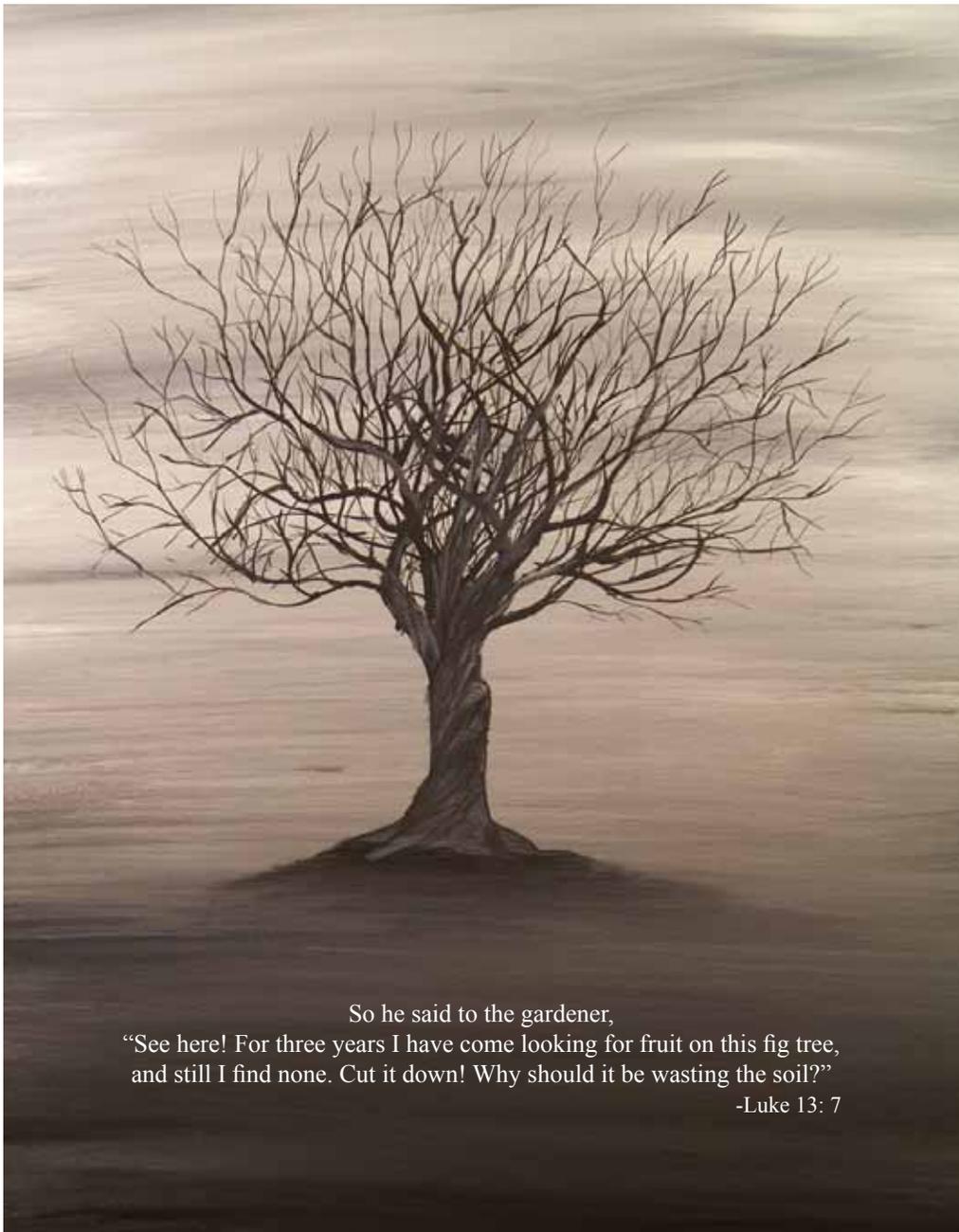




WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Buffalo, New York

February 28, 2016
Third Sunday in Lent
11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary



So he said to the gardener,
“See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree,
and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?”

-Luke 13: 7

Welcome to this Place of Christian Worship

Do not wait for someone else to begin worship. Pray silently for yourself, for those about you, for the poor and the oppressed, for those unable to be present, for those who will shortly lead our common worship. Latecomers may enter the Sanctuary during the singing of the first hymn or during the Response to the Assurance. Ushers are available for assistance. Please turn off all cell phones.

Opening Voluntary

Sonata No. 5, op. 80

Alexandre Guilmant† (1837-1911)

V. Chorale et Fugue in C Major

Welcome and Announcements

Dr. Yorty

Order of Worship

Chiming of the Trinity

The sounding of the chimes, invoking Creator, Son, and Holy Spirit, is an invitation to prepare for worship through a time of silent reflection. Please be respectful of those who are praying.

Introit

Be Still

Jenece Gerber ††(b. 1972)

Be still and know that I am God.

Call to Worship

The people stand and remain standing for the hymn.

