

the

HARBINGER

open minds open hearts

VOLUME LXXIII | APRIL 11, 2021 | No. 48B

From the Pews, Mark Matlock

THE GREATER GOOD

Few will recall the name Dolores Hart.

Born in 1938, she was a successful actress in the late 1950s and early 1960s. Her film debut was opposite Elvis Presley in “Loving You.” After that, Dolores made 10 films in five years including “King Creole” and “Where the Boys Are.” She also acted on Broadway, garnering a Tony Award nomination for “The Pleasure of His Company.”

Dolores also fell in love, became engaged and planned her wedding. By all material accounts, she had it all: fame, fortune and love.

So what happened to Dolores Hart?

To help answer that question, read Acts 4:32-35.

“Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles’ feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.”

Believing in Christ, the apostles knew “the greater good” was served in following God’s son on his journey of teaching and salvation. Imagine if someone came up and asked you to leave your family, sell your possessions and follow a young, scruffy-looking teacher? Mildly put, it would be a challenge to say yes.

Life’s journey sometimes comes down to a fork in the road: One path is safe, the other is a mystery.

So what happened to Dolores Hart? At the height of her success in 1963, Dolores saw “the greater good” – the fork in the road – and realized her true calling was not from the material world but from the Living God. She entered the Abbey of Regina Laudis in Bethlehem, Conn., and became a nun. Sister Dolores eventually became Mother Prioress leading others in a monastic life. Her story is documented in the 2012 film “God is the Bigger Elvis.”

Can all of us become a Dolores Hart? Not likely, but one of the many wonders of the Holy Spirit is that all gifts in Christ’s name are for the greater good. If it’s not committing your entire life to the ministry, maybe it’s tithing, teaching Sunday school or volunteering. Small or large, these spiritual pledges light the path to the greater good.

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, April 11, 2021 | In-Person at 11:15a | Second Sunday of Easter



Preparation for **Worship**

Living God, for whom no door is closed, no heart is locked, breathe on us with your abundant life, that we may have courage to believe that we may be raised with you. Open the eyes of our faith that we may see you in your redeeming work. This we ask through Christ our Savior who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Welcome and Announcements

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

People: And also with you.

Prelude

“Fairest Lord Jesus”

arr. Forrest

* Choral Response

“Christ Has Arisen, Hallelujah”

Tanzanian Melody

* Call to Worship

Leader: We gather here in your presence, God, in our need,
and bringing with us the needs of the world.

**People: We come to you, for you come to us in Jesus, and
you know by experience what human life is like.**

Leader: We come as we are, because you invite us to come,
and you have promised to never turn us away.

**People: We come with our faith and with our doubts;
we come with our hopes and our fears.**

All: Let us worship God!

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

* Prayer of Confession

**Lord Jesus, through the power of the Holy spirit we have
been raised from the waters of baptism to share in your
glorious resurrection. Yet we have not lived as Easter people.
We are unsure of your promise, confused about your will,
and afraid in the face of uncertainty.
Forgive us and guide us back into your presence,
that we may know the fullness of joy.
Whenever we are tempted to fear death,
give us courage to confess your Easter victory.
Whenever we are distracted by petty conflicts,
keep our minds on your reconciling love.
Whenever we are overwhelmed by the power of evil,
reveal again to us your triumph over the
destructive powers of oppression.
Forgive our sin and let our lives be a testimony to
your salvation through the love of God
and by the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

* Assurance of Pardon

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

People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

The Sacrament of Baptism

David Eugene McNeely, IV

Anthem

“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”

arr Proulx

Hearing **God's Word**

Prayer for Illumination

First Reading, *Acts 4:32-35*

Gospel Reading, *John 20:19-31*

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“Hidden Talents”

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Responding to **God's Word**

* Affirmation of Faith, *The Apostles' Creed*

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost;
the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body;
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

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.

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Charge and Benediction

Postlude

“Crown Him with Many Crowns”

arr. Elvey

Leading Worship **this Morning**

Lauren Slingerland, *preaching*

Amos Workman, *liturgist*

Kate Weaver Patterson, *sponsor*

Nancy Smith, *organist/pianist*

Katie Knauer, Judy McKenney, Mark Kemp, *vocalists*

Sam White, Jr., *head usher*

Jeff Beck, Kate Weaver Patterson, *greeters*

**All who are able may stand*

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Join Us in Welcoming

BAPTISM

We welcome *David Eugene McNeely, IV*, son of David & Elizabeth McNeely, in our worship service this morning.

This morning we welcomed into our fellowship *Adalynn Pearl Meehan*, daughter of Jeffrey & Mara Meehan, at our 9a recorded service.

