



WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Buffalo, New York

April 2, 2017
Fifth Sunday in Lent
10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary



When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come out!'
The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth,
and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, and let him go.'

- John 11:43-44

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.

On Communion Sundays, the children meet for Sunday School in the Holmes Chapel and they will join the service in time for Communion.

Opening Voluntary

Partita Retrospettiva: Minuetto Malinconico

Sigfrid Karg-Elert (1877-1933)

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

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

Thomas A. Dorsey,[†] arr. Arnold Sevier (b. 1969)

Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand,
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;
Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light:
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

When my way grows drear, precious Lord, linger near,
When my life is almost gone,
Hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall:
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

Call to Worship

The people stand and remain standing for the hymn that follows.

Hymn in Procession, No. 83

Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High

DEO GRACIAS

Call to Confession

Cantor:



Be with us now, O Lord, qui-et us, cen-ter us, hear us.

Congregation:



O Lord, hear our prayer, O Lord, hear our prayer. When we call, an - swer us.



O Lord, hear our prayer, O Lord, hear our prayer. Come and lis-ten to us.

Prayer Of Confession

**O Lord,
if you held our sin against us,
who could live, who could stand?
We seem to have more faith in death
than hope in your promise of life.
We seek peace through war
and find security in weapons.
We abandon the hungry, sick, and dying,
and pursue wealth by making others poor.
And even so, you love us;
still there is forgiveness with you!
Therefore we worship you; for you alone,
O Lord, can save us from death
and redeem us from our sin. Amen.**

Time for silent prayer

Kyrie

The people sing.

John Weaver (1984)



Assurance of Pardon

Response

The people stand to sing.

GLORIA PATRI

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).

Prayer for Illumination

Psalm Lesson

Psalm 130

Plainchant Tone II.1

¹Out of the depths have I called to you, O Lord; Lord, hear my voice; let your ears consider well the voice of my supplication. ²If you, Lord, were to note what is done amiss, O Lord, who could stand? ³For there is forgiveness with you; therefore you shall be feared. ⁴I wait for the Lord; my soul waits for him; in his word is my hope. ⁵My soul waits for the Lord, more than watchmen for the morning, more than watchmen for the morning. ⁶O Israel, wait for the Lord, for with the Lord there is mercy; ⁷With him there is plenteous redemption, and he shall redeem Israel from all their sins.

Scripture Lesson

John 11:1-7

¹Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ²Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. ³So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, 'Lord, he whom you love is ill.' ⁴But when Jesus heard it, he said, 'This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.' ⁵Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, ⁶after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. ⁷Then after this he said to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judea again.'

Hymn, No. 302

I Danced in the Morning
The people stand to sing.

SIMPLE GIFTS

Sermon

The Importance of Ultimate Trust: Dead or Alive

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

The Deacons receive the gifts, a portion of the blessings God has given us, which we return unto God.

Jesu, the Very Thought of Thee (1993)

Paul Halley^{††} (b. 1952)
Latin, 12th Century; trans. Edward Caswall (1814-1878)

Jesu, the very thought of thee
With sweetness fills my breast;
But sweeter far thy face to see,
And in thy presence rest.

No voice can sing, no heart can frame,
Nor can the memory find
A sweeter sound than Jesus' name,
The saviour of mankind.

O hope of every contrite heart,
O joy of all the meek,
To those who ask how kind thou art,
How good to those who seek.

But what to those who find? Ah! this
Nor tongue nor pen can show;
The love of Jesus, what it is
None but his loved ones know.

Jesu, our only joy be thou,
As thou our prize wilt be;
In thee be all our glory now,
And through eternity. Amen.

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

It is the practice of this congregation to welcome all baptized persons, including those children whose parents have given their permission, to join in receiving the elements. Unfermented grape juice is used.

Invitation

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise.

God of steadfast love...

With the whole creation we sing you praise:

The choir sings.

*Holy, holy Lord most holy, God of power and God of might;
Heaven and earth are full of your glory, Hosanna, in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.*

Hear us, O Christ, and breathe your Spirit upon us...

Great is the mystery of our faith:

The choir sings.

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

God of mercy...

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.

