



The Order of Worship

**February 22, 2026
9:00 and 11:00am**

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

OPPORTUNITIES AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

PRELUDE I Call to Thee, Lord Jesus Christ Johann Sebastian Bach

CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: The good news of the gospel is:

**All: manna in the desert,
water turned into wine,
love after loss,
forgiveness after pain.**

One: The good news of the gospel is:

**All: release for the captive,
hope for the hopeless,
mourning turned to dancing,
and strangers turned to friends.**

One: So come on in.

There's no time to waste!

This surprising good news is here for you.

All: Let us worship this good-news God.

TO PRAISE AND CONFESS ...

***HYMN NO. 166** Lord, Who Throughout these Forty Days

ST. FLAVIAN

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

Paul Prichard

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (Unison)

Loving God,
somewhere along the way we picked up the message that in order to be faithful, we have to be "serious."
We have to pray on our knees without ceasing.
We have to be somber in worship and quiet in our studies.
We have to check our questions at the door.
But then you show how the kingdom of God is like a mustard seed—unruly

and untamed.

You turn water into wine—surprising and extravagant.

And all of a sudden, we wonder:

Can we be like that mustard seed?

Can we be faithful and unruly?

Can we be playful and curious?

Can we be messy and still be yours?

We know the answer already.

The Spirit whispers: of course, of course, of course.

Forgive our doubt.

Pull us closer into your embrace.

With faith and joy, we pray.

Amen.

***RESPONSE** Lord Have Mercy

Healey Willan



Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.



Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us.



Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on



us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up -



on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS*

One: God's grace is wild and unruly.

God's mercy is abundant and surprising.

God's love is expansive and unending.

So if you ask, "Holy One, am I forgiven?"

the answer is and always will be:

All: of course, of course, of course.

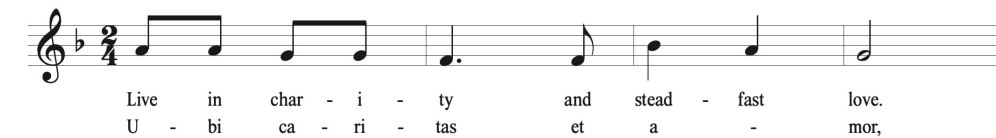
One: This is the good news of the gospel.

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

***RESPONSE** Live in Charity

UBI CARITAS



Live in char - i - ty and stead - fast love.
U - bi ca - ri - tas et a - mor,



Live in char - i - ty; God will dwell with you.
u - bi car - i - tas De - us i - bi est.

TO EXPERIENCE GOD'S WORD AND RESPOND ...

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN (11:00)

Rev. Dr. Wendy Neff

Children age 4 through 5th grade are invited to go downstairs for Children's Church.

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 4:1-11

SERMON

"What Story Are We In?"

Rev. Dr. Richard Coble

***HYMN NO. 819** Be Still My Soul

FINLANDIA

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (Unison)**

I believe in the good news of Jesus Christ.

It sounds like welcome

and feels like home.

It sounds like laughter

and feels like mercy.

It sounds like love

and feels like a seat at the table,

so I believe in the good news of Jesus Christ.

I have seen it alive in the world.

And even when my heart aches,

even when wars rage,

even when mercy feels out of reach,

I remember the one who

welcomed the children

and led with nonviolence.

I remember the one who

cared for the vulnerable

and inspired those around him.

I remember that the good news really is good news,

for I have seen it alive in the world.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

THE OFFERING

Please sign and pass the Friendship Register found on the pew nearest the center aisle. Your holding and passing the offering plate is an act of blessing and dedication to our life together in Jesus Christ.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

(9:00) Adoration

Florence Price

(11:00) Jesu Dulcis Memoria

Tomás Luis de Victoria

Jesus, the very thought of Thee, with sweetness fills my breast, but sweeter far Thy face to see, and in Thy presence rest. Text by Bernard of Clairvaux

***AT THE PRESENTATION** Doxology OLD HUNDREDTH
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all people here below;
praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE ... The Lord's Prayer**

During the Prayers of the People there will be a time of silence. You are invited to use this time for personal reflection, confession, thanksgiving, and 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.

TO GO FORTH AND SERVE ...

***HYMN NO. 618** O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High DEO GRACIAS

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE** Fugue in B flat Major Johann Sebastian Bach

NOW THE SERVICE BEGINS

*Please stand in Body or Spirit

**All liturgy by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR TODAY

PASTORAL CARE ELDERS FOR THE WEEK: Amanda Fox and Richard Ward
CARE TEAM COORDINATOR FOR FEBRUARY: Carrie Hardy and Sharon Youngs
LARGE PRINT HYMNALS/ HEARING DEVICES are available from the ushers.

