

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

The Lord's Day

May 28, 2017

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Loving God of Hosts, in whom our parents trusted, we give thanks for all your servants who have laid down their lives in the cause of freedom. Unite all the people of this nation and your world in a holy purpose to defend freedom and brotherhood for which they lived and died. Grant, we beseech Thee, that the liberty they bequeathed unto us may be continued to our children and our children's children, and that the power of the Gospel may here abound, to the blessing of all the nations of the earth, and to your eternal glory; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Lighting the Christ Candles

Call to Worship:

Leader: The LORD brings the counsel of the nations to nothing; he frustrates the plans of the peoples.

People: The counsel of the LORD stands forever, the thoughts of his heart to all generations.

Leader: Happy is the nation whose God is the LORD, the people whom he has chosen as his heritage. Psalm 33:10-12

People: Let us worship God.

*Hymn: *God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand* #331

*Prayer of Adoration

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession:

God our Father, you led men and women to this land, and, out of conflict, created in us a love of peace and liberty. We have failed you by neglecting rights and restricting freedoms. Forgive pride that overlooks national wrong or justifies injustice. Forgive divisions caused by prejudice or greed. Have mercy, God, on the heart of this land. Make us compassionate, fair, and helpful to each other. Raise up in us a right patriotism that sees and seeks this nation's good; through Jesus Christ the 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: Wash and make yourselves clean. Take your evil deeds out of God's sight! Stop doing wrong,

People: Learn to do right! Seek justice, encourage the oppressed.
Defend the cause of the fatherless, plead the case of the widow.

Leader: "Come now, let us reason together," says the LORD.

People: "Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool." Isaiah 1:16-18

Leader: Friends, this is the good news of the gospel. 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:

Lord God, let us understand the teachings of Jesus that we may meditate upon them. Help us to understand your word that we can find comfort in sorrow and the strength to do your work. May your word guide us in right living, and through it know for sure the wonder of your grace, for we pray in Jesus' name, the Word made flesh. Amen.
Based on Psalm 119:27-29

Psalter: *Psalm 18:1-6, 15-19, 46-50*

Leader: I love you, LORD, my strength. The LORD is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

People: I called to the LORD, who is worthy of praise, and I have been saved from my enemies.

Leader: The cords of death entangled me; the torrents of destruction overwhelmed me. The cords of the grave coiled around me; the snares of death confronted me.

People: In my distress I called to the LORD; I cried to my God for help. From his temple he heard my voice; my cry came before him, into his ears.

Leader: The valleys of the sea were exposed and the foundations of the earth laid bare at your rebuke, LORD, at the blast of breath from your nostrils.

People: He reached down from on high and took hold of me; he drew me out of deep waters. He rescued me from my powerful enemy, from my foes, who were too strong for me.

Leader: They confronted me in the day of my disaster, but the LORD was my support. He brought me out into a spacious place; he rescued me because he delighted in me.

People: The LORD lives! Praise be to my Rock! Exalted be God my Savior! He is the God who avenges me, who subdues nations under me, who saves me from my enemies.

Leader: You exalted me above my foes; from a violent man you rescued me. Therefore I will praise you, LORD, among the nations; I will sing the praises of your name.

People: He gives his king great victories; he shows unfailing love to his anointed, to David and to his descendants forever.

Scripture Reading: John 8:31-38

Anthem: *The Navy Hymn* arr. Tom Scott
Westminster Men's Choir
Johnny Brown, conductor

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: *My Country, 'Tis of Thee* #337

Scripture Readings: Galatians 5:1, 13-15; Jeremiah 34:8-22

Sermon: Freedom vs. Responsibility

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:

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: *O Beautiful for Spacious Skies* #338

*Benediction

Postlude

*Please stand if you are able

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, May 28

12:00 noon Children's Choir

Monday, May 29

Memorial Day - Office closed

Tuesday, May 30

1:00 pm Sanctuary Guild

Wednesday, May 31

1:00 pm Dragonflies
7:30 pm Choir Practice

Sunday, June 4

11:00 am Worship Service
12:00 noon Communion Reception

ASSISTING IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Ushers: Al Hejl Charlotte Bock
Lois Hejl Sharon Ninness

Shepherd: Charlotte Sanderson

Liturgist: Johnny Brown

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	Class of 2018	Class of 2019
Ken Depisch	Bobbie Ann Anderson	Bruce McNellie
Bennie Kitchens	Clarence Bahs	Robin Moore
Chris Kline	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	Sue Atkins
	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.westpreschurchnet.com
E-mail: wpc4u@suddenlinkmail.com
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Westminster Presbyterian Church Nacogdoches, Texas



May 28, 2017
Seventh Sunday of Easter

¹For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

¹³For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another. ¹⁴For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁵If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another.

Galatians 5:1, 13-15