



Westminster Presbyterian Church

*My words fly up, my thoughts remain
below: Words without thoughts never to
heaven go. —Claudius, in Shakespeare's
Hamlet*

*You can't pray a lie—I found that out.
—Huck Finn, in Mark Twain's The
Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*

**March 4, 2018
Third Sunday in Lent**

RESPONSE (all sing) - "O Sacred Head Now Wounded" (stanza 3)
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.

Passion Chorale

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Jennifer Vicarel

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON - Psalm 51:1-2, 6-12

Pew Bible, p. 520 OT

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM - "Jacob's Ladder"

Traditional carol, arr. Simon Lindley

As Jacob with travel was weary one day,
At night on a stone for a pillow he lay;
He saw in a vision a ladder so high
That its foot was on earth and its top in the sky:

*Alleluia to Jesus who died on the tree,
And has raised up a ladder of mercy for me!*

This ladder is long, it is strong and well-made,
Has stood hundreds of years and is not yet decayed;
Many millions have climbed it and reached Zion's hill;
And thousands by faith are climbing it still.

Come, let us ascend! All may climb it who will;
For the angels of Jacob are guarding it still:
And remember, each step that by faith we pass o'er,
Some prophet or martyr has trod it before:

And when we arrive at the haven of rest
We shall hear the glad words, "Come up hither, ye blest,
Here are regions of light, here are mansions of bliss."
O, who would not climb such a ladder as this?

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON - John 8:25-31

Pew Bible p. 101 NT

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

***HYMN 383 - "My Faith Looks Up to Thee"**

Olivet

(At the beginning of the hymn, children in Pre-K - second grade may leave for Children and Worship and Come and See. They will be met in the Narthex, the main Sanctuary entrance, and escorted to Rooms 102 and 104.)

SERMON

The Reverend Dr. Richard L. Baker, Jr.

You Can't Pray a Lie

Text: "Then Jesus said . . . 'you will know the truth,
and the truth will make you free.'" —John 8:31

***STATEMENT OF FAITH**

From A Brief Statement of Faith Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
The Reverend Nancy S. Hodgkins

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father.

In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community.

But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator.

Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God's condemnation.

Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation.

In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.

Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

(During the Offertory, please fill out the Fellowship Pads and pass them up and down the pews in order that we may greet one another by name after worship.)

Offertory Anthem - Prayer to Jesus

George Oldroyd

Jhesu, since thou me made and bought,
Be thou my love and all my thought,
And help that I may to thee be brought,
Withouten thee I may do nought.

Jhesu, thou must do thy will,
And nothing is that thee may let (hinder),
With thy grace, my heart fulfill,
My love and my liking in thee is set.

Jhesu at (in accordance with) thy will I pray that I might be,
All my heart fulfill, with perfect love to thee.
That I have done ill Jhesu forgive thou me,
And suffer me never to spill (perish, be lost).
Jhesu for pity. Amen.

SILENT PRAYER, PASTORAL 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 446 - "Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken"** *Austrian Hymn*
(As a symbol of our call to "Take the light of Christ into the world," the Acolytes carry the flame out of the Sanctuary. At the beginning of the hymn, children attending CrossRoads: Education for the Journey and youth attending the Youth Class will be met in the Narthex.)

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***RESPONSE** (all sing) - "Throughout These Lenten Days and Nights" *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 - Prelude and Fugue in E Minor *Nicolaus Bruhms*
(The Concluding Voluntary is the final Alleluia of our worship.
You are invited to remain in silence.)

*Please rise in body or spirit.

Head Usher: Dick Stevens
Church Office Receptionist: Virginia Miller
CPR/AED: Sean Hearrell, Steve Hamilton

Head Greeter: Peter Davies
Bus Driver: Robbie Nash

Music Participants: Westminster Choir – Todd Berry, Tenor – Kathy Clark, Alto – Amy Potter, Soprano – Brent Manley, Baritone – John Neely is Organist-Director.

Today's Music: "When Morning Gilds the Skies" (Hymn 487) is essentially a hymn of praise and not strictly a morning hymn. Any time is the right time to offer praise to Jesus Christ – morning, evening, work, or prayer. The original text had 14 stanzas! Barnby's tune, *Laudes Domini*, has helped to make the hymn popular with its final rousing musical phrase for the words "May Jesus Christ be praised."

