

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, February 10, 2019

9:00 and 11:15 a.m.

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

YOUTH SUNDAY

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

There are many heroes of the faith, people we admire and wish to be. However, there are even more ordinary people of faith - those doing what they can with what they have to make a difference. This school year the WPC Youth are studying sixteen bold stories of those often overlooked in our biblical narratives. Visual art and prompts for reflection have allowed them to dig deep into the worlds of these characters, entering their stories with curiosity and openness to what they might teach us. May the way their stories are woven into worship today enlighten and enliven us all.

GATHERING THE COMMUNITY

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

PREPARING FOR GOD'S WORD

PRELUDE "Come, Thou Almighty King" arr. Hustad

* CALL TO WORSHIP *Ellie DuBose, Grace Dunn*

Leader: Let us open our hearts to receive God's Word.

People: **For in the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God.**

Leader: Let us lift up our voices in praise.

People: **For we will sing songs of praise to the Lord of our lives.**

Leader: Let us set our minds on things above.

People: **Transform us by the renewing of our minds.**

All: **Let us join as the common body and worship our God.**

* HYMN OF PRAISE No. 69 HERE I AM

"Here I Am, Lord"

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION *Caroline Henderson*

Merciful God, like many of your famous faces of faith, we too have struggled in our journeys of faith. Like Adam and Eve, we are tempted by the promises of the world. Like Jonah, when you call us we do not always follow through. Like Judas, we let fear rule our lives. Forgive our shortcomings. Renew our faith. Help each of us to claim our status as one of your beloved faces of faith. Amen.

* ASSURANCE OF PARDON *Luka Draganic, Davis Usher*

Leader: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

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

* GLORIA PATRI (Hymnal, No. 581)

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.

Children in K5 and first grade children leave for Children's Church.

Time with children at 9:00 a.m. service: Douglas Culclasure, Ellis McLarty

Time with children at 11:15 a.m. service: Avery Howard, Ava Major

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

HEARING GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION *Eli Gosnell, Kell Runnion*

SCRIPTURE LESSON 1 Samuel 3:1-10 *Madeleine Hopkins*
SERMON *Emma McFall*

SCRIPTURE LESSON Luke 2:21-38 *Anna Sanders*
SERMON *Elizabeth Grier*

SCRIPTURE LESSON Jonah 1:11-17 *Morgan Key*
SERMON *Addison Godwin*

SCRIPTURE LESSON Exodus 3:11-14, 4:10-13 *Kate Edmondson*
SERMON *Grace Beasley*

* HYMN No. 718 BOURBON

"Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said"

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *Cooper Kemp*

Affirmation of Faith adapted from the lessons in "Faces of Our Faith" study journal.

We believe that God created the world and declared it good. Humanity was made in the image of God and deemed very good. In other humans we find "bone of our bones and flesh of our flesh."

We believe that God makes a way in times of despair, even bringing life from situations of death. We believe that God gives us courage that enables us to stand and do the right thing, even when it is hard. We believe that God endows each human being with unique gifts and calls us to use those gifts at "such a time as this."

We believe that God walks with us during hard times, giving us strength to overcome our human tendency toward fear. We believe that God forgives us when we fail and seeks us out when we run away. We believe that God is gracious and compassionate. We believe that God, who is patient, also calls us to be patient while awaiting the in-breaking of Christ's kingdom. We believe that we will see the kingdom of God come near. We believe that, even when our relationship with God is complicated, there are moments of beauty and truth and great redemption.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND THANKSGIVING

Kayla Burrell, Emma Shurley

THE LORD'S PRAYER *Hymnal page 35, Traditional*

OFFERING
Offertory "Sisi No Moja" Narverud

* Doxology (Hymnal, No. 606)
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

* Prayer of Dedication *Carleigh Bultz, Murray Freedman*

* HYMN No. 757 KINGSFOLD

"Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples"

