juice)

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: *We lift them to the Lord.*

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

"...we gladly join our voices to the song of the Church on earth and in heaven:
Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory, hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord, hosanna in the highest.

...prayer continues and concludes with *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.

Communion of the People

*As you pass the bread please say, "The body of Christ given for you."
As you pass the cup please say, "The blood of Christ shed for you."*

(Please retain the bread to partake together as a sign of our oneness as a community of faith in Jesus Christ. Drink the cup whenever you are ready as a sign of our individual and unique relationship with Christ as our Lord and Savior.)

INDIVIDUALLY PACKAGED GLUTEN FREE WAFERS ARE AVAILABLE

**Unison Prayer after Communion*

Mark Oberhoffer

In gratitude for this moment, this meal, these people, we give ourselves to you. Take us out to live as changed people because we have shared the Living Bread and cannot remain the same. Ask much of us, expect much from us, enable much by us, encourage many through us. So Lord, may we live to your glory, both as inhabitants of earth and as citizens of heaven. Amen.

**Hymn #281*

"Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

**Blessing*

Hal Murry

**Response*

"God Be with You Till We Meet Again"

*God be with you till we meet again; loving counsels guide, uphold you,
with a shepherd's care enfold you: God be with you till we meet again.*

**Postlude*

"Welcome, Happy Morning"

by Wilbur Held

Luke Tyler

Organist

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BEGINS AFTER WORSHIP TODAY...a class for grownups! **PSALMS BIBLE STUDY**

The Book of Psalms is unique in the Bible. The psalms have long been understood and used by both Jews and Christians not only as Holy Scripture, but also as prayer, liturgy and song, and as theological reflection on God, God's people, and the world.

This Spring, Marsha Wilfong will be leading a Bible study on the Psalms, from February through mid-May. There will be three options for participation:

- Sundays, 10:45 am, at Westminster, beginning Feb. 5
- Tuesdays, 6:45 pm, at Westminster, beginning Feb. 7
- Wednesdays, 2:30 pm, at Bethany Home, beginning Feb. 8

All are welcome to come at any of those times and locations. We will study a different psalm each week – some familiar, others not so much! Even if you can't attend every week, come when you can, and deepen your appreciation of the Psalms and their usefulness for your faith, personal devotion, and corporate worship.

WOULD YOU LIKE AN OLD PEW BIBLE? Take one, please! Today! With Sunday's Scripture printed in the bulletin, the Bibles are rarely used anymore. Many are in poor condition with worn bindings. The *Revised Standard Version* has a 1972 copyright. Taking the space of the Bibles in the pew racks will be the supplemental hymnal *Sing the Faith*, currently used more frequently.

Please see a “CONCEPTUAL & PRELIMINARY“ ONLY map, posted in Fellowship Hall of the proposed “roundabout” at University & Loras that the City of Dubuque is planning to install in 2020.

STRATEGIC CONVERSATIONS ABOUT WESTMINSTER'S FUTURE continue. Be sure to read this month's *Hotline* (church newsletter). Printed copies are available on the information table at the back of the Sanctuary.

Lunar New Year Celebration **2nd Annual Lantern Decoration Competition**

Saturday, February 11th
2:00 pm to 4:30 pm

Westminster Church Fellowship Hall



Lantern Decorating * Food Samples * Year of the Rooster
Paper lanterns will be sold for \$1.00. Bring your own art supplies.

[NEW CHURCH PHOTO DIRECTORY 2017](#) - Thanks to Doug Cheever who is providing leadership for the development of a new Westminster Photo Directory. This will be a low-cost, in-house project with NO sales pressure. Doug is hoping to gather photos by February 22 and he has developed options for ways in which the photos may be provided.

Please do one of the following by FEBRUARY 22:

1. If already have a family picture that you would like to use, you may send a print labeled PHOTO DIRECTORY to the church office, 2155 University Ave., Dubuque, IA, 52001. List name (s) as they should appear. Prints will be returned after scanning.
2. E-mail a photo file to Doug at jdcheever@msn.com along with the name (s) to be used.
3. Don't have a suitable picture? Have a sense of adventure? E-mail jdcheever@msn.com or call Doug at 563- 845-8309 to schedule 15 minutes before or after church for you/your family to pose for an amateur portrait by Doug.
4. Want more professional results? Consider Susan Sherman who is a Westminster choir member and also operates **Snowflake Photography**. She has posted more information in the narthex. Susan knows what we need.
Call Susan at [402-705-4404](tel:402-705-4404).

