

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

March 22, 2020

11:00 a.m.

WE GATHER TO HEAR GOD'S WORD

PRELUDE Jesus, I Will Ponder Now

Paul Manz

WESTMINSTER CHIMES

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light— for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, 'Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.'
- Ephesians 5:8-14

INTROIT Change My Heart, O God

CHANGE MY HEART

✧CALL TO WORSHIP (*responsively*)

Leader: God is in the water that restores our soul.

People: And God is in the night when we lose our way.

Leader: God is in today and tomorrow, raising up leaders, prophets and dreamers.

People: And God is in the wilderness with us—every step of the way.

Leader: So with confidence we declare—

People: If God is in those spaces, then God is surely here.

Leader: Let us worship the God of creation.

People: Let us worship the God of wilderness spaces.

✧HYMN Open the Eyes of My Heart (*sign twice*)

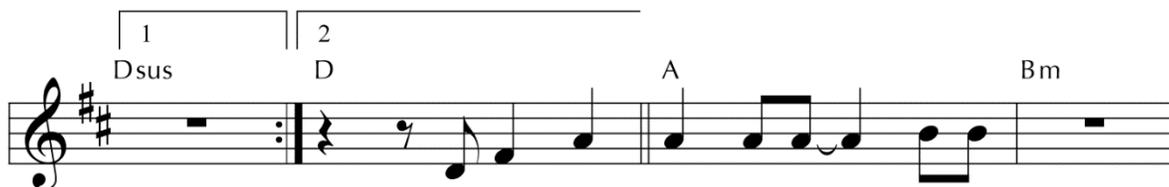
OPEN THE EYES



O-pen the eyes of my heart, Lord. O-pen the eyes of my heart;



I want to see you; I want to see you;



to see you high and lift - ed up,

shin-ing in the light of your glo - ry. Pour out your
 pow - er and love as we sing "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly."
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly.
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, I want to see you.

✧OPENING PRAYER

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(together)*

**Jesus of Nazareth,
 There are stories of you healing the blind all over scripture.
 You were constantly opening people's eyes.
 So today we confess that we often choose to keep our eyes closed.
 We turn away from injustice in our world, worried you might ask us to work for change.
 We close our eyes to our privilege, because the truth is uncomfortable.
 We avoid eye contact with those who are suffering to avoid identifying with their pain.
 Forgive us for failing to be your Church in the world.
 Guide us from the depths of our wilderness into your light. Amen.**

Time of silent, personal confession

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Friends, hear and believe the good news of the Gospel.
People: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!
 Thanks be to God. Amen.**

✧RESPONSE TO PARDON *(Hymn 579)*

GLORIA PATRI

**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.**

GOD'S WORD IS READ AND PROCLAIMED

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

Rev. Alex Lee-Cornell

A moment of silence follows the sermon

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

✠HYMN

Ho, All Who Thirst

COME NOW TO THE WATER

Refrain F All C B^b Gm7 C

Ho, all who thirst, come now to the wa - ter, and

(D) (Bm) (G) (Em) (G) (A)
F Dm B^b Gm B^b C

all whose souls are parched and wea - ry, come and drink!

(D) (A) (G) (Em7) (A)
F C B^b Gm7 C

Ho, all who thirst, come now to the wa - ter, and

(D) (Bm) (G) (D) (A) (Dsus) (D)
F Dm B^b F C Fsus F *Fine*

from your heart will flow a nev - er - fail - ing spring!

(Bm) (A) (G) (Bm) (A)
Dm C B^b Dm C

Leader or All

1 Why for - sake the Lord, the fount of liv - ing wa - ter,
2 For the Lamb will be our shep - herd and will guide us
3 All who come may take this gift of liv - ing wa - ter.