Hymn in Procession

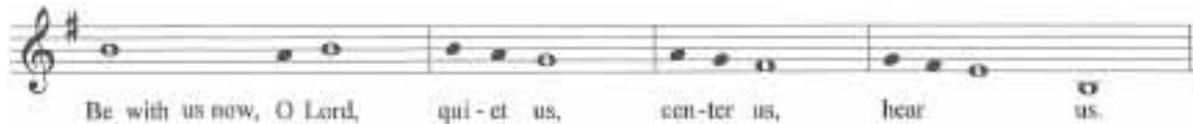
O God, in a Mysterious Way

ST. ANNE

See insert for hymn.

Call to Confession

Cantor:



Congregation:



Prayer of Confession

Holy God,
we confess that we have grown complacent in our response to you.
You set before us a rich feast of blessing,
but we are drawn to lesser things that cannot satisfy.
You call us to attend to urgent needs in the world,
but we indulge our own desires.
Our ways are not your ways; our thoughts do not ascend to your thoughts.
Forgive us when we fall short of your claim upon our lives.
Disturb our complacency and quicken our desire for a more fruitful life.
Be patient, we pray, as we amend who we are,
in the hope of becoming who you intend us to be.
We ask this in the name of our Savior, your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Silence is kept.

Kyrie *Sung by the Choir.*

Requiem in D. minor, op. 48
I. Kyrie Eleison

Gabriel Fauré (1845-1924)

Kyrie Eleison. *Lord, have mercy.*
Christe Eleison. *Christ, have mercy.*
Kyrie Eleison. *Lord, have mercy.*

Assurance of Pardon

The people stand to sing.

NADA TE TURBE

Two staves of musical notation in G major, 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of lyrics, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are: "Noth-ing can trou-ble, noth-ing can fright-en. Those who seek God will nev-er go want-ing. Noth-ing can trou - ble, noth-ing can fright - en. God a - lone fills us."

Passing the Peace of Christ

The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

Please turn to your neighbor and share the peace of Christ. It is appropriate to say, "The peace of Christ be with you", and to respond, "And also with you." The gesture is simple, but the meaning is profound. When we extend our hand to another, we identify with Jesus, who extended his life to the point of death to make peace with humanity (Col. 1:20-21). What's more, in the midst of divisions we symbolize our unity through handshakes and hugs (Eph. 2:14-21). Likewise, when we regularly pass the peace we practice God's call to make every effort to maintain the bond of peace (Eph. 4:3).

Time with Children

TALLIS CANON

At this time, parents may decide to have their children 3 years and older leave with their teachers. When the children leave, please make sure they take their belongings with them.

Two staves of musical notation in G major, 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of lyrics, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are: "Go with them, Lord, and guide their way through this and ev - ery com - ing day, that in Your Spir - it strong and true their lives may be a gift to You."

Prayer for Illumination

Psalm Lesson

Psalm 63:1-8

Chant: Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you,
As in a barren and dry land where there is no water.
Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place,
That I might behold your power and your glory.
For your loving-kindness is better than life itself; my lips shall give you praise.
So will I bless you as long as I live and lift up my hands in your Name.
My soul is content, as with marrow and fatness, and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,
When I remember you upon my bed, and meditate on you in the night watches.
For you have been my helper, and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.
My soul clings to you; your right hand holds me fast.

Scripture Lesson

Luke 13:1-9

¹³At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. ²He asked them, ‘Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans?’ ³No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. ⁴Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem?’ ⁵No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.’

⁶Then he told this parable: ‘A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. ⁷So he said to the gardener, “See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?”’ ⁸He replied, “Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig round it and put manure on it. ⁹If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.”’

Anthem

O Bone Jesu

Carson P. Cooman (b. 1982)

O bone Jesu, miserere nobis,
quia tu creasti nos, tu redemisti nos
sanguine tuo praetiosissimo.

*O good Jesus, have mercy on us,
Because you created us, you have redeemed us
With your most precious blood.*

Sermon

When Bad Things Happen To Good People

Hymn, No. 396

O for a Closer Walk with God
The people stand to sing.

CAITHNESS

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

The Deacons receive the gifts, a portion of the blessings God has given us, which we return unto God. Worshippers are invited to sign the Friendship Pad located in the aisle seat of each pew and then please pass it to others in the pew.