Thank you!

WESTMINSTER LIFE AND MINISTRY: FEBRUARY 5, 2017

Church Office Number: 583-1729	Rev. Hal Murry: 580-4196
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Rev. Hal Murry, Teaching Elder Church Administrator: Mary Kay Pancratz Custodian: Tim Till Nursery: Amy Ehlers/Emily Meeker Adult Choir/Adult Handbells: Pam Crawford Band/Youth Handbells: Sally Stulken Organist/Pianist: Dr. Luke Tyler Refreshments & Bldg Care: Rich H/Deb S. Greeters: Rick Baal & Bonnie Sue Lewis Carolyn Dausener /Janet Neumeister/Bev Graves/Zach Spurgeon/Cody Kramschuster	Missional Community Dev: Rev. Lindsay James Financial Secretary: Becky Jenkins Faith Formation Leader for Youth: Lisa Fast Care Ministry Coordinator: Glinda Manternach Youth Choir: Lizz Tyler Timbrel & Lyre: Dr. Luke Tyler Head Usher: Rich Henderson Ushers: Scouts Set up Helper: Jim Huff Steve Peake, Leon Beebe, Deb Seiffert, Arden Woodrum Susan Taylor, Jeff Oberhoffer, Tom Stovall
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PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Continued prayers for Stephen McMurray who is recovering from a major illness.
- Pat Gabrielson who is in the Skilled Unit at Bethany Home, 1005 Lincoln Ave. 52001

THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER:
FEBRUARY 5TH THRU FEBRUARY 12TH

Sunday, February 5

8:00 a.m. Adult Handbells, LOFT
8:30 a.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal, LOFT
8:40 a.m. Coffee Fellowship, FH
9:30 a.m. Worship - Rev. Murry Preaching
10:40 a.m. Youth Sunday School-Classrooms
10:45 a.m. Psalms Bible Study, BR
11:45 a.m. WPC Band Rehearsal, Choir Rm.
4:00 p.m. 6th Grade Youth Group, FH
5:30 p.m. M.E.S.S. Youth Group, Media Rm.

Monday, February 6

3:00 p.m. Property Committee Mtg., BR
5:00 p.m. Youth Chorale, SA
7:00 p.m. Scouts Parent Mtg., BR
7:00 p.m. Scouts, Brd of Rev., CR
7:00 p.m. Troop 11 Boy Scouts, FH

Tuesday, February 7

5:40 p.m. Youth Handbells, SA
6:45 p.m. Psalms Bible Study, CR
7:00 p.m. Deacons Mtg., BR

Wednesday, February 8

1:30 p.m. Foundation Mtg., WR
5:00 p.m. Adult Handbells Rehearsal, LOFT
5:45 p.m. Youth Choir, Media Room
6:00 p.m. Youth Group Team, CR
7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal, LOFT

Thursday, February 9

7:00 p.m. Table Tennis, FH

Friday, February 10
OFFICE CLOSED

Saturday, February 11

2:00 p.m. Lunar New Year Celebration, FH

Sunday, February 12

8:30 a.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal, LOFT
8:40 a.m. Coffee Fellowship, FH
9:00 p.m. WPC Band Rehearsal, SA
9:30 a.m. Worship - Rev. Dr. Marsha Wilfong Preaching
10:40 a.m. Youth Sunday School-Classrooms
10:45 a.m. Psalms Bible Study, BR
4:00 p.m. 6th Grade Youth Group, FH
5:30 p.m. M.E.S.S. Youth Group, Media Rm.



Buy in the office or before or after
worship at the Hospitality Counter

Staff Vacations and Office Hours

Becky, Financial Secretary: Vacation Feb. 6th thru 10th
Mary Kay, Administrator: Vacation Feb. 9th thru 17th
Hal, Teaching Elder: Vacation Feb. 10th thru 17th

The office will be closed on Friday, February 10th.

*Glinda Manternach will be covering for Mary Kay on Thurs., Feb. 9th and Mon.-Thurs., Feb. 13-16 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Friday, 9 a.m.-Noon.

*Marsha Wilfong will be covering Pastoral Care calls from Feb. 10th thru 17th. If there is an emergency, please call the office. 583-1729.