George Oldroyd (1887–1956) was an English organist and composer of Anglican church music. He was organist of St. Alban's Church, Holborn, from 1919 to 1920, and then of St. Michael's Church, Croydon, from 1920 until his death in 1956. Both are churches firmly rooted within the Anglo-Catholic tradition in the Church of England. He wrote quite a variety of music including masses, songs, and organ music.

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
Susan G. Hamilton..... Pastoral Affiliate for Congregational Care
Denise C. Weaver..... Interim Assoc. Pastor for Spiritual Growth
Jerry Taylor..... Music Associate
Jenne Gross..... Mission Associate

Craig Showalter Business Administrator
Amanda Newhart Executive Assistant to Dr. Baker
Kate Stephenson Administrative Assistant
Miranda Watt..... Administrative Assistant
Brittany Campbell Administrative Assistant
Wayne King..... Maintenance Supervisor
Marvin Fleming..... Sexton

Lenten Classes on Prayer and Prayer Practices

Prayer is a way of life which allows you to find a stillness in the midst of the world where you open your hands to God's promises and find hope for yourself, your neighbor, and your world.
—Henri J.M. Nouwen

The topic of Prayer is our focus at Westminster Church this Lenten season. Four of our classes offered on prayer and prayer practices began this past Wednesday with two other classes beginning today. You are invited to participate in a class and it is not too late to sign up either on the sign-up sheets in the Narthex or on our website. Class descriptions, meeting times, and locations are listed below.

WEDNESDAY CLASSES, offered at 5:00 p.m., February 21 through March 21.

PRAYER FOR DAILY LIVING

This class will focus on five prayer practices that can be used for personal and group prayer and devotions. Topics will include: Examen, Lectio Divina, Breath Prayer, Journal/Writing, and Listening Stones. Group discussion and interest may lead us in additional directions. Taught by Vail McGuire and Brent Manley. (West Parlor)

MINDFUL UNWINDING – THE ART OF JOURNALING

Come and explore artful prayer and scripture journaling through decorative lettering, symbols, and simple drawings in response to reading scripture using Lectio Divina. Time will be given during this class for quiet meditation and journaling. Taught by Laura Bascom. (207-209)

FOUNDATIONAL PRAYER (Class begins around 5:10 p.m.)

This class will examine some of the prayer philosophies and practices of founding church leaders John Knox and John Wesley. What did they believe, say to others, and do in their own prayer lives? In each class, we will explore how the prayer guidance and practices of these deeply faithful figures still can inform and enrich our prayer lives today. Taught by Gene Saunders. (206)

SEE SOMETHING? PRAY SOMETHING

We often think of prayer happening with eyes closed, but that relegates prayer to so few moments. How can we pray when we're walking, driving, reading the news, or gazing at our phones? How can we develop a constant habit of noticing, pausing, breathing, praying? As a group, we'll practice various visual and mobile prayers, as well as adapt often sedentary prayer practices to movement. To be a calming prelude to Taizé worship, the class will focus on practice more than lecture or discussion. Taught by Sarah Kiewitz. (Library)

SUNDAY CLASS, offered at 9:00 a.m., February 25 through March 25.

WRITTEN RESPONSES TO PRAYER PRACTICES

Taught by Kay Berg. (207-209) This class is now full.

SUNDAY CLASS, offered at 11:20 a.m., February 25 through March 25.

HISTORICAL TEXTS OF PRAYER

Taught by Richard Baker. (West Parlor)

Sign up in the Narthex or online (www.westminsterdayton.org).

A daily Lenten devotional booklet, entitled "Finding Peace in Lent" is available in the Church Office. This devotional provides the opportunity to reflect upon and pray the St. Francis Peace Prayer along with a daily scripture passage and a suggestion for putting one's prayer into action. The cost is \$1.

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.

Taizé Services during Lent

Wednesdays, March 7, 14, 21

The Service on March 21 will be a Service of Healing and Wholeness

6:00 p.m. - Service (Sanctuary)

6:40 p.m. - Light Supper
(\$6.00 in Fellowship Hall)

~ Meditative services of songs and prayers in candlelight ~

All are welcome.

