
WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Public Service of Worship

February 11th, 2018

The Sixth Lord's Day of Epiphany



*“You shall stand up before the gray head and honor
the face of an old man, and you shall fear your God:
I am the Lord.*

- LEVITICUS 18:32

Welcome to Westminster Presbyterian Church. We are grateful to have you join us today, as we offer worship to God through our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

A few notes to help you fully participate:

Our worship will keep you busy! We often think of worship as “singing songs” and “hearing a sermon,” but there is greater depth available to us. We pray and read together, we use our bodies, we hear, and eat, and respond, and all from the heart.

Please note that when the congregation is to read, the type will be boldfaced and indented:

[Leader] The Lord be with you!

***[Congregation]* And also with you!**

Please note the * and § symbols to indicate standing or standing and raising hands.

THE LORD'S SUPPER: Also known as “communion”, the Lord’s Supper is rite of fellowship between Christ and His people. We invite all who have been initiated into the family of God by baptism, and admitted to table fellowship by the leadership of this or some other church, to join in the communion service by faith. If you haven’t been baptized, please speak with the pastor or elders before the service if you would like to come to join in the Holy Supper.

CHILDREN: You will notice many children in our service today. Jesus welcomed little children to Himself, and so we welcome them in our worship service! We understand that this means baby noises and wiggly children, and we're fine with that. If your child is fussy or needs a little time to quiet down, we have a mother's nursery in the side room. We're happy to accommodate your family in any way we can.

TODAY’S WORSHIP: Solomon’s penultimate statement: life is beautiful. Even this life, here, under the sun. Put away Gnosticism and the idea that the body is worthless because it’s temporary, and we live where our God put is: under the sun, in bodies that inevitably get old, and eventually betray us. Prepare to live well, to die well, and to face old age. Look for themes that remind us we are getting old, and to embrace the life we are given, at whatever age.

APOSTOLIC GREETING AND WELCOME

SILENT MEDITATION: ISAIAH 35:3

Strengthen the weak hands,
and make firm the feeble knees.
Say to those who have an anxious heart,
Be strong; fear not!

Please take this time of silence to prepare your hearts before the Lord.

***CALL TO WORSHIP: PSALM 148:12b-13**

Young men and maidens together,
old men and children!
Let them praise the name of the LORD,
for his name alone is exalted;
his majesty is above earth and heaven.

§DOXOLOGY

**Praise God from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him all creatures here below;
Praise Him above ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

***PRAYER OF PRAISE**

***HYMN: O WORSHIP THE KING NO. 2**

** Please stand if you are able. § Please stand and raise your hands.*

***RESPONSIVE READING: PSALM 148**

Praise the LORD!

Praise the LORD from the heavens;

praise him in the heights!

Praise him, all his angels;

praise him, all his hosts!

Praise him, sun and moon,

praise him, all you shining stars!

Praise him, you highest heavens,

and you waters above the heavens!

Let them praise the name of the LORD!

For he commanded and they were created.

And he established them forever and ever;

he gave a decree, and it shall not pass away.

Praise the LORD from the earth,

you great sea creatures and all deeps,

fire and hail, snow and mist,

stormy wind fulfilling his word!

Mountains and all hills,

fruit trees and all cedars!

Beasts and all livestock,

creeping things and flying birds!

Kings of the earth and all peoples,

princes and all rulers of the earth!

Young men and maidens together,

old men and children!

Let them praise the name of the LORD,

for his name alone is exalted; his majesty is above earth and heaven.

He has raised up a horn for his people,

praise for all his saints,

for the people of Israel who are near to him. Praise the LORD!

KINGDOM PRAYER

At the conclusion of each request, we implore the Lord's mercy to hear our prayers, as follows:

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our Prayer.

