



Westminster Presbyterian Church

125 N. Wilkinson Street • Dayton, OH 45402

www.westminsterdayton.org

Service for the Lord's Day – March 1, 2026 Second Sunday in Lent – Communion

"I would go so far as to say that any worship service that does not begin with a sincere and plaintive *kyrie elaison* had best be very careful. The plea for mercy at the beginning of many Christian worship services is a statement and warning that we are moving onto holy ground. We most likely do not know what we are talking about when we speak of God, so we best start with humility. We all and forever need mercy. One wonders what our theologies and worship would look like if we always began with an honest statement of our not knowing the real nature of holy mystery." – Richard Rohr, *The Tears of Things*

CARILLON PEAL

CALL TO WORSHIP IN MUSIC

Suite for Organ

Louis-Nicolas Clerambault

Plein Jeu - Basse de Cromorne - Flutes - Caprice sur les grands jeux

(During the Call to Worship in Music you are requested to enter into a time of silence, actively opening your spirit to God's presence in your midst.)

INTROIT - "O Worship the Lord"

German Chorale

Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness!

Bow down before him, his glory proclaim;

With gold of obedience, and incense of lowliness,

Kneel and adore him: the Lord is his name!

*WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP IN WORD

The Reverend Nancy S. Hodgkins

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

(Please greet your neighbor with a verbal greeting or enthusiastic wave.)

*HYMN 257 - "Give Praise to the Lord"

Laudate Dominum

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

Eternal God, our judge and redeemer, we confess that we have tried to hide from you, for we have done wrong. We have lived for ourselves, and apart from you. We have turned from our neighbors, and refused to bear the burdens of others. We have ignored the pain of the world, and passed by the hungry, the poor, and the oppressed. In your great mercy forgive our sins and free us from selfishness, that we may choose your will and obey your commandments; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

(Silence is kept for personal confession.)



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

DECLARATION OF PARDON

Leader: God's grace is from everlasting to everlasting. Believe this Good News!
People: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Amen.**

*RESPONSE (all sing) - Hymn 98 (stanza 3)

Passion Chorale

**What language shall I borrow to thank thee, dearest friend,
For this thy dying sorrow, thy pity without end?
O make me thine forever; and should I fainting be,
Lord, let me never, never outlive my love to thee.**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON - Ezekiel 36:25-28

Pew Bible, p. 805 OT

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

(Children in Pre-K–Grade 2 will leave the service at this time.
An adult leader will be in the Narthex to escort them to their classrooms.)

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON - John 3:1-17

Pew Bible, pp. 93-94 OT

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

COMMUNION MEDITATION

The Reverend Dr. Caitlin T. Deyerle

A New Heart: The Prophetic and Spiritual Practice of Confession

"A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you, and I will remove
from your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh." - Ezekiel 36:26

RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP

The Reverend Dr. Curtis Baxter

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

ANTHEM - "Greater Love Hath No Man"

John Ireland

Many waters cannot quench love, neither can the floods drown it. Love is strong as death.
Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. Who his own
self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto
righteousness.

Ye are washed, ye are sanctified, ye are justified, in the name of the Lord Jesus. Ye are a chosen
generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, that ye should show forth the praises of him who
hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

I beseech you, brethren, by the mercies of God that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice,
holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Leader: Friends, this is the joyful feast of the people of God!

People: People will come from east and west, and from north and south, and sit at table in the kingdom of God.

Leader: This is the Lord's table. Our Savior invites those who trust him to share the feast which he has prepared. According to Luke, when our risen Lord was at table with his disciples, he took the bread, and blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him.

*HYMN 507 - "I Come with Joy"

Dove of Peace

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Leader: The Lord be with you,

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts!

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of Hosts,
Heaven and earth are full of Thy glo - ry:
Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord Most High. A - men.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING THE ELEMENTS

(Elders and Deacons will serve the elements at the front of the Chancel. You are invited to come forward, as directed by the ushers. When you come forward, you will be served a piece of gluten-free bread, and you may take a cup: wine is red; grape juice is white. After you partake, leave your empty cup, and return to your seat using the side aisles. If you prefer, a Deacon or Elder will serve you in your pew. Grades 3-8 meet in the Narthex after taking communion.)