Words of Institution

Sharing of the Bread and the Cup

We will distribute the elements of communion today by intinction – simply take the bread and dip it in the cup. It is appropriate to say “Amen” or “Thanks be to God” when receiving the bread and the cup as they are gifts of God for the people of God. Westminster Presbyterian Church serves only gluten and dairy-free bread in Communion. Please take the aisle nearest you to the communion station at the front of that aisle, and return to your seat by the same aisle.

Voluntary at Communion

Pilgrims' Hymn

Stephen Paulus^{†††} (1949-2014)

Even before we call on Your name to ask You, O God,
When we seek for the words to glorify You, You hear our prayer;
Unceasing love, surpassing all we know.

Glory to the father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

Even with darkness sealing us in, we breathe Your name,
And through all the days that follow so fast, we trust in You;
Endless Your grace, O endless Your grace, beyond all mortal dream.

Both now and forever, and unto ages and ages, Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

God, our help:

**we thank you for this supper shared in the Spirit with your Son Jesus,
who makes us new and strong, who brings us life eternal.**

**We praise you for giving us all good gifts in him,
and pledge ourselves to serve you, even as in Christ you served us. Amen.**

Sending Hymn

This is a Day of New Beginnings
The people stand to sing. See insert for hymn.

BEGINNINGS

Benediction

Closing Voluntary

First Sonata

Sigfrid Karg-Elert

*Following the service, please join us for a special Meet & Mingle celebrating the generosity of our members
and the success of the 2017 Giving Campaign*

Worship Leaders

The Reverend Dr. Thomas H. Yorty, Pastor
Sherrie Bernat, Liturgist
Garrett F. Martin, Organist and Director of Music Ministries
Brian Glikes, Glynda Stephens Taylor Organ Scholar
The Westminster Choir

Deacons Serving Today

Kate Dierfield, Doug Fabian, Teddie Granville, Callan Izatt, Kathleen Kelly, Janet Kifner-Arnatt,
Donald Kitungano, Jennifer Russell, Roy Stewart, Ron Sutz

Elders Serving Today

Jen Callaghan, Ellen Kennedy, Jeff Renzoni, Mimi Steadman, Elizabeth Stewart, Tom Warszawski

THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

Sunday, April 2-Lent V - Name Tag Sunday

8:00 AM Infant /Toddler Care
8:00 AM Senior Choristers
8:15 AM Worship W/ Communion
9:00 AM Adult Bible Class
9:00 AM Case Library Conversations/Spiritual Life
9:00 AM Heavenly Grounds
9:30 AM Dialogue Diner
9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal
10:00 AM First Sunday Youth Service/ Sunday School
10:30 AM Worship W/ Communion
11:30 AM Meet & Mingle

Tuesday, April 4

7:15 AM Wake Up Group
9:00 AM Management Meeting
12:30 PM Passages Lunch
1:15 PM Passages Program
4:30 PM ENERGY Program
4:30 PM Choir School Rehearsal
5:00 PM Spiritual Life Meeting

6:00 PM Zen Dharma
6:00 PM Final Lenten Dinner/Program
7:00 PM Zen Dharma

Wednesday April 5

9:30 AM Worship Planning Meeting
12:00 PM Bulletin Deadline
12:00 PM Enews Info. Deadline
1:00 PM Newsletter Deadline
1:30 PM Staff Meeting
4:30 PM Choir School Rehearsal
4:30 PM ENERGY Program
5:30 PM Pathways To Peace
5:30 PM Case Library Conversations Meeting
6:00 PM Choir School Evensong
7:00 PM ATG Board Meeting
8:00 PM AA Meeting

Thursday, April 6

7:15 AM Wake Up Group
7:30 AM Coffee @ WECP
8:45 AM Centering Prayer

4:30 PM Choir School Rehearsal
4:30 PM ENERGY Program
5:15 PM Ministry of Generosity
6:00 PM Handbells
7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal

Friday, April 7

7:30 AM Coffee @ WECP
12:00 PM Fridays@WPC Concert

Sunday, April 9- Palm Sunday

8:00 AM Infant /Toddler Care
8:00 AM Senior Choristers
8:15 AM Worship W/ Communion
9:15 AM Palm Sunday Breakfast
9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal
10:30 AM Worship
10:40 AM Sunday School
11:30 AM Meet & Mingle
3:30 PM Evensong Prelude
4:00 PM Evensong
5:00 PM Evensong Reception

Notes on Today's Music

†Thomas Andrew Dorsey was known as “the father of black gospel music” and was at one time so closely associated with the field that songs written in the new style were sometimes known as “dorseys.” Earlier in his life he was a leading blues pianist known as Georgia Tom.

