



# WESTMINSTER

————— Presbyterian Church —————

Albany, New York  
May 7, 2023 ~ The Fifth 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**

Have Thy Own Way, Lord

George C. Stebbins  
Arr. Victor Labenske



#### **Call to Worship**

Carolyn Smith

The Lord is risen! Alleluia!  
**Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!**

*Luke 24:34*



#### **Opening Hymn 611**

"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

#### **Call to Confession**

Carolyn Smith

The Lord says: Come.  
Let anyone who wishes take the water of life as a gift.  
Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

*Revelation 22:17*

#### **Prayer of Confession**

Carolyn Smith

**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**

Carolyn Smith

**Words of Welcome**

Rev. Heather Kirk-Davidoff

**Moment for Mission**

Lily Mercogliano Easton

**WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD**

**Choral Anthem**

"The King of Love My Shepherd Is"

Mark Hayes

The King of Love my Shepherd is, whose goodness faileth never; I nothing lack if I am His and He is mine forever.

Where streams of living water flow, my ransomed soul He leadeth, and, where the verdant pastures grow, with food celestial feedeth.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill with Thee dear Lord, beside me; Thy rod and staff my comfort still, Thy cross before to guide me.

And so through all the length of days Thy goodness faileth never; good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise within Thy house for ever. Amen.



**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 14:1-14

[Jesus said,] "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going."

Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?"

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied."

Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves.

Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

## Sermon

"Where I Am, There You May Be Also"

Rev. Heather Kirk-Davidoff

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

### Prayer Hymn #468

In My Life

### Gathering Celebrations and Concerns



## Prayers of the People

### 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

Carolyn Smith

## SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

### Invitation to Communion

Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters;  
let those who have no money come and eat.

Isa. 55:1; Ps. 63:4–5

**God will satisfy our souls with a rich feast,  
and we will bless the Lord as long as we live.**



### Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

In every time and every age, O God,  
it is good and faithful that we give you thanks,  
for your mercy is sure  
and your steadfast love endures forever.  
In your compassion you gave us Christ Jesus,  
who sets us free from death  
and leads us to life eternal.  
And so, with all creation,  
with all the needy and hungry ones,  
with all those who have enough and plenty,  
with creatures large and small,  
with sun and moon and stars,  
and with the saints of every age,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

(Hymn #591)

**Halle, halle, hallelujah!**

**Halle, halle, hallelujah!**

**Halle, halle, hallelujah!**

**Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

Blessed are you, O God, creator of all things.  
By your power and love you continue  
to deliver your people from bondage,  
thwart the designs of evil,  
show the way through the wilderness,  
turn hardship into righteousness,  
and reveal your hand upholding the just.  
Blessed are you, O Christ, servant of the universe.  
You came among us to feed and heal and teach,  
to confound the haughty,

to confuse the deceivers,  
to challenge the wrong-hearted,  
and, in all these things,  
to give hope to those who long for peace.

### **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

On the night before he met with death,  
Jesus came to the table with those he loved.  
He took bread, blessed and broke it,  
And gave it to them, saying: Take, eat.  
Whenever you do this, remember me.

In the same way he took and poured the cup,  
Saying: Take and drink.  
Whenever you do this, remember me.

Now, whenever we eat and drink at this table,  
We celebrate Christ's death and resurrection until he comes again.

### **PRAYER OF CONSECRATION**

Blessed are you, O Spirit, giver of life.  
You give us words when we have none;  
you fill us with vision when we have the most need;  
you give us voice to proclaim our faith in every hour.  
Be our guide and teacher, today and always.

Come now, O Prince of Peace,  
Spirit of Love,  
Breath of Life.  
Bring to all this hurting world the joy that Mary knew,  
and teach us to proclaim with her,  
"I have seen the Lord!"

In the unity of the Holy Trinity,  
in gratitude for this great day of resurrection,  
we praise you, God of all that is,  
now and forever. Amen.