COMMUNION CHORAL MEDITATION - "Lamb of God"

German Chorale, arr. F. Melius Christiansen

Lamb of God most holy!
Who on the cross didst suffer,
Patient still and lowly,
Thyself to scorn didst offer;
Our sins by thee were taken,
Or hope had us forsaken:
Have mercy on us, O Jesus!

CLOSING PRAYER 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.

*HYMN 308 - "O Sing a Song of Bethlehem"

Kingsfold

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

* **RESPONSE** (all sing)

Tallis Canon

**Throughout these Lenten days and nights
We turn to walk the inward way,
Where, meeting Christ, our guide and light,
We live in hope till Easter day.**

CONCLUDING VOLUNTARY - Rigaudon from *Almira*

George Frideric Handel

(The Concluding Voluntary is the final Alleluia of our worship.
You are invited to remain in silence.)

*Please rise in body or spirit.

What is Lent? Lent is the season of the church that begins with Ash Wednesday and lasts for 40 days before Easter (excluding Sundays). When it was first devised, it had a particular reference to the instruction of candidates for baptism at the great festival of redemption at Easter. Today, Christians are encouraged to take on the challenge of some spiritual sacrifice and/or improving their participation in some spiritual practice, such as prayer, hospitality, or stewardship.

Today's Music: Clerambault's suite (Call to Worship in Music) comes from a period of French organ composition when composers gave as titles of the music the stops which the organist was expected to use. For example, the second movement of Clerambault's suite calls for the Cromorne (forerunner of the Clarinet) stop to be used for the bass part.

"I Come with Joy" (Hymn 507) became immediately popular when it was published in 1977. Brian Wren's simple words suggesting important theological themes are most significant. Written to sum up a series of sermons on the meaning of Communion, it begins with the personal "I" but ends with the corporate "Together met, together bound, we'll go our different ways." As we share in the Lord's Table we are bound in fellowship, but then must go out into the world to "live and speak his praise."

Music Participants: Westminster Choir - Colleen Green, Soprano - Aaron Meece, Baritone - The Reverend John Neely is Organist-Director.

Choirs for children and youth today. New members welcome!

Children's Choirs and Youth Handbells (Sundays)

11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Genesis Singers (4 and 5 year olds, Pre-Kindergarten) - Rm. 104 - Hilary Toerner, Director

Cherub Choir (grades K-2) - Theater - Rachael Boezi, Director

Calvin Choir (grades 3-6) - Rm. 100 (Choir Room) - John Neely, Director

Knox Ringers (grades 7-12) - Rm. 203 - Brent Manley, Director

Youth Choir

Knox Choir (grades 7-12) - Choir Room - John Neely, Director

5:00-6:00 p.m.

All are welcome. Dinner and Youth Fellowship groups follow.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Please stop by our Children's Ministry check in desk anytime between 9:40-10:05 to record your child's attendance and receive their name tag.

Infants and Toddlers, Room 108 (Infant - 3 years old), are cared for from 8:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in Room 108. Parents of infants will be contacted via text by the nursery staff in case immediate communication is needed while they worship in the Sanctuary. During the worship hour, children take part in an activity and enjoy a snack.

Junior High and Senior High Youth Fellowships meets from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. All youth in grades 7 through 12 are welcome. Dinner will be served at 6:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Please bring \$3.00 to help cover the cost of dinner.

LIFE OF THE CONGREGATION

Welcome Visitors: We are so glad to welcome you to worship with us today! Whether you are just passing through or looking for a new church community, we hope you feel right at home. At Westminster we believe that Jesus welcomes all people, just as they are, and so do we. We understand the life of faith to be a journey that is better walked together than alone. Following worship please join us for Cof-

fee and Conversation in the Fellowship Hall, or join one of our Sunday School classes. We hope you will explore the bulletin as well as our website www.westminsterdayton.org to learn more about us. Please leave us your name and contact information in the Friendship Pad so we can get to know you as well! Grace and peace to you. -Westminster Pastoral Staff and Congregation

The Rev. Dr. Richard Baker is away on vacation. He will return to the church building next week.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

"Forsythia for Cynthia." The Chancel flowers are given with love and gratitude by Julie Schrodi, "For my twin sister, Cynthia McNamee, and in honor of the sisterhood among all women and the strength and support we bring to one another and to the world."