Pie Jesu

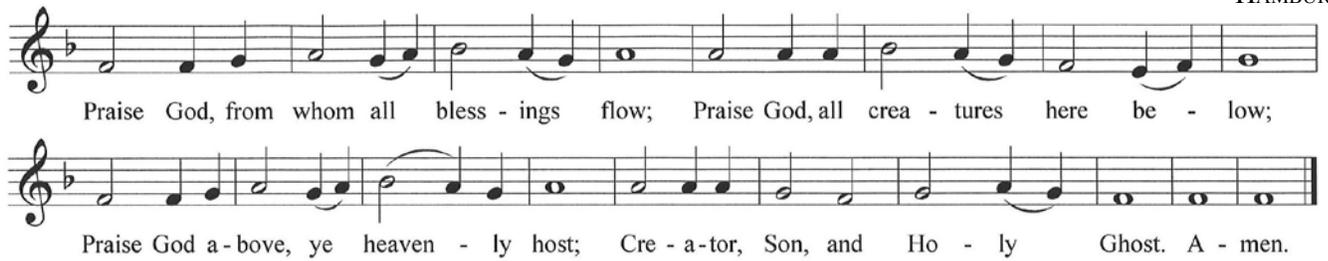
John Rutter (b. 1945)

Pie Jesu Domine, dona eis requiem, sempiternam.
Blessed Lord Jesus, grant them eternal rest.

Presentation of the Gifts

The people stand as the Deacons come forward and remain standing for the Prayer of Dedication.

HAMBURG



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise God, all crea - tures here be - low;
Praise God a - bove, ye heaven - ly host; Cre - a - tor, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

Prayer of Dedication

God of wilderness and Promised Land,
in days of want and in days of plenty
you have been with us.
By these gifts we now share,
may others know of your providence and care.
Send us - not only our offerings, but our very selves-
to console and comfort,
to lift up and reach out,
to listen and sit beside
your children everywhere
at the one Table you have set;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Concluding with 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 trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil;
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

Sending Hymn, No. 192

God, Our Help and Constant Refuge
The people stand to sing.

MICHAEL

Benediction and Choral Response

May the Grace of Christ Rest Upon Us

Daniel Gawthrop*** (b. 1949)

May the grace of Christ, our Savior, and the Father's boundless love,
With the Holy Spirit's favor, rest upon us from above. (text: John Newton)

Closing Voluntary

Sonata No. 5, op. 80
V. Chorale et Fugue in C Major

Alexandre Guilmant† (1837-1911)

All are invited to gather for fellowship and refreshments in the Oak Room, following the Service.

Worship Leaders

Preacher: The Reverend Dr. Thomas H. Yorty

Reader: Elaine Mattar

Organist: Garrett F. Martin, Organist and Director of Music Ministries
Käthe Wright Kaufman, Glynda Stephens Taylor Organ Scholar

Guest Organist: Jeremy McElroy, Peachtree Road United Methodist Church, Atlanta

Deacons Serving Today

Cameron Airhart, Russell Braun, Callan Izatt, Carol Huber, Kristin Kifner-Kennedy, Jennifer Russell, Jo Stevens, Nancy Stevens, Roy Stewart

Chancel Flowers

The flowers at the Lord's Table are given in memory of members of the Horace Reed family by MacKay Reed.

Purchase Sunday flowers in honor/memory of family or friends. Look for the "Flower Calendar" on the Kiosk in the Gallery Room and sign up for the Sunday of your choice. You may also call Marilyn Bassett at 634-4211 to choose a date.

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Notes on Today's Music

*Félix-Alexandre Guilmant was a French organist and composer. In 1871 he was appointed to play the organ at la Trinité church in Paris, and this position he held for 30 years. From then on, Guilmant followed a career as a virtuoso; he gave concerts in the United States (the first major French organist to tour that country), and in Canada, as well as in Europe, making especially frequent visits to England. His American achievements included a 1904 series of no fewer than 40 recitals on the largest organ in the world, the St. Louis Exposition Organ, now preserved as the nucleus of Philadelphia's Wanamaker Organ.

With his younger colleague, André Pirro, Guilmant published a collection of scores, Archives des Maîtres de l'Orgue (archives of the masters of the organ), a compilation of the compositions of numerous pre-1750 French composers. The collection was printed in ten volumes, the first in 1898 and the last (which Guilmant did not live to finalize) in 1914. Guilmant provided a rather similar survey of organ pieces by foreign composers, publishing *l'École classique de l'Orgue* (classical school of the organ). These anthologies, despite all the musicological developments which have taken place since Guilmant's own time, remain very valuable sources of early music that is often hard to locate elsewhere.

In 1894 Guilmant founded the Schola Cantorum with Charles Bordes and Vincent d'Indy. He taught there up until his death at his home in Meudon, near Paris, in 1911. In addition, he taught at the Conservatoire de Paris where he succeeded Charles-Marie Widor as organ teacher in 1896. Marcel Dupré was the most celebrated of his many students.

****Jenece Gerber, Ph.D.**, is an active freelance composer, conductor, singer, and instructor. Her compositions have been commissioned and performed by diverse groups and soloists worldwide, including the New York Virtuoso Singers, Cleveland Chamber Symphony, Quince Vocal Ensemble, La Catrina String Quartet, the Holland/Weissman Duo, and the Season String Quartet. Originally from NE Ohio, Jenece earned the Ph.D. in Music Composition from the University at Buffalo, the Master of Music degrees in Music Composition and Vocal Performance from the University of Akron, and a BA in Ethnomusicology from Bowling Green State University. Her teachers include soprano Tony Arnold and composers Marilyn Shrude, Burton Beerman, Donald Wilson, Wallace DePue, and Jeffrey Stadelman. She has also participated in a wide range of workshops and summer programs including gamelan studies in Indonesia, the June in Buffalo Festival, Summer in Sombor program in Serbia, Brevard Music Center, and the Weill Music Institute of Carnegie Hall. Jenece is a member of ASCAP, the Society of Composers Inc., and New York Women Composers; she serves as Westminster's Composer-in-Residence and Associate Conductor.