Childcare (Infant - grade 2) available at 6:00 p.m. service

The word "Taizé" may be unfamiliar to some. For many people the name "Taizé" evokes a certain style of singing that has become popular in more and more churches, retreat centers, campus religious groups and even seminaries. For some the word also suggests retreats and gatherings which attract large numbers of young adults. Still others are aware that Taizé is in fact an ecumenical community located in a small village in eastern France. This community has produced some of the most beautiful and moving music that has ever been composed for participation by the whole community of faith (congregation, choir, clergy, and instrumentalists).

Add your prayer to our Prayer Wall, located in the Sanctuary near the Chancel on the east wall. You will find blank prayer papers and pencils in the four mini-desks built into the wall. Write your prayer on the paper, roll up the paper, and insert it between the bricks of the wall. These prayers are completely private, between you and God. After the first Sunday of each month, the wall will be cleared and all prayer papers will be respectfully burned. Prayer Wall postcards are now available to send to someone for whom you prayed. They are located in the Prayer Wall mini-desks and the Narthex.

I will call upon you, O Lord; come quickly to me: give ear to my voice when I call to you. Let my prayer be counted as incense before you. Psalm 141:1-2a.

CONCERT BY YOUTH CHOIRS

**Next Sunday, March 11
7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary**

Knox Choir (grades 7-12)
Te Deum Ringers (grades 9-12)
Carillon Bells (grades 7 and 8)

A variety of music will be presented

- Songs of the Early Church
- Songs from America (including a medley from *Godspell*)
- Songs of global praise, celebration and prayer
- Spirituals, folk songs, and music in the Gospel tradition

Following the program please join us in Fellowship Hall for a Dessert Buffet.

A SPECIAL NOTE TO OUR VISITORS THIS MORNING

Thank you for your presence here in worship today. Every Sunday God blesses us with the gift of new visitors. Some of you have come across town or across the country and found your way here today. This may be your first time ever, or first time in a long while to be in a church on a Sunday morning. Or you may be a member of another congregation. Whatever tradition you may have come from, we are delighted to have you here today and invite you to experience our worship, Coffee Hour, Sunday classes, or whatever captures your imagination and need. To learn more about us, visit our website, www.westminsterdayton.org, "Like Us" on Facebook, take a brochure from the pew rack, or contact the Church Office.

We have good news for you: Westminster is a safe place to ask questions and to live the questions of life that have no easy or pat answers. 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 better walked together than alone. Westminster is an exciting congregation where you can grow in faith and discover meaningful opportunities to be a part of a community *where loving God and neighbor is transforming lives*. That's our purpose. And that takes all of us.

God's grace and peace to you this day,
Westminster Pastoral Staff and Congregation

WELCOME VISITORS!

We are glad you are here. During the offertory, we hope you will take the opportunity to provide your name and contact information on the Fellowship Pad when it gets passed to you in the pew. After the service today, please stop by our "Welcome Center" just outside the Sanctuary's double doors. We have a small gift for you today to say, "Thanks for being here today" and for adding to our worshipping community.

Have you enjoyed visiting Westminster? Would you like to know more about us and how to become a member of our congregation? Do you wonder what it really means to be a Presbyterian? If so, you are invited to our Spring Investigating Church Membership Seminar that begins on April 8. It meets Sundays, directly after worship, from 11:05 a.m. to 12:15 p.m., in the Library (across from the Sanctuary on the East side). Let us know if you plan to attend by writing "ICM" and circling it on the Fellowship Pad, or by e-mailing Denise Weaver (Denise@westminsterdayton.org) or by calling the Church Office (223-7285).

PARISH NOTES

The flowers in the Chancel are given in memory of Robert M. Stofer and Larry Stofer by Wanda Stofer and family.

Don't miss the opportunity to have your **blood pressure checked** in the Chapel Reception Room immediately following worship.

Please join us following worship for **Coffee Hour**, downstairs in Fellowship Hall. You are invited to enjoy some light refreshments and fellowship. Donation containers for members are placed near the coffee.

Electronics recycling is available today and the first Sunday of each 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. Deposit items in the bin beside the Fair Trade products table in Fellowship Hall after worship.

Fair Trade food products will be on sale today during Coffee Hour in Fellowship Hall. The Earth Stewardship Ministry Team will be selling coffee, tea, nuts, and chocolate. Put your faith into action as together we create a greener and more just food system.