If you are interested in donating Chancel flowers, please contact Kay Berg (bergkay07@gmail.com or 937-367-9297). Please note that there is a one month lead time for flower donation announcements.

Emergency Response Team: Jenna Bertke, Warren Assink

If you have a security concern please notify the head usher who can connect you to our security personnel.

Each week the churches of the Presbytery of the Miami Valley keep one particular congregation or group in their prayers. This week the churches are praying for **Xenia United Presbyterian Church**.

Westminster is a praying church and we would love to pray for you. You are welcome to **add your prayer to our Prayer Wall**, located in the Sanctuary near the front on the east wall. You will find paper and pencil to write your private prayer to God and place it between the bricks of the wall. If you have a prayer request you would like to share with our **Westminster Prays weekly email**, please use the Prayer Request Card in the pew rack and place it in the offering box following worship. You can sign up to receive the Westminster Prays email and share prayer requests or other pastoral needs directly with our pastoral staff by emailing caitlin@westminsterdayton.org or calling 937-907-6078.

No members currently known to be in the hospital at this time.

Daylight Saving Time Begins Next Sunday, March 8
Remember to move your clocks forward one hour next Saturday night, March 7!



FLOODING DISASTER IN COLOMBIA

In recent weeks, the northern part of the Colombia has been pounded by an unprecedented storm system. Official reports indicate that 70% of the Córdoba province is under water, affecting 24 of its 30 districts. Flooding from the Sinú and San Jorge Rivers has affected more than 50,000 families, including many from our churches and rural worshipping communities, even families of members of churches in Baranquilla. If you would like to donate to support our friends in

Colombia through this difficult time, please make checks to Westminster Presbyterian



Hunger Sunday, Today Please consider making a financial donation to support people in our community living in food insecure homes. All gifts to the Hunger Fund will support the Dayton Foodbank.



EARTH STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY TEAM

Electronic, Disposable Razor, Oral Care Product Recycling & Fair Trade Sale

Earth Stewardship Ministry Team, Today This Sunday and every first Sunday of the month – sponsored by the Earth Stewardship Ministry Team (ESMT). Bring old power cords, cell phones, remote controllers, even fax machines and laptops, and ESMT will ensure they are properly recycled. Limited Fair Trade items will be sold at a table in front of the kitchen as well. Consider also supporting the Oral-B/Crest program offering to recycle oral care products. You can bring in used toothbrushes, brush heads, toothpaste tubes, mouthwash containers, floss containers, floss string, and floss picks.

MINISTERS

All members of the Church

STAFF

Richard L. Baker, Jr. Pastor/Head of Staff
John W. Neely Assoc. Pastor for Music
Nancy S. Hodgkins Assoc. Pastor for Youth & Mission
Caitlin T. Deyerle Assoc. Pastor for Congregational Care
Jenne Gross Mission Associate
Kylie Hettinger Director of Discipleship
Brent Manley Music Associate
Curtis T. Baxter Pastoral Affiliate

Mattie Pennington Congregational Care Coordinator
Tim Francis Business Manager
Brittany Campbell Director of Communications
Donna Schoonmaker Office Manager
Wayne King Facilities and Technology Coordinator
Keith Spencer Sexton
George H. McConnel Pastor Emeritus



The Lent Calendar of Events is Available Online

Join us this Lenten season as we celebrate the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. A full schedule of events is available on our website (www.westminsterdayton.org/lent).



Join our Children's Ministry for Bowling at Poelking Lanes South (8871 Kingsridge Dr, Dayton, OH 45458) for an afternoon of fun! Open to all ages! Bring your friends and family! Please RSVP so we can plan accordingly.



You are invited to share in the decoration of the Chancel for Easter morning by sponsoring white lilies and other spring flowers. The Easter Sunday bulletin will include names of the donors and names of those being recognized. You are welcome to take your sponsored flower home with you after the 11:00 a.m. service or to leave the flower, which will be delivered by the Deacons and other caregivers to Westminster members who may need to be uplifted.

It is suggested that gifts be at least \$12, but we will honor any amount you wish to include. Information and payment may be submitted using our website (www.westminsterdayton.org), or you may return the form below and payment to the Church Office. Checks should be made payable to Westminster Presbyterian Church with Easter Flowers written on the memo line.

