



Albany, New York
March 31, 2024
Service of Worship 10:00 a.m.

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Easter Sunday



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.)

Opening Prelude Two Themes for Brass Quartet Mozart

Opening Sentences Nate Powers

The Lord is risen! Alleluia! *Luke 24:34*
Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!

 **Opening Hymn #232** Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

Call to Confession Nate Powers

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

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 Nate Powers

Words of Welcome

Rev. Heather Kirk-Davidoff

Time for Children

Rev. Heather Kirk-Davidoff

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Choral Anthem

Easter Festival

Michael Bryson



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 Lesson

Mark 16:1-8

When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they might go to anoint Jesus' body. Very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise, they were on their way to the tomb and they asked each other, "Who will roll the stone away from the entrance of the tomb?"

But when they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had been rolled away. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed.

"Don't be alarmed," he said. "You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter, 'He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.'"

Trembling and bewildered, the women went out and fled from the tomb. They said nothing to anyone, because they were afraid.

Sermon

"Declare!"

Rev. Heather Kirk-Davidoff



Hymn #243

Be Not Afraid (sung three times)

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD



Prayers of the People

Fatmata Hilton

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.



Invitation to the Offering

Nate Powers

Offertory Anthem

I Will Rise

Chris Tomlin

Soloists: John Xia, Rachel Balbi, Kaitlyn Bechand



Hymn #607

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.



Prayer of Dedication

Rev. Heather Kirk-Davidoff

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Invitation to Communion

Led by Rev. Heather Kirk-Davidoff and Elder Leah Threatte

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

1 Cor. 5:7-8



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:

SANCTUS (Hymn 552, sung by all)

LAND OF REST

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!
Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!**

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.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION (Hymn 553, sung by all)

LAND OF REST

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.
Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come 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.

AMEN (Hymn 554, sung by all)

LAND OF REST



SHARING BREAD AND CUP

Communion Hymn #507

"Come to the Table of Grace"



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 #246

"Christ Is Alive!"

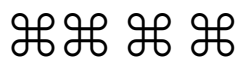
Benediction

Rev. Heather Kirk-Davidoff

Closing Postlude

Two Trumpet Tunes and Ayre

Henry Purcell



Thank you to our special guests:

Eric Achzet, Trumpet; Joan Eason, Timpani; Dante Malagrida, Tuba; Noah Solt, Trumpet; Sean Wagner, Trombone

Westminster Presbyterian Chorus:

Rachel Balbi, Kaitlyn Bechand, Jessica Chamberlain, Elizabeth Coombe, Joseph Farrell, Linda Farrell, Gail Garrison, Leif Hartmark, Nancy Holroyd, Forrest Holroyd, Jared Hunt, Elizabeth McMillan, Dave Norman, Starr Norman, Tom Norman, Margaret Randall, Paul Randall, Darhon Rees-Rohrbacher, Paul Rees-Rohrbacher, Dodie Seagle, Eugene Sit, Carolyn Smith and John Xia.

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2024 Easter Flower Dedications

The flowers in the Sanctuary are a continuing witness to the faith and love with which we remember and treasure our friends and loved ones.

Margaret Elbow Conn, in loving memory of
Meg & Matt Elbow; Anne Gibson Elbow; Dick Conn

Beth Coombe & Stuart Kopplin in loving memory of their very dear grandparents:

**Philip & Ethel Coombe; Earl & Phyllis Norton;
Wesley & Florence Kopplin; Lavern & Arlene Packel**

Joseph & Linda Farrell, in celebration and memory of:

Beloved Family Members

Margaret M. Mayer, in loving memory of:

Bill Mayer

Peter & Lynne McKee, in loving memory of:

Michael McLaughlin

Susan & Carl Schell, in memory of:

Bonnie & Bob Stone; Florence & Carl Schell, Sr.