As formulated by Dorsey, gospel music combines Christian praise with the rhythms of jazz and the blues. His conception also deviates from what had been, to that time, standard hymnal practice by referring explicitly to the self, and the self's relation to faith and God, rather than the individual subsumed into the group via belief. Dorsey, who was born in Villa Rica, Georgia, was the music director at Pilgrim Baptist Church in Chicago, Illinois from 1932 until the late 1970s. His best-known composition, “Take My Hand, Precious Lord”, was performed by Mahalia Jackson and was a favorite of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.. Another composition, “Peace in the Valley”, was a hit for Red Foley in 1951 and has been performed by dozens of other artists, including Queen of Gospel Albertina Walker, Elvis Presley and Johnny Cash.

****Paul Halley** is the winner of five Grammy Awards for his contributions as writer and performer on recordings by the Paul Winter Consort, of which he was a member for eighteen years. Paul was Director of Music of The Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City for thirteen years, as well as the Founder and Artistic Director of the acclaimed choirs, Chorus Angelicus and Gaudeamus, based in Torrington, CT. Paul relocated to Halifax, Nova Scotia in 2007 to become Director of Chapel Music at the University of King's College, Director of Music at St. George's Anglican Church, and University Musician at Atlantic School of Theology.

*****Stephen Paulus** was a Grammy nominated American composer, best known for his operas and choral music. His best-known piece is his 1982 opera *The Postman Always Rings Twice*, one of several operas he composed for the Opera Theatre of St. Louis, which prompted The New York Times to call him “a young man on the road to big things”. His style is essentially tonal, and melodic and romantic by nature. He received grants from the National Endowment for the Arts and Guggenheim Foundation and won the prestigious Kennedy Center Friedheim Prize. He was commissioned by such notable organizations as the Minnesota Opera, the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, Opera Theatre of Saint Louis, the Saint Louis Chamber Chorus, the American Composers Orchestra, the Dale Warland Singers, the Harvard Glee Club, and the New York Choral Society. Paulus was a passionate advocate for the works and careers of his colleagues. He co-founded the American Composers Forum in 1973, the largest composer service organization in the U.S., and served as the Symphony and Concert Representative on the ASCAP Board of Directors from 1990 until his death (from complications following a stroke in July of 2013) in 2014. In a career which encompassed more than forty years of composition, his output came to include over 450 works for chorus, orchestra, chamber ensemble, opera, solo voice, piano, guitar, organ, and band. Paulus lived in the Twin Cities area.



Arts Weekend



Christopher Keenan, singer-songwriter
Friends of Music Gala
Friday, May 12 - 7:30 PM at the Saturn Club

Diane Bish, guest organist
Choral Festival
Sunday, May 14 - 4:00 PM in the Sanctuary

Christopher Keenan, singer-songwriter, is the featured performer at the Second Annual Gala to benefit the Westminster Friends of Music. Join us for an evening of food, fun, and music—all while supporting the Westminster Choirs, Handbell Choir, and the extensive music programming that occurs throughout the year, including: weekly sacred music offerings, guest artist performances, maintaining our historic Aeolian-Skinner organs and Steinway pianos, sending our choristers to choir camps, public outreach, and music education. As we begin to make plans for the Westminster Choir to tour England in 2018, your support will go far in securing our church's commitment to serving both the local and global communities through the arts.

Ticket prices: Tickets: \$75 (\$100 at the door)

Patron Tickets: \$125

Diane Bish, guest organist. Known to audiences through her TV program, *The Joy of Music*, Diane Bish is arguably the most well-known organist of her generation. She will present a program of familiar masterworks and original compositions with the Buffalo Brass Quintet, and the choirs of Westminster, Calvary Episcopal Church, and St. Joseph Cathedral.