### **SHARING BREAD AND CUP**

**Hymn #521**

In Remembrance of Me



## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Gracious God, we give you thanks  
that by the witness of your word  
and the sharing of this meal  
you have opened our hearts and eyes  
to the presence of Christ among us.  
Now send us forth from this place  
by the power of your Spirit  
to tell this good news to the world:  
The Lord has risen indeed! **Amen.**

## WE ARE SENT IN GOD'S NAME



Closing Hymn #526

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

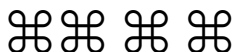
Charge and Benediction

Rev. Heather Kirk-Davidoff

Postlude

I Am Thine, Lord

William H. Doane  
Arr. Victor Labenske



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

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### Stay in Touch with Westminster

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- Get weekly news email messages by providing a current email address to the church office at [office@wpcalbany.org](mailto:office@wpcalbany.org) or calling (518) 436-8544
- For more about Westminster's online communications, please contact us: [communications@wpcalbany.org](mailto:communications@wpcalbany.org)

## **2023 CHURCH OFFICERS**

### **Session**

Leah Threatte, Clerk of Session  
Ephraim Adjei, John Bossung, Nancy Holroyd, Felicia Kollie-Gambles,  
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**

John Bossung and Leif Hartmark, Co-chairs  
David Adjei, Marie McClumpha, Laura Moody, David Norman,  
Pete Seagle, Joy L. Tallmadge, Kathy Walter, Peter Wrede

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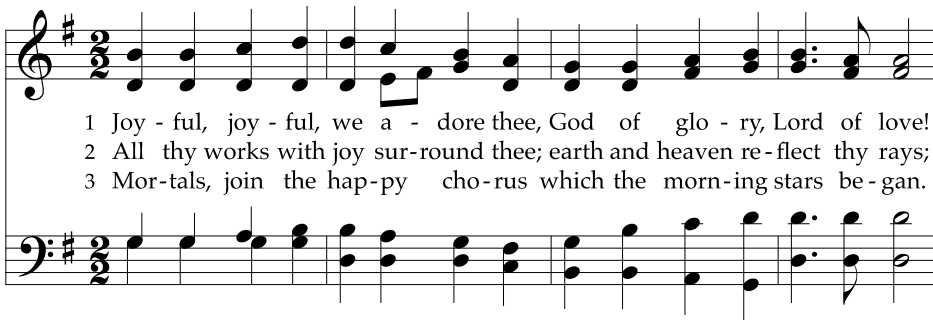
Joy L. Tallmadge, Associate Sexton

## **WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

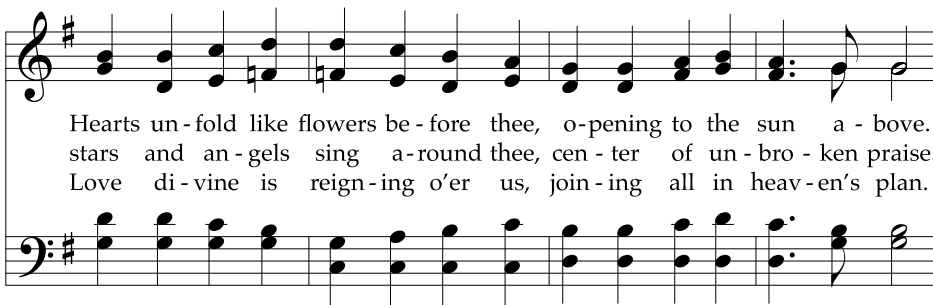
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## 611 Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee



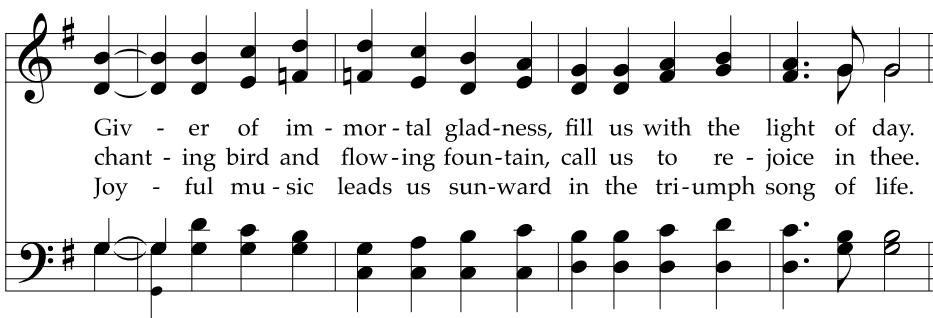
1 Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!  
 2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee; earth and heaven re-flect thy rays;  
 3 Mor-tals, join the hap-py cho-rus which the morn-ing stars be-gan.