SERVING TODAY

ACOLYTES: (11:00) Cassidy Mackay and Jo Niceley

GREETERS: (11:00) Georgann Byerley and Anne Crais

LITURGIST: Paul Prichard

MINISTRY OF MUSIC: Parnian Rezaei, Guest Organist;

(11:00) Chancel Choir; Pam Schneller, Conductor

SHEPHERD'S TEAM: Tom Byerley

SENIOR USHER: Bonny Naugher

USHERS: (9:00) Ken Hughes and Stephanie Lynch-Wright

(11:00) Jay Schmid, Brenda Seip, Michael Yates, Kathy Shilling and Penny Tschantz

FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY The flowers today are dedicated by Renee Wiesehuegel in an abundance of gratitude for Westminster! She thanks Property members who continually give of themselves to help keep our facility running and successfully got the youth and music rooms moved last week; grateful for the CARE team members and funeral committee who worked diligently and lovingly to oversee two beautiful Celebration of Life services last weekend, for members who gave of their time to show up to paint rooms, move boxes, call on sick ones, provide meals and reception food, hugs, and help the staff get the work done. Westminster is truly blessed to have one another and have a staff so dedicated to their ministries! She loves you!

CHILDREN'S OFFERINGS AT WESTMINSTER

During 10:00 Hour - Nursery available for children ages 0-3 years old

Sunday School for Preschool through 5th grade

During 11:00 Hour - Nursery available for children 0-3 years old

Children's Church for children Preschool through 4th grade

Children will be walked to Children's Church classes following the Time with Children during the 11:00 worship service

PRAYER LIST (Please keep the following names in your prayers this week)

Sonja Jones, Judy and Joseph Moon, Lalla Phillips, Kitty Rasa, Doris Solomon, Vicki Chapman, Barbara McNew, Breeze Blankenship, Lucinda Albiston, Cile Mathews, Betty Collins, Byron Morginen, Dixie Rury (friend of Mary Sophia Hawks), Gloria Borum's brother, Mike, Bill Wiesehuegel, Charlie Mercer, Rush Niceley, Donna Davis, the Manrod family.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES (10:00am)

Adult Bible Study is reading the Book of Acts. (Prayer Room)

Feasting on the Word: Studies scriptures used in Worship (McKinnon)

The Wired Word: Discusses current events with a theological eye (Library)

WEDNESDAYS AT WESTMINSTER WILL START ON FEBRUARY 25

We start with dinner at 5:30pm and follow with two program offerings for Adults:

1. Mindfulness Practices: Finding Inner Calm in Chaotic Times lead by David Dupper
2. The Gospel of Matthew: A Tale of Two Empires lead by Wendy Neff



Wednesdays at Westminster for Kids (aged PreK-5th Grade)

Eddie Johnson

We're excited to invite all children to an engaging Wednesday night program during Lent! Each week, kids will gather for fun, interactive Bible lessons, creative activities, music experiences, and meaningful stories that help them learn what it means to walk with Jesus during the Lenten season.

KidSong will be offered to Pre-K through Second Grade where we learn songs, play music games, and participate in interactive stories. Older elementary students will have the opportunity to play hand chimes and learn Lenten and Easter hymns.

Lesson plans will be based on resources from Ministry to Children:

<https://ministry-to-children.com/lenten-bible-lessons-for-kids/>

The Youth will be joining Amanda to practice mindfulness in David Dupper's class.

ORGAN CONCERT Please join us this Friday, February 27 at 7:00pm as organist Kola Owolabi, international recitalist and Professor of Organ at the University of Notre Dame (IN), performs. This concert will feature works by J.S. Bach, Vincent Lübeck, Orlando Gibbons, and Brenda Portman.



WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

"Where Faith and Life Connect"

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Rev. Dr. Richard Coble, Pastor/Head of Staff

Rev. Gradye Parsons, Parish Associate

Rev. John Linton Muntz, Parish Associate Emeritus

Amanda Fox, Interim Youth Director

Dr. Edie Johnson, Music Director/Organist

Jennifer Manrod, Assistant Children's Director

Renee Wiesehuegel, Office Manager/Bookkeeper

Joanna Warren, Administrative Assistant

Debbie Bendy, Abbey Editor

Benjamin Dockter, Worship Tech

OUR WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, February 22

9:00am - Worship

10:00am - Sunday School

11:00am - Worship

12:15pm - Associate Pastor Nominating Committee meeting

12:15pm - Justice Knox Congregational Meeting (LKH)

12:15pm - Stated Session Meeting (McK)

3:45pm - Treble Choir

5:00pm - Youth Fellowship

6:00pm Crafting Theology

Tuesday, February 24

10:00am - Staff Meeting

11:00am - Program Staff Meeting

Wednesday, February 25

4:30pm - Companions

5:30pm - Wednesday at WPC

7:00pm - Chancel Choir

Thursday, February 26

8:30am - Men's Breakfast (McK)

6:00pm - Handbells

Friday, February 27

7:00pm - Musica Organi - Kola Olowabi

Saturday, February 28

9:00am - Youth at FISH

THE SESSION

Class of 2026

Bill Farnham

Lee Ingram

Lucy Johnson

Kathryn Oakes

Richard Ward

Youth Elder: Bobby Powell

Class of 2027

George Barber

Mary Boyd

Allie Brewington

Emily Gustafson

Ken Hughes

Class of 2028

Amanda Fox

Mary Jo Mann

Tim Ryan

Ginger Williams

Michael Yates

Clerk of Session: Bitsy Ingram

OFFERING



You are welcome to give during the offering as the plates are shared, or you may contribute online through our secure giving page: www.wpcknox.org/donate-options/. Offerings can also be made by scanning this QR code.