* CHARGE & BLESSING *Holly Dumpert, Emma Skelton*

* POSTLUDE "Come, Christians, Join to Sing" arr. Jordan

**All who are able may stand*

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

HEAD USHERS: 9:00 a.m. Pete Sweeny
11:15 a.m. Tom Vanderbloemen

YOUTH USHERS: Robert Farmer, Luka Draganic
Davis Usher, Luke Beasley
Camille Kirven, Anna Sanders

SPONSOR: 11:15 a.m. Parks McLeod
GREETERS: 9:00 a.m. Howard Boyd, Grier Mullins
Pete Roe

11:15 a.m. Stephen Woods, Rita Barker
Freddie Williams
LITURGISTS: Westminster Youth Group
ACOLYTES: Riley Gettys, Cooper Kemp

PARKING

We have permission to use the parking lots at the Uniform Shop and Augusta Commons Mall.

TRAFFIC POLICE OFFICER

A Greenville city police officer will be on duty from 9:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. to help people cross the street from the other side of Augusta Road.

STREAMING

All worship services at Westminster are broadcast via live video streaming. Navigate to the home page of the church website at www.wpc-online.org and click the link "Worship via Live Streaming."

Musicians leading in worship this Sunday are:

Nancy Smith, organist
Youth Choir

NURSERY

Childcare is available for infants through four-year kindergarten. Our childcare program provides safe, secure nurseries for our babies and toddlers during worship services. Our nurturing staff of experienced caregivers and parent volunteers offers a welcoming environment to all children.

During worship, children in rising K5–1st grade follow one of our ministers out for Children's Church in Room 206.

GRAB A NAMETAG

THIS SUNDAY!

We will continue to wear nametags each Sunday. Please find them near entrances and gathering areas and share your name with others. You'll be glad you did!

PICTORIAL DIRECTORY

It's time for Westminster to have a new Pictorial Directory. Directory pictures will take place primarily during a three week period in March. Sign ups will become available this month. Stay tuned for more details!

BIRTH

A son, *William Richardson Hipp, Jr.*, was born to William & Candice Hipp on December 27, 2018, in Greenville.

MARRIAGE

On Saturday, February 2, 2019, *Olivia Young* and *John Orren* were united in marriage at Westminster.

INTERESTED IN JOINING

WESTMINSTER?

Visitors interested in learning more about Westminster Presbyterian Church, membership here, and what it means to be Presbyterian are invited to attend our New Member Class from **8:30–10:30 a.m. on Sunday, February 17**. Those who have been baptized and who wish to become members may do so on **Sunday, February 17**, during the **11:15 a.m.** worship service or on a future new member Sunday. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Jennifer Dillard (jdillard@wpc-online.org) at 232-2424.

CONNECTIONS

Connections, a fellowship group for adults and singles, will meet for lunch at **The Lazy Goat** (170 River Pl.), **Sunday, February 10 at 12:45 p.m.** New participants are welcome. Make reservations with *Gretta Lawson* (grettalawson@gmail.com or 430-4008) **by Saturday, February 9**.

MEN'S GROUP BOOK STUDY

The Men's Group will continue their book study on **Monday, February 11**, at **6:00 p.m.** in **Room 209-C**. We will study the book, *The Jesus I Never Knew*, by Philip Yancey. All WPC men are invited to participate and newcomers are welcome. For more information, contact *Rick Carpenter* (608-1881).

LOOKING AHEAD IN YOUTH GROUP

- 2/10 There is no regular Youth Group tonight.
- 2/17 Regular Youth Group
- 2/24 Greenville Area Presbyterian Youth Middle School Gathering at John Knox Presbyterian from 3:00-4:30 p.m.

Combined Youth Choir Rehearsal at 5:00 p.m.

Regular Senior High Youth Group

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Get your day started right with the "It's Never Too Early to Talk About Jesus" study and discussion group, meeting again **Tuesday, February 12, at 6:30 a.m.** in the **Women's Lounge**. This semester we are studying Rachel Held Evans's New York Times bestseller, A Year of Biblical Womanhood (available in the WPC library). Questions? Contact *Kathleen Reynolds* (kathleenmreynolds@yahoo.com, 346-3155) or Associate Pastor Leigh Stuckey.