Hearts un-fold like flowers be-fore thee, o-pen-ing to the sun a-bove.  
 stars and an-gels sing a-round thee, cen-ter of un-bro-ken praise.  
 Love di-vine is reign-ing o'er us, join-ing all in heav-en's plan.



Melt the clouds of sin and sad-ness; drive the dark of doubt a-way.  
 Field and for-est, vale and moun-tain, flower-y mead-ow, flash-ing sea,  
 Ev-er sing-ing, march we on-ward, vic-tors in the midst of strife.



Giv-er of im-mor-tal glad-ness, fill us with the light of day.  
 chant-ing bird and flow-ing foun-tain, call us to re-joice in thee.  
 Joy-ful mu-sic leads us sun-ward in the tri-umph song of life.

This well-known melody was created to provide a choral setting for J. C. F. von Schiller's poem, "An die Freude" (To Joy), as the final movement of the composer's *Ninth Symphony*. The author, a prominent Presbyterian pastor and author, wrote the words with this tune in mind.

468

# In My Life

## Lord, Be Glorified

1 In my life, Lord, be glo-ri - fied; be glo-ri - fied.  
 2 In our song, Lord, be glo-ri - fied; be glo-ri - fied.  
 3 In your church, Lord, be glo-ri - fied; be glo-ri - fied.  
 4 In your world, Lord, be glo-ri - fied; be glo-ri - fied.

This praise song can be understood as a sung version of the first part of the answer to the first question of the Westminster Catechism: that a human being's "chief end is to glorify God." Numerous related Scriptures can be cited, including 1 Corinthians 6:20 and 10:31.

TEXT and MUSIC: Bob Kilpatrick, 1978

Text and Music © 1978, 1986 Prism Tree Music, assigned 1998 to The Lorenz Corp.

LORD, BE GLORIFIED

4.4.4.4.6

PRAYER

In my life, Lord, be glo-ri - fied to - day.  
 In our song, Lord, be glo-ri - fied to - day.  
 In your church, Lord, be glo-ri - fied to - day.  
 In your world, Lord, be glo-ri - fied to - day.

## 521 In Remembrance of Me

Capo 3: (G) (Bm) (C) (D7)  
B $\flat$  Dm E $\flat$  F7

1 In re - mem - brance of me, eat this bread. In re -  
2 In re - mem - brance of me, heal the sick. In re -

mem - brance of me, drink this wine. In re - mem - brance of  
mem - brance of me, feed the poor. In re - mem - brance of

me, pray for the time when God's own will is  
me, o - pen the door and let your neigh - bors