Valerie & Jim Shanley, in loving memory of:

**John B. Kinum; Joan Lawrie Lierheimer; Hobart J. & Catherine Gordon Shanley;
William B. & Dovie E. Journey Stranders; Alfred & Mary Harte Willison;
John A. & Nancy Stranders Willison**

Lois Wilson, in memory of:

Hugh M. & Margaret N. Wilson; Clara Hankins & Julie Mader

2024 CHURCH OFFICERS

Session

Leah Threatte, Clerk of Session

2024: Nancy Holroyd, Susan Schell

2025: Ephraim Adjei, Peter McKee, Linore Southworth

2026: John Bossung, Kate Gallagher, Felicia Kollie-Gambles

Deacons

Mary Bullis and Dodie Seagle, Co-moderators

2024: Ruthanne Brod, Cynthia Dwyer, Mabel McGraw

2025: Kelly Crisfield, Carolyn Smith

2026: Mary Bullis, Marie McClumpha, Dodie Seagle

Trustees

John Bossung and Leif Hartmark, Co-chairs

2024: David Adjei, Leif Hartmark, Laura Moody

2025: John Bossung

2026: Pete Seagle, Dixon Southworth, Joy L. Tallmadge, Peter Wrede

CHURCH PROGRAM TEAM

Rev. Heather Kirk-Davidoff, Pastor

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Forrest Holroyd, Treasurer

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Joy L. Tallmadge, Associate Sexton

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Spring 2024 Special Events at Westminster Presbyterian Church

Please join us for any and all of these events! More details at wpcalbany.org/events

- **Beginning Tuesday, April 2, 12 noon-1:00 pm:** Our Vigil for Racial Justice resumes!
Our weekly vigil began in 2020 as part of the nationwide uprising for racial justice that followed the murder of George Floyd. Over the years we've expressed solidarity with other racial, ethnic and religious groups who struggle for justice. Join us!
- **Tuesday, April 2, 6:00 am - 9:00 p.m:** Presidential Primary polling in the Chapel
- **Tuesday, April 2, 7:00 pm:** Bread and Puppet Theater performs at Westminster
Bread and Puppet has become legendary for its parade-sized puppets and radical political voice. There are no tickets for this performance but a donation of \$10-\$25 is requested at the door. No one will be turned away due to lack of funds.
- **Tuesday, April 9 through Sunday, April 14:** Mission Partner Rev. Barbara Asempa visiting
Barbara will join us for worship on April 14. There will be opportunities to meet with her during the week—stay tuned for details.
- **Sunday, April 14, 11:15 am to 12:30 pm:** Church School Pancake Breakfast
Join us in supporting children from Westminster as they raise funds to attend summer camp! Your donation will get you pancakes, sausages and fruit as well as service with a smile from a Church school kid!
- **Sunday, April 14, 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm:** All Ages Game Day with Westminster Commons
Active games led by the counselors of Camp Wawa and board games led by members of our Conversation Club. FREE! Snacks and Drinks provided. Adults with and without kids are welcome.
- **Tuesday, April 16, 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm:** Brooks Barbeque Fundraiser
Come enjoy famous Brooks Barbeque chicken dinners and support the food programs run by the FOCUS Churches of Albany including the Breakfast Club hosted by Westminster Presbyterian. Pick up your to-go meal at the parking lot of Delmar Reformed Church at 386 Delaware Ave., Delmar, NY. Meals are \$16.00 pre-paid or \$18.00 on the day of the event. Preorder at focuschurches.net.
- **Sunday, April 21, 10:00 am:** Earth Day Sunday
Rev. Gretchen Elmendorf will be preaching, sharing the story of a small congregation in Massachusetts that led a campaign for environmental justice that had a big impact. Our Second Hour discussion will be led by members of Westminster's Earth Care team.

- **Wednesday, April 24, 10:00 am and Saturday, April 27, 10:00 am: Nature Walk**
Join the Westminster Earth Care Team and members of other Earth Care congregations in the Albany Presbytery for a 60-90 minute gentle walk at the Helderberg Workshop in Altamont. See the spring flowers blooming! RSVP to office@NewScotlandPC.org.
- **Sunday, April 28, 11:15 am to 12:30 pm: Whose Stories Matter?**
A Second Hour conversation led by Robert Trawick, General Presbyter of the Albany Presbytery, exploring the complex narratives of Palestine and Israel. Rob serves as co-moderator of the Israel/Palestine Mission Network of the PC (USA) and has recently returned from a solidarity visit to East Jerusalem and the West Bank.
- **Saturday, May 4, 10:30 am to 12:30 pm: Zumba!**
Come dance with Mama Zumba (aka Fatima Horne) and help us support schools and clinics in Liberia, Sierra Leone and Ghana. Suggested donation is \$20. All ages and physical abilities are welcome!
- **Sunday, May 5, May 19 and June 2, 11:15 to 12:30 pm: Navigate Life's Final Chapter with Faith and Clarity.** This three-part educational series, hosted by the Westminster Deacons, will provide you with knowledge and resources for making informed decisions about end-of-life care. In a warm and supportive environment, we'll explore important topics including:
 - **Understanding your wishes:** We'll discuss how to complete advance directives and medical power of attorney forms to ensure your voice is heard.
 - **Accompaniment and understanding:** Learn about the dying process and how to compassionately accompany someone who is nearing the end of life.
 - **Planning your legacy:** Consider your preferences for funerals or memorial services.
- **Sunday, May 5, 1:30 pm: The 44th Annual CROP Hunger Walk**
Join the Westminster WOW Walkers on a 1 or 2-mile walk to raise money to fight hunger locally and worldwide. The walk starts and ends at a new location this year: St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 21 Hackett Blvd., Albany. You can join our team or donate to WOW (the Westminster Outreach Walkers) online.
- **Sunday, May 19, 10:00 am: Pentecost Worship Service**
Come celebrate the creative power of the Holy Spirit with us!
- **Sunday, June 2, 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm: Healing Day with Westminster Commons**
Planned in partnership with the People's Clinic at the Sanctuary in Troy, the Poor People's Campaign and others working for community empowerment in health care. Details to come!