***Born in Fort Wayne, Indiana, **Dan Gawthrop** has been the recipient of over one hundred commissions to write original music. His works have been published by Dunstan House, Warner Brothers (now Alfred Publishing Co.), Theodore Presser, Sacred Music Press and others. Gawthrop served for three years as Composer-in-Residence to the Fairfax Symphony Orchestra (of Fairfax, Virginia, a suburb of Washington, D.C.) and has been the recipient of four grants from The Barlow Endowment for Musical Composition. He has been commissioned by dozens of institutions including the American Choral Directors Association through their prestigious Raymond Brock Memorial series, and has had works premiere in the Concert Hall of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, the Salt Lake City Mormon Tabernacle, and Washington National Cathedral. His choral pieces have been performed and recorded by such eminent ensembles as The United States Air Force Singing Sergeants, the Gregg Smith Singers, the Turtle Creek Chorale, the Paul Hill Chorale, the American Boychoir, the Mormon Tabernacle Choir, the Cathedral Choral Society (of Washington National Cathedral) and literally hundreds of other groups in the U.S. and abroad.

Welcome! We are glad you have chosen to worship with us today.

We invite members and visitors to sign the friendship/registration pad as it is passed during the service. Please indicate if you would like information sent to you or request a call from the pastor.

As a More Light church, we invite all persons of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender community to membership and full participation in worship, leadership, service opportunities and all ministries of Westminster.

We light our peace candle remembering those relatives of Westminster members and all who are serving in Iraq and Afghanistan. Our prayers for peace include our neighborhoods, workplaces, schools & families.

Bibles are available at the Sanctuary entrances.

Wireless Receivers for hearing assistance are available in the Church Conference Room.

If you need assistance, please ask any Deacon

MISSION & COMMUNITY OUTREACH

The ENERGY Program - creates a caring environment where refugee and immigrant students, grades 1-6 from Buffalo's West Side gain social and cultural awareness and self-confidence through improving their English language skills. Contact Carol Greetham at 507-8216 or carol@wedibuffalo.org for more information, to donate or to volunteer.

The West Side Bazaar: 25 Grant Street. Lunch and shopping.

Friday: 11 AM – 8PM, Saturday, 10 AM – 8PM

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 11AM – 7PM

Westminster's Alcohol and Drug Education and Referral Service has been working quietly and steadily since 1981 to help members and friends with any questions they may have about alcohol or other drugs. Call any of us for free and confidential advice. Phil Stevens, Chair 839-3357; Dave Carstensen 884-5403, Ken Carter 833-9287, Ellen Smith 882-2064, Jim Wieland 523-0217.

Westminster Members: If you are recovering from an illness/surgery or are a caregiver with an ill family member, or have had a new baby, Westminster can provide a simple meal for those in need. Please contact Jamie at 884-9437, ext. 326 or email jadamczyk@wpbuffalo.org

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Childcare is available for children under the age of 5 years from 9:30AM to 12:30AM in the WECP building. Childcare providers will meet with parents and children at the entrance to the Westminster Early Childhood Programs (WECP) school building. Weather permitting, the children will be able to play in the playground.

- 3–5 year olds: Mrs. Debby & Mr. Chris LaMendola are our beloved pre-school teachers. The three through five year class meets in the Early Childhood building. The children and their teachers walk to the building together and in cold weather, the children need their coats.
- 1st - 5th graders: Each month their class rotates through our three Rotation Workshops: Creation Station, Hollywood and Apostles Playhouse
- 6th & 7th graders meet with their teacher, Marta Butzer, each Sunday in the last classroom on the Parish Hall balcony.
- 8th grader Confirmation Class meets 9:45-10:45AM in Parish Hall balcony
- Our Senior Highs (9th through 12th graders) meet each Sunday at 9:30AM in the Parish Hall kitchen for Dialog Diner.

PASSAGES: A PROGRAM FOR OLDER ADULTS

Lunch at 12:30PM in the Oak Room, 1:15PM program in the Case Library. The first Tuesday of each month. These programs vary between speakers, music concerts and films with a focus on the intellectual, physical and spiritual life of retired adults. Join us on March 1st when we welcome back our guest speaker, Elizabeth Ingold, an attorney who specializes in senior law., Ms. In-

gold is passionate about educating the public on estate planning and long term care planning issues. **Please sign up on the table in the Gallery Room, or call Jamie, 884-9437 or jadamczyk@wpbuffalo.org by today, February 28. If you are planning on lunch, it is important to RSVP!**

THE WESTMINSTER CHOIR SCHOOL

he Senior Choristers, ages 12-18, rehearse each Wednesday, September through May, 4:30-6PM in the Holmes Chapel. The Senior Choristers produce a high volume of quality choral repertoire each week for use in worship and concert.