WOMEN OF WESTMINSTER

- Tuesday, February 12**
- **Circle #5:** *Ilene Schlacht*, chair (rischlacht@att.net), will meet at **10:00 a.m.** in the **Choir Room**.
 - **Circle #3:** *Dee Malone*, chair (dee05m@gmail.com), will meet at the home of *Sallie White* (50 Ridgeland Dr.) at **6:00 p.m.**
- Wednesday, February 13**
- **Circle #6:** *Liz Einstein* (liz.ard.einstein@gmail.com) and *Sherry Tate* (sherrytate63@gmail.com) co-chairs, will meet at **9:00 a.m.** at Sherry's home (207 Camille Ave.).

ADULT GROUPS

Needle Arts Group: Will meet **Wednesday, February 13, at 6:30 p.m.** in the **Entrance Pavilion**. Leader: *Terry Gentry* (tmgentry@charter.net).

SENIOR ADULT LUNCHEON

A Valentines luncheon for our Senior Adults will be held **Thursday, February 14, at 12:30 p.m.** in **Room 209**. The cost will be \$7 per person. Those who would like may share a romantic memory, love letter, or thought. RSVP to the church office by **Monday, February 11**.

THEOLOGY READING GROUP

The Theology Reading Group will meet **Monday, February 18, at 7:00 p.m.** in the **Charter Room**. *Dianne Scherer* will lead the discussion of Everything Happens for a Reason: And Other Lies I Have Loved, by Kate Bowler. Read the book and join us for an interesting evening. All are invited.

BAPTISM CLASS

If you are interested in having your child or children baptized at Westminster, you are invited to attend a brief class on baptism taught by Ben Dorr. The next class will be **Sunday, February 24, at 3:30 p.m.** in the **Charter Room**. Please email Michelle in the church office (michelle@wpc-online.org) if you are planning to attend.

UNITED MINISTRIES

The United Ministries food pantry is in need of nonperishable food items and hotel-sized toiletries. Items may be left in the marked cabinets located in the Friendship Court outside the church office.

THE HARBINGER WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

2310 Augusta Road
Greenville, South Carolina 29605
(864) 232-2424
www.wpc-online.org
THE HARBINGER: (USPS No. 764160)
Published weekly by the Westminster Presbyterian Church, 2310 Augusta Road, Greenville SC 29605. Periodical postage paid at Greenville SC 29605.

CHURCH STAFF

Church 232-2424	School 232-5766
Pastor	Ben Dorr
	bdorr@wpc-online.org
Associate Pastor	Barbara Stoop
	bstoop@wpc-online.org
Associate Pastor	Leigh Stuckey
	lstuckey@wpc-online.org
Associate Pastor	Mary Kathleen Duncan
	mkduncan@wpc-online.org
Parish Associate for Older Adults	Amos Workman
	aworkman@wpc-online.org
Pastor Emeritus	Zane Moore
Director of Music	Mark Kemp
	mkemp@wpc-online.org
Children's Choir Coordinator	Kathryn Knauer
	kknauer@wpc-online.org
Volunteer Coordinator	Jennifer Dillard
	jdillard@wpc-online.org
Organist	Nancy Smith
	nls1949@aol.com
Weekday School Director	Cara Puntch
	cpuntch@wpc-online.org
Financial Secretary	Sherrri Owens
	sherri@wpc-online.org
Office Manager	Michelle Little
	michelle@wpc-online.org
Secretary	Wendy Bagley
	wendy@wpc-online.org
Director of Nurseries	Janell Pitman
	jpitman@wpc-online.org
Director of Hospitality	Lisa Ridge
	lisa@wpc-online.org
Building Supervisor	Steve Phillips
	stevep30@bellsouth.net

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February 10-16, 2019

SUNDAY

- IHN departs*
- 9:00 a.m. Worship Service
 - Membership Committee Meeting
 - 10:00 a.m. Sunday School
 - 11:15 a.m. Worship Service
 - 12:15 p.m. Emergency Preparedness Task Force Meeting
 - 3:00 p.m. Installation Service of Ben Dorr
 - 8:00 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous

MONDAY

- 6:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study Group
- 6:15 p.m. NAMI
- 8:00 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous

