

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Inviting All, Exploring Faith, Experiencing God

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



APRIL 30, 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. ***The next series of meetings begins May 21st.***

- 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 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

Minute for Mission "An Answer to Our Prayer" Lisa Fast

* *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 117:14) Hal Murry
Leader: God has made this day.
People: Let us rejoice and be glad.
Leader: The God who raised Jesus Christ from the dead raises us to new life daily.
People: Thanks be to God!

* *Hymn #267* "All Things Bright and Beautiful"

* *Invitation to Confession* Hal Murry

**Unison Prayer of Confession* (based on Luke 24:13-35)

God, we confess that there are many hours when we are not mindful of your presence. We give up the comfort and avoid the challenge that come from your word and Spirit. Forgive us and restore the joy of knowing that through all of life, you are right here, in our midst, by our side. 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.*

First Lesson: Luke 24:13-35 (NRSV)

13 Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem,¹⁴ and talking with each other about all these things that had happened.¹⁵ While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them,¹⁶ but their eyes were kept from recognizing him.¹⁷ And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad.¹⁸ Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?"¹⁹ He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people,²⁰ and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him.²¹ But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place.²² Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning,²³ and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive.²⁴ Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him."²⁵ Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared!²⁶ Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?"²⁷ Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

28 As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on.²⁹ But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them.³⁰ When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them.³¹ Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight.³² They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?"³³ That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together.³⁴ They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!"³⁵ Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Children's Message

Mark Achtemeier

Anthem

"O God, Beyond all Praising"
by Gustav Holst & Michael Perry

Chancel Choir

Second Lesson: Acts 2:14a, 36-41 (NRSV)

Mark Achtemeier

14 But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them: 'Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say.

³⁶Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.'

37 Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, 'Brothers, what should we do?' ³⁸Peter said to them, 'Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.'⁴⁰And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, 'Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.' ⁴¹So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"Easter People"

Mark Achtemeier

"The promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away" --Acts 2:39

**Hymn #108*

"Christ Is Alive"

**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.

Pastoral Prayer

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

Giving of Our Offerings

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

Offertory

"The Holy City"
by Stephen Adams

Vocal Duet: Pam Crawford
& Lorrie Etheredge

**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 Thanksgiving*

Hal Murry

**Hymn #306*

"Fairest Lord Jesus"

**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*

Luke Tyler
Organist

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME BACK to The Rev. Dr. Mark Achtemeier who served as Pastor at Westminster for the first five months of 2013. Mark juggles a busy schedule as theologian, author, teacher and consultant, speaking and leading gatherings around the USA. We are grateful for his continuing care for Westminster. Mark's "home" church is First Presbyterian, Dubuque, where his wife Katherine serves as Pastor.

ALL are welcome to join in a study of the *Psalms*. This class for adults meets after worship in the Board Room and is led by Rev. Dr. Marsha Wilfong.

Green Team Tip #2 - Detergent: follow the recommended dose of detergent to wash your clothes or dishes.

SESSION NEWS:

- Confirmed the faith of Josh Husemann, Rachel Stipanovich, Will Stipanovich and Samuel Wu. This was Westminster's first confirmation class in several years. All have been received into full membership at Westminster and will be welcomed at worship on May 14.
- Approved purchase of new Bibles to be made available for use during Sunday worship, including a variety of translations and large-print Bibles. The Bibles will be shelved at the back of the Sanctuary.
- Elected Cameron Fast Moderator of the Fall Stewardship Campaign Committee and Steve Peake Moderator of the Church Officer Nominating Committee. The Session expressed gratitude to these Elders for a willingness to provide leadership for these important tasks.
- Elected Tom Stovall as Westminster's Commissioner to Presbytery meetings.
- Reviewed and discussed initial steps in the Pastor nominating process. On May 18, the Session will meet with a representative of the John Knox Presbytery's Committee on Ministry for an orientation to the search process.

Maker Fun Factory VBS

**Westminster, First Congregation
& St. Luke's are working together
to bring you an awesome VBS
Adventure June 19th—23rd!**



St. Luke's Church on Main St.

5:30 pm VBS Kid's eat together

6:00-8:00 pm VBS

See Lisa Fast for more details

HyVee®

Coupon Books

NOW available for \$5.00
in the Office or
Sunday Morning in the Narthex

 Thank you for supporting SCRIP!



