

Third Sunday of Easter

April 15, 2018

10:30 AM Worship

*At the ringing of the carillon, please silence your cell phones and conversations and prepare your hearts and minds for an encounter with the Living God.* ***Bolded text******is read or sung by all.***

*\*Please rise in body or spirit.*

**COME**

Voluntary Let Us Break Bread Together        arr. Jason W. Krug

Westminster Handbell Choir

Ronald Hazelett, *director*

\*Call to Worship Kyle Vuchak

People of God, worship the living God today!

**Remember that out of nothing God created the heavens and the earth.**

Remember that God raised Jesus from the powerlessness of death to the power of his right hand.

**Nothing can stand against God’s purposes.**

Behold your God, who reigns now and forever!

\*Hymn 147 Blessing and Honor                      O QUANTA QUALIA

**ENCOUNTER**

Prayer of Confession

Lord, you showed us true humility by becoming one of us,

**yet too often we practice pride.**

You cried alongside your friends and for the city of Jerusalem,

**yet too often we rush past the pain of others and are careless about our cities.**

You loved those who are weak, despised, or cast out,

**yet too often we love those who are strong, respected, or popular.**

You freely forgave and healed,

**yet too often we hold grudges and cause pain.**

You lived a perfectly holy life,

**yet too often we do not yearn for righteousness.**

You prayed that we who believe in you should be united with each other and you,

**yet too often we focus on the differences that separate us from other believers.**

You were mocked, whipped, and even killed in a visible demonstration of the extent of your love for us,

**yet too often we deny you.**

You call us to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world,

**yet too often we blend into or hide from our culture. Forgive us, Lord, so that we will shine with your glory. Amen.**

*Silence is observed.*

Response 574 Lord, Have Mercy *Kyrie*

**Lord have mercy upon us. Christ have mercy upon us.**

**Lord have mercy upon us.**

Assurance of Forgiveness

\*Response 567 Glory Be to the Father *Gloria Patri*

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen. Amen. Amen.**

\*Passing the Peace

Greet both friends and strangers saying, **The peace of Christ be with you.**

Time for Church Life Kyle Vuchak

*Please sign the friendship pad and pass to those seated near you. If you are the last person to sign on that page, please tear it out and leave it on the pew for the ushers to pick-up after the service.*

Offertory Speak, O Lord                     arr. Peggy Bettcher

Westminster and Youth Handbell Choirs

\*Response 592 Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow *Doxology*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God all**

**creatures here below; praise God above, ye heavenly hosts;**

**praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Time with Young Disciples Sheila Svoboda

*Following the Time with Young Disciples, 3 through 5 year-olds are invited to Room 104 for age-appropriate activities. Kindergarteners through 3rd graders are invited to children’s choir rehearsal in Room 207 of the Education Building and 4th-8th graders will stay in worship. The children will meet at the Sanctuary door on the lectern side and someone will take the children to their appropriate classrooms so that parents may not miss the readings and sermon. Parents please pick-up your children after worship.*

**GROW**

Prayer for Illumination

The First Lesson  Acts 3:12-26 Pew Bible, New Testament  Pg. 120

\*Hymn 510 Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts                QUEBEC

The Second Lesson Luke 24:36b-48 Pew Bible, New Testament Pg. 91

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon         Encounters  The Reverend Eric Dillenbeck

**SERVE**

\*Affirmation of Faith

**Remembering the promise to reconcile the world, God joined our humanity in Jesus Christ - the eternal Word made flesh. He is the long-awaited Messiah, one with us and one with God, fully human and fully divine, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of Mary. As covenant partners, set free for joyful obedience, we offer our hearts and lives to do God’s work in the world. With tempered impatience, eager to see injustice ended, we expect the Day of the Lord. We are confident that the light which shines in the present darkness will fill the earth when Christ appears. Come, Lord Jesus. Our world belongs to you.**

Prayers of the People and The 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.**

\*Hymn 466 O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing              AZMON

\*Charge and Benediction

Voluntary Fanfare-Improvisation on *Azmon* Alec Wyton

***Welcome to our worship this morning!***

*Join us for coffee and fellowship*

*in Wright-Herberich Hall after worship today.*

USHERS this morning are Dave Stobbs (head usher), Barbara Thackeray  
Joan Buehl, Bill Bramley, Donna and Dan Gorring and Linda Stobbs.