TUESDAY

- 6:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study Group
- 10:00 a.m. PW Circle #5
- 11:00 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 12:00 p.m. Al-Anon
- 6:00 p.m. PW Circle #3

WEDNESDAY

- 3:00 p.m. "It's Elementary!" & Tweens
- 4:30 p.m. Junior & Senior Choristers
- 6:30 p.m. The Needle Arts Group
- 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY

- 10:00 a.m. Thursday Bible Study
- 12:30 p.m. Senior Adult Luncheon
- 8:00 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous

K5 - 5th GRADE TEAMS

BASKETBALL BANQUET

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20

Celebrate the 2018-2019 season of WPC Basketball for K5-5th grade teams. Coaches will recognize players and award trophies. The nursery will be available for children under three. Dinner includes pizza, salad, and dessert for \$5/person. Sign up today at www.wpc-online.org. **Register for dinner by Monday, February 18.** Serving lines will open at **5:30 p.m.**

Youth Sunday

2019



FACES
OF OUR
FAITH
BOLD & UNTOLD STORIES



the HARBINGER

Save the date for VBS this summer! Monday, August 5 - Friday, August 9

Classes for ages having completed 4K-5th grades and volunteer opportunities for all ages.

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

WESTMINSTER ACADEMY THEOLOGY BASICS Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

During the month of February we will be joined by The Reverend Dr. Peter Hobbie, Professor Emeritus of the Christian Religion at Presbyterian College for a comprehensive four-week adult education experience. While we value the ability to run multiple classes during our Sunday School year, Westminster Academy will provide a unique opportunity for WPC adults and visitors to learn and engage with theology together.

“Westminster Academy” will focus on basic and complex questions in Christian theology:

- February 10: Who is God and what is this creation God made?
- February 17: Is Humanity all that Special?
- February 24: What is the Human Problem that Demanded a Savior?

We hope you will join us as we seek to understand the world God has created and our place in it.

Teacher Bio: Peter Hobbie came to Presbyterian College in 1990 after serving as a chaplain and professor at Bethel College in Tennessee. He received an A.B. from Davidson College, an M.B.A. from Virginia Commonwealth University, an M. A. from the University of North Carolina in American History, and a D. Min. and Ph. D. in Church History from Union Presbyterian Seminary. His focus is on American Religion, Christian Doctrine, and the African-American Religion Experience. He retired in 2014 and continues to reside in Clinton, SC.

Westminster Academy will meet in Room 209.

WESTMINSTER PILGRIMAGES: GEORGIA & ALABAMA CIVIL RIGHTS TOUR

At Westminster we believe that “Open minds open hearts,” and we understand that the value of what we hear and learn within our walls must be carried into our everyday living. We are so grateful for the bounty of opportunity within our educational program—but we also believe that Christian education should not be limited to our classrooms.

As such, we are proud to introduce “Westminster Pilgrimages,” an opportunity for individuals and families to embrace Christian education opportunities in the world. In 2019 the youth will kick off our pilgrimage series with a trip to the Matanzas Evangelical Seminary in Matanzas, Cuba. While in Cuba they will study liberation theology with theologian and pastor Ary Fernandez. We are also pleased to invite Westminster members to join us for a **Civil Rights Heritage Pilgrimage from August 1-4, 2019**. The Civil Rights Pilgrimage will tour and teach through Birmingham, Montgomery, and Atlanta and will include opportunities for theological and practical engagement. Because of the sensitive nature of the tour, we ask all interested to be at least rising third graders and above.

Our ten year pilgrimage plan includes national and international sites: Germany, Scotland, Taizé (France), Israel, Washington D.C., Greensboro, and the low country of the Carolinas. We know that as we seek to understand God’s action in our world, our hearts will soften to the needs of God’s people, and that interacting with our history and culture will lead to greater understanding of God’s plan for the Kingdom of peace.

We hope you’ll join us. Our informational session will be Monday, February 25, at 6:00 p.m. in the Charter Room. Contact Leigh Stuckey (lstuckey@wpc-online.org) for more information.

