

Westminster Presbyterian Church

The Lord's Day, April 5, 2020



WPC exists to develop in ourselves and others a passion for the glory of God and the preeminence of Christ in all of life and in all the world, as revealed in the infallible, inerrant Word of God alone.

The Lord's Day

April 5, 2020 10:15 a.m.

***THE CALL TO WORSHIP (READ ALOUD)**

PSALM 100

Pastor: Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth.

All: Worship the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.

Pastor: It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

All: Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise,

Pastor: Give thanks to him and praise his name.

All: For the Lord is good and his love endures forever;

Pastor: His faithfulness continues through all generations.

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION (*THE VALLEY OF VISION*)**

My Dear Lord,

I can but tell thee that thou knowest I long for nothing but thyself, nothing but holiness, nothing but union with thy will. Thou hast given me these desires, and thou alone canst give me the thing desired. My soul longs for communion with thee, for mortification of indwelling corruption, especially spiritual pride. How precious it is to have a tender sense and clear apprehension of the mystery of godliness, of true holiness! What a blessedness to be like thee as much as it is possible for a creature to be like its Creator! Lord, give me more of thy likeness; Enlarge my soul to contain fullness of holiness; Engage me to live more for thee. Help me to be less pleased with my spiritual experiences, and when I feel at ease after sweet communings, teach me it is far too little I know and do. Blessed Lord, let me climb up near to thee, and love, and long, and plead, and wrestle with thee, and pant for deliverance from the body of sin, for my heart is wandering and lifeless, and my soul mourns to think it should ever lose sight of its Beloved. Wrap my life in divine love, and keep me ever desiring thee, always humble and resigned to thy will, more fixed on thyself, that I may be more fitted for doing and suffering.

For all the saints who from their labors rest,
Who Thee by faith before the world confessed,
Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might,
Thou, Lord, their Captain in the well fought fight;
Thou, in the darkness drear, their one true Light; Alleluia! Alleluia!

O may Thy soldiers, faithful, true, and bold,
Fight as the saints who nobly fought of old,
And win with them the victor’s crown of gold: Alleluia! Alleluia!

The golden evening brightens in the west
Soon, soon to faithful warriors comes their rest
Sweet is the calm of paradise the blest Alleluia! Alleluia!

But lo! there breaks a yet more glorious day
The saints triumphant rise in bright array
The King of Glory passes on His way Alleluia! Alleluia!

From earth’s wide bounds, from ocean’s farthest coast,
Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
Singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia! Alleluia!

READING OF SCRIPTURE

2 Samuel 15:1-12

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*THE VALLEY OF VISION*)

Holy Lord,

I have sinned times without number, and been guilty of pride and unbelief, of failure to find thy mind in thy Word, of neglect to seek thee in my daily life. My transgressions and short-comings present me with a list of accusations, But I bless thee that they will not stand against me, for all have been laid on Christ; Go on to subdue my corruptions, and grant me grace to live above them. Let not the passions of the flesh nor lustings of the mind bring my spirit into subjection, but do thou rule over me in liberty and power. I thank thee that many of my prayers have been refused — I have asked amiss and do not have, I have prayed from lusts and been rejected, I have longed for Egypt and been given a wilderness. Go on with thy patient work, answering ‘no’ to my wrongful prayers, and fitting me to accept it. Purge me from every false desire, every base aspiration, everything contrary to thy rule. I thank thee for thy wisdom and thy love, for all the acts of discipline to which I am subject, for sometimes putting me into the furnace to refine my gold and remove my dross. No trial is so hard to bear as a sense of sin. If thou shouldst give me choice to live in pleasure and keep my sins, or to have them burnt away with trial, give me sanctified affliction. Deliver me from every evil habit, every accretion of former sins, everything that dims the brightness of thy grace in me, everything that prevents me taking delight in thee. Then I shall bless thee, God of Jeshurun, for helping me to be upright.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON (READ ALOUD)**

“But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”
(Romans 5:8)

***Hymn of Assurance #307**

“Nothing But the Blood”

What can was away my sin? Nothing but the blood of Jesus;
What can make me whole again? Nothing but the blood of Jesus.
O precious is the flow that makes me white as snow;
No other fount I know, nothing but the blood of Jesus.

For my cleansing this I see, nothing but the blood of Jesus;
For my pardon this my plea, nothing but the blood of Jesus.
O precious is the flow that makes me white as snow;
No other fount I know, nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Nothing can for sin atone, nothing but the blood of Jesus;
Naught of good that I have done, nothing but the blood of Jesus.
O precious is the flow that makes me white as snow;
No other fount I know, nothing but the blood of Jesus.

This is all my hope and peace, nothing but the blood of Jesus;
This is all my righteousness, nothing but the blood of Jesus.
O precious is the flow that makes me white as snow;
No other fount I know, nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Now by this I'll overcome, nothing but the blood of Jesus;
Now by this I'll reach my home, nothing but the blood of Jesus.
O precious is the flow that makes me white as snow;
No other fount I know, nothing but the blood of Jesus.

* **CONFESSION OF FAITH**
NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of the Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God;
begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made; who, for us and for our salvation,
came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary,
and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered and was buried, and the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures,
and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father;
and He shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead;
whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son;
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets; and
we believe in one catholic and apostolic church;
we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;
and we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

SONG OF CONFIDENCE

“Before the Throne of God Above”

Before the throne of God above I have a strong and perfect plea;
A great High Priest whose name is love, who ever lives and pleads for me.
My name is graven on His hands; My name is written on His heart.
I know that while in heav'n He stands, no tongue can bid me thence depart,
No tongue can bid me thence depart.

When Satan tempts me to despair, and tells me of my guilt within
Upward I look and see Him there, who made an end of all my sin.
Because the sinless Savior died, my sinful soul is counted free.
For God, the Just, is satisfied to look on Him and pardon me,
To look on Him and pardon me.

Behold Him there the risen Lamb, my perfect spotless, Righteousness.
The great unchangeable I Am, the King of Glory and of grace.
One with Himself, I cannot die. My soul is purchased by His blood.
My life is hid with Christ on high, with Christ my Savior and my God,
With Christ my Savior and my God.

PASTORAL PRAYER

One or more of the group can pray for the following:

- God would be merciful and put an end to the spread of the coronavirus.
- God would use this world-wide health crisis for his glory and that many would come to saving faith in Jesus Christ through this.
- That our hearts would be calm and trusting in the Lord in the midst of uncertainty.
- For missionaries Joel & Stephanie Swanson (MTW France)
 - Strong and healthy marriage
 - Personal spiritual growth
 - Evangelistic Opportunities to arise through the coronavirus epidemic
- Officer training
- Sick & Suffering at WPC
- Pregnant Mothers
- Pray for God to bless the preaching of the Word

THE READING OF SCRIPTURE

MARK 3:31-35

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD OF GOD

REV. CHAD WATKINS

“Family Ties”

1. Jesus’ Natural Family

2. Jesus' Spiritual Family

***HYMN OF RESPONSE #534**

“O for a Closer Walk with God”

O for a closer walk with God, a calm and heav'nly frame,
A light to shine upon the road that leads me to the Lamb!

Return, O holy Dove, return, sweet messenger of rest;
I hate the sins that made thee mourn, and drove thee from my breast.

The dearest idol I have known, whate'er that idol be,
Help me to tear it from thy throne, and worship only thee.

So shall my walk be close with God, calm and serene my frame;
So purer light shall mark the road that leads me to the Lamb.

*** THE BENEDICTION (READ ALOUD)**

“The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.”
(Philippians 4:23)