The Junior Choristers, ages 7-11, rehearse simultaneously with the Senior Choristers each Wednesday, September through May, 4:30-6PM in the Holmes Chapel, with the assistance of Ms. Hillary Hunt. The Junior Choristers further their ability to read music and various languages while shaping the voice into a beautiful treble instrument.

The Apprentice Choristers, ages 4-6, rehearse each Sunday, September through May, during Sunday School in the 11am service in the Holmes Chapel. The Apprentice Choristers are taught fundamental music and choral skills, with the assistance of Dr. Val Cooley. Participation in the programs is not limited to Westminster members; all are welcome to join. For more information, please contact Garrett Martin, Organist and Director of Music gmartin@wpbuffalo.org 884.9437 ext. 318.

BECOME A PART OF OUR LIFE

Anyone who would like to learn more about our community and the many ministries we support is invited to attend a meeting immediately following worship. Our next date is Sunday, April 17. The Rev. Thomas Yorty, Pastor of Westminster, will tell the story of our church along with the current programs of outreach and mission in the city and region. There will be time for conversation and an opportunity to get answers to any questions you may have. Light, healthy refreshments will be served. At the conclusion of the meeting, those who so desire will be received into the membership of the church. If you have any questions, please contact Tom Yorty, tyorty@wpbuffalo.org or 830-8596), Karen Keaton, khkeaton@verizon.net or any staff member.

YOUTH EVENTS - C.I.A (Christians in Action)

Sunday, February 28

9:30-11am & 12:30-1pm: College Care Packages/Holmes Room

9:30am-Confirmation Class

9:30am-Dialog Diner/Parish Hall kitchen

SUNDAY MORNING SPIRITUAL GROWTH

CASE LIBRARY/ADULT BIBLE LENTEN SERIES

February 28 - March 13: *Sabbath as Resistance*

Join our Case Library Conversations when we explore Walter Brueggemann's thesis that the celebration of Sabbath is an act of both resistance and alternative. Keeping Sabbath is a visible insistence that our lives are not defined by the production and consumption of commodity goods. The alternative that Sabbath offers us is to be on the receiving end of the gifts of God. Plan to join this three session series:

February 28: The Rev. Dr. Thomas H. Yorty (in Parish Hall)

March 6: John McClive

March 13: Debbie Katz

Copies of *Sabbath as Resistance* are available for \$12 from Debbie Katz.

SPIRITUAL LIFE

February 28: *Human Touch* by Michael Frayn

Presenter: Chris LaMendola

Join the discussion of *The Human Touch* with Chris. In this brilliant, insightful book, Michael Frayn asks this fundamental question, "If the universe is what we make, then what are we?"

March 6 and 13: *When Praying Becomes a Joy*

Presented by the Spiritual Life Committee members

We will discuss then use art, writing and music to see if we can apply ideas like Henri Nouwen's "When you recognize the festive and the still moments as moments of prayer, then you gradually realize that to pray is to live."

CELTIC MUSIC CONCERT

Westminster members are invited to a Celtic Music Free Concert! March 15th at 2:00PM at the Baptist Manor in the Community Room of the Baptist Manor. Seating is limited, so those who plan on attend should RSVP Joan Bartholemew at 716 881-1120.

SAVE THE DATES!

Westminster goes to the Ballpark! Friday June 3, Buffalo Bisons vs. Syracuse Chiefs. Game time is 7 PM at Coca-Cola Field and picnic at 5 PM at the church. More details and ticket sale information will follow!

Palm Sunday Pot Luck Breakfast, March 20 , 9:35AM in Parish Hall . Preparing of Palm Crosses for worship. Sign up on the Information Table in the Gallery Room and let us know what will bring to share!

Easter Reception, March 27 in the Case Library following worship. Donations of finger foods are needed such as vegetables and hummus / dip, fruit, cheese and crackers or baked goods. A sign- up sheet is available in the Gallery Room. Questions: Laurel Braun at 716-830-5692, or dlrbraun@gmail.com

WORSHIP AT WESTMINSTER

8:45AM in the Holmes Chapel with Communion and 11:00AM in the Sanctuary with Communion offered on first Sunday of every month

The Reverend Dr. Thomas H. Yorty will preach

March 6

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Removing the Barriers

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

March 13

Fifth Sunday in Lent

The Beginning of the End of Despair

John 12:1-8

March 20- Palm Sunday

Execution by the State

Luke 22:14-23:56

The Choirs of Westminster sing this festival service for Palm Sunday that begins with the royal entrance and leads into Holy Week.

March 24 - Maundy Thursday

The Last Parable

The Choirs of Westminster sing this solemn service commemorating the Last Supper of Christ.

