

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

The Lord's Day

February 19, 2017

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Almighty God, you have taught us that all our deeds without love are worth nothing. Send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts the most excellent gift of love, the very bond of peace and of all goodness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Lighting the Christ Candles

Call to Worship:

Leader: LORD, you alone are my portion and my cup; you make my lot secure.

People: **I will praise the LORD, who counsels me;**

Leader: I keep my eyes always on the LORD. With him at my right hand, I will not be shaken.

People: **Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will rest secure,**

Leader: Because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead, nor will you let your faithful one see decay.

People: **You make known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand.**

Psalm 16:5, 7a, 9-11

*Hymn: *Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven* #620
Psalm 103

*Prayer of Adoration

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession:

The hatred which divides nation from nation, race from race, class from class, Father, forgive us. The covetous desires to possess what is not our own, Father, forgive us. The greed that exploits the labors of people and lays waste the earth, Father, forgive us. Our envy of the welfare and happiness of others, Father, forgive us. Our indifference to the plight of the homeless and the refugee, Father, forgive us. The lust which uses for ignoble ends the bodies of men and women, Father, forgive us. The pride which leads to trust in ourselves and not in you, Father, forgive us. Forgive us in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Coventry Cathedral Prayer

Time for Personal Confession

Response: *Have Mercy, God, upon My Life* #421
verses 1 and 4 only

Have mercy, God, upon my life, and make me clean within:
Pour out your ever-faithful love and wash away my sin.

Create in me a faithful heart, a spirit right and new.
Sustain me with your saving love and keep me close to you.

Assurance of Pardon:

Leader: If you, O LORD, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

People: **But with you there is forgiveness; therefore you are feared.**
Psalm 130:3-4

Leader: Friends, this is the good news of the Gospel, for in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

People: **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

*Gloria Patri *Glory Be to the Father* #581
**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen, amen.**

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

*Doxology: **Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;** #606
**Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*Prayer of Dedication

Prayer for Illumination:

Prepare our hearts, O God, to accept your Word. Silence in us any voice but your own, that, hearing, we may also obey your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Psalter: **Psalm 71:1-2, 6, 17-18, 22-24**
(Tune: *Azmon* #610; *O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing*)
Congregation is invited to sing the responses

Leader: In you, LORD, I have taken refuge; let me never be put to shame.
In your righteousness rescue me and deliver me; turn your ear to me and save me.

People: **In You, O Lord, I put my trust; preserve from fear and shame,
The righteous servant in distress, who calls upon Your name.**

Leader: From birth I have relied on you; you brought me forth from my mother's womb. I will ever praise you. Since my youth, God, you have taught me, and to this day I declare your marvelous deeds. Even when I am old and gray, do not forsake me, my God, till I declare your power to the next generation, your mighty acts to all who are to come.

People: **For from the moment of my birth, through my allotted days,
I shall not waver in my trust, or cease to sing Your praise.**

Leader: Though you have made me see troubles, many and bitter, you will restore my life again; from the depths of the earth you will again bring me up. You will increase my honor and comfort me once more. I will praise you with the harp for your faithfulness, my God; my tongue will tell of your righteous acts all day long,

People: **O God, be never far from me, Your favor I implore;
I'll hope in You all time to come, and praise You evermore.**

Scripture Reading: **Acts 5:27-34; 38-40; 42**

Anthem: *Greater Love Hath No Man* John Ireland
Chelsea Scott, soprano
Brenton Mattox, bass-baritone

Many waters cannot quench Love, neither can the floods drown it. Love is strong as death. Many waters cannot quench Love. Greater Love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. Who, His own Self bare our sins in His own Body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness. Ye are washed, ye are sanctified, ye are justified, in the Name of the Lord Jesus; Ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, That ye should shew forth the praises of Him Who hath called you out of darkness into His marvelous light. I beseech you, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies, a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

Time for Young Disciples

(Preschool children may return to their pew or gather at the piano door where today's shepherd will lead them in a time of special activities.)