Come walk the Labyrinth, noon-7:00 p.m., this Tuesday, March 6, in Fellowship Hall. Invite a friend to come along for the journey. All are welcome.

During Lent, the **Earth Stewardship Ministry Team** hopes you will join us in asking our creator God, through prayer, to help us remember we are part of

God's creation, all of which is precious to God. Celtic Prayer: *O, King of the Tree of Life, the blossoms on the branches are your people, the singing birds are your angels, the whispering breeze is your Spirit. O, King of the Tree of Life, may the blossoms bring forth the sweetest fruit, may the birds sing out the highest praise. May your Spirit cover all with his gentle breath.*

Large print bulletins, hymnals, Bibles, and sermons are available in the Narthex, from an usher, or on the table by the elevator.

During the service, if you notice someone who appears to require **medical attention**, please *raise your hand or contact the head usher*. Response Team members will care for the person.

If someone asks you for money, we encourage you instead to give them one of Westminster's Emergency Assistance Cards, which are available in the Narthex or the Church Office.

Each week the churches of the Presbytery of the Miami Valley keep one particular congregation in their prayers. This week the churches are praying for **First Presbyterian Church, Troy**.

Need to speak with a pastor after worship? Here is where you can find them: Richard – Narthex; Sue – Perry St. door; Denise and Nancy – Fellowship Hall.

ADULT EDUCATION

Lenten Prayer and Prayer Practices Classes
See insert for details and schedule.

DONATIONS

Our iPad **giving kiosks** are located in the Narthex near the Sanctuary doors. They accept contributions for any program of the church. Donations may be made by Visa, Master Card, or Discover credit cards. Donations may even be made anonymously.

Use your smart phone to scan the QR code on the back cover of the bulletin to visit our website and donate now electronically.

INFANTS AND CHILDREN

Infants and Toddlers (Infant - 4 years old) are cared for from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in Room 108. Parents of infants are provided a beeper by the nursery staff in case immediate communication is needed while they worship in the Sanctuary. During the worship hour, the older toddlers participate in a faith formation class, First Lessons in Faith, take part in an activity, and enjoy a snack.

We welcome young children to worship in our Sanctuary at Westminster today with cloth worship bags freshly stocked with new quiet, worship-related activities, including a Children's Bulletin and felt board designed specifically for today's service. Not all bags are the same! Next week, your child will likely find a different, new activity inside his or her bag. The bags can be found in a basket on a bench in the Narthex (main Sanctuary entrance) and upstairs in the balcony. All children are invited to use one throughout the worship time and then return the bag to its original location, taking the papers home with them.

MISSION

Today is **Hunger Sunday**. Please place canned food for the needy in our area on the table in the Narthex. A monetary gift may also be given.

Mission Trip—Westminster will be sending an inter-generational mission team to Fayetteville, NC, to do ongoing Hurricane Matthew relief. The trip is open to anyone over the age of 16 (14 and 15 with an adult sponsor). We will be staying at Highland Presbyterian Church. Register today on the church website. Contact Nancy Hodgkins (nancy@westminsterdayton.org or 223-7285) for more information.

MUSIC

Choirs for children and youth today. New members are welcome! See back page for schedule.

Are you interested in **singing with the Westminster Choir for our May Festival Concert** on Sunday, May 6, at 7:00 p.m.? The choir will be expanded for this

very special event - "Handel Fest." The concert will include excerpts from *Messiah*, including "Hallelujah," and *Judas Maccabaeus*, as well as two Coronation Anthems and portions of Water Music. The entire concert will be accompanied by full orchestra. Interested individuals should contact John Neely (223-7285 or john@westminsterdayton.org).

YOUTH

Youth Class (grades 7-12) meets on Sunday mornings from 10:55 to 11:30 in Room 301. Youth interested in participating should meet in Room 301 at the beginning of the final hymn. This interactive, relational, Bible study class is coordinated by Gene Saunders.

Junior High and Senior High Youth Fellowships will not meet this evening due to the extended Knox Choir Rehearsal. Youth Fellowship will resume on March 18. Please plan to attend the Youth Choirs Concert next Sunday, March 11.

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Please help your pastors help our members, especially in times of illness or accident. When you, a relative, or friend enter the hospital, or are scheduled for inpatient or outpatient surgery, please phone the Church Office with that information - name, place and date.

