

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

The Lord's Day

April 1, 2018

EASTER

Glory to you, O God: on this day you won victory over death, raising Jesus from the grave and giving us eternal life. Glory to you, O Christ: for us and for our salvation you overcame death and opened the gate to everlasting life. Glory to you, O Holy Spirit: you lead us into the truth. Glory to you, O Blessed Trinity, now and forever. Amen.

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Voluntary

Lighting the Christ Candles

Call to Worship: **An Easter Celebration** Craig Courtney
Jacob Laster and Jacob Menchaca, trumpet
Chris Garza and Devonta Hicks, euphonium
Congregation please join in hymn #232 as directed

*Hymn: **Jesus Christ Is Risen Today** #232

*Prayer of Adoration

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession:

Almighty God, in raising Jesus from the grave, you shattered the power of sin and death. We confess that we remain captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways that lead to death. We overlook the poor and the hungry, and pass by those who mourn; we are deaf to the cries of the oppressed, and indifferent to the calls for peace; we despise the weak, and abuse the earth you made. Forgive us, God of mercy. Help us to trust your power to change our lives and make us new, that we may know the joy of life abundant given in Jesus Christ, the risen Lord.

Time for Personal Confession

Response: **Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us**

**Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.**

Assurance of Pardon:

Leader: Hear the good news! The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. He bore our sins in his body on the cross, that we might be dead to sin and alive to all that is good. Friends, this is the good news of the gospel!

People: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. 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: **Now the Green Blade Rises** arr. John Jay Hilfinger
Brass Quartet

*Doxology #606

*Prayer of Dedication

Prayer for Illumination:

Blessed Lord, who caused all Scripture to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us through the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Psalter: **Psalm 118**
Tune: *Mit Freuden Zart* #645; *Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above*

**Give thanks unto our gracious God, whose love endures forever;
The Lord, our strength and song shall be,
From whom no fault can sever.
Sing mighty songs of victory, both now and for eternity
For God will leave us never.**

**I shall not die, but I shall live, and sing God's grace with elation.
Though I deserve no more than death,
God blesses me with salvation.**

**The gate that should unyielding be is open wide to welcome me,
Give thanks and adoration!**

**Upon the stones the builders judged imperfect, weak and tender,
Now rest the corners of God's house,
Still unsurpassed in splendor.**

**This is the day the Lord has made; God is my sun, and God my shade;
Rejoice, and praise gladly render!**

Scripture Reading: **Isaiah 50:4-9a**

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: **Because You Live, O Christ** #249

Scripture: **John 20:1-18**

Sermon: **Easter People in a Good Friday World**

*Affirmation of Faith: A Brief Statement of Faith, lines 7-26

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.

*Hymn: **Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks** #240

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION

RESPONSE: **The First Song of Isaiah** Isaiah 12:2-6
**Surely, it is God who saves me; I will trust in him and not be afraid.
For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense,
And he will be my Savior.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

GREAT 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.**

RESPONSE: **Holy, Holy, Holy** Argentine folk song

**Holy, holy, holy, My heart, my heart adores You!
My heart knows how to say to you: You are holy, Lord!**

RESPONSE: **Christ Has Died, Christ Is Risen** #553

**Christ has died; Christ is Risen, Christ will come again.
Christ has died; Christ is Risen, Christ will come again.**

LORD'S PRAYER

PRESENTING AND TAKING THE ELEMENTS

CLOSING PRAYER

Leader: Bless the Lord, O my soul;

People: **and all that is within me, bless God's holy name!**

Leader: Bless the Lord, O my soul;

People: **and forget not all God's benefits.**

All: **Lord God, we rejoice that the grave could not hold your Son, that he has conquered death and risen to rule over all powers of this earth. We praise you that he summons us into new life, to follow him with joy and gladness. By your Spirit, lift us from doubt and despair, and set our feet in Christ's holy way, that our lives may be signs of his life, and all we have may show forth his love. Praise, glory, and thanksgiving to you, our God, forever and ever. Amen.**

*Hymn: **The Strife Is O'er** #236

*Benediction

*Choral Response: **Alleluia** Craig Courtney

Closing Voluntary

*Please stand if you are able

ASSISTING IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Ushers: Clarence Bahs Terri Moehring
Barbara Bahs Betsy Tucker

Shepherd: Michele Peck

Liturgist: Claire Bray

Reader: Kristi Hachtel

Preparing Communion: Barbara and Clarence Bahs

Serving Communion: Claire Bray Debbie Dalton
Kristi Hachtel Al Hejl
Terri Moehring

Hosting Reception: Worship Committee

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, April 1

Happy Easter!

12:00 noon Communion Reception

Monday, April 2

5:15 pm Soul Sisters

Tuesday, April 3

5:30 pm Handbell Practice

7:00 pm Theology on Tap

Wednesday, April 4

5:45 pm Dinner and Program

7:30 pm Choir Practice

Thursday, April 5

9:30 am Presbyterian Women General Meeting

Sunday, April 8

9:30 am Sunday School

10:30 am Children's Choir

11:00 am Worship Service

5:00 pm Youth

TODAY'S FLOWERS

The beautiful flowers have been placed in the sanctuary today to the glory of God by Terry and Chris Kline in loving memory of Betty Kline, Robert Kline, Richard Kline, Gordon Kline and Ralph Payne.

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

Class of 2018

Bobbie Ann Anderson
Clarence Bahs
Deborah Dalton
Kristi Hachtel
Michele Peck

Class of 2019

Bruce McNellie
Robin Moore
Ray Taylor
Patricia Thompson
Betsy Tucker

Class of 2020

Ken Deppisch
Bennie Kitchens
Terry Kline
Terri Moehring
Barbara Stump

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
Associate Pastor Jennifer Marshall
Director of Music Deborah Dalton
Organist James Pitts
Nursery Coordinator Myra McNellie
Presbyterian Women Moderator Sue Atkins
Treasurer Sue Atkins
Secretary Sally Newton
Children's Choir Director Elise Gavin
Handbell Choir Director Myra McNellie
Newsletter Editor Sally Newton
Youth Leader Johnny Brown

Church Office Hours: 9:00 am - Noon, Monday – Friday
Church Office Phone: 936-564-0203 Fax: 936-564-0204

Website: www.westpreschurch.com

E-mail: wpc4u@suddenlinkmail.com

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Westminster Presbyterian Church

Nacogdoches, Texas



April 1, 2018

Easter Sunday

¹¹ Now Mary stood outside the tomb crying. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb ¹² and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus' body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot.

¹³ They asked her, "Woman, why are you crying?"

"They have taken my Lord away," she said, "and I don't know where they have put him." ¹⁴ At this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realize that it was Jesus.

¹⁵ He asked her, "Woman, why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?"

Thinking he was the gardener, she said, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him."

¹⁶ Jesus said to her, "Mary."

She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means "Teacher"). John 20:11-16