We pray for the following:

- The Kingdom of God to arrive through the preaching of the Gospel, and obedience to Christ.*
- The Leaman family in Brazil.*
- The candidates and interns of our Presbytery.*
- A great national turning away from divorce and immorality, and the establishment of families.*
- Civil servants, including police and firefighters.*

OFFERTORY AND PRAYER

HYMN: *SING TO THE LORD, SING HIS PRAISE NO. 62*

***SCRIPTURE READINGS**

We give thanks for the Word of God with the following statement after each reading:

The Word of the Lord,

Thanks be to God.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON & SERMON TEXT: ECCLESIASTES 12:1-8

Remember also your Creator in the days of your youth, before the evil days come and the years draw near of which you will say, "I have no pleasure in them"; ²before the sun and the light and the moon and the stars are darkened and the clouds return after the rain, ³in the day when the keepers of the house tremble, and the strong men are bent, and the grinders cease because they are few, and those who look through the windows are dimmed, ⁴and the doors on the street are shut—when the sound of the grinding is low, and one rises up at the sound of a bird, and all the daughters of song are brought low — ⁵they are afraid also of what is high, and terrors are in the way; the almond tree blossoms, the grasshopper drags itself along, and desire fails, because man is going to his eternal home, and the mourners go about the streets— ⁶before the silver cord is snapped, or the golden bowl is broken, or the pitcher is shattered at the fountain, or the wheel broken at the cistern, ⁷and the dust returns to the earth as it was, and the spirit returns to God who gave it. ⁸Vanity of vanities, says the Preacher; all is vanity.

NEW TESTAMENT READING: TITUS 2:1-15

GOSPEL READING: LUKE 2:22-38

CONFESSION OF FAITH: THE LARGE EMDEN CATECHISM (1551)

Q. 47. What is the fifth commandment?

R. You shall honor your father and mother that you may live long in the land, and that your affairs may succeed in the land which the Lord your God will give you.

Q. 48. How is that commandment observed?

R. When we hold the father and mother, above all other men in the land, in the highest and most worthy place in our hearts, according to God's command; when we love them, attend them with all grace, reverence, obedience, service, and respect; and especially when we help them in unfavorable things such as old age and sickness, and assist them to the utmost of our resources, as often as they require.

Q. 49. Tell me why; for what reason?

R. Because it is honorable that after they have begotten us in sorrow, supported, and reared us with great labor, we will also honor them and relieve their poverty, old age, and misfortune by service and sympathy.

Q. 50. How is that commandment violated?

R. When from a spirit of pride toward God we despise father and mother, when we are disobedient or ungrateful to them, and as has been said above do not humbly respect, support, and reverence them in all things.

PRAYER FOR THE SERMON

SERMON: *THE GOLDEN BOWL*, REV. JERID KRULISH

***HYMN:** *DAY BY DAY AND WITH EACH PASSING MOMENT* NO. 676

***THE APOSTLES' CREED**

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell[°]. The third day he rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting.

Amen.

EXHORTATION TO CONFESSION: EPHESIANS 4:25-32

Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another. Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and give no opportunity to the devil. Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need. Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

[°] lit. *hades*, i.e. under the power of death

PUBLIC CONFESSION: PSALM 38:18,22

We confess our iniquity;
We are sorry for our sin.
Make haste to help us,
O Lord, our salvation!
Amen.

†SILENT REPENTANCE

ASSURANCE OF PARDON: ZECHARIAH 8:4-8

Thus says the Lord of hosts:

Old men and old women shall again sit in the streets of Jerusalem, each with staff in hand because of great age. And the streets of the city shall be full of boys and girls playing in its streets.

Thus says the Lord of hosts:

If it is marvelous in the sight of the remnant of this people in those days, should it also be marvelous in my sight, declares the Lord of hosts?

Thus says the Lord of hosts:

Behold, I will save my people from the east country and from the west country, and I will bring them to dwell in the midst of Jerusalem. And they shall be my people, and I will be their God, in faithfulness and in righteousness.

DECLARATION OF ABSOLUTION

After the declaration, let the congregation respond, "Amen."

HYMN: TO YOU, O LORD, I FLY NO. 692

† *The congregation is permitted to kneel.*

EXHORTATION AT THE TABLE

You are welcome to the Lord's Table if you are a baptized Christian who has been received into communal membership by this or any other church.

The Lord be with you!

And also with you!

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up unto the Lord.

Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is very good and right and a joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to You, Holy Lord, Father Almighty, Everlasting God.

Therefore, with the Angels and Archangels and the whole company of the church triumphant, we praise and magnify Your glorious Name.