232 Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

1 Je - sus Christ is risen to - day,
 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
 3 But the pains which he en - dured,
 4 Sing we to our God a - bove,

our tri - um-phant ho - ly day,
 un - to Christ, our heaven-ly King, Al - le - lu - ia!
 our sal - va - tion have pro - cured.
 praise e - ter - nal as God's love.

who did once up - on the cross,
 who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Now a - bove the sky he's King,
 Praise our God, ye heaven-ly host,

It seems likely that this beloved Easter text began in Latin and moved through German before reaching English, where it combined with the present tune in the emerging English evangelical style, a reaction to the restrained one-note-per-syllable psalmody that preceded it.

JESUS CHRIST: RESURRECTION

suf - fer to re - deem our loss.
 sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!
 where the an - gels ev - er sing.
 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

SPANISH

- 1 *El Señor resucitó, ¡Aleluya!
 muerte y tumba ya venció. ¡Aleluya!
 Con su fuerza y su virtud ¡Aleluya!
 cautivó la esclavitud. ¡Aleluya!*
- 2 *El que al polvo se humilló, ¡Aleluya!
 vencedor se levantó. ¡Aleluya!
 Cante hoy la cristiandad ¡Aleluya!
 su gloriosa majestad. ¡Aleluya!*
- 3 *Cristo, que la cruz sufrió, ¡Aleluya!
 y en desolación se vio, ¡Aleluya!
 hoy en gloria celestial ¡Aleluya!
 reina vivo e inmortal. ¡Aleluya!*
- 4 *Cristo, nuestro Salvador, ¡Aleluya!
 de la muerte es triunfador. ¡Aleluya!
 En El hemos de confiar. ¡Aleluya!
 Cantaremos sin cesar. ¡Aleluya!*

KOREAN

- 1 예수부활 했으니 할렐루야
 만민찬송 하여라
 천사들이 즐거워
 기뻐찬송 부르네
- 2 대속하신 주 예수 할렐루야
 선한싸움이겼네
 사망권세 이기고
 하늘문을 여셨네
- 3 마귀권세 이긴주 할렐루야
 왕의왕이 되셨네
 높은이름 세상에
 널리반포 하여라
- 4 길과진리 되신주 할렐루야
 우리부활 하겠네
 부활생명 되시니
 우리부활 하겠네

Be Not Afraid

243

Be not a - fraid; sing out for joy! Christ is ris-en, al - le - lu - ia!

The first system of music consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a 4/4 time signature. It features a vocal line with a melody that begins on a half note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, Bb4, and C5, then a series of eighth notes: D5, C5, Bb4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4. The lower staff is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature, providing a harmonic accompaniment of chords: G2-Bb2-D3, G2-Bb2-D3, G2-Bb2-D3, G2-Bb2-D3, G2-Bb2-D3, G2-Bb2-D3, G2-Bb2-D3, G2-Bb2-D3.

Be not a - fraid; sing out for joy! Christ is ris-en, al - le - lu - ia!

The second system of music is identical in notation to the first system, consisting of two staves with the same vocal melody and bass accompaniment.

Intended for repeated singing like other chants from the Taizé Community, this text began in Czech as "Nebojte se." The English version uses the language of the angel's greeting to Mary Magdalene and "the other Mary," who went to Jesus' tomb on Easter morning (Matthew 28:5-6).