Deadline for receipt is Monday, March 30

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WESTMINSTER CHURCH EASTER FLOWER FUND
Please print names as you wish them to appear in the bulletin.

In honor of _____

In memory of _____

Celebrating _____

I will pick up my flower(s) after the 11:00 a.m. Easter Service.
 My flower(s) may be given to another member in need of uplifting.

Given by _____

Suggested donation: \$12. Amount enclosed \$_____.

Deadline is Monday, March 30

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The Transformational
Alchemy of Tears in Things
Wednesdays in Lent

Led by The Rev. Dr. Curtis Baxter and The Rev. Nancy Hodgkins

5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Wednesdays in the West Parlor before Taizé

The Second Century Church established a calendar reflecting the birth, life, death, resurrection, and establishment of the Church. Lent begins on February 18, with Ash Wednesday, marking a 40-day period of abstinence, charity, contemplation, fasting, and prayer, mirroring Jesus's wilderness experience.

In Lent 2026, Westminster invites members and friends to study Richard Rohr's book, *The Tears of Things*, which addresses living amid violence and despair by connecting with divine love.

Discussion topics will include:

- February 25: The Path of the Prophet: Isaiah and Martin Luther King, Jr.
- March 4: The Role of Anger: Jeremiah and Greta Thunberg
- March 11: Collective Evil: Micah and Desmond Tutu
- March 18: Alchemy of Tears: Lamentations and Joanna Macy
- March 25: Growing Toward Love with the Prophets and Etty Hillesum

Join us for contemplation and prayer during this Lent season.

Having a copy of the book is not required to participate in the class, but may enrich your experience.



Lenten
CHORAL VESPERS
REQUIEM BY MOZART

SUNDAY, MARCH 15, 4:00 P.M.
WESTMINSTER CHOIR WITH
ORGAN AND TIMPANI
FREEWILL OFFERING

The Fellowship dinner originally scheduled to follow Choral Vespers on March 15, has been canceled due to the renovation of the building.



Today, 11:30 a.m., NEW LOCATION Room 211
Our Parents Fellowship Class is exploring a new resource for families to talk about faith together. Each week we will discuss a lesson from the book *New Directions for Holy Questions* by Claire Brown and Anita Peebles. After sharing some insights as a group we will send you home with a copy of the week's lesson to discuss as a family. No advanced preparation or reading required! **Join us in 211 our NEW ROOM upstairs.**



Today, 11:20 a.m. West Parlor
"If I've ever written a book that says what I feel about God and the universe, this is it." — Madeleine L'Engle on *A Wrinkle in Time*.

It's extraordinary when a book stays in print for over sixty years and sells ten million copies. It's even more extraordinary when that book was first rejected by some twenty-eight different publishers. But such has been the fate of Madeleine L'Engle's *A Wrinkle in Time*.

The book is extraordinary in other ways too: a children's book (it won the prestigious Newberry Medal in 1963) that address time travel, quantum physics, and theology (with characters named, Mrs. Whatsit, Mrs. Who, and Mrs. Which), it's also a work of science fiction that (extraordinary for the time) features a female protagonist.

Sarah Kiewitz will introduce Madeleine L'Engle and her writing this Sunday, and subsequent classes will travel through the time with Meg Murry, Charles Wallace, and Calvin O'Keefe. Join us!



Thank you for coming to Westminster today! We hope to see you again soon. If you enjoyed the service, and want to help us continue to share the love of God with our neighbors and transform their lives, please consider donating to our ministries. Donation boxes are located in the Narthex and by the elevator. You can also donate online at www.westminsterdayton.org/give or by scanning the QR code to the left with the camera of any smart device. You can also text "give" to 937-468-4003.

