

Westminster By-The-Sea Presbyterian Church
The Rev. Dr. Jeffrey Sumner
The Fourth Sunday in Lent
March 27, 2022

Lent is the season of 40 days before Easter, not counting Sundays. It is a season of extra prayer, sacrifice, service, and renewed spiritual disciplines.

During these 6 Sundays, the cross and candlesticks, when used, are wood; and the flower containers are wicker instead of silver. The flags are removed and there is no Gloria sung again until Easter.

Gathering

Permission for today's liturgy is from *Growing Faith Resources; Follow Me:*
"Practice Spiritual Disciplines"

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PRELUDE "Elegy" Jason Krog
Handbell Choir

ANNOUNCEMENTS Dr. Sumner

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsively)

One: Draw near to God.
ALL: **And God will draw near to us.**
One: When we unplug, we connect with God and others.
ALL: **Let us also keep company with Jesus.**
One: Let us offer our praise now.

*HYMN 49 "The God of Abraham Praise" *Leoni*
The God of Abraham praise, who reigns enthroned above,
the Ancient of Eternal Days, the God of love!
the Lord, the great I AM, by earth and heaven confessed,
We bow before your holy name, forever blest.

Your Spirit still flows free, high surging where it will.
In prophet's word you spoke of old, and you speak still.
Established is your Law, and changeless it shall stand,
Deep writ upon the human heart by your strong hand.

Your goodly land we seek, with peace and plenty blest,
a land of sacred liberty and Sabbath rest.
There milk and honey flow, and oil and wine abound,

and trees of life forever grow with mercy crowned.

You have eternal life implanted in the soul;
Your love shall be our strength and stay, while ages roll.
We praise you, Living God! We praise your holy name:
the first, the last, beyond all thought, and still the same!

*CALL TO PRAYER

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)
Lord of new life, you knew it was important to take time away from the demands placed on us. Sometimes we fill boredom or blank spaces with the quick fix of staring at a screen. Help us to unplug at regular times; to stand in awe under the stars, or gaze at the power or tranquility of the ocean, or delight in a child's laughter. Help us to pause, to be silent, and to be receptive to all you have to give us in life, and life renewed. Amen. (Silence)

*KYRIE Arr. David N. Johnson
Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

*OUR HOPE FOR FORGIVENESS

The Word

MESSAGE FOR CHILDREN

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE FIRST LESSON – Genesis 2: 1-3

QUARTET “How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds” L. Larson

THE SECOND LESSON – Mark 6: 30-34

One: This is the Word of the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God!

SERMON “Unplug” Dr. Sumner

HYMN 824 “There is a Place of Quiet Rest” McAfee
There is a place of quiet rest, near to the heart of God,
a place where sin cannot molest near to the heart of God.

Refrain:
O Jesus, blest Redeemer, sent from the heart of God,
hold us, who wait before thee, near to the heart of God.

There is a place of comfort sweet, near to the heart of God,
a place where we our Savior meet, near to the heart of God. [Refrain]

There is a place of full release, near to the heart of God,
a place where all is joy and peace, near to the heart of God. [Refrain]

Thanksgiving

PASTORAL PRAYER

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.

RECEPTION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

This congregation continues to need offerings to support the staff and missions we have. Please consider your offering at this time. Checks may be mailed or put in the offering plates if in person. Credit card and PayPal contributions: www.wbts.org.

OFFERTORY “The Voice of Peace” Paxton

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Sending

*HYMN 307 “God of Grace and God of Glory” *Cwm Rhondda*
God of grace and God of glory, on thy people pour thy pow'r;
crown thine ancient Church's story, bring its bud to glorious flow'r.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage for the facing of this hour, for the facing of this hour.

Lo, the hosts of evil round us scorn thy Christ, assail his ways.
From the fears that long have bound us free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage for the living of these days, for the living of these days.

Cure thy children's warring madness; bend our pride to thy control;
shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal,
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.

Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore;
let the gift of thy salvation be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
serving thee whom we adore,
serving thee whom we adore.

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Postlude on a Theme by Orlando Gibbons”

Thiman

Announcements

FLOWERS HAVE BEEN GIVEN BY:

Roger and Donna Jones, in celebration of their 39th anniversary.

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP: If you would like to know more about membership and affiliate membership at Westminster, please call the church office and Rev. Sumner will call you.

LENT PRAYER SERVICES continue Wednesday at 5:30.

SPIRES: Copies of the Spire, our monthly newsletter, are available in the Narthex from one of our ushers.

LITURGIST: Mary Ann Sumner

A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING has been called by the Session for the close of the 11 am service today in person to hear a report by Rev. Sumner and to concur with his request to retire on September 1, 2022.

UKRAINE ASSISTANCE: Should you wish to support the humanitarian effort in Ukraine through the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, 100% of your funds go to the cause. Give at www.pda.pcusa.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 30	Lent Prayer Service	5:30 p.m.
April 3	Fifth Sunday in Lent	8:45 & 11 a.m.
April 6	Lent Prayer Service	5:30 p.m.
April 10	Palm Sunday	8:45 & 11 a.m.
April 14	Maundy Thursday Service	7:30 p.m.
April 15	Good Friday Service	12 p.m.
April 17	Easter Sunday	8:45 & 11 a.m.