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

WESTMINSTER ACADEMY THEOLOGY BASICS Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

During the month of February we will be joined by The Reverend Dr. Peter Hobbie, Professor Emeritus of the Christian Religion at Presbyterian College for a comprehensive four-week adult education experience. While we value the ability to run multiple classes during our Sunday School year, Westminster Academy will provide a unique opportunity for WPC adults and visitors to learn and engage with theology together.

“Westminster Academy” will focus on basic and complex questions in Christian theology:

- February 10: Who is God and what is this creation God made?
- February 17: Is Humanity all that Special?
- February 24: What is the Human Problem that Demanded a Savior?

We hope you will join us as we seek to understand the world God has created and our place in it.

Teacher Bio: Peter Hobbie came to Presbyterian College in 1990 after serving as a chaplain and professor at Bethel College in Tennessee. He received an A.B. from Davidson College, an M.B.A. from Virginia Commonwealth University, an M. A. from the University of North Carolina in American History, and a D. Min. and Ph. D. in Church History from Union Presbyterian Seminary. His focus is on American Religion, Christian Doctrine, and the African-American Religion Experience. He retired in 2014 and continues to reside in Clinton, SC.

Westminster Academy will meet in Room 209.

WESTMINSTER PILGRIMAGES: GEORGIA & ALABAMA CIVIL RIGHTS TOUR

At Westminster we believe that “Open minds open hearts,” and we understand that the value of what we hear and learn within our walls must be carried into our everyday living. We are so grateful for the bounty of opportunity within our educational program—but we also believe that Christian education should not be limited to our classrooms.

As such, we are proud to introduce “Westminster Pilgrimages,” an opportunity for individuals and families to embrace Christian education opportunities in the world. In 2019 the youth will kick off our pilgrimage series with a trip to the Matanzas Evangelical Seminary in Matanzas, Cuba. While in Cuba they will study liberation theology with theologian and pastor Ary Fernandez. We are also pleased to invite Westminster members to join us for a **Civil Rights Heritage Pilgrimage from August 1-4, 2019**. The Civil Rights Pilgrimage will tour and teach through Birmingham, Montgomery, and Atlanta and will include opportunities for theological and practical engagement. Because of the sensitive nature of the tour, we ask all interested to be at least rising third graders and above.

Our ten year pilgrimage plan includes national and international sites: Germany, Scotland, Taizé (France), Israel, Washington D.C., Greensboro, and the low country of the Carolinas. We know that as we seek to understand God’s action in our world, our hearts will soften to the needs of God’s people, and that interacting with our history and culture will lead to greater understanding of God’s plan for the Kingdom of peace.

We hope you’ll join us. Our informational session will be Monday, February 25, at 6:00 p.m. in the Charter Room. Contact Leigh Stuckey (lstuckey@wpc-online.org) for more information.

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

WESTMINSTER ACADEMY THEOLOGY BASICS Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

During the month of February we will be joined by The Reverend Dr. Peter Hobbie, Professor Emeritus of the Christian Religion at Presbyterian College for a comprehensive four-week adult education experience. While we value the ability to run multiple classes during our Sunday School year, Westminster Academy will provide a unique opportunity for WPC adults and visitors to learn and engage with theology together.

“Westminster Academy” will focus on basic and complex questions in Christian theology:

- February 10: Who is God and what is this creation God made?
- February 17: Is Humanity all that Special?
- February 24: What is the Human Problem that Demanded a Savior?

We hope you will join us as we seek to understand the world God has created and our place in it.

Teacher Bio: Peter Hobbie came to Presbyterian College in 1990 after serving as a chaplain and professor at Bethel College in Tennessee. He received an A.B. from Davidson College, an M.B.A. from Virginia Commonwealth University, an M. A. from the University of North Carolina in American History, and a D. Min. and Ph. D. in Church History from Union Presbyterian Seminary. His focus is on American Religion, Christian Doctrine, and the African-American Religion Experience. He retired in 2014 and continues to reside in Clinton, SC.

Westminster Academy will meet in Room 209.