YOUTH NEWS TODAY, February 22 - Youth from 5 - 7 PM! Elizabeth Birdwell will be providing the meal. Please let Amanda know if your youth can attend so we can get a headcount for food!

February 28th: Youth are attending FISH pantries! We will leave the church at 10:30 AM and return by 2:30 PM. Everyone please pack a lunch! If you haven't RSVP'd, please do so!

Upcoming Churchwide Retreat: This is going to be a really fun weekend from April 17th - 19th. The youth will have programming, and will be hanging out all weekend! If you haven't already, make sure you sign up!

Montreat: If your high school youth is attending Montreat this summer from June 14th - 20th, please let Amanda know! The more kids we can sign up before April 1st, the more money you and the church will save! ***WE NEED CHAPERONES! If you are able to help chaperone, please let Amanda know!

Middle School Maryville Retreat: This retreat is for rising 6th graders to outgoing 8th graders at Maryville College from July 15 -19th. Please let me know if your youth is interested and I will reach out with more details. ***WE NEED CHAPERONES! If you are able to help chaperone, please let Amanda know!



JUSTICE KNOX CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

JusticeKnox TODAY a one-hour luncheon meeting will take place in the Lisa Kaufman Hall. We will share some exciting issue updates on both Housing and Transportation. Then we will take some time to work on our invitation lists for the April meeting called the Nehemiah Action Assembly. We have some techniques which will make this an easy process. The goal for each of us will be to invite 9 people so that we can each get 6 commitments resulting in at least 3 people coming to the Assembly. Remember, we had 1566 at the Assembly last year and our goal this year is 2026. We can achieve that goal if each of us brings 3 guests to the meeting. Please join us after the service and enjoy a tasty lunch while we listen to updates and put together our invitation lists. See you there.

NAME TAGS The Connect Ministry Team would like for people to know who do not hang their lanyards in the Narthex that an additional name card has been printed for them to make them double sided and that it is available in your office.

SAVE THE DATE! Summer Camp at Westminster July 20-24. Fellowship, Music, Formation, and FUN! Last year's VBS/Choir Camp was a big hit and we look forward to welcoming campers this July. Watch for more details soon!



SPRING RETREAT UPDATE...A LOT HAS BEEN HAPPENING!

The team planning the retreat scheduled for April 17-19 continues to be busy putting together what is shaping up to be a wonderful weekend in the mountains. Retreat registrations and hotel reservations are coming in almost daily, and plans are coming together for the various activities planned for the weekend. Here is a sampling of where things stand:



Come Closer — An All-Family Retreat Weekend

begins on Friday Night. Join us for a joyful weekend of connection, creativity, and community! We'll begin Friday night with an intergenerational time of fellowship where everyone comes together to meet our speaker, explore the retreat theme, and experience the heart of serious play — learning and growing through hands-on creativity with LEGOS.

On Saturday morning, Adults, youth, and children will split up to think about, talk through, and explore their gifts and how they can find purpose and courage to connect within the whole of God's community. Elementary school students will focus on naming and claiming their gifts, youth will think about how necessary all pieces (and people!) are for wholeness to be realized, and adults will focus on how curiosity can help us come close to our neighbors. We will end our time together with some sharing and a blessing before setting off on more fun and fellowship together.

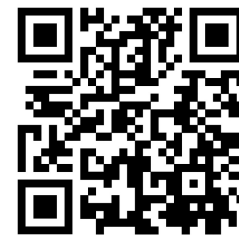
Square Dancing at the Lodge on Saturday Night. How about some good old fashion square dancing! Yes, the team is looking to line up a seasoned square dance caller and accompanying musicians to put us through our paces on the dance floor. We hope this will be a truly intergenerational event, for young and old alike, and a chance for everyone to try out their square dancing shoes and moves on the dance floor.

Anyone for Pickle Ball, Hiking, and Golf? Saturday afternoon will be a time for the athletic and outdoor set, as a pickle ball tourney, a hike on one of the trails in the national park, and a golf outing have been scheduled. There is also an indoor swimming pool at the Lodge, and a fitness room for those who would like to do some toning up. Other activities may be scheduled as we get closer to the retreat. If you have an idea for a Saturday afternoon activity, let us know.

Please don't forget to register your attendance and make your lodge reservations, as the deadline for both is fast approaching. This retreat is designed for the whole family: meaningful faith moments, playful discovery, and space to connect across generations. Come build, laugh, reflect, and grow together — there's something here for everyone.

Registration is open now through March 15, 2026.

This fee covers your breakfast both mornings, as well as your lunch and dinner on Saturday. You can also purchase retreat shirts during this registration process. Please feel free to come by the church office if you need assistance in registering.



Room reservations open through March 15, 2026. A block of 70 rooms has been set aside for our group at a reduced rate.