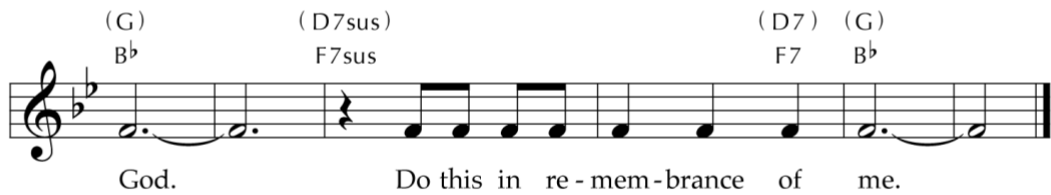
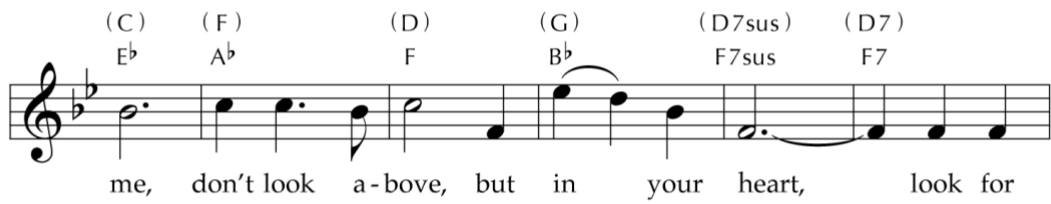
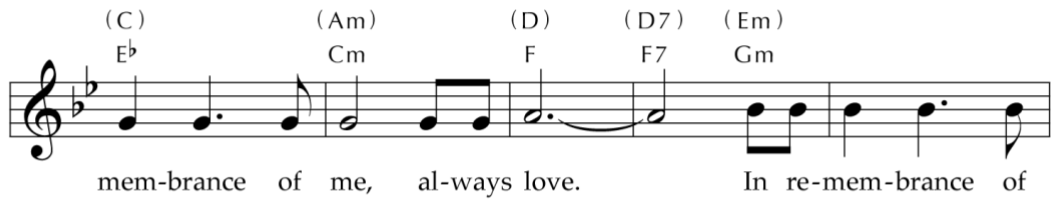
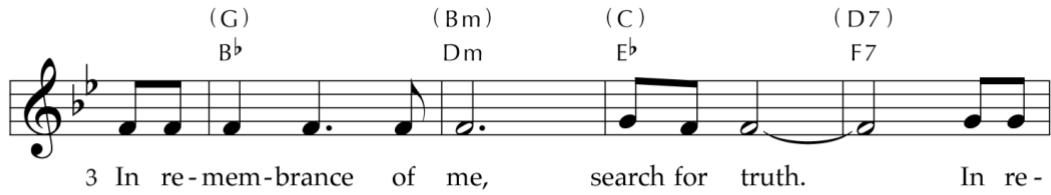
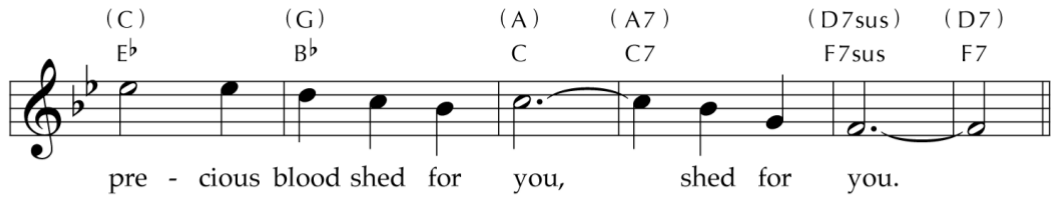
done. in, let them in.

Take, eat, and be com - fort - ed; drink and re -

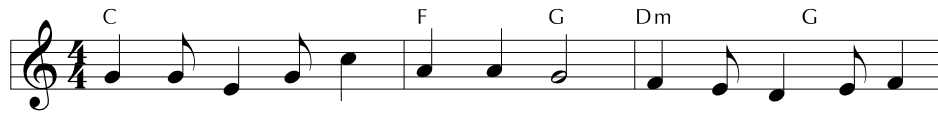
mem - ber too, that this is my bod - y and

This text is built on four familiar words of Christ at the Last Supper, as recorded in Luke 22:19 and 1 Corinthians 11:24-25. Radiating from that corporate memory of the church, additional actions are encouraged in Christ's voice using allusions to other passages of Scripture.

LORD'S SUPPER



## 526 Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ



1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a  
 2 Christ is a - ble to make us one; at the ta - ble he  
 3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a



shout of joy: bread is bro - ken; the wine is poured;  
 sets the tone, teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless,  
 world of doubt, gives us love to tell, bread to share:



Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.  
 love in word and in deed ex - press. Je - sus lives a - gain;  
 God (Im - man - u - el) ev - ery - where!



earth can breathe a - gain; pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

*Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.*

*Maracas and other rhythm instruments may be used.* ||: ♩. ♩. ♩ :||

This "communion calypso" (as the author called it) affirms the continuing presence of Christ both in the sacramental meal and in the lives of Christians. Because this text was written to fit a pre-existing tune, it has a rather telegraphic style that encourages pondering.