WESTMINSTER PILGRIMAGES: GEORGIA & ALABAMA CIVIL RIGHTS TOUR

At Westminster we believe that “Open minds open hearts,” and we understand that the value of what we hear and learn within our walls must be carried into our everyday living. We are so grateful for the bounty of opportunity within our educational program—but we also believe that Christian education should not be limited to our classrooms.

As such, we are proud to introduce “Westminster Pilgrimages,” an opportunity for individuals and families to embrace Christian education opportunities in the world. In 2019 the youth will kick off our pilgrimage series with a trip to the Matanzas Evangelical Seminary in Matanzas, Cuba. While in Cuba they will study liberation theology with theologian and pastor Ary Fernandez. We are also pleased to invite Westminster members to join us for a **Civil Rights Heritage Pilgrimage from August 1-4, 2019**. The Civil Rights Pilgrimage will tour and teach through Birmingham, Montgomery, and Atlanta and will include opportunities for theological and practical engagement. Because of the sensitive nature of the tour, we ask all interested to be at least rising third graders and above.

Our ten year pilgrimage plan includes national and international sites: Germany, Scotland, Taizé (France), Israel, Washington D.C., Greensboro, and the low country of the Carolinas. We know that as we seek to understand God’s action in our world, our hearts will soften to the needs of God’s people, and that interacting with our history and culture will lead to greater understanding of God’s plan for the Kingdom of peace.

We hope you’ll join us. Our informational session will be Monday, February 25, at 6:00 p.m. in the Charter Room. Contact Leigh Stuckey (lstuckey@wpc-online.org) for more information.

**A Service of Installation for Ben Dorr will be held on
Sunday, February 10, 2019 at 3pm.**

All Westminster members are invited! Childcare will be provided.

What is an installation service? It is a time in the life of our congregation when we gather to recognize and affirm the call that God has placed on a particular person or persons for service to the church. When a pastor is called to serve a congregation in our denomination, the service of installation can take place as part of the church's regular morning worship, or as a separate worship service.

Foundational to our theology is the belief that all in the church have been given gifts by God to serve and follow Christ. As Paul states in 1 Corinthians 12, "there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord...". The Book of Order of the PC(USA) describes it this way:

"In Baptism each Christian is called to ministry in Christ's name. God calls some persons from the midst of congregations to fulfill particular functions, so that the ministry of the whole people of God may flourish...In installation the church sets in place with prayer those who have been (previously) ordained as...ministers of the Word and Sacrament, and are now called anew to service in that ministry."

Installation is not a coronation. It is not a way of saying that ministers are ordained to a higher office. Indeed, when new elders begin their service on the Session at Westminster, those elders are ordained and installed as a way of recognizing and rejoicing in their call to serve Christ's church. When a minister is installed, she or he answers the same constitutional questions that our elders answer at their service of ordination/installation.

You may notice a few distinct features in the installation service on February 10th. One is that a guest minister, the Rev. Mark Ramsey, will preach. Mark and I have known each other for over 30 years. We met when I served as a youth representative on the Pastor Nominating Committee that called Mark to my home church in Okemos, Michigan, in 1987. Mark then served as a mentor to me when I worked as a seminary intern at his church in Denver, Colorado in 1995.

The Rev. Steve Doughty will offer a charge to me. Steve served as the Executive Presbyter of Lake Michigan Presbytery when I was ordained in 1998. I have asked the Rev. Gordon Raynal to offer the charge to Westminster. Gordon currently serves as the Stated Clerk of our Presbytery and has known Westminster for years.

As I've told many of you, I am extraordinarily grateful to be called as the Pastor of Westminster. Our family has been overwhelmed with the welcome and hospitality you have extended to us. It is a joy to serve among you, and I hope that you will be able to attend this special worship service in our life together.

In Christ,

Ben

**A Service of Installation for Ben Dorr will be held on
Sunday, February 10, 2019 at 3pm.**

All Westminster members are invited! Childcare will be provided.

What is an installation service? It is a time in the life of our congregation when we gather to recognize and affirm the call that God has placed on a particular person or persons for service to the church. When a pastor is called to serve a congregation in our denomination, the service of installation can take place as part of the church's regular morning worship, or as a separate worship service.

