

 WESTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SERVICE of
PUBLIC WORSHIP

How beautiful upon the mountains are
the feet of him who brings good news...
who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."

- *The Prophet Isaiah*

The Eighth Sunday of Epiphany
February 26th, 2017

Welcome to Westminster Presbyterian Church. We are thankful that you have joined us today as we offer worship to God through our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. There may be some elements of our worship today that are unfamiliar to you, but please don't worry about that, you will catch on soon enough. If you have any questions about our church, or about the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the pastor, elders or deacons would be happy to help you find answers.

A FEW WORDS ABOUT OUR WORSHIP

Standing and raising hands

Because we are whole people with bodies as well as souls, we use our bodies in worship, as the Bible commands. We raise our hands to look to God for help and bless God (Ps. 28:2, 63:3), and we stand to hear the Word out of reverence for God (Neh. 8:5).

The Lord's Supper

The Sacrament of communion is a rite of fellowship between Christ and His people. We invite all who have been initiated into the family of God by baptism, and admitted to table fellowship by the leadership of this or some other church, to join in the communion service by faith. If you are unbaptized, or not a church member, please speak with the pastor or elders before the service if you would like to come to join in the Holy Supper.

Liturgical response

Please note that when the congregation is to read, the type will be **boldfaced and indented**:

The Lord be with you! [*Leader*]

And also with you! [*Congregation*]

Children

You will notice many children in our service today. Jesus welcomed little children to Himself, and so we welcome them in our worship service! We believe that children naturally love those whom their parents love, and so the best way to help children grow in their love for the Lord Jesus is to have families worship together.

We understand that this means baby noises and wiggly children, and we're fine with that. If your child is fussy or needs a little time to quiet down, we have a mother's nursery in the back room. If your children have never been in worship before, don't worry at all. We realize this is unusual for many people, and we would be happy to offer you help, tips and encouragement.

Hearing Assistance

Hearing assistance devices are available. Please visit the sound table in the back of the sanctuary.

PRELUDE

Please be seated, silence electronic devices, and prepare your hearts for worship.

APOSTOLIC GREETING

*CALL to WORSHIP

Psalm 35:27-28

Let those who delight in my righteousness
shout for joy and be glad
and say evermore,
**“Great is the Lord,
who delights in the welfare of his servant!”**

*GLORIA PATRI

N^o. 734

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be;
World without end,
Amen, Amen.**

*PRAYER of INVOCATION

*HYMN of PRAISE

O Worship the King, N^o. 2

CALL to CONFESSION

Mark 1:14-15

**Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God,
and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and
believe in the gospel.”**

* *Please stand as you are able*

PRIVATE REPENTANCE

A time of silence is provided for private, individual confession before the Lord.

PUBLIC CONFESSION OF SIN

The Book of Common Worship (1908)

**Almighty God, rich in mercy to all those who call upon You;
Hear us as we come to You, humbly confessing our sins and transgressions, and
imploping Your mercy and forgiveness. We have broken Your holy laws by our deeds
and by our words, and by the sinful affections of our hearts. We confess before You
our disobedience and ingratitude, our pride and willfulness; and all our rebellion and
failures toward You, your Holy church, and our fellow men.**

**Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; and of Your great goodness grant that
we may hereafter serve and please You in newness of life; through the merit and
mediation of Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Amen!

ASSURANCE of PARDON

Ephesians 1:13-14

In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and
believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, who is the guarantee of
our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

DECLARATION of ABSOLUTION

At the conclusion of the declaration, let the forgiven respond with one voice: Amen!

HYMN OF SALVATION

Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder N^o. 172

PRAYER, and GIVING of TITHE *and* OFFERINGS

*DOXOLOGY

N^o. 73 I

**Praise God from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him all creatures here below;
Praise Him above ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Deuteronomy 9:4-21

“Do not say in your heart, after the Lord your God has thrust them out before you, ‘It is because of my righteousness that the Lord has brought me in to possess this land,’ whereas it is because of the wickedness of these nations that the Lord is driving them out before you. ⁵Not because of your righteousness or the uprightness of your heart are you going in to possess their land, but because of the wickedness of these nations the Lord your God is driving them out from before you, and that he may confirm the word that the Lord swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