March 25 - Good Friday Tenebrae

When Violence Outdoes Itself

The Choirs of Westminster sing this solemn service on at 7:14 PM (sundown) in the Sanctuary

March 27 - Easter Sunday

When Mystery Engulfs Reason

John 20:1-18

The Choirs of Westminster sing this Festival Service for Easter Day with brass, timpani, and organ in morning worship 8:45 and 11AM in the Sanctuary



Interfaith Congregational Conversations

Going Deeper:

The Current Issues Driving Israeli-Palestinian Relations

We will continue our four congregation conversations with North Presbyterian Church, Temple Beth Zion, and Congregation Shir Shalom. The next three events will explore some of the pressing issues that led to the decision of the Presbyterian Church to divest of three corporations doing business in Israel that aid or maintain the construction of the fence of separation and more generally issues driving Israeli-Palestinian relations today.



The first event will be at Temple Beth Zion, 700 Sweet Home Road in Amherst **today, February 28 at 7PM**. It will be a simulation of the Israeli Knesset. We will use a model for simulation designed by the Union for Reform Judaism. The

purpose of this exercise will be to provide a 'hands on' experience of the complexity and inner workings of the Israeli political process. There are some things in the neighborhood of thirty political parties in Israel. Often the coalitions are formed around issues that bring together strange bedfellows that further complicate the path to consensus



The second event will be at WPC on **April 10 at 7PM**. It will be a simulation of a Presbyterian Church (USA) General Assembly. The purpose of the simulation will be to give participants a 'hands on' experience of how the GA works and how issues get discussed, presented and voted upon.

J.C. Austin, of Auburn Theological Seminary and a leader of the movement opposed to divestment, will offer a status report on the discussion within the PCUSA regarding divestment specifically and relations with Israel generally.



The Third Event will take place at Congregation Shir Shalom on **May 22 at 7PM**. A brief documentary titled, "The Promise" will be presented. This documentary explores the theme of Israeli and Palestinian narratives. The film interviews an Israeli teenager and a

Palestinian teenager who describe their experiences of the tensions between their people quite differently. We will discuss issues the documentary raises as well as other issues raised in the previous 2 sessions.

These conversations are designed to equip participants with a deeper understanding of the complex issues that affect the State of Israel and to prepare those who also intend to make the four-congregation trip to Israel (to be scheduled for winter of 2017) to make the best use of our visit to Israel and the opportunity to meet the voices 'on the ground' in Israel that are affected by and influence Israeli-Palestinian relations.

Please contact Jamie Adamczyk at 884-9437, ext. 326 or email jadamczyk@wpcbuffalo.org for more information or to RSVP.

If you have any questions about the event or would like to invite friends, please contact your clergy.

WESTMINSTER PRESENTS

Fridays @ Westminster! Come for Music, Stay for Lunch

Each Friday, a 30 minute lunchtime concert featuring local Buffalo artists will play in our historic Sanctuary, from Noon until 12:30PM. A Food Truck will be at Westminster each Friday, so stay for lunch! Donations benefit the Westminster Friends of Music.

March 4: Audrey Yu, oboe, Eastman School of Music
Food Truck: Cheesy Chick

March 11: Lecture on Westminster's 2016 Masterworks
Garrett Martin presents on Andrew Carter's *Benedicite*
Matt Marco presents on Beethoven's *Choral Fantasy*
Food Truck: 716

March 18: Kent Tisher, tenor, Matt Marco, piano
Food Truck: Center Street BBQ

Sergio Orbona - Saturday, March 5, 7PM

Organist of St. Nikolaus Kirche, Stuttgart, Germany

In Remembrance - Sunday, March 6, 3PM

The Buffalo Choral Arts Society and the Choirs of Westminster present this concert as part of the 50th anniversary season of the Buffalo Choral Arts Society. Tickets available at WPC reception, \$10.

Masterworks Service - Sunday, March 13, 11AM

The Choirs of Westminster, the Buffalo-Niagara Youth Choirs, and musicians of the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra present two choral and orchestral masterworks: Andrew Carter's *Benedicite* and Beethoven's *Choral Fantasy* (to dedicate Westminster's new Steinway Concert Grand Piano).

Taizé Service-Friday, March 18, 5:30PM

Westminster will offer a Taizé service of music, prayer and contemplation on the third Friday of each month.

Palm Sunday - March 20, 8:45 and 11AM

The Choirs of Westminster sing this festival service for Palm Sunday that begins with the royal entrance and leads into Holy Week.

Maundy Thursday - March 24, 6PM in the Holmes Chapel

The Choirs of Westminster sing this solemn service commemorating the Last Supper of Christ.

Improvisations on the Stations of the Cross-Friday, March 25, Noon-12:30PM

Garrett Martin, Organist and Music Director of Westminster Presbyterian Church, improvises on the Stations of the Cross, alternating with poems and readings about this most solemn day.

Good Friday Tenebrae Service - March 25, 7:14PM (sundown)

The Choirs of Westminster sing this solemn service in the Holmes Chapel.

