



WESTMINSTER

— Presbyterian Church —

Albany, New York
April 30, 2023 ~ The Fourth Sunday of Easter
Service of Worship 10:00 a.m.



Welcome to Westminster! We're glad you're here.

- **If you're visiting us this morning, we would love to meet you and greet you!** We invite you to fill out the Welcome Card in the pew and put it in the offering plate or hand it to an usher in the back.
- **After worship, please join us downstairs as we continue our fellowship at coffee hour.** We gather in the hall located directly under our sanctuary. Stairs are located on either side of the State Street entrance to our building.



WE ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

(Let the notes of our Opening Prelude be the musical curtain through which we pass as we gather to worship together. Let the preparation we make together be prayerful.)

Prelude

"Home Across the River"

Victor Labenske



Call to Worship

John Bossung

The Lord is risen! Alleluia!

Luke 24:34

Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!



Opening Hymn #249

Because You Live, O Christ

Call to Confession

John Bossung

The Lord says: Come.

Revelation 22:17

Let anyone who wishes take the water of life as a gift.

Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

Prayer of Confession

John Bossung

**Almighty God,
in raising Jesus from the grave,
you shattered the power of sin and death.
We confess that we remain captive to doubt and fear,
bound by the ways that lead to death.
We overlook the poor and the hungry,
and pass by those who mourn;
we are deaf to the cries of the oppressed,
and indifferent to calls for peace;
we despise the weak,
and abuse the earth you made.**

**Forgive us, God of mercy.
Help us to trust your power
to change our lives and make us new,
that we may know the joy of life abundant
given in Jesus Christ, the risen Lord.**

Declaration of Forgiveness

Acts 2:17, 21

Hear the good news of God's promise:
I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh.
Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.
In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!
Thanks be to God.

Passing The Peace

John Bossung

Words of Welcome

Rev. Heather Kirk-Davidoff

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Choral Anthem

My Feet Are Tired, But My Soul Is Resting
Aleecea Denton, soloist

Shawn Kirchner

My feet are tired, but my soul is resting.
I'm walking for the glory of the Lord. Hallelujah!
I'm walking for the glory of the Lord.

My feet are worn, but my soul is shining...

My feet cry out, but my soul is singing!...



Prayer for Illumination

Living God, with joy we celebrate
the presence of your risen Word.
Enliven our hearts by your Holy Spirit
so that we may proclaim the good news
of eternal and abundant life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



Scripture

John 10:1-10

Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers."

Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."

Sermon

"Be My Gate"

Rev. Heather Kirk-Davidoff

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn #801

"The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want"

Gathering Celebrations and Concerns



Prayers from our Partners and Prayers of the People

Gabriel Ofori-Okai

The Lord's Prayer

**All: 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.**



Offering

John Bossung

Offering Hymn #740

Lead Me, Guide Me

Moment for Mission

Charles Lakko
Greenwich Meridian Presbyterian Church

WE ARE SENT IN GOD'S NAME



Closing Hymn #315

In the Midst of New Dimensions

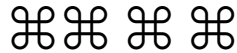
Charge and Benediction

Rev. Heather Kirk-Davidoff

Postlude

“O Happy Day”

Victor Labenske



We welcome Darhon Rees-Rohrbacher as this week’s accompanist. Thank you Darhon!

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2023 CHURCH OFFICERS

Session

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Peter McKee, Hannah Ohemaa-Takyi, Susan Schell, Linore Southworth

Deacons

Mary Bullis and Dodie Seagle, Co-moderators
Ruthanne Brod, Kelly Crisfield, Cynthia Dwyer,
Mabel McGraw, Elizabeth McMillan, Carolyn Smith

Trustees

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David Adjei, Marie McClumpha, Laura Moody, David Norman,
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249 Because You Live, O Christ

1 Be - cause you live, O Christ, the gar - den of the world has come to
 2 Be - cause you live, O Christ, the spir - it bird of hope is freed for
 3 Be - cause you live, O Christ, the rain - bow of your peace will span cre -

flow - er; the dark - ness of the tomb is flood - ed with your
 fly - ing; our ca - ges of de - spair no lon - ger keep us
 a - tion; the col - ors of your love will draw all hu - man -

Refrain

res - ur - rec - tion pow - er.
 closed and life - de - ny - ing. The stone has rolled a - way and death can -
 kind to ad - o - ra - tion.

not im - pris - on! O sing this Eas - ter day, for Je - sus Christ has

This New Zealand author's text contains no familiar images of springtime to bolster its message, because Easter in the Southern Hemisphere comes in autumn. This hymn resulted both from her dissatisfaction with existing hymns and from her love of this exuberant Dutch tune.

JESUS CHRIST: RESURRECTION

ris - en, has ris - en, has ris - en, has ris - en!

The image shows a musical score for a vocal part and piano accompaniment. The vocal line is written on a treble clef staff with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a common time signature. The lyrics are "ris - en, has ris - en, has ris - en, has ris - en!". The piano accompaniment is written on a bass clef staff. Both staves feature a series of chords in the first four measures, followed by a melodic line in the fifth measure that is circled with a large bracket. The piano accompaniment also has a large bracket under the fifth measure, indicating a sustained chord or accompaniment for the vocal line.