Foundational to our theology is the belief that all in the church have been given gifts by God to serve and follow Christ. As Paul states in 1 Corinthians 12, "there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord...". The Book of Order of the PC(USA) describes it this way:

"In Baptism each Christian is called to ministry in Christ's name. God calls some persons from the midst of congregations to fulfill particular functions, so that the ministry of the whole people of God may flourish...In installation the church sets in place with prayer those who have been (previously) ordained as...ministers of the Word and Sacrament, and are now called anew to service in that ministry."

Installation is not a coronation. It is not a way of saying that ministers are ordained to a higher office. Indeed, when new elders begin their service on the Session at Westminster, those elders are ordained and installed as a way of recognizing and rejoicing in their call to serve Christ's church. When a minister is installed, she or he answers the same constitutional questions that our elders answer at their service of ordination/installation.

You may notice a few distinct features in the installation service on February 10th. One is that a guest minister, the Rev. Mark Ramsey, will preach. Mark and I have known each other for over 30 years. We met when I served as a youth representative on the Pastor Nominating Committee that called Mark to my home church in Okemos, Michigan, in 1987. Mark then served as a mentor to me when I worked as a seminary intern at his church in Denver, Colorado in 1995.

The Rev. Steve Doughty will offer a charge to me. Steve served as the Executive Presbyter of Lake Michigan Presbytery when I was ordained in 1998. I have asked the Rev. Gordon Raynal to offer the charge to Westminster. Gordon currently serves as the Stated Clerk of our Presbytery and has known Westminster for years.

As I've told many of you, I am extraordinarily grateful to be called as the Pastor of Westminster. Our family has been overwhelmed with the welcome and hospitality you have extended to us. It is a joy to serve among you, and I hope that you will be able to attend this special worship service in our life together.

In Christ,

Ben

**A Service of Installation for Ben Dorr will be held on
Sunday, February 10, 2019 at 3pm.**

All Westminster members are invited! Childcare will be provided.

What is an installation service? It is a time in the life of our congregation when we gather to recognize and affirm the call that God has placed on a particular person or persons for service to the church. When a pastor is called to serve a congregation in our denomination, the service of installation can take place as part of the church's regular morning worship, or as a separate worship service.

Foundational to our theology is the belief that all in the church have been given gifts by God to serve and follow Christ. As Paul states in 1 Corinthians 12, "there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord...". The Book of Order of the PC(USA) describes it this way:

"In Baptism each Christian is called to ministry in Christ's name. God calls some persons from the midst of congregations to fulfill particular functions, so that the ministry of the whole people of God may flourish... In installation the church sets in place with prayer those who have been (previously) ordained as...ministers of the Word and Sacrament, and are now called anew to service in that ministry."

Installation is not a coronation. It is not a way of saying that ministers are ordained to a higher office. Indeed, when new elders begin their service on the Session at Westminster, those elders are ordained and installed as a way of recognizing and rejoicing in their call to serve Christ's church. When a minister is installed, she or he answers the same constitutional questions that our elders answer at their service of ordination/installation.

You may notice a few distinct features in the installation service on February 10th. One is that a guest minister, the Rev. Mark Ramsey, will preach. Mark and I have known each other for over 30 years. We met when I served as a youth representative on the Pastor Nominating Committee that called Mark to my home church in Okemos, Michigan, in 1987. Mark then served as a mentor to me when I worked as a seminary intern at his church in Denver, Colorado in 1995.

The Rev. Steve Doughty will offer a charge to me. Steve served as the Executive Presbyter of Lake Michigan Presbytery when I was ordained in 1998. I have asked the Rev. Gordon Raynal to offer the charge to Westminster. Gordon currently serves as the Stated Clerk of our Presbytery and has known Westminster for years.

As I've told many of you, I am extraordinarily grateful to be called as the Pastor of Westminster. Our family has been overwhelmed with the welcome and hospitality you have extended to us. It is a joy to serve among you, and I hope that you will be able to attend this special worship service in our life together.

In Christ,

Ben