Easter Sunday, March 27, 8:45 and 11AM

The Choirs of Westminster sing this festival service for Easter Day with brass, timpani, and organ.

Western New York Chamber Orchestra - Friday, April 1, 7:30PM

The Western New York Chamber Orchestra welcomes famed musician Michael Ludwig in a concert titled *Chords and Cords*.

A Festival of Choirs - Sunday, April 17, 4PM

The Choirs of St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral, under the direction of Jonathan Scarozza, Calvary Episcopal Church Williamsville, under the direction of Alex Benestelli, and Westminster Presbyterian Church, under the direction of Garrett Martin, join together to present a preview of works commissioned for the 2016 American Guild of Organists National Convention (Houston, TX) with brass, organ, and choirs. The three choirs are joined by Houston musician and organist, Dr. David Henning.

GIVING 2016 GRATITUDE IN EVERY *Action*



Pledges received as of 2/25/2016

Number of Pledges Received	Total Pledges Received	Dollars to Goal
233	\$454,089	\$145,911

We ask that you consider the blessing that Westminster is in your life and with a grateful heart send your Intention Card with support for 2016. Giving your financial pledge will enable Westminster to continue to show our gratitude to God by sharing our blessings within our church home and our community. Return your intention card by mail or make your pledge online at www.wpcbuffalo.org/pledge2016 or email Patricia Kelly, pkelly@wpcbuffalo.org

THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

Sunday, February 28

Reinaldo On Duty
8:00 AM Children's Choir Rehearsal
8:30 AM Infant/Toddler Care
8:45 AM Worship/Communion
9:30 AM Dialogue Diner
9:30 AM Heavenly Grounds
9:30 AM Confirmation Class
9:30 AM College Care Packages
9:35 AM Case Library/Adult Bible
9:35 AM Spiritual Life
10:00 AM Choir Rehearsal
11:00 AM Worship
11:10 AM Sunday School
12:30 PM Downton Abbey Tea
1:00 PM Virginia Paul Piano Recital

Monday, February 29-WPC Closed

Tuesday, March 1

7:15 AM Wake Up Group
12:30 PM Passages Lunch
1:15 PM Passages Program
4:00 PM ENERGY Program
6:00 PM Zen Dharma
7:00 PM Zen Dharma

Wednesday, March 2

9:30 AM Worship Planning Mtg.
12:00 PM Bulletin Deadline
1:00 PM Newsletter Deadline
1:30 PM Staff Mtg.
4:00 PM ENERGY Program
4:30 PM WPC Choir School
5:00 PM Spiritual Life Mtg.
5:00 PM Bflo Choral Arts Society/
WPC Choir Rehearsal
5:30 PM Pathways To Peace
6:00 PM Lenten Dinner/Program
8:00 PM AA Mtg.

Thursday, March 3

7:15 AM Wake Up Group
8:00 AM Giving 2016 Mtg.
8:30 AM Centering Prayer
4:00 PM ENERGY Program
6:00 PM Handbells
7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal

Friday, March 4

7:30 AM Coffee /Donuts @ WECP
8:00 AM Art Gala Set Up
11:30 AM Fridays @ WPC

Saturday, March 5

7:00 PM Art Gala
7:00 PM Organ Recital

Sunday, March 6

Carlos On Duty
Confirmation Sunday
Name Tag Sunday
8:00 AM Children's Choir Rehearsal
8:30 AM Infant/Toddler Care
8:45 AM Worship/Communion
9:30 AM Dialogue Diner
9:30 AM Heavenly Grounds
9:35 AM Spiritual Life
9:35 AM Case Library/Adult Bible
9:45 AM Confirmands meet Session
10:00 AM Choir Rehearsal
11:00 AM Youth Service/
First Sunday
11:00 AM Worship and Confirmation
11:10 AM Sunday School
12:00 PM Healing Service
2:00 PM Bflo Choral Arts Society
4:00 PM Youths Triennium Mtg @
OP Presbyterian Church
6:00 PM Hunger Banquet @ OP
Presbyterian Church

Worship in the Holmes Chapel - 8:45 a.m.

*The Gathering is an opportunity for worshippers to greet one another and to share prayer concerns.
An offering plate has been placed on the Communion Table to receive your gifts.*

Opening Voluntary

Saraband on LAND OF REST

Gerald Near (b. 1942)

Welcome and Announcements

Dr. Yorty

Chiming of the Trinity

The sounding of the chimes, invoking Creator, Son, and Holy Spirit, is an invitation to prepare for worship through a time of silent reflection. Please be respectful of those who are praying.

Introit

Psalm 63:1-8

Plainchant Tone II.1

O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you,
As in a barren and dry land where there is no water.
Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place,
That I might behold your power and your glory.
For your loving-kindness is better than life itself; my lips shall give you praise.
So will I bless you as long as I live and lift up my hands in your Name.
My soul is content, as with marrow and fatness, and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,
When I remember you upon my bed, and meditate on you in the night watches.
For you have been my helper, and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.
My soul clings to you; your right hand holds me fast.

