



WESTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH • BUFFALO

May 8, 2022
Worship at 10:30 AM
Fourth Sunday of Easter

OPENING VOLUNTARY

It is the tradition of this congregation to remain silent as we collectively prepare our hearts and minds for worship.

Saviour, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

William B. Bradbury (1816-1868), arr. John Kraus

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. Leach

Refugee Resettlement Update

Jerry Kelly

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

INTROIT

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

arr. Craig Courtney (b. 1954)

My Shepherd will supply my need; Jehovah is his name;
In pastures fresh he makes me feed, beside the living stream.
He brings my wandering spirit back, when I forsake his ways,
And leads me for his mercy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.
When I walk through the shades of death, his presence is my stay;
One word of his supporting grace drives all my fears away.
His hand, in sight of all my foes, doth still my table spread;
My cup with blessings overflows, his oil anoints my head.
The sure provisions of my God attend me all my days;
O may thy house be my abode and all my work be praise.
There would I find a settled rest, while others go and come;
No more a stranger, nor a guest; but like a child at home.

CALL TO WORSHIP

The people stand.

We gather together in the presence of our Shepherd God,
Who calls us each by name,
Who restores our souls,
Who leads us in the way of righteousness,
And whose goodness and love never stops pursuing us.
This is the God we have come to worship!

HYMN IN PROCESSION

The people remain standing to sing.

No. 371: Lift High the Cross

CRUCIFER

CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev. Nutter Dowling

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Patient and loving God, we stand at the gate and peer through. We keep creating our own ways, believing that we know what is in our own best interest, and we ignore the voice of the one Shepherd who will guide us to peace and hope. We wander aimlessly and then wonder why we get so lost. Forgive us, Lord. Help us stop and listen to the Shepherd's voice. Let us place our trust in the Shepherd who has never failed us, who loves and guides our lives.

The people keep silence.



KYRIE

Westminster Buffalo Service, Howard Helvey (b. 1968)

The people sing.

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.
Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Believe the good news of the gospel:
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

RESPONSE

The people stand to sing.

Glo - ry to the Cre - a - tor, and to the Son,
and to the Ho - - ly Spi - rit; As it was in the be - gin - ning,
is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - - - - - men.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

TIME WITH CHILDREN

*At this time, children 3 years and older may leave for Sunday School with their teachers.
Please have them take their belongings with them.*

Go with them, Lord, and guide their way through this and ev - ery com - ing day,
That in your Spir - it strong and true, their lives may be a gift to you.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION



PSALM

Psalm 23

Bobby McFerrin (b. 1950)

The Lord is my shepherd, I have all I need; She makes me lie down in green meadows; beside the still waters, She will lead. She restores my soul; She rights my wrongs; She leads me in a path of good things and fills my heart with songs. Even though I walk through a dark and dreary land, there is nothing that can shake me; She has said She won't forsake me, I'm in her hand. She sets a table before me in the presence of my foes; She anoints my head with oil and my cup overflows. Surely goodness and kindness will follow me all the days of my life, and I will live in Her house forever and ever. Glory be to our Mother, and Daughter, and to the Holy of Holies; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

1 John 3:16-24

¹⁶We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers and sisters. ¹⁷How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help? ¹⁸Little children, let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth. ¹⁹And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him ²⁰whenever our hearts condemn us, for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God, ²²and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him. ²³And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. ²⁴All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The people stand to sing.



GOSPEL LESSON

The people remain standing.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

John 10:11-18

¹¹"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good shepherd. I know my own, and my own know me, ¹⁵just as the Father knows me, and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. ¹⁷For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. ¹⁸No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father."

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Christ.



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The people remain standing.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - - le - lu - ia!

SERMON

Beyond the Green Pastures and Still Waters

HYMN

The people stand to sing.

No. 527: Near to the Heart of God

McAFEE

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Rev. Hennessy

OFFERTORY

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

Edward Bairstow (1874-1946)

The king of love my shepherd is, whose goodness faileth never.
I nothing lack if I am his and he is mine forever.

Where streams of living water flow, my ransomed soul he leadeth,
And where the verdant pastures grow, with food celestial feedeth.

Perverse and foolish oft I strayed, but yet in love he sought me,
And on his shoulder gently laid, and home rejoicing brought me.

In death's dark vale, I fear no ill, with thee, dear Lord, beside me;
Thy rod and staff my comfort still, thy cross before to guide me.

