

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

The Lord's Day

May 6, 2018

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Eternal God, by raising Jesus from the dead you proclaimed his victory, and by his ascension, you declared him Lord of all. Lift up our hearts to heaven where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Lighting the Christ Candles

Call to Worship:

Leader: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

People: To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.
Revelation 1:4-6

All: Let us worship God.

*Hymn: *Crown Him with Many Crowns* #268

*Prayer of Adoration

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession:

Almighty God, you have raised Jesus from death to life, and crowned him Lord of all. We confess that we have not bowed before him, or acknowledged his rule in our lives. We have gone along with the ways of the world, and failed to give him glory. Forgive us, and raise us from sin, that we may be your faithful people, obeying the commands of our Lord Jesus Christ, who rules the world and is head of the church his body.

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: Hear the words of the Apostle Paul: What a wicked man I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death?

People: Thanks be to God – through Jesus Christ our Lord!

Romans 7:24-25

Leader: There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus! Friends, this is the good news of the Gospel! Romans 8:1

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

*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:

O God, your Word is more precious than fine gold and sweeter than purest honey. As we turn to the Scriptures, send your Holy Spirit to infuse your Word with truth and grace – so that the good news of your love will shine before our eyes and delight our senses so that we cannot help but respond with wonder, faith and trust. Amen.

Psalter: Psalm 19

Leader: The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands.

People: Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they display knowledge.

Leader: There is no speech or language where their voice is not heard.

People: Their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world. In the heavens he has pitched a tent for the sun, which is like a bridegroom coming forth from his pavilion, like a champion rejoicing to run his course.

Leader: It rises at one end of the heavens and makes its circuit to the other; nothing is hidden from its heat.

People: The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul. The statutes of the LORD are trustworthy, making wise the simple.

Leader: The precepts of the LORD are right, giving joy to the heart. The commands of the LORD are radiant, giving light to the eyes.

People: The fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever. The ordinances of the LORD are sure and altogether righteous.

Leader: They are more precious than gold, than much pure gold; they are sweeter than honey, than honey from the comb. By them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.

People: Who can discern his errors? Forgive my hidden faults. Keep your servant also from willful sins; may they not rule over me. Then will I be blameless, innocent of great transgression.

Leader: May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, O LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer.

Scripture Reading: First Timothy 6:6-16

Anthem: *I Waited for the Lord* Felix Mendelssohn
Kelley McAdams, soprano
Rachel Nelson, mezzo-soprano

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: *Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun* #265

Scripture Reading: Acts 1:1-11

Sermon: Active Seeking Steve Newton

*Affirmation of Faith: Philippians 2:5-11

⁵ In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

⁶ Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;

⁷ rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.

⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death— even death on a cross!

⁹ Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name,

¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

¹¹ and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

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.

*Hymn: *Lead On, O King Eternal!* #269

*Benediction

*Choral Response: *God Be with You Till We Meet Again*

Postlude

*Please stand if you are able

ASSISTING IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Ushers: David Sanderson Gary Perdue
 Charlotte Sanderson Lynnae Perdue

Shepherd: Nancy Niehaus

Liturgist: Kristi Hachtel

Reader: Sharon Templeman

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, May 6

5:00 pm Youth

Monday, May 7

5:15 pm Soul Sisters

Tuesday, May 8

5:30 pm Handbell Practice
 5:30 pm Christian Education Committee Meeting
 7:00 pm Theology on Tap

Wednesday, May 9

7:30 pm Choir Practice

Sunday, May 13

Happy Mother's Day

9:30 am Sunday School
 11:00 am Worship Service
 Youth Sunday
 12:00 noon Communion and Graduate Reception

**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

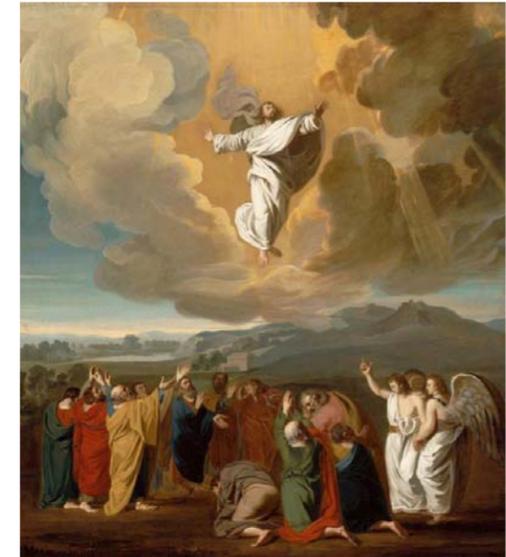
THE INVITATION TO MEMBERSHIP at Westminster Church is always open to persons who wish to join us in witness and service to Jesus Christ. If you are interested in church membership or desire more information about this congregation, please indicate on the Friendship Pad or speak to the pastor, or one 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
 903 North Street; Nacogdoches, Texas 75961

**Westminster
 Presbyterian Church
 Nacogdoches, Texas**



The Ascension
 John Singleton Copley (1738-1815)

**May 6, 2018
 Sixth Sunday of Easter**

¹In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach ²until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. ³After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. ⁴On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. ⁵For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

⁶Then they gathered around him and asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?"

⁷He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

⁹After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.

¹⁰They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. ¹¹"Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven."
 ~ Acts 1:1-11