

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Inviting All, Exploring Faith, Experiencing God

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



MARCH 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 "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"
by J.S. Bach Luke Tyler
Organist

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 130 and Matthew 4:1-11) Adam Etheredge
Leader: The God of mercy tends to our needs.
People: Leading us out of the wilderness, up from the depths, out of darkness.
Leader: As gracious as the dawn to those longing for light,
People: So welcome is the Lord's love to those who have endured in trust and hope.
ALL: Let us worship God.

**Hymn #81* "Lord Who Throughout These 40 Days"

**Invitation to Confession* Adam Etheredge

**Unison Prayer of Confession*

Lord God, who created us, we confess that sometimes we too want to be "like God." We want to be in charge of everything, to know everything, to do everything our way. There are times when we are willing to break the rules and hurt one another to have our way. Please forgive us.

Help us instead to learn from Jesus. Remind us that having what we want and need is not so very important. Tame our desires to be the center of attention, the star, the winner every time. Teach us to know your will and to obey. For we pray in Jesus' name. 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

"Temptation"

Hal Murry

Anthem

"Come, Abide with Us"

Chancel Choir

arr. Faye Lopez

Sermon: "Finding His Voice"

1. Matthew introduces a "grownup" Jesus
2. **Today's Scripture: Matthew 3:13--4:11** (*Common English Bible*)
3. What does it mean to be Jesus?
4. The devil has a one-track mind
5. What does it mean to be ourselves?

Scripture: Matthew 3:13--4:11

¹³ At that time Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan River so that John would baptize him. ¹⁴ John tried to stop him and said, "I need to be baptized by you, yet you come to me?"

¹⁵ Jesus answered, "Allow me to be baptized now. This is necessary to fulfill all righteousness."

So John agreed to baptize Jesus. ¹⁶ When Jesus was baptized, he immediately came up out of the water. Heaven was opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God coming down like a dove and resting on him. ¹⁷ A voice from heaven said, "This is my Son whom I dearly love; I find happiness in him."

Temptation of Jesus

4 Then the Spirit led Jesus up into the wilderness so that the devil might tempt him. ² After Jesus had fasted for forty days and forty nights, he was starving. ³ The tempter came to him and said, "Since you are God's Son, command these stones to become bread."

⁴ Jesus replied, "It's written, *People won't live only by bread, but by every word spoken by God.*"

⁵ After that the devil brought him into the holy city and stood him at the highest point of the temple. He said to him, ⁶ "Since you are God's Son, throw yourself down; for it is written, *I will command my angels concerning you, and they will take you up in their hands so that you won't hit your foot on a stone.*"

⁷ Jesus replied, "Again it's written, *Don't test the Lord your God.*"

⁸ Then the devil brought him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. ⁹ He said, "I'll give you all these if you bow down and worship me."

¹⁰ Jesus responded, "Go away, Satan, because it's written, *You will worship the Lord your God and serve only him.*"¹¹ The devil left him, and angels came and took care of him.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

**Hymn - insert*

"Be Still, My Soul"

**Affirmation of Faith*

from ' A Brief Statement of Faith (PCUSA)

Hal Murry

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

Giving of Our Offerings

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

Offertory

"Kyrie" by Cathy Mokebust

Adult Handbells

(children are excused for Sunday School)

**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 & Tom Stovall

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.

"...even dry bones in the valley of death stand to sing your praise:

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.

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*

Tom Stovall

In this place, at this table, we have touched, we have tasted, and we have heard the signs of your love for us. Grant that we may go away from this house filled with our love for you and overflowing with your love for those who are around us and share our lives. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

**Hymn #333*

"Seek Ye First"

**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* Postlude on "Hyfrydol" Luke Tyler
by Gordon Young Organist

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHANCEL FLOWERS are in memory of Rev. Gwyneth Osuch whose service was here.

TODAY IS THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT. The Christian season of "Lent" draws its name from an Old English word for Spring and the lengthening of days. "In many cultures there is an ancient custom of giving a tenth of each year's income to some holy use. For Christians to observe the forty days of Lent is to do the same thing with roughly a tenth of each year's days. After being baptized by John in the river Jordan, Jesus went off alone into the wilderness where he spent forty days asking himself the question what it meant to be Jesus. During Lent, Christians are supposed to ask one way or another what it means to be themselves." -- quote is from Whistling in the Dark: An ABC Theologized by Frederick Buechner.

CONFIRMATION CLASS ORIENTATION MEETING with Pastor Murry will be at 4:00 p.m. TODAY in the Board Room. This class is open to anyone in high school. Students along with a parent or guardian must attend the Orientation to participate in the class. Prospective students and parents have received an invitation via first class mail.

PRINTED COPIES of Westminster's 2016 *Annual Report* are available in the Narthex.

PICTURES are still being accepted for the church's new photo directory. **New deadline: March 22.** Please email an electronic file or mail/bring a favorite photo to the Westminster office. Or contact Doug Cheever (563-845-8309) for a free photo. He is available at Westminster before and after worship services through March 19. More than 125 photos have been taken/submitted to date.

GREEN TEAM MEETS ON MARCH 9TH -- PLEASE JOIN US! The first meeting of the new Westminster Green Team will be held on Thursday, March 9th at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room. All persons who would like to join in care of God's creation are invited to join us! The agenda will include a discussion of items learned from the Green Team Training Seminar and brainstorming ideas for the mission, educational programs and hands-on projects for an active Green Team at Westminster. Our task is to bind care for creation to the heart of what it means to be a person of faith and a member of our faith community. Please join us! If you have questions please contact Tom Stovall at 581-7220 or tomstov@aol.com or any member that attended the training.



Take a look.....

There are a few smaller coats and a woman's scarf, necklace and lost earring in our Lost and Found.

Items not taken by March 15th will be donated.

THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER: **MARCH 5TH THRU MARCH 12TH**

Sunday, March 5

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

Monday, March 6

- 3:00 p.m. Property Committee Mtg., BR
- 5:00 p.m. Youth Chorale, SA
- 6:00 p.m. Pine Wood Derby, FH

Tuesday, March 7

- 2:00 p.m. U.D. Audit Presentation, BR
- 6:45 p.m. Psalms Bible Study, CR
- 7:00 p.m. Deacons Mtg., BR

Wednesday, March 8

- 2:30 p.m. Psalms Bible Study, Bethany Home
- 5:00 p.m. Adult Handbells Rehearsal, LOFT
- 5:45 p.m. Youth Choir, Media Room
- 6:00 p.m. Youth Group Team, CR
- 6:15 p.m. Baby Shower, FH, K
- 7:15p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal, LOFT

Thursday, March 9

- 5:40 p.m. Youth Handbells, SA
- 6:00 p.m. WPC Green Team Mtg., BR
- 7:00 p.m. Table Tennis, FH

Saturday, March 11th

- Youth Sunday School Set-up, FH

Sunday, March 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. Murry Preaching
- 9:30 a.m. Worship, Mandarin Speaking, BR
- 10:40 a.m. Youth Sunday School-FH
- 10:45 a.m. Psalms Bible Study, BR
- 4:00 p.m. 6th Grade Youth Group, FH
- 4:00 p.m. M.E.S.S. Youth Group, Media Rm.



FROM YOUR WESTMINSTER **PRESBYTERIAN FOUNDATION:**

Your will speaks for you after death. Have you include a bequest to Westminster Presbyterian Church in your will?



Buy in the office or before or after worship