The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want 801

(Psalm 23)

1 The Lord's my shep-herd, I'll not want; he makes me down to lie
 2 My soul he doth re-store a-gain, and me to walk doth make
 3 Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, yet will I fear none ill,
 4 My ta-ble thou hast fur-nish-ed in pres-ence of my foes;
 5 Good-ness and mer-cy all my life shall sure-ly fol-low me,

in pas-tures green; he lead-eth me the qui-et wa-ters by.
 with-in the paths of righ-teous-ness, e'en for his own name's sake.
 for thou art with me; and thy rod and staff me com-fort still.
 my head thou dost with oil a-noint, and my cup o-ver-flows.
 and in God's house for-ev-er-more my dwell-ing place shall be.

KOREAN

- 1 주나의목자되시니부족함없도다
푸른풀밭호숫가로날인도하시네
- 2 내영혼소생시키며그이름위하여
늘의로운길걸도록날인도하시네
- 3 나어둠골짜지나도두려움없겠네
주막대기와지팡이날안위하시네
- 4 주나의원수앞에서내상을베푸사
머리에기름부으니내잔이넘치네
- 5 선함과인자하심이내평생따르리
여호와전에영원히나거하리로다

SPANISH

- 1 *Es el Señor mi buen pastor y nada faltará;
por verdes prados con amor Él me conducirá.*
- 2 *Al lado de aguas de quietud haráme reposar;
por sendas justas y de paz su mano me guiará.*
- 3 *Y cuando en valle de dolor o muerte deba andar,
no sentiré ningún temor, pues Él me guardará.*
- 4 *Es sabio y fiel mi buen pastor, jamás me dejará;
con su cayado, mi Señor, aliento me dará.*
- 5 *Hasta el final me seguirán misericordia y bien;
y de mi Padre en el hogar por siempre moraré.*

This paraphrase of Psalm 23 comes from the so-called Scottish Psalter of 1650, actually produced by the Westminster Assembly and intended for use by all Presbyterians in the British Isles, in place of the Sternhold and Hopkins "Old Version" of the Church of England.

TEXT: Scottish Psalter, 1650; Korean trans. The United Methodist Korean Hymnal Committee, 2001;

Spanish trans. Federico J. Pagura

MUSIC: Jessie Seymour Irvine, 1872; harm. T. C. L. Pritchard, 1929

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Spanish Trans. © Federico J. Pagura

Music Harm. © 1929 Oxford University Press

CRIMOND

CM

740 Lead Me, Guide Me

Capo 1: (D)
 Refrain (A7) (Em)
 Eb Bb7 Fm 3

Lead me, guide me, a - long the way, for if you

(A) (D) (A7) (D)
 Bb Eb Bb7 3 Eb 3

lead me, I can - not stray. Lord, let me walk each

(A7) (B7) (Em) (D) (A7) (D)
 Bb7 C7 Fm Eb Bb7 Eb Fine

day with thee. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

(D) (B7) (Em) (A7) (Em)
 Eb 3 C7 Fm Bb7 Fm

I am weak and I need your strength and power to help me

(A) (D) (D) (D7)
 Bb Eb Eb Eb7

o - ver my weak - est hour. Help me through the dark-ness your

(Em) (D) (A7) (D)
 Fm Eb Bb7 Eb to Refrain

face to see. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This African American gospel hymn can well be understood as an updated adaptation of Psalm 5:8, with the “enemies” of the psalm treated as the pressures and temptations of daily life. As with the psalms, the “I” here is understood to express a shared communal experience.

315 In the Midst of New Dimensions

1 In the midst of new di - men - sions, in the face of
 2 Through the flood of starv - ing peo - ple, war - ring fac - tions,
 3 As we stand, a world di - vid - ed by our own self -
 4 We are man and we are wom - an, all per - sua - sions,
 5 Should the threats of dire pre - dic - tions cause us to with -

chang - ing ways, who will lead the pil - grim peo - ples
 and de - spair, who will lift the ol - ive branch - es?
 seek - ing schemes, grant that we, your glob - al vil - lage,
 old and young, each a gift in your cre - a - tion,
 draw in pain, may your blaz - ing phoe - nix spir - it

Refrain

wan - dering in their sep - arate ways?
 Who will light the flame of care?
 might en - vi - sion wid - er dreams. God of rain - bow, fi - ery pil - lar,
 each a love song to be sung.
 res - ur - rect the church a - gain.

lead - ing where the ea - gles soar, we your peo - ple, ours the jour - ney

In this simultaneously-created text and tune, the author-composer was seeking to incorporate imagery from both Native American and Hebrew spiritual traditions. Also included is the mythological phoenix, which had received a Christian interpretation as early as the first century.

THE CHURCH

now and ev - er, now and ev - er, now and ev - er - more.

The musical score consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef and contains a vocal line with lyrics. The lower staff is in bass clef and contains a piano accompaniment. The music is in a simple, homophonic style with a steady rhythm. The lyrics are: "now and ev - er, now and ev - er, now and ev - er - more."