THE CHANCEL FLOWERS are given by Barbara and Cy Blackfan in memory of their parents and daughter-in-law, Kathleen.

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS AND HYMNALS are available. HEARING ASSISTANCE DEVICES are available. CHILDREN’S BIBLES AND ACTIVITY BOXES are available in the Narthex. Please ask an usher.

THE REVEREND ERIC DILLENBECK Eric currently serves as Manager of Community Partnerships at Youth Opportunities Unlimited in Cleveland and as Executive Director at Heights Community Congress. A graduate of Clemson University and Columbia Theological Seminary, Eric served as Pastor Jon’s first campus minister at the University of South Carolina. Eric has served Presbyterian congregations in Ohio, Georgia, and South Carolina.

MEMBERSHIP INQUIRY Interested in deepening your relationship with Westminster? We are offering a membership class on Monday, April 16 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and an accompanying meeting with Session from 9:30 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. on Sunday, April 22. Those desiring membership would then be received during worship on Sunday, April 22. Contact Pastor Jon at jhauerwas.wpc@gmail.com.

PICTORIAL DIRECTORIES ARE IN If you had your photo taken for the Westminster pictorial directory please stop by the table in Wright-Herberich Hall to pick up your free copy. We have twenty-five extra copies of the directory, which will be sold for $10 each. Questions, please contact the church office at 330-836-2226.

*FAREWELLS*

Kayla Elefritz, our Childcare Director for three years, has resigned because of increased responsibilities in her weekday job. We are in the process of finding a replacement. In the interim, we will have the familiar faces of Pat, Maggie and Traci caring for our youngest members!

After six years of faithful service to Westminster, Germaine Wilson, our Director of Communication, is saying farewell to our congregation on April 20 as she embarks on a new professional opportunity. Please extend your thanks to her for the many ways that she has served us.

**COME - ENCOUNTER - GROW - SERVE**

THE PRAYER QUILT MINISTRY would like you to tie a knot and say a prayer for Roger and Martha Nelson. The back of this quilt, hanging in Wright-Herberich Hall, is also interesting as it contains flags from the couples' heritages.

THIRD SUNDAY DINNER WPC members will be hosting our friends and neighbors from the community for dinner TODAY in Wright-Herberich Hall. Dinner is served at 5:00 p.m.

BIBLE STUDYNEW TIMEThe Bible study will meet at noon on Thursdays in Room 106. Next date is April 19. Bring a brown bag lunch and join us! We are currently studying the New Testament book of Acts.

TWEEN EVENTOn Earth Day, April 22, our WPC Tweens will gather after church for lunch. They will then walk to Will Christy Park to be part of “Keep Akron Beautiful” clean-up month. Event runs from 11:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Please fill out waivers and give to Sheila Svoboda by April 15.

BAZAAR HAS BEEN POSTPONED The Rockynol/Ohio Living Bazaar scheduled for Friday, April 13 has been postponed till Friday, April 27.

SESSION VISIONING Session plans to meet quarterly to form a vision plan for Westminster. The next meeting is planned for Saturday, April 28 from from 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. at the church.

CELTIC GARDEN PERENNIAL SALE The Celtic Garden Perennial Sale will be held on Saturday, April 29 on the patio, plan to attend! We need members to start digging their perennials, pot them (or use a plastic bag) and bring them to the sidewalk by the garden. We plan to have many interesting perennials to select from. Also enjoy a delicious pancake breakfast served by the Kiwanis. The perennial sale is the Celtic Garden’s only fundraiser, which helps to buy annuals, new plants and supplies. Thank you for your support and help.

ATTENTION GRADUATES On Sunday, May 20 we will be honoring Westminster graduates during our 10:30 a.m. worship service. Are you graduating from high school, college, or graduate school? Please let us know. We would love to recognize you! Contact the church office at westminsterakron@gmail.com.