⁶“Know, therefore, that the Lord your God is not giving you this good land to possess because of your righteousness, for you are a stubborn people.⁷ Remember and do not forget how you provoked the Lord your God to wrath in the wilderness. From the day you came out of the land of Egypt until you came to this place, you have been rebellious against the Lord. ⁸Even at Horeb you provoked the Lord to wrath, and the Lord was so angry with you that he was ready to destroy you. ⁹When I went up the mountain to receive the tablets of stone, the tablets of the covenant that the Lord made with you, I remained on the mountain forty days and forty nights. I neither ate bread nor drank water. ¹⁰And the Lord gave me the two tablets of stone written with the finger of God, and on them were all the words that the Lord had spoken with you on the mountain out of the midst of the fire on the day of the assembly. ¹¹And at the end of forty days and forty nights the Lord gave me the two tablets of stone, the tablets of the covenant. ¹²Then the Lord said to me, ‘Arise, go down quickly from here, for your people whom you have brought from Egypt have acted corruptly. They have turned aside quickly out of the way that I commanded them; they have made themselves a metal image.’

¹³“Furthermore, the Lord said to me, ‘I have seen this people, and behold, it is a stubborn people. ¹⁴Let me alone, that I may destroy them and blot out their name from under heaven. And I will make of you a nation mightier and greater than they.’¹⁵ So I turned and came down from the mountain, and the mountain was burning with fire. And the two tablets of the covenant were in my two hands. ¹⁶And I looked, and behold, you had sinned against the Lord your God. You had made yourselves a golden calf. You had turned aside quickly from the way that the Lord had commanded you. ¹⁷So I took hold of the two tablets and threw them out of my two hands and broke them before your eyes. ¹⁸Then I lay prostrate before the Lord as before, forty days and forty nights. I neither ate bread nor drank water, because of all the sin that you had committed, in doing what was evil in the sight of the Lord to provoke him to anger. ¹⁹For I was afraid of the anger and hot displeasure that the Lord bore against you, so that he was ready to destroy you. But the Lord listened to me that time also. ²⁰And the Lord was so angry with Aaron that he was ready to destroy him. And I prayed for Aaron also at the same time. ²¹Then I took the sinful thing, the calf that you had made, and burned it with fire and crushed it, grinding it very small, until it was as fine as dust. And I threw the dust of it into the brook that ran down from the mountain.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*CONFESSION OF FAITH

The Tetrapolitan Confession (1530)

The beginning of all our righteousness and salvation must proceed from the mercy of the Lord, who from his own favor and the contemplation of the death of his Son first offers the doctrine of truth and his Gospel, through those being sent forth who are to preach it; and, secondly, since “the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God,” as St. Paul saysⁱ, he causes a beam of his light to arise at the same time in the darkness of our heart, so that now we may believe his Gospel preached, being persuaded of the truth thereof by his Spirit from above, and then, relying upon the testimony of this Spirit, may call upon him with filial confidence, and say, “Abba, Father,” obtaining thereby sure salvation, according to the saying: “Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

PASTORAL PRAYER

ⁱ 1 Cor. 2:14

*RESPONSIVE READING

Psalm 43

Vindicate me, O God, and defend my cause

against an ungodly people,

from the deceitful and unjust man

deliver me!

For you are the God in whom I take refuge;

why have you rejected me?

Why do I go about mourning

because of the oppression of the enemy?

Send out your light and your truth;

let them lead me;

let them bring me to your holy hill

and to your dwelling!

Then I will go to the altar of God,

to God my exceeding joy,

and I will praise you with the lyre,

O God, my God.

Why are you cast down, O my soul,

and why are you in turmoil within me?

Hope in God; for I shall again praise him,

my salvation and my God.

Amen

*NEW TESTAMENT LESSON *and* SERMON TEXT

Galatians 1:6-10

I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel—⁷ not that there is another one, but there are some who trouble you and want to distort the gospel of Christ.⁸ But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed.⁹ As we have said before, so now I say again: If anyone is preaching to you a gospel contrary to the one you received, let him be accursed.

¹⁰For am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God? Or am I trying to please man? If I were still trying to please man, I would not be a servant of Christ.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL LESSON

John 3:25-30

Now a discussion arose between some of John's disciples and a Jew over purification.