*Hymn: *Christ Is Our Light*
(Tune: *Highland Cathedral*)

**Christ is our light! the bright and morning star
Covering with radiance from near and far.
Christ be our light, shine on, shine on, we pray
Into our hearts, into our world today.**

**Christ is our love! baptized that we may know
the love of God among us, swooping low.
Christ be our love, bring us to turn our face
and see in you the light of heaven's embrace.
(Organ Interlude)**

**Christ is our joy! transforming wedding guest!
Through water turned to wine and feast was blessed.
Christ be our joy; your glory let us see,
As your disciples did in Galilee.**

Scripture: **First Peter 3:13-17**
Sermon: **Suffering For What Is Right**

Prayers of the People

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.

*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: *Be Thou My Vision* #450
 *Benediction
 *Choral Response: *I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me* #700
 Postlude
 *Please stand if you are able

ASSISTING IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Ushers: Al Hejl Charlotte Bock
 Lois Hejl Rick Bock
 Shepherd: Judy Taylor
 Liturgist: Clarice Miller
 Reader: Kelley McAdams

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, February 19

12:00 noon Children's Choir Practice
 5:30 pm Youth

Monday, February 20

Presidents' Day – office closed
 5:15 pm Soul Sisters

Tuesday, February 21

5:30 pm Handbell Practice
 5:30 pm Prayer Group

Wednesday, February 22

5:30 pm Wednesday Night Live Dinner and Program
 7:30 pm Choir Practice

Thursday, February 23

9:30 am Circle Meeting

Sunday, February 26

9:30 am Skip Sunday School for HOPE
 11:00 am Worship Service
 12:00 noon Children's Choir
 5:30 pm Youth
 6:00 pm Session Meeting

TODAY'S FLOWERS

The beautiful flowers have been placed in the sanctuary today to the glory of God by Kirk O'Keefe in loving memory of Catherine O'Keefe.

**Westminster Presbyterian Church
 (PCUSA)**

Westminster Presbyterian Church exists to declare God's love for all through Jesus Christ, to nurture and encourage spiritual growth, to maintain the integrity of divine worship, and to share the love and joy found in Christ by giving ourselves to our community and to the world.

THE SESSION

<u>Class of 2017</u>	<u>Class of 2018</u>	<u>Class of 2019</u>
Ken Deppisch	Bobbie Ann Anderson	Bruce McNellie
Chris Kline	Clarence Bahs	Robin Moore
Bennie Kitchens	Deborah Dalton	Ray Taylor
Lisa Thompson	Kristi Hachtel	Patricia Thompson
	Michele Peck	Betsy Tucker

THE INVITATION TO MEMBERSHIP at Westminster Church is always open to persons who wish to join us in witness and service to Jesus Christ. If you are interested in church membership or desire more information about this congregation, please indicate on the Friendship Pad or speak to the pastor, or one of the elders following the service.

MINISTERS: All the Members of the Congregation

CHURCH STAFF: Pastor Steve Newton
 Director of Music Deborah Dalton
 Organist James Pitts
 Nursery Coordinator Myra McNellie
 Presbyterian Women Moderator Marilyn Tutwiler
 Treasurer Sue Atkins
 Secretary Sally Newton
 Children's Choir Director Elise Gavin
 Handbell Choir Director Myra McNellie
 Newsletter Editor Sally Newton

Church Office Hours: 9:00 am - Noon, Monday – Friday
 Church Office Phone: 936-564-0203 Fax: 936-564-0204
 Website: www.westpreschurch.com
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 903 North Street; Nacogdoches, Texas 75961

**Westminster
 Presbyterian Church
 Nacogdoches, Texas**



February 19, 2017
 Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

¹³ Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good?
¹⁴ But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated,
¹⁵ but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; ¹⁶ yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷ For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil.
 First Peter 3:13-17