

Music Notes: Woman Composer Sunday 2024

In March 2021, the Society of Women Organists in the United Kingdom inaugurated Woman Composer Sunday as a day when organists and choir directors are encouraged to include pieces by women composers in worship services. The Royal College of Organists collaborated in the inaugural Sunday and the American Guild of Organists joined in 2022. At Westminster, we regularly worship through music chosen from a diversity of resources. Today, the prelude, anthem, offertory, postlude are each composed by women and the texts of the three hymns in today's worship service were written by women hymn writers. We recognize the beauty of diversity in the body of Christ and appreciate these musical gifts from our sisters in faith.

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

WELCOME & OPENING SENTENCES

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

PRELUDE

Intermezzo, Amy Summers (b. 1996)¹

CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalm 107

Leader: O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good; for God's steadfast love endures forever.

People: Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, those God redeemed from trouble and gathered in from the lands, from the east and from the West, from the north and from the south.

Leader: Let them thank the Lord for God's steadfast love, for God's wonderful works to humankind.

People: And let them offer thanksgiving sacrifices, and tell of the Lord's deeds with songs of joy.

PRAYER OF ADORATION

*HYMN

When We Are Called to Sing Your Praise, Kingsfold²

1. When we are called to sing your praise with hearts so filled with pain that we would rather sit and weep or stand up to complain, remind us, God, you understand the burdens that we bear; you, too, have walked the shadowed way and known our deep despair.
2. When we are called to sing your praise and cannot find our voice, because our losses leave us now no reason to rejoice, remind us, God, that you accept our sad laments in prayer; you, too, have walked the shadowed way and known our deep despair.
3. When we are called to sing your praise and life ahead looks grim, still give us faith and hope enough to break forth in a hymn, a thankful hymn, great God of Love, that you are everywhere; you walk the shadowed way with us and keep us in your care.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Holy God, giver of all that is good, we rejoice that you are the source of all that is. The breath of life is a gift from your generous hand. The food we eat is grown in the world you sustain. The community that supports us is called into being by your saving activity. Everything we have is a gift from you. Why, then, do we complain as though the manna, raining down from heaven for us even now, is not enough? Why do we worry that your well of living water will someday run dry? It is surely our sin that causes us live as though we do not trust your goodness. Forgive us, we pray. Teach us again to put all our trust in your promises that never fail. Remind us that we are always in your loving care. Fill us with grace, so that our lives might show forth the fullness of your love for all people...*(continue with silent confession)*. Amen.

SONG OF CONFESSION HYMN 577

Lord, Have Mercy, Kyrie Eleison³

After the cantor sings the verse once, the congregation will sing the verse once.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Hebrews 10:16-18

Leader: "This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says the Lord: 'I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds,' and he adds,

People: **'I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more.'**

Leader: Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin." Believe the promise of the Gospel:

People: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven**

***PASSING THE PEACE** (*please use a fist/elbow bump or wave for your greeting*)

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Please stand, turn to the back wall and wave to our online worshippers, offering them the peace of Christ and then greet each other.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Psalm 107:1-3,17-22

O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good; for his steadfast love endures forever. Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, those God redeemed from trouble and gathered in from the lands, from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south. Some were sick through their sinful ways, and because of their iniquities endured affliction; they loathed any kind of food, and they drew near to the gates of death. Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and God saved them from their distress; God sent out his word and healed them, and delivered them from destruction. Let them thank the Lord for God's steadfast love, for God's wonderful works to humankind. And let them offer thanksgiving sacrifices, and tell of his deeds with songs of joy.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

John 3:14-21

And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."

ANTHEM

God So Loved the World, Katherine K. Davis (1892-1980)⁴

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

After the message, children may follow the teacher to room 11 for Spiritual Adventures.

SERMON

Altered Through A Broadening Circle

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*HYMN 441

Hear the Good News of Salvation, Nettleton⁵

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

PRAYER RESPONSE HYMN 467 (vs. 2)

Give Us Light, Jyothi Dho⁶

After the cantor sings the verse once, the congregation will sing the verse once.

Save us now, save us now; save us now, O Lord.

CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP

OFFERTORY SENTENCES

OFFERTORY

Sonata II, Elisabetta de Gambarini (1731-1765)⁷

*DEDICATION HYMN 716 (vs. 1) *God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending, Beach Spring⁸*

God, whose giving knows no ending, from your rich and endless store,

nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom, costly cross, grave's shattered door:

gifted by you, we turn to you, offering up ourselves in praise;

thankful song shall rise forever, gracious donor of our days.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

Gracious God, from the overflowing of your love, we have been given abundance upon abundance. Receive, we pray, our offerings and bless them. May we be blessed by their work, as we see your reign among us, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN

God, You Love the World, Argentina⁹

1. God, you love the world! You sent your only Son,
And you said, "Go share my love with everyone."
So we seek to serve you in our homes and towns;
And we work to show the world: Your love abounds!