§ GLORIA PATRI

Glory Be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost.

**As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
world without end, Amen, Amen.**

*** PRAYER OF THANKS AND INTERCESSION**

***WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

At this time, please move to the perimeter of the sanctuary in a closed circle. The elders will come and serve you; please hold your bread until all have received, and then we will eat together. The wine will be distributed in the same manner. It is our privilege to bless the non-communing children.

Our bread is gluten-free. The fruit of the vine is real wine, except for the innermost ring of the tray, which has no alcohol.

***DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS**

***THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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: I WILL SING OF MY REDEEMER NO. 650**

***BENEDICTION & THREEFOLD AMEN**



NOTES

FOR FAMILY AND PRIVATE WORSHIP:

HYMN OF THE MONTH: *THEE WE ADORE, ETERNAL LORD! NO. 19*

CHILDREN’S LESSON: VALDÉS’S CATECHISM.

Valdés’s Catechism was titled Instructions for Children. It was published in 1549, with earlier drafts. The intention is not to have children memorize the statements, but for parents to instruct their children.

37. That it is the Christian’s duty to imitate Christ, especially in those things he wants us to imitate: in meekness, by which he did no wrong to anyone; in humility, by which he humbled himself by assuming human flesh, and even the vilest and most abject condition among men; in charity, by which he died for his enemies; in obedience, by which he was obedient to his eternal Father, even unto death on the cross, to restore by his obedience what the first man destroyed by his disobedience. So it behooves the Christian to do what Christ did, and not to do anything that Christ would not have done. This should be the rule peculiar to Christian life (Mt. 11; 1 Cor. 12; Rom. 5).

38. That the strongest and most effective means for attaining this Christian life is for man to attend daily to the greater growth and increase of his faith. It is this which burns up and consumes all the vestiges of Adam, and thus by it the Christian life is facilitated (2 Thess. 1; Heb. 11).

39. That the Christian ought to aim at the recovery by prayer through the obedience of Christ of what he lost by the disobedience of Adam. By the disobedience of Adam, he lost the image and likeness of God, and was banished from the earthly paradise. Through the obedience of Christ, he should strive to recover the image and likeness of God, and to enter into the Kingdom of God, which is the heavenly paradise, as much as possible in the present life and completely in the eternal life, as he ought (Eph. 4; Col. 3).

WPC BIBLE READING PLAN: ONE CHURCH, ONE CHAPTER

	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Subtopic</u>	<u>Main Reading</u>	
2/12	The Basics of Faith	The Content of Faith	Romans 1	
2/13	The Basics of Faith	Christian Love	John 13	
2/14	Ash Wednesday		Isaiah 58, Luke 15:11-32	38, Ps. 38
2/15	The Basics of Faith	Love for God	Romans 5	Ps. 122
2/16	The Basics of Faith	Looking to heaven	Luke 12	Ps. 33
2/17	The Basics of Faith	Living in light of eternity	1 Thessalonians 5	Ps. 34

PRAY FOR OUR MISSIONARIES:

Pray for the Leaman family in Brazil

- Continual prayer needed as they search for a home.
- For wisdom in scheduling ministry opportunities in 2018 (had a very busy 2017).
- Praise God that Doug was able to complete the course on progressive sanctification that was provided for Portuguese speaking seminary students in an internet format.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CALENDAR

GOSPEL OF JOHN BIBLE STUDY:

Not meeting this week (February 14th). The study will resume on the 21st.

Normally: Wednesdays at 7pm

YOUNG MEN'S PROVERB'S STUDY:

A study for younger men. Dinner is provided. Meeting at the Sturtevant's home. Please contact the church for directions.

February 13th, 6:30pm for dinner, 7:00PM for the study.

(Every 2nd and 4th Tuesday)

MISSIONS COMMITTEE

WPC's Missions Committee is looking for additional members. Please prayerfully consider this, and if you are interested, please contact Brian Vandenburg, Terry Craig, Kristine Ozaine, or Dave and Sabina Buhrmaster. Members of the committee meet together once a month or once every-other-month to pray for our missionaries, and to discuss/plan ways that the congregation can specifically minister to their needs.

"Brothers, pray for us." – 1 Thessalonians 5:25