***Calendar of Church Building Events***

***for April 15 – April 22, 2018***

**Sunday, 4/15:**

9:00 am Child Care Center opens

9:00 am Adult and Youth Bell Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

9:15 am Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

9:30 am Education for all

10:30 am Worship (Sanctuary)

11:30 am Coffee and fellowship (Kitchen/WHH)

5:00 pm Third Sunday Dinner (Kitchen/WHH)

**Monday, 4/16:**

9:30 am Membership Class (Room 106)

**Tuesday, 4/17:**

9:30 am Prayer Quilt Ministry (Wright-Herberich Hall)

**Wednesday, 4/18:**

7:00 am Ohio Living Meeting (Wright-Herberich Hall)

1:00 pm Sewing Circle (Room 106)

4:00 pm Bridges Out of Poverty/Circles (WHH/Kitchen/Library)

4:15 pm Adult Bell Choir (Sanctuary)

**Thursday, 4/19:**

9:30 am Staff Meeting (Library)

12:00 pm Bible Study (Library

**Friday, 4/20:** No activities planned

**Saturday, 4/21:**

8:00 am Food for Life (Kitchen)

**Sunday, 4/22:**

9:00 am Child Care Center opens

9:30 am Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

9:30 am Membership Class (Pastor’s Study)

9:30 am Education for all

10:30 am Worship (Sanctuary)

11:30 am Coffee and fellowship (Kitchen/WHH)

11:30 am Worship Committee Meeting (Room 106)

11:30 am Tween Lunch and Earth Day Event (Tween Room/off-site)

7:00 pm Confirmation Meeting #8 of 10 (Tween Room)

**Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.**

* We do our best to answer your phone calls weekday mornings.
* You may be directed to our automated answering service at other times.
* We strive to provide access to the church building during office hours through our callbox in the rear of the church building.
* Please call ahead and inquire about building access if you are coming after 2:00 p.m.

WEEKLY DEADLINE for information to be included in the Sunday Update and Sunday bulletin is Wednesday at noon.

SCRIPT ARTICLES for the June/July Script will be due by Wednesday, May 17. Please send to [gwilson1250@gmail.com](mailto:gwilson1250@gmail.com) by noon. The June/July Script will be published and inserted into the bulletin on Sunday, May 27, 2018.

**WPC Staff:**

The Reverend Jonathan S. Hauerwas, Pastor [jhauerwas.wpc@gmail.com](mailto:jhauerwas.wpc@gmail.com)

(cell phone 330-606-4551) (weekly office hours: Monday-Wednesday, 9:30-11:00 am)

Damon Horner, Daytime Custodian [wpcbuilding@gmail.com](mailto:wpcbuilding@gmail.com)

(weekly work days: Sunday-Thursday)

Eileen Martinez, Staff Accountant [wpcfinance1250@gmail.com](mailto:wpcfinance1250@gmail.com)

(weekly office days: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday)

James Mismas, Director of Music/Organist musicdirectorwpc@gmail.com

Sheila Svoboda, Dir. of Children and Family Ministry wpcchildren1250@gmail.com

(weekly office days: Tuesday and Thursday)

Germaine Wilson, Director of Communication [gwilson1250@gmail.com](mailto:gwilson1250@gmail.com)

(weekly office days: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday)

Sean Williams, Youth Ministry Administrator [wpcyouth1250@gmail.com](mailto:wpcyouth1250@gmail.com)

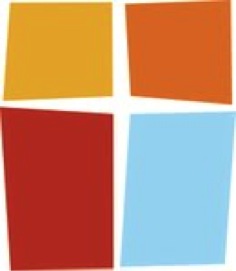
(cell phone 717-271-1221)

Zack Troyer, Director of Children’s Choir [wpcchildrenschoir1250@gmail.com](mailto:wpcchildrenschoir1250@gmail.com)

(cell phone 330-285-0213)

Ron Hazelett, Director of Tween/Youth and Adult Bell Choir wpcbellchoir@gmail.com

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