No members are known to be in the hospital as of Thursday, March 1: Recently hospitalized and released: Marilyn Williams; Stephen Vining.

**Daylight Saving Time begins
next Sunday, March 11.**

Be sure to move your clocks ahead one hour before retiring on Saturday evening.



*Westminster Presbyterian Church:
Where Loving God and Neighbor Is Transforming Lives*

Event Schedule

Visit our website at www.westminsterdayton.org for possible calendar changes.

Sunday, March 4			
8:30	Hunger Sunday	Narthex	
	Nursery (birth - age 4)	108	
9:00	Lenten Class: <i>Written Responses to Prayer Practices</i>	207-209	
	Confirmation Class (grades 9-12)	WP	
9:15	Westminster Choir Rehearsal	100	
9:30	Blood Pressure Check	CRR	
10:00	Worship	Sanctuary	
10:20	First Lessons in Faith for Toddlers (ages 3-4)	106	
	Children and Worship (Pre-K—K)	102	
	Come and See (grades 1 and 2)	104	
10:55	CrossRoads: Education for the Journey (grades 1-6)	101/105/107	
	Youth Class (grades 7-12)	301	
11:00	Blood Pressure Check	CRR	
	Coffee Hour	FH	
11:20	Lenten Class: <i>Historical Texts of Prayer</i>	WP	
11:30	Genesis Singers (ages 4-5, Pre-K)	104	
	Cherub Choir (grades K-2)	Theater	
	Calvin Choir (grades 3-6)	100	
	Carillon Bells (grades 7-8)	301	
	Te Deum Ringers (grades 9-12)	203-205	
12:15	Presbyterian Youth Council (PYC)	301	
1:00	J.Y. How-VanderMeer Student Recital	WP/Sanctuary	
5:00	Knox Choir Extended Rehearsal (grades 7-12)	100	
Monday, March 5			
7:00	Dayton Gay Men's Chorus Rehearsal	100	
Tuesday, March 6			
12:00	Labyrinth Walk	FH	
	Staff Meeting	WP	
4:30	Miami Valley Pipe Band Lessons	211	
6:00	Session Meeting w/ Confirmands	Chapel/WP	
Wednesday, March 7			
10:00	ID Ministry	Chapel/CRR	
12:30	Program Staff Meeting	WP	
	ID Ministry Training	Chapel/CRR	
5:00	Lenten Classes (see insert for classes and locations)		
6:00	Taizé Service	Sanctuary	
6:40	Light Supper	FH	
6:45	Deacons Planning		Library
7:00	Evening Circle		WP
Thursday, March 8			
10:00	Coffee, Caring, and Crafts Circle		WP
6:00	Presbytery Colombia Network		CRR
6:15	Westminster Ringers Rehearsal		203-205
6:30	Small Group/Lake		Library
	DGMC Committee Meeting		211
7:30	Westminster Choir Rehearsal		100
Friday, March 9			
9:30	Church Partners Meeting		Library
Saturday, March 10			
No Scheduled Events			
Sunday, March 11			
8:30	Nursery (birth - age 4)		108
9:00	Lenten Class: <i>Written Responses to Prayer Practices</i>	207-209	
	Confirmation Class (grades 9-12)	WP	
9:15	Westminster Choir Rehearsal	100	
10:00	Worship	Sanctuary	
10:20	First Lessons in Faith for Toddlers (ages 3-4)	106	
	Children and Worship (Pre-K—K)	102	
	Come and See (grades 1 and 2)	104	
10:55	CrossRoads: Education for the Journey (grades 1-6)	101/107/109	
11:00	Coffee Hour / Confirmation Reception	FH	
11:20	Lenten Class: <i>Historical Texts of Prayer</i>	WP	
11:30	Genesis Singers (ages 4-5, Pre-K)	104	
	Cherub Choir (grades K-2)	Theater	
	Calvin Choir (grades 3-6)	100	
	Carillon Bells (grades 7-8)	301	
	Te Deum Ringers (grades 9-12)	203-205	
5:30	Carillon Bells and Te Deum Ringers Rehearsal	Sanctuary	
5:50	Knox Choir Rehearsal (grades 7-12)	Sanctuary	
7:00	Knox Choir and Youth Bell Choirs Concert	Sanctuary	
8:00	Dessert	FH	



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