Call to Worship

The people stand and remain standing for the hymn.

Hymn

O God, in a Mysterious Way
See insert for hymn.

ST. ANNE

Prayer of Confession

Holy God,
we confess that we have grown complacent in our response to you.
You set before us a rich feast of blessing,
but we are drawn to lesser things that cannot satisfy.
You call us to attend to urgent needs in the world,
but we indulge our own desires.
Our ways are not your ways; our thoughts do not ascend to your thoughts.
Forgive us when we fall short of your claim upon our lives.
Disturb our complacency and quicken our desire for a more fruitful life.
Be patient, we pray, as we amend who we are,
in the hope of becoming who you intend us to be.
We ask this in the name of our Savior, your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Silence is kept.

Kyrie

The people sing.

John Weaver (1984)

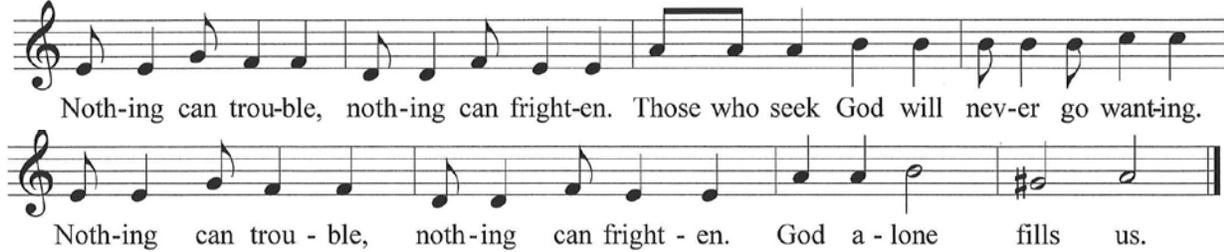
Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Words of Assurance

Response

NADA TE TURBE

The people stand to sing.



Two staves of musical notation in treble clef. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of lyrics: "Noth-ing can trou-ble, noth-ing can fright-en. Those who seek God will nev-er go want-ing." The second staff contains the melody for the second line: "Noth-ing can trou - ble, noth-ing can fright - en. God a - lone fills us." The music is written in a simple, accessible style with a key signature of one sharp (F#).

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Lesson

Luke 13:1-9

Text for this reading is on page 4.

Anthem

O Love That Will Not Let Me God

Carson P. Cooman (b. 1982)

O Love that will not let me go, I rest my tired soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe, that in thine ocean depths its flow may richer, fuller be.

O Light that follows me all my way, I give my flickering torch to thee;
My heart restores its borrowed ray, that in thy sunshine's blaze its day may brighter, fairer be.

O Joy that seeks me through the pain, I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain, and feel the promise is not vain, that morn shall tearless be!

Meditation

When Bad Things Happen to Good People

Prayers of the People

Concluding with the Lord's Prayer

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Sending Hymn, No. 192

God, Our Help and Constant Refuge

The people stand to sing.

MICHAEL

Benediction

Closing Voluntary

Christ, du Lamm Gottes, BWV 619

O Christ, Lamb of God

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

Worship Leaders

Preacher: The Reverend Dr. Thomas H. Yorty

Organist: Garrett F. Martin, Organist and Director of Music Ministries
Käthe Wright Kaufman, Glynda Stephens Taylor Organ Scholar

Choir: Senior Choristers of the Westminster Choir School



WEDNESDAYS IN LENT

We will hold our annual dinner/ discussions on Wednesday evenings in the Holmes Room.

- Dinner is at 6pm - \$5 suggested donation
- Presentation is at 6:30pm • Discussion is at 7:00pm • Concludes at 7:30pm
- RSVP is Necessary: Sign up at the Information Table in the Gallery Room or email Jamie, jadamczyk@wpcbuffalo.org

We will continue our tradition of Wednesday dinners in Lent followed by a presentation and discussion. This year we will explore the work of novelist, theologian, essayist Marilynne Robinson and her new book *The Givenness of Things*. Robinson explores a variety of current topics in her new work including science and religion and touches on many of the issues of the day – gun violence, racism, the religious right, the economy and distribution of wealth.

Our presenters will be:

Wednesday, March 2: Marcia Buhl, Elder

Wednesday, March 9: Tracy Daub, Pastor, University Presbyterian Church

Wednesday, March 16: The Reverend Bill Hennessy, Pastor, North Presbyterian Church



Westminster Presbyterian Church

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Westminster Presbyterian Church

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The Rev. Beth Hennessy, Pastoral Care Associate, bhennessy@wpcbuffalo.org, 716-697-0919

Garrett F. Martin, Organist and Director of Music Ministries, gmartin@wpcbuffalo.org, ext. 318

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Dr. Jenece Gerber, Composer-in-Residence and Associate Conductor

Westminster Early Childhood Programs

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