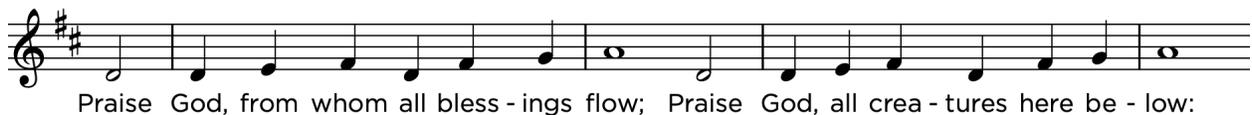
Thou spreadest a table in my sight; thine unction grace bestoweth,
And oh, what transports of delight from thy pure chalice floweth.

And so through all the length of days, thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise within thy house forever.

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

The people stand as the Deacons move forward; remain standing for the Prayer of Dedication.



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise God, all crea - tures here be - low:



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts!



Praise Je - sus Christ whose pow'r up - lifts! Praise the Spir - it, Ho - ly Spir - it!



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! A - men.



PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Holy God, Divine Shepherd, you anoint us with the oil of gladness; your love overflows our hearts. Accept our offering for the good of the world as we joyfully give thanks for our life in you. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

SENDING HYMN

The people stand to sing. This hymn may be found on the inserted page.

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

KINGSFOLD

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL RESPONSE

May the Grace of Christ Rest Upon Us

Daniel Gawthrop (b. 1949)

May the grace of Christ, our Savior, and the father's boundless love,
With the Holy Spirit's favor, rest upon us from above.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Dr. Todd E. Leach, Senior Pastor

Rev. Katelyn Nutter Dowling, Associate Pastor for Christian Education

Rev. Beth Hennessy, Pastoral Care Associate

Garrett F. Martin, Organist and Director of Music Ministries

The Westminster Choir

DEACONS SERVING TODAY

Wisdom Afealete, John Bace, Bill Currie, Carol Greetham, Tom Greetham, Stephen Johnson,
John Mahoney

CHANCEL FLOWERS

The flowers at the Lord's Table are given by Mike and Wendy Reynolds in loving memory of their mothers, Suzanne C. Read and Marcia P. Reynolds, and in honor of all mothers.

The flowers at the Pulpit are in loving memory of Marianne Weber,
given by her husband, Tom Weber.

May 22, June 5, June 12, and June 26 are open for flower donations—if you would like to purchase Sunday flowers in honor/memory of family or friends, please contact Sue Adams, hugwalker1@gmail.com or 716.883.7597.

Welcome to Westminster!

Westminster is a Presbyterian Church (USA) congregation and a progressive place of lifelong learning. Everyone is welcome to our campus to worship, rejoice in music, question, reflect, serve, and grow, regardless of age, race, socioeconomic status, sexuality, gender identity, citizenship status, or religious affiliation.

If you are visiting and would like to learn more about our programming or mission, please fill out a Welcome Card (found in the pews) and return it to a deacon or staff member, or visit our website, wpcbuffalo.org.

As a More Light church, we invite all members of the LGBTQIA+ community to membership and full participation in all ministries. As an Earth Care Congregation, we defend and heal creation through worship and education.

Wiggle Worship Bags for youth are available at the doors. Please return after worship.

If you need assistance at any time, please ask a deacon or staff member.

COVID-19 Policy - Updated April 25

Due to the rise in local COVID cases, masks will be required at all times on Westminster's campus—including during worship.

The COVID Task Force will continue monitoring and guiding Westminster's protocol. Thank you for caring so deeply for one another.

Preaching Schedule

Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 15, 2022

Rev. Dr. Todd E. Leach

John 13:31-35

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 22, 2022

Rev. Dr. Todd E. Leach

John 14:23-29

Preserve the Pinnacle Update

New organ consoles will arrive mid-May and be fully playing by Rally Day. The Holmes Chapel organ will be reinstalled in June and be completed by Rally Day.

Steeple restoration is complete and all roofing work will be finished in May; window coverings will then be removed and consultants will evaluate and advise on next steps for stained-glass restoration.

The first set of Delaware Doors were removed for refurbishment—the remaining two pairs will be completed in sequence.

Contracts have been signed for restoration of paint and plaster in the Holmes Chapel and floor refinishing in the Chapel and Sanctuary. Final decisions regarding sanctuary paint and restoration will soon take place.

Updated lighting is complete in the Holmes Chapel; updates to sanctuary lighting will take place this summer.

Keep watch for more exciting updates around our campus!