Refrain:

Lead us, as we go this day;
Guide us as we work and pray;
Give us, when each day is through,
True joy, found in serving you.

2. By your Spirit, some build houses, safe and strong,
Some are called to share your Word in prayer and song.
Some are called to heal the sick and fight disease,
Some are called to save the land by planting trees. REFRAIN.

3. Teach us that in loving, we must listen well.
Help us hear the stories others have to tell.
Help us learn from other people and their ways.
May we be united as we offer praise. REFRAIN.

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Romance, Amy Beach (1867-1944)¹⁰

Leaders Today:

Pastor: Rev. Scott Anderson

Minister of Music: Joe Chrisman

The Chancel Choir

Ushers/Greeters: Doug & Connie Evans, Bill Tanke, Doug Rouse (Deacon)

Liturgist: Linda Moss

AV/Tech: John Tarr



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WPC ANNOUNCEMENTS

Aging 101 Workshop

Westminster Presbyterian will be leading a free workshop on aging Saturday, March 16 from 9am-Noon at Westminster. This event will focus on three main sessions:

1. Communicating with the aging and homebound.
2. Exploring various living options.
3. The Madison Police Department will present on how to identify and avoid common scams and frauds.

Coffee and refreshments will be served. This event is open to the community and all ages. We hope you can join us. Feel free to bring friends and neighbors!

Coffee Help Still Needed!

Please consider volunteering to help make coffee for Sunday mornings. There is a rotating schedule and we are flexible to your needs. Please sign up in the Narthex or talk to Connie Evans ce24ce24@gmail.com.

Family Lenten Resources

Come check out the Family Ministries table in the narthex for Lenten resources available for all such as family devotionals, activity booklets, and Lent countdown calendars.

2024 Lenten Daily Devotional

A free downloadable devotional guide - *Bless the Lent we Actually Have: 40 Days to Reflect, Pray, and Bless our Imperfect Lives* By Kate Bowler, Professor of Church History, Duke Divinity School

Jesus will walk with us through whatever kind of Lenten day you are having. The lovely one. The garbage one. The one that barely seems like it counted at all. You can find the link on our website: westminstermadison.org, or in the weekly church email. If you would like a physical copy, please contact the church office at 608-238-3121.

Coins for a Cause - March

March is the month for our first "Coins For A Cause" collection for this year. All coins collected during the offertory in March will go to this cause. This time we are asking our children and youth, with the guidance of Amy Poland, to use these monies to select a gift from the Presbyterian Giving Catalog.

We Need You!

Each week a small group of dedicated, friendly church members volunteer on a rotating basis to serve as Greeters/Ushers during our worship service. The Worship Committee would like to invite you to consider serving, as well. If you turned in your Time and Tal-

ent form, we thank you. If not, here's a great way to meet our in-person worshippers and extend a warm Westminster welcome.

Please contact Linda Tanke (bltanke@gmail.com), Sue Hummel (sbhummel@chorus.net), or the church office (info@westminstermadison.org) if you are willing to serve or have questions. A new rotation will begin in June. Psssttt...Choir members, perhaps you would be willing to serve during the summer months?

Adult Education During Lent

This year we are focusing on *The Historical Jesus: The Evolutionary Challenge of a Mediterranean Jewish Peasant*. This is a five-week Lenten series with New Testament Scholar Dr. John Dominic Crossan and consists of five video lectures which will be shown after church on Sundays at 11:00AM (details on the lectures below). They are also available to watch at the following link: <https://trippfuller.com/2024/01/14/the-historical-jesus/>
Enter password: historical

Week #4 - Today, March 10 - *Jesus' Vindication: How is that Exaltation to be Imagined?*
Livestream QnA – Tuesday, Mar. 19th at 1:00PM (same link as above)
Special Guest – Dr. Diana Bulter Bass (public scholar of religion)

Join the Lenten series Facebook discussion group:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1606883999849401> Secret word: historical

New Pictorial Directory - Sign Up Today!

Harmann Studios will be at Westminster on April 17-19 to take photos for our new church directory. Members AND friends of the congregation are welcome to sign up for an appointment using the QR code here. If you need help with signing up, the Membership committee will be available in the Narthex after worship on March 17, March 24 and April 7 to assist. Questions? Contact the church office at info@westminstermadison.org.

Greeters needed during the photography sessions!

We need greeters for the photography sessions for our church directory (April 17-19). The role is easy! Just give members their paperwork and direct them to the photography room! The sign up sheet is in the Narthex. Thank you for your help.

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

Care List: Kathy Waggener, Traudie Holman, Nancy Prine, Lynn Chapman

Members & Friends: Betty Bush, Lu Kummerow, Dale & Marian Rohde, Loretta Rusch