With Thanksgiving We Celebrate

BIRTH

The birth of a son, *Brody Hart Jackson*, to Matt & Lindsay Jackson on 6/4/2019.

In Memoriam

Joyce Ruso Saar

(10/16/1931 – 4/3/2021)

“I am the resurrection and the life.” – John 11:25

We Remember in Prayer

- Benjie Mills on the death of her father, Delmas Brown in Greer – 4/1/2021.
- The family of Joyce Saar.

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

OPEN HEARTS • Gathering@WPC

PARTICIPATING IN WORSHIP FROM HOME ON SUNDAY MORNING?

Our pre-recorded service will continue to air on our website at 9a, and on our social media platforms. Our in-person worship service will air on our website via livestream at 11:15a. The Harbinger that you receive in the mail will be for our pre-recorded worship. If you would like the Harbinger for our 11:15a livestream worship, you may download it from our website at <https://wpc-online.org/sermon-archive>.

MEN OF THE CHURCH - SPRING CAMP THORNWELL MISSION

The Spring Men's Mission Trip to Camp Thornwell will be Wednesday, May 12 through Saturday, May 15. Overnight indoor accommodations will be limited according to Covid protocol, so sign ups to reserve beds are required (<https://wpc-online.org/events-registration/mens-mission-trip/>). Camping onsite is also an option. All food will be provided. We will be finishing construction of a cabin structure plus the ever present landscaping, cleaning, and odd jobs. We have something for all to do whether you come for a day or for one or more nights. Contact Paul O'Neal (paulmoneal@aol.com) with questions.

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

OPEN MINDS • Education@WPC

SUNDAY MORNING

ZOOM BIBLE STUDY

The Pastor's Zoom Bible Study is scheduled for Sunday mornings at 10a and will run through early May. Leigh Stuckey will lead participants in engaging and provoking discussions based on the texts of the day. We hope you will join us.

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 918 5587 5662

Passcode: 785672

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Children's Sunday School will meet again on Zoom on Sunday, April 18!

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 980 3425 3372

Passcode: 700049

IT'S ELEMENTARY!

On Wednesday, April 14, It's Elementary meets again on Zoom. Join us for games, fellowship, and crafts. See you at 3p!

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 912 9081 0826

Passcode: 257026

JUSTFAITH:

FAITH AND RACIAL JUSTICE

Zoom meetings have resumed and will continue through Monday, May 24 at 6p. For information, previously registered class members may call Susan McLeod (787-6262).

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

HIKING GROUP

The next hike for the WPC Hiking Group will be on Thursday, April 22, to Bridal Veil Falls in DuPont Forest. This hike will be led by Buffie Taylor. If interested, contact Buffie at ehtaylor87@gmail.com.

**WOMEN OF WESTMINSTER
SPRING GATHERING
SUNDAY, APRIL 25
1:30 PM IN THE SANCTUARY**

Women and girls* of Westminster are invited to the annual WPC Spring Gathering (formerly the Generations Banquet). While we will not have a meal this year, we hope you will join us as we celebrate being together, enjoy a short program, and honor our Lifetime Achievement members! Reservations are required. RSVP with the office or on the website.

Each year the Women of Westminster offer scholarships to provide financial aid among our college student membership. Any Westminster member who will be furthering their education in the fall is eligible to apply. We are not charging a fee to attend the Spring Gathering this year but welcome any donations to our Scholarship Fund.

**We invite all girls who are able to sit and enjoy the program to attend. Unfortunately, we are not able to provide a nursery or activities room for those unable to sit through the program.*

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 11 - 18, 2021

Sunday, April 11

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

- 9:00a Zoom Witness & Service Committee Meeting
- 9:00 Online Worship Service
- 10:00 Zoom Sunday Bible Study
Zoom Children's Sunday School
Confirmation Class: Session 5 in Green Lot
- 11:15 In-Person Worship Service
- 5:00p WPCYG Middler Shepherd Groups
- 6:30 WPCYG Senior High Shepherd Groups

Wednesday, April 11

- 9:30a Weekday Chapel
- 9:45 Weekday Chapel
- 10:00 Weekday Chapel
- 3:00p Zoom It's Elementary!

Thursday, April 12

- 12:00p Zoom Finance Committee Meeting

Sunday, April 18

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

- 9:00 Online Worship Service
- 10:00 Zoom Sunday Bible Study
Zoom Children's Sunday School
Confirmation Class: Final Exam in Green Lot
- 11:15 In-Person Worship Service
- 12:30p Zoom Stated Session Meeting
- 3:00 Children's Sabbath Service in Green Lot
- 5:00 WPCYG Middler Shepherd Groups
- 6:30 WPCYG Senior High Shepherd Groups

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

CHURCH STAFF

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