TEXT: Taizé Community, 1998
MUSIC: Jacques Berthier, 1998
Text and Music © 1998 Les Presses de Taizé (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)

BE NOT AFRAID
4.4.8.D

607 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Doxology

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise Christ, all peo - ple

TEXT: Neil Weatherhogg, 1988
MUSIC: Genevan Psalter, 1551
Text © 1990 Neil Weatherhogg

OLD HUNDRETH
LM

SERVICE MUSIC

here be - low; praise Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more;

praise Tri - une God, whom we a - dore. A - men.

Holy, Holy, Holy

552

Capo 3: (D) (A) (D) (G) (A) (D)
 F C F B^b C F

1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
 2 Bless - ed is he who comes in the

(A) (D/F[#]) (F[#]m) (G) (A) (Bm)
 C F/A Am B^b C Dm

pow - er and might, heav - en and earth are
 name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the

(G) (D) (A) (Bm) (Em7) (A) (Dsus) (D)
 B^b F C Dm Gm7 C Fsus F

full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
 high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text

LAND OF REST

MUSIC: American folk melody; adapt. Marcia Pruner, 1980; arr. Richard Proulx, 1984

Music Adapt. © 1980 Church Pension Fund

Music Arr. © 1986 GIA Publications, Inc.

553 Christ Has Died; Christ Is Risen

Capo 3: (D) (A) (D) (G)(A) (D) (A) (D/F#)(F#m)
F C F B^b C F C F/A Am



Christ has died; Christ is ris-en; Christ will come a - gain.

(G) (A)(Bm) (G) (D) (A)(Bm) (Em7) (A)(Dsus)(D)
B^b C Dm B^b F C Dm Gm7 C Fsus F



Christ has died; Christ is ris-en; Christ will come a - gain.

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text

MUSIC: American folk melody; arr. Richard Proulx, 1984

Music Arr. © 1986 GIA Publications, Inc.

LAND OF REST

554

Amen

Capo 3: (G) (A) (Bm) (G) (D) (A) (Bm) (Em7) (A) (Dsus) (D)
B^b C Dm B^b F C Dm Gm7 C Fsus F

A musical score for the hymn 'Amen'. It features a single staff in 6/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The melody is written in treble clef. The lyrics 'A - men, a - men, a - men.' are written below the staff, with hyphens indicating long notes. The notes are: A (half note), - (half note), men, (quarter note), a (quarter note), - (quarter note), men, (quarter note), a (quarter note), - (quarter note), men. (half note).

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text
MUSIC: American folk melody; arr. Richard Proulx, 1995
Music Arr. © 1995 GIA Publications, Inc.

LAND OF REST

Come to the Table of Grace 507

Capo 3: (D) (A) (Bm) (D7/A) (G)
 F C Dm F7/C B^b

1 Come to the ta - ble of grace. Come to the

(A) (D) (A) (D) (Em)
 C F C F Gm

ta - ble of grace. This is God's ta - ble; it's

(D/A) (G) (D/A) (A7) (D) (G) (D)
 F/A B^b F/C C7 F B^b F

not yours or mine. Come to the ta - ble of grace.

- 2 Come to the table of peace...
- 3 Come to the table of love...
- 4 Come to the table of hope...
- 5 Come to the table of joy...

The simple, formulaic nature of this song makes it especially suitable for use during the communion portion of the Lord's Supper. Because it can be learned readily and does not require reference to a printed source, it frees people to sing before and after receiving the elements.

Christ Is Alive!

246

1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands
 2 Christ is a - live! No lon - ger bound to dis - tant
 3 In ev - ery in - sult, rift, and war where col - or,
 4 Wom - en and men, in age and youth, can feel the
 5 Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to

emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with
 years in Pal - es - tine, but sav - ing, heal - ing,
 scorn, or wealth di - vide, Christ suf - fers still, yet
 Spir - it, hear the call, and find the way, the
 this and ev - ery age, till earth and sky and

prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.
 here and now, and touch - ing ev - ery place and time.
 loves the more, and lives, where e - ven hope has died.
 life, the truth, re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.
 o - cean ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

In 1968 Easter fell ten days after the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr., and this text was written to express an Easter hope while mindful of that terrible event. Buoyed by a triple-arched tune, it affirms the presence of a wounded, risen Christ with all who suffer.