²⁶And they came to John and said to him, "Rabbi, he who was with you across the Jordan, to whom you bore witness—look, he is baptizing, and all are going to him." ²⁷John answered, "A person cannot receive even one thing unless it is given him from heaven. ²⁸You yourselves bear me witness, that I said, 'I am not the Christ, but I have been sent before him.' ²⁹The one who has the bride is the bridegroom. The friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly at the bridegroom's voice. Therefore this joy of mine is now complete. ³⁰He must increase, but I must decrease."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*PRAYER for the MINISTRY of the WORD

SERMON

What God Thinks of the Gospel, Rev. Jerid Krulish

*COMMUNION HYMN

Jesus, My Great High Priest, N^o. 306

The SACRAMENT of the LORD'S SUPPER

You are welcome to partake in the Lord's Supper if you are a baptized Christian who has been admitted to the Lord's Table. Our communion elements are wine and bread. If you are unable to take regular bread and wine, please signal one of the elders (with the trays), and we can provide you with gluten-free bread; non-alcoholic grape juice is found in the innermost ring of the communion trays for those who need to abstain from alcohol.

*HYMN of COMMISSIONING *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*, N^o. 457

*BENEDICTION and THREEFOLD AMEN

N^o. 74^o



HELPS for FAMILY and PRIVATE WORSHIP

HYMN OF THE MONTH:

Rejoice, the Lord is King, No. 378

CHILDREN'S CATECHISM:

Q. 6. Are there more gods than one?

A. There is only one God.

Q. 7. In how many persons does this one God exist?

A. In three persons.

WPC BIBLE READING PLAN:

2/26	Psalms 137	Matthew 13:44-58	Jeremiah 24
2/27	Psalms 138	Matthew 14	Jeremiah 25
2/28	Psalms 139	Matthew 15:1-31	Jeremiah 26
3/1	Hebrews 12:1-17	Psalms 143	Jonah 3-4
3/2	Psalms 140	Matthew 15:32-16:12	Jeremiah 27-28
3/3	Psalms 141	Matthew 16:13-28	Jeremiah 29
3/4	Psalms 142	Matthew 17	Jeremiah 30

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CALENDAR

ALL-CHURCH GOSPEL OF JOHN STUDY, 7PM

Meeting at the Buhrmaster's home for the time being.

Thursday, 3/2

BAPTISMAL FEAST

The celebration of the baptism of Lidiya Anastasia Fomichenko

Sunday, 3/26

WEDDING INVITATION

Mr. Charles Chrisp and Miss. Clairissa Ream invite the congregation of WPC to celebrate their wedding.

Saturday, April 1st, 6PM at Woodland Christian Church (430 Buckeye st, Woodland, WA)

Reception to follow at the Middle School Commons.

Please RSVP to clairissa93@yahoo.com with the number of planned attendees.

The couple is registered at Bed Bath and Beyond and Target.

BABY SHOWER

Finn Dombey is almost ready to make his big debut, and it is time to celebrate!! Come join us in celebrating the special Mamma, Talitha Joy Dombey! The theme of the day will be "The Adventures of Finn." Feel free to draw inspiration from this in gifting to Talitha and Finn! Their bedroom decor theme will be vintage travel/adventure. Her main colors will be dark blue, grey, and beige. Bring a new born size onesies to hang on a clothes line and be entered to win a special gift!

March 11th, 11:00AM at the Mack's.

Talitha is Registered at Target and Babies R Us.

WESTMINSTER

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Meeting at: Clark County Square Dance Center
10713 NE 117th Ave, Vancouver, WA 98662

Times: Sunday School: 9:30AM 🍀 Fellowship: 10:30AM 🍀 Worship: 11:00AM

Contact us: (360) 602-1501 🍀 admin@solochristo.org
Audio sermons, the order of worship, and the church directory are available at our website.

Elders: Mr. Tom Berkompas Rev. Jerid Krulish (Pastor)
Mr. Mark Sturtevant (Clerk)

Deacons: Mr. Christopher Berkompas Mr. Dave Buhrmaster
Mr. Terry Craig Mr. Dylan Gollehon
Mr. Roy Märtin (Chairman) Mr. Dan Seifert
Mr. Joseph Sturtevant