(Bm) (C) (Bm) (A) (A7)
Dm E^b Dm C C7

choos - ing bro - ken cups that can - not be filled?
to the well - springs of the wa - ter of life.
They will thirst no more, for they shall be filled.

to Refrain

✠AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*together*)

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil:

for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies:

thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:

and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever. Amen.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR CONNECTION, NURTURE AND SERVICE

Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

PRAYING FOR THE COMMUNITY

Listen to Your Children Praying (*sing twice*)

Choir sings first time, congregation joins in singing second time

CHILDREN PRAYING

Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray - ing. Lord, send your
Spir - it in this place. Lord, lis - ten to your chil - dren
pray - ing. Send us love; send us power; send us grace.

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

Offertory Anthem

Lord, Have Mercy

César Franck

✠DOXOLOGY (*Hymn 592*)

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God above, ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

✠PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND THE 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.

✠*Please rise as you are able.*

WE BEAR GOD'S WORD INTO THE WORLD

✠HYMN

Be Thou My Vision

SLANE



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true Word;
 3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise;
 4 High King of Heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,

(A) (D) (G) (A)
 B^b E^b A^b B^b



naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;
 thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways;
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!

(G) (D) (F[#]m7) (G) (A)
 A^b E^b Gm7 A^b B^b



thou my best thought, by day or by night,
 thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tower;
 thou and thou on - ly, first in my heart,
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

(Bm) (D/F[#]) (G) (D)
 Cm E^b/G A^b E^b



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
 raise thou me heaven - ward, O Power of my power.
 High King of Heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

✠BENEDICTION

✠RESPONSE God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me

GREEN TYLER

*God be the love to search and keep me; God, be the prayer to move my voice;
 God, be the strength to now uphold me: O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.*

When our worship is over, our service begins.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dear Westminster Presbyterian Church Family,

The Session has approved the following policies for Westminster Presbyterian Church, which are effective immediately and will stay in effect **through Monday, May 12**. They were made after reviewing recommendations, guidelines, and declarations from multiple agencies across all levels of government that encourage extreme “social distancing” practices and discourage all non-essential meetings, gatherings, and personal contact, in effort to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. Of course, if our situation changes, the session has the option of voting to shorten or lengthen the time period during which these policies will be in place.

- All official *in-person* meetings, events, and gatherings of Westminster Presbyterian Church are suspended. This includes worship, Sunday school, Bible study, book club, After Church Fellowship, Lenten Dinner Group, committee meetings, session meetings, staff meetings, etc. **The staff and various church members are available to assist leaders of these groups with organizing “virtual” meetings through Zoom, WebX or other platforms so that they may continue their ministry without in-person meetings.**
- **The church office is closed.** Dan, Cris, Emily, and I will often work from home, and we will coordinate with the Building & Grounds committee to make sure someone is available at the building to accept deliveries/mail and coordinate building contractors/repairs. You may call or text Pastor Alex with pastoral needs on his cell phone, 972-998-3740, and you may call or text Emily with other administrative questions on her cell phone, 214-499-4143. As always, for non-urgent matters, email is the preferred method of communication – alexl@wpcd.org, emilyc@wpcd.org, dans@wpcd.org, wppkdirector@gmail.com.

We will work to keep the website updated. In addition, **please “Like” our facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/westminsterpresbyteriandallas/>, which is the easiest way for us to share new information. It is also the virtual space where we will “gather” for public worship on Sunday mornings at 11am for the next 7 Sundays, including Palm Sunday, Good Friday, and Easter.** You may contact pastor Alex or Emily if you need help using facebook.

Finally, the session voted to continue paying all church staff and contractors “as normal” during this period. So... please remember how important it is during this crisis to continue fulfilling your pledge and offering your financial gifts to the church! At this moment, mailing a check is your only option, but we anticipate having online giving set up through our website in the next few days.

Friends, remember this too shall pass. In the meantime, “pray like Jesus, but wash your hands like Pontius Pilate,” and do not let fear and anxiety keep you from practicing compassion, generosity, faith, hope, and love.

In Christ,

Pastor Alex

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