



**THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER
MAY 4, 2025**

Christ is able to make us one; at the table
he sets the tone,
teaching people to live to bless, love in
word and in deed express.
Jesus lives again; earth can breathe again;
pass the Word around: loaves abound!

Today we celebrate the presence of the
risen Christ, with a “communion calypso”
set to a Jamaican folk melody.

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

**please stand as you're able*

WELCOME & OPENING SENTENCES

PRELUDE

Alleluia, arr. T. Kirk¹

CALL TO WORSHIP - *After each Bible passage, please respond with the refrain.*

Refrain 399 *God Welcomes All, Themba Amen²*

**God welcomes all, strangers and friends;
God's love is strong and it never ends.**

WHAT WE BELIEVE (PCUSA Catechism - 1998)

Leader: Does forgiveness mean that God condones sin?

ALL: No. God does not cease to be God. Although God is merciful, God does not condone what God forgives. In the death and resurrection of Christ, God judges what God abhors-everything hostile to love-by abolishing it at the very roots. In this judgment the unexpected occurs: good is brought out of evil, hope out of hopelessness, and life out of death. God spares sinners and turns them from enemies into friends. The uncompromising judgment of God is revealed in the suffering love of the cross.

***HYMN 826**

*Lift High the Cross, Crucifer*³

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION HYMN 422

*Create in Me a Clean Heart, Create in Me*⁴

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***PASSING THE PEACE**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

***SONG OF CELEBRATION 587**

*Alleluia!, Celtic Alleluia*⁵

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

HEBREW SCRIPTURE

Exodus 3:13-20

GOSPEL

John 21:1-14

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

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

HYMN 243

*Be Not Afraid, Taize Ecumenical Community*⁶

GOSPEL

John 21:15-19

SERMON

Recognizing Resurrection

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***HYMN 231**

*Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers, Suo Gan*⁷

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER RESPONSE HYMN 853

*We Are Marching in the Light of God, Siyahamba*⁸

We are praying in the light of God...

CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Feed My Sheep, C. Petrie⁹

***DEDICATION HYMN 609**

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow¹⁰

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

***HYMN 512**

The Bread and Wine Are Here, Love Feast¹¹

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you,

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise...

Leader: ...therefore we praise you, joining our voices with all the faithful of every time and place who forever sing to the glory of your name.

People: Holy, holy, holy Lord, we praise you for your love: bringing order out of chaos, breathing life into dust, leading captives into freedom, calling wandering children home, giving bread to the hungry, giving drink to the thirsty, raising the dead to life.

Leader: ...according to his commandment:

People: We remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection, we await his coming in glory.

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

Sheep May Safely Graze, J.S. Bach¹²

The congregation is invited to come forward and form two lines using the center aisle. If you are unable to come forward, remain seated and the communion elements will be served to you. The bread is gluten free and all are welcome.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION, LORD'S PRAYER

*HYMN 526

*Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ, Linstead*¹³

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Toccata in Seven, J. Rutter*¹⁴

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Leaders Today:

Preacher: Pastor Sara Tonje

Liturgist & Communion Server: Bud Smith

Minister of Music: Joe Chrisman

AV/Tech: John Tarr/Josh Mou

The Chancel Choir

Ushers/Greeters: Paul & Linda Bishop, Bill Tanke, Karen Osborne (Deacon)

Communion: Kate Dooley, Sue Hummel, Doug Rouse, Andrea Kenny, Chuck Kamp

WPC ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church Discussions - Last one today!

The Session invites you to participate in a conversation about our mission and ministry to prepare for calling a new pastor. We will be using the 2024 Westminster Self Study Overview as a way to see current challenges and opportunities that the church is facing. Our goal is to have honest and hopeful conversations toward a shared understanding of the priorities for Westminster.

- May 4th at 11am-12noon - Where: the Yuma side of the narthex

WPC Mallards Game June 7th

The Fellowship committee invites you to come out to a Madison Mallards baseball game again this year on Saturday, June 7th at 6:05. Come and enjoy an evening of baseball with your friends from Westminster. Our seats are in the terrace level and the cost of \$16 includes a Mallard's baseball cap. You can sign up on the sheet in the Narthex or contact Juanita Halls (jjh71152@gmail.com). Checks to WPC with memo line "Mallards".

Ascension Day Celebration—You are invited:

What: An Ascension Day Celebration- An Artist Gallery Opening

When: Thursday May 29, 6 to 8 pm

Where: Westminster Presbyterian Church

How: Gallery Opening and Hands-On Creative Stations

Who: All ages welcome

Refreshments will be served

Education Hour May 18th

Westminster has been approached for help by DAIS (Domestic Abuse Intervention Services). Before Mission Committee works to support this organization either financially or by providing items on their Wishlist such as clothing, diapers, wipes, toys, kitchen items, toothbrushes etc., we wanted to learn more about them. To that end, Mary Donahue, their Director of Development and Communications, has agreed to speak with us on May 18 during our education hour to answer any questions we might have. Mission Committee hopes that you'll be able to join us!

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

Care List: Lynn Chapman, Bob Klassy, Bill & Sue Bridson

Members & Friends: the Tarr family, Michelle Harris (friend of Eileen Ahearn)

Get ready for the Westminster

VBS 2025!

August 4-7

9am -12pm

Christ Presbyterian Church,
944 E Gorham St.

Kindergarten through 6th
grade welcome!

westminstermadison.org



*Join us for an
Organ Concert*

May 10, 2025 at 1pm

Westminster's Minister of Music

Joe Chrisman

will present a 45-minute program of
classical organ and piano music.



*The Bjorling family extends an
invitation for you to enjoy this special
musical event!
All are welcome.*