

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

The Lord's Day

March 26, 2017

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Gracious God, in order that the children of earth might discern good from evil, you sent your Son to be the light of the world. As Christ shines upon us, may we learn what pleases you, and live in all truth and goodness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude *What Wondrous Love is This* arr. Kevin McChesney
Westminster Handbell Choir

Lighting the Christ Candles

Call to Worship:

Leader: Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!

People: By the great mercy of God we have been born to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.
First Peter 1:3

Leader: O Come, let us sing to the Lord

People: And shout with joy to the rock of our salvation!

Leader: Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving

People: Singing joyful songs of praise. Psalm 95:1

*Hymn: *Now Thank We All Our God* #643

*Prayer of Adoration

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession:

Our Heavenly Father, whose son is the light of the world, in his penetrating light we acknowledge our darkness; in his constant grace our careless love; in his equal justice our sordid grasping; in his fortitude our fearful prejudice; in his inclusive love our deep divisions; in his pure sacrifice our soiling sins. But in his cross is our forgiveness, and in his resurrection our enduring hope. The pardon and promise we now claim, in penitence and faith, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Time for Personal Confession

Response: *Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us* Dvořák

Lord, have mercy upon us; Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy; Christ, have mercy;

Christ, have mercy; Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy upon us; Lord, have mercy upon us, upon us.

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: *Gethsemane* arr. Tyleen Stults
Westminster Handbell Choir

*Doxology: *All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night* #675
(verse 4)
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

*Prayer of Dedication

Prayer for Illumination:

God of mercy, you promised never to break your covenant with us. Amid all the changing words of our generation, may we hear your eternal word that does not change. Then may we respond to your gracious promises with faithful and obedient lives; through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Psalter: Psalm 121

Tune: Old Hundredth #385; *All People That on Earth Do Dwell*
(People's part paraphrased by Michael Morgan)

Leader: I lift up my eyes to the hills—from where will my help come? My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth. He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber. He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

People: I lift my eyes unto the hills, from where shall come my help at last?

Whate'er the need, God will provide, the Lord, by whom the world was cast.

Leader: The LORD is your keeper; the LORD is your shade at your right hand. The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.

People: Each day God is a strength and shield, against the onslaught of my foes;

And to the dangers of the night, the eyes of God are never closed.

Leader: The LORD will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life. The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and forevermore.

People: The promise of the Lord is sure: To hold me in unyielding care;
Throughout my life, my faith confirms that where I am, the Lord is there.

Scripture Reading: First Peter 3:13-22

Anthem: *Go Down, Moses* arr. Moses Hogan
Westminster Men's Choir
Brenton Mattox, bass
Johnny Brown, tenor

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: *When We Are Tested* #783

Scripture: Mark 14:66-72

Sermon: Denied

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: *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light* #377

*Benediction

*Choral Response: *Lord, Make Us More Faithful* #313

Postlude

*Please stand if you are able

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, March 26

12:00 noon Children’s Choir Practice
 12:00 noon WUF Lunch
 5:30 pm Youth
 6:00 pm Session Meeting

Monday, March 27

5:15 pm Soul Sisters

Tuesday, March 28

1:00 pm Sanctuary Guild
 5:30 pm Handbell Practice
 5:30 pm Prayer Group

Sunday, April 2

9:30 am Sunday School
 11:00 am Worship Service
 12:00 noon Communion Reception
 12:00 noon Children’s Choir Practice
 5:30 pm Youth Confirmation Class

ASSISTING IN TODAY’S SERVICE

Ushers: Rick Bock Barbara Bahs
 Charlotte Bock Clarence Bahs
 Shepherd: Chris Bray
 Liturgist: Clarence Bahs
 Reader: Carrie Moody

TODAY’S FLOWERS

The beautiful flowers have been placed in the sanctuary today to the glory of God in recognition of Katie Kimbrough’s birthday.

**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 2017

Ken Deppisch
 Chris Kline
 Bennie Kitchens
 Lisa Thompson

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

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
 E-mail: wpc4u@suddenlinkmail.com
 903 North Street; Nacogdoches, Texas 75961

**Westminster
 Presbyterian Church**

Nacogdoches, Texas



Caravaggio (1601)

**March 26, 2017
 Fourth Sunday in Lent**

While Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the servant girls of the high priest came by. When she saw Peter warming himself, she looked closely at him.

‘You also were with that Nazarene, Jesus,’ she said.

But he denied it. ‘I don’t know or understand what you’re talking about,’ he said, and went out into the entryway.

When the servant girl saw him there, she said again to those standing around, ‘This fellow is one of them.’ Again he denied it.

After a little while, those standing near said to Peter, ‘Surely you are one of them, for you are a Galilean.’

He began to call down curses on himself, and he swore to them, ‘I don’t know this man you’re talking about.’

Immediately the rooster crowed the second time. Then Peter remembered the word Jesus had spoken to him: ‘Before the rooster crows twice you will disown me three times.’ And he broke down and wept.

Mark 14:66-72