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

The Youth Group will make \$4.00 off each book they sell.

WESTMINSTER LIFE AND MINISTRY: APRIL 30, 2017

Church Office Number: 583-1729

Rev. Hal Murry: 580-4196

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: Teresa Miller
Greeters: Howard & Dorothy McLean
Jack & Gladys Porter, Gerda Hartman

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: Lois Pearce
Ushers: Carolyn Klaver & Jerri Maxwell
Doug & Lois Pearce

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- The flower on the pulpit today is in honor of Brie Ella Laurie Spurgeon born to Zach & Becky Spurgeon at 3:30 p.m. Mon., April 24th. Welcome to the World Brie Ella! The Spurgeon's address is: 67 Collins Street Unit B, Dubuque 52001
- **THANK YOU** from Suzanne Murry (and Hal) for all the prayers and care that surrounded us during my surgery last week. It really helped! The surgery went well and the preliminary report is that the cancer had not spread. We'll receive a more definitive report in about ten days.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

"Do you love working with kids? Are you free Tuesday evenings?" If so, consider volunteering with the Dubuque Circles Initiative. Starting now, we are looking for volunteers who are available Tuesday evenings from 5:30-8:30 p.m. to volunteer in our childcare program called Kids' Corner. We meet at Prescott Elementary School, 1151 White Street, Dubuque, IA 52001. If you are interested in volunteering or if you would like more information, you can reach out to Helen Bisioulis at Hbisioul@cityofdubuque.org."

EMMAUS MUSIC DEPARTMENT presents a **Spring Choral Concert**, Sun., April 30, at 7:30 p.m. in the Emmaus Bible College Marble Chapel. Plan now to attend!

MAY FRIENDSHIP DAY on Friday, May 5th at Shalom Spirituality Center will be hosted by Dubuque Area Church Women United. A light breakfast brunch (\$6) will be served from 9:00-9:50 a.m. The Celebration "Kindling New Fires of LOVE" begins at 10:00 a.m. in the Chapel. Guest Speaker, Jamie Theisen of Families First will present the program "Meeting Children's Needs in Dubuque." The event will focus on the role of the community of being informed and challenged to address the social needs of our children. See flyer in Narthex for info.

THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER:
APRIL 30TH THRU MAY 7TH

Sunday, April 30

- 8:30 a.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal, LOFT
8:40 a.m. Coffee Fellowship, FH
9:30 a.m. **Worship, Rev. Dr. Mark Achtemeier preaching, SA**
9:30 a.m. **Worship, Mandarin Speaking, BR**
10:40 a.m. Youth Sunday School-Classrooms
10:45 a.m. Mandarin Sunday School - CR
10:45 a.m. Psalms Bible Study, BR
11:45 a.m. Mandarin Lunch, FH, K
4:00 p.m. **6th Grade Youth Group, FH**
4:00 p.m. **M.E.S.S. Youth Group, Media Rm.**

Monday, May 1

- 11:30 p.m. Westminster Tables, FH, K
3:00 p.m. Property Committee Mtg., BR
5:00 p.m. Youth Chorale, FH
7:00 p.m. Scouts Board of Review, CR
7:00 p.m. Troop 11 Boy Scouts, FH

Tuesday, May 2

- 9:00 a.m. English Tutoring, CR
5:40 p.m. Youth Handbells, SA
6:45 p.m. Psalms Bible Study, CR
7:00 p.m. Deacons Mtg., BR

Wednesday, May 3

- 9:00 a.m. Mandarin Baptism Class, CR
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
5:45 p.m. Youth Faith Team, CR
7:00p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal, LOFT

Thursday, May 4

- 12:00 p.m. MHA Dinner and Auction, FH, K

Saturday, May 6th

8:00 a.m. Mulching the Grounds

Sunday, May 7th

- 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**
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 included a bequest to Westminster Presbyterian Church in your WILL?



Mulching the Grounds May 6th 8 a.m. to Noon

Need many Volunteers to help! Please bring along gloves and a steel rake. Come as long as you can!

If raining it will be cancelled.