Church Calendar March 1 – March 7

Sunday, March 1

- 8:30am-12:00 pm** Hunger Sunday
8:30 am-12:30 pm Nursery Birth - Age 3, Nursery
9:00am-9:45am Confirmation Class, 228
9:15am-9:45am Westminster Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room
10:20am-11:30am Children 1st & 2nd Grades, 103 , 105
10:20am-11:30am Children Pre-K & K, 101
10:40am-11:30am Children 3rd & 4th Grades, 109
10:40am-11:30am Children 5th-8th Grades, Theater
11:00am-12:30pm Coffee & Conversation, Fair Trade Fellowship Hall
11:15am-12:15pm Knox Ringers Rehearsal 207, 203, 205
11:30am-12:15pm Calvin Choir Rehearsal, 100 Choir Room
11:30am-12:15pm Cherub Choir Rehearsal, Theater
11:30am-12:15pm Genesis Singers Rehearsal, 104
11:20am-12:15pm Adult Education, West Parlor
11:30am-12:15pm Parent Fellowship, 211
12:15pm-1:00 pm PYC Meeting, Library
5:00pm-6:00pm Knox Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room
5:00pm-6:00pm Youth Advisors Meeting, 102
6:00pm-8:00pm Youth Dinner & Fellowship Grades 7-12, Fellowship Hall

Monday, March 2

- 7:00 pm-9:00pm** DGMC Rehearsal, Choir Room
7:15 pm-9:15pm Bach Society Rehearsal, Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, March 3

- 6:00pm-7:00 pm** Session Dinner with Confirmands, Fellowship Hall
7:00pm-10:00pm Session Meeting, West Parlor

Wednesday, March 4

- 9:00am-12:00pm** Staff Meeting, West Parlor
10:00am-12:30pm ID Ministry, 101, 103, 105
5:00pm-6:00pm Lenten Study, West Parlor
6:00pm-6:40pm Lent Taizé Service, Sanctuary
6:40pm-7:30pm Lent Taizé Dinner, Fellowship Hall

Thursday, March 5

- 5:30pm-6:30pm** Virtual E&P Committee, Zoom
6:00pm-7:15pm Carillon Bells Rehearsal, 301
6:00pm-7:15pm Westminster Ringers Rehearsal, 207, 203, 205
7:30pm-9:30pm Westminster Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room

* Please note these dates and times are subject to change. This calendar does not include all private meetings and events in the church. Please contact church staff to reserve meeting space.

"Give Praise to the Lord" (257)

Give praise to the Lord, and sing a new song,
Amid all the saints God's praises prolong;
A song to your maker and ruler now raise,
All children of Zion, rejoice and give praise.
With timbrel and harp and joyful acclaim,
With gladness, and mirth, we praise your great
name;
For now in your people good pleasure you seek,
With robes of salvation you cover the meek.
In glory exult, all saints of the Lord;
With song in the night high praises accord;
Go forth in God's service and strong in God's
might
To conquer all evil and stand for the right.
For this is God's word: the saints shall not fail,
But over the earth their power shall prevail;
All kingdoms and nations shall yield to their sway.
To God give the glory; sing praises for aye.

"I Come with Joy" (507)

I come with joy to meet my Lord,
Forgiven, loved, and free,
In awe and wonder to recall
His life laid down for me,
His life laid down for me.

I come with Christians far and near
To find, as all are fed,
The new community of love
In Christ's communion bread,
In Christ's communion bread.

As Christ breaks bread and bids us share,
Each proud division ends.
The love that made us, makes us one,
And strangers now are friends,
And strangers now are friends.

And thus with joy we meet our Lord.
His presence, always near,
Is in such friendship better known:
We see and praise him here,
We see and praise him here.

Together met, together bound,

We'll go our different ways,
And as His people in the world, fount
We'll live and speak his praise,
We'll live and speak his praise.

"O Sing a Song of Bethlehem" (308)

O sing a song of Bethlehem,
Of shepherds watching there,
And of the news that came to them
From angels in the air:
The light that shone on Bethlehem
Fills all the world today;
Of Jesus' birth and peace on earth
The angels sing alway.

O sing a song of Nazareth,
Of sunny days of joy,
O sing of fragrant flowers' breath,
And of the sinless boy:
For now the flowers of Nazareth
In every heart may grow;
Now spreads the fame of his dear name
On all the winds that blow.

O sing a song of Galilee,
Of lake and woods and hill,
Of him who walked upon the sea
And bade its waves be still:
For though, like waves on Galilee,
Dark seas of trouble roll,
When faith has heard the master's word,
Falls peace upon the soul.

O sing a song of Calvary,
Its glory and dismay;
Of him who hung upon the tree,
And took our sins away:
For he who died on Calvary
Is risen from the grave,
And Christ, our Lord, by heaven adored,
Is mighty now to save.