Generosity

All Things New is off to a strong start, but still short of the \$700,000 goal. Your pledge allows us to plan for the financial stability of our church. **Please send in a pledge card or submit online via our secure website, wpcbuffalo.org/atn.** Thank you for your generosity!

For more information on making a gift to Westminster, please contact Sawrie Becker, sbecker@wpcbuffalo.org or 716.884.9437 x315.

Legacy Giving Sunday is an invitation to consider how you can share the blessings God has given to you beyond your lifetime.

The word “give” appears 921 times in the bible—almost as many times as “faith,” “hope,” and “love” combined. Giving can be an expression of your faith, your hope for the future, and your love for others. Please consider a legacy gift to Westminster Presbyterian Church.

This Week

Sunday, May 8

8:15 AM Worship
9:00 AM Infant/Toddler Care
9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal
10:30 AM Worship
10:40 AM Sunday School

Monday, May 9

3:00 PM ENERGY Program

Tuesday, May 10

1:00 PM Passages Program
3:00 PM ENERGY Program
5:00 PM Budget & Finance
7:00 PM WECP Parent Board

Wednesday, May 11

7:15 AM AA Meeting
9:30 AM Worship Planning
1:00 PM Staff Meeting
3:00 PM ENERGY Program
8:00 PM AA Meeting

Thursday, May 12

12:30 PM N. Hanavan Memorial
3:00 PM ENERGY Program
6:00 PM Handbells
7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal
3:00 PM ENERGY Program

Friday, May 13

4:00 PM R. Kearney Memorial
5:00 PM Kearney Reception

Sunday, May 15

8:15 AM Worship
9:00 AM Case Library Series
9:00 AM Infant/Toddler Care
9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal
10:30 AM Worship
10:40 AM Sunday School
11:30 AM Meet & Mingle
11:30 AM Dialogue Diner

Upcoming Events

Passages Garden Party

May 10, 1 PM via Zoom

Enjoy a virtual Garden Party via Zoom featuring Micah Nutter Dowling. He will perform familiar and perhaps new songs to us, and will entertain requests. Zoom link may be found in the eNews.

Case Library Conversations Series

There are no Case Library Conversations today, as committee members will be assisting WPC's sponsorship of the Al Ali family.

May 15, 9 AM in the Library and via Zoom

Bob Poczik will speak about Isabel Wilkerson's book, "The Warmth of Other Suns." The program will bring to life and add perspectives to Wilkerson's chronicle of the migration of six million blacks from the South to cities in the North, Midwest, and Far West from 1915 to 1970.

May 22, 9 AM in the Library and via Zoom

Led by Phil Stevens, we will view a BBC documentary about "Our Lady of Medjugorje." Mary, the mother of Jesus allegedly appeared to six young people in Medjugorje, Bosnia and Herzegovina starting in 1981. The apparitions occurred over several years and have been controversial within the Catholic Church.

Civil Rights Dialogue with Dr. Reed Taylor

May 15, 11:30AM in the Library

Contact: Micah, micahnd@wpcbuffalo.org

Hear from civil rights activists about seeing social justice in action from the 1960's to today with youth grades 6-12.

Women of Westminster Garden Party

*June 7, 6 PM at the Balbach-Bace Home
7811 E. Quaker Rd., Orchard Park*

Join us June 7 for an evening of garden games, food, and fun. Dust off that hat that's been sitting in your closet and enjoy the annual Women of Westminster party!

Westminster Biking Club

Contact: Linda Leach, lindagleach@gmail.com

As the weather warms, Linda Leach and Micah Nutter Dowling will start a biking group at Westminster. Open to all types of wheels (scooters, battery-assisted, tricycles), they hope to schedule informal outings and participate in sponsored rides.

Case Library Summer Book Study

July 10-24, 9 AM in-person and via Zoom

This summer, Case Library will read Jane Goodall's *The Book of Hope*. Goodall is famous for her pioneering work with chimpanzees in Tanzania starting in the 1960's. In recent decades, she has been a tireless activist working to raise awareness and spur action on a variety of environmental issues. The book is Goodall's answer to the question, "In a world that seems so troubled, how do we hold on to hope?" Our summer conversations will take place both in-person and via Zoom. Ten copies of the book have been ordered from Talking Leaves Books. The cost is \$28 for the hardcover (no paperback available yet). There are a few copies in stock and additional books should arrive soon.



WESTMINSTER

CHURCH • EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS

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