Tickets: \$25

Patron Tickets: \$75

Tickets are available at www.wpcbuffalo.org

News & Notes

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, and 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

ENERGY is always in need of plastic folders, spiral note books, notebook paper, pink erasers, dry erase markers, black Sharpie markers, glue sticks, white glue, and Crayola watercolor sets. Additionally, ENERGY can use sturdy paper plates, 7 oz. cups, napkins, plastic forks, cake mix, and frosting cans. Donations may be left on the kitchen counter in the basement ENERGY rooms.

Visit The West Side Bazaar, 25 Grant Street, for lunch and shopping.

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, Jane Morris 571-481-1839, Ellen Smith 882-2064, Elizabeth Stewart, 585-217-7878, Jim Wieland 523-0217.

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

CHILDCARE AT WESTMINSTER

Childcare for children 5 years old and younger is available from 8:00AM to 11:30AM in the WECP (school) building.

SUNDAY SCHOOL AT WESTMINSTER

- Our preschool class meets in the WECP building. After *Time with Children*, children 3-5 year olds leave with their teachers, "Miss Debby" and "Mr. Chris" LaMendola and walk to the building together. In cold weather, the children need their coats. After worship, the children and their teachers meet together in the Holmes Room.
- 1st - 4th grade classes: Meet each Sunday with their teachers in the 1st Parish Hall Classroom.
- 5th -7th grade class meets each Sunday with their teacher Carol Timmerman-Yorty in the 2nd Parish Hall classroom
- Our confirmation class is made up of 8th graders. They meet one-on-one with their mentor until their class begins in January when they meet each Sunday from 9:15AM to 10:15AM in the classroom on the Parish Hall balcony.
- Our Senior Highs, 9th-12th graders, meet each Sunday at 9:30AM in the Parish Hall kitchen for Dialogue Diner.

THE WESTMINSTER CHOIR SCHOOL

The Senior Choristers, ages 12-18, rehearse Tuesday, 4:30PM to 5:30PM, Wednesday, 4:30PM - 6:30PM, and Thursday, 4:30PM - 5:30PM. At 6PM, on Wednesdays, the choristers sing Choral Evensong in the Holmes Chapel, open to everyone. *The Junior Choristers*, ages 7-11, rehearse simultaneously, joining the Senior Choristers for the service of Choral Evensong at 6 PM. *The Apprentice Choristers*, ages 4-6, rehearse each Sunday through May 21st,

during the 10:30AM Sunday School in the Holmes Chapel. The Apprentice Choristers are taught fundamental music and choral skills, with the assistance of Dr. Val Cooley and Mrs. Julie Zenger. 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@wpcbuffalo.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 dates is **May 21** at 12PM. 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@wpcbuffalo.org or 830-8596, Karen Keaton, kkeaton@verizon.net or any staff member.

SUNDAY MORNING SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Case Library and Spiritual Life Program Joint Presentation

9:00 AM to 10:15 AM in the Case Library

April 2

Benjamin Britten's *Rejoice in the Lamb*

Presenter: Dr. Gerald Gray, Director of Choral Activities at SUNY Fredonia
Dr. Gray will discuss the poetry of Christopher Smart, which serves as the libretto for Benjamin Britten's groundbreaking work, *Rejoice in the Lamb*, which our choir will be present on Sunday, April 9th during Choral Evensong. Dr. Gray had done extensive study and research on the origin of the text, and implications for Britten's intended theological statement within the piece.

April 9: Palm Sunday Breakfast-no program and April 16: Easter-no program

Adult Bible Study

9:00AM - 10:15AM first classroom on the Parish Hall Balcony

Join our continuing conversation as we explore the Sunday scripture passages. This discussion moves from what the biblical passage means to what this passage might mean in our lives. Our class is led by Debbie Katz and other class members. Our curriculum is *Feasting on the Word*. Please come to these classes as your schedule permits.

PASSAGES: A PROGRAM FOR OLDER ADULTS

Join us on April 4th for some great Buffalo stories told by guest speaker Marla Bujnicki. Marla is a Buffalo preservationist and history enthusiast, certified master docent by the Preservation of Buffalo Niagara. Lunch at 12:30PM, presentation at 1:15PM. Please sign up in the Gallery Room if you will be having lunch, or RSVP to Jamie at 884-9437, ext. 326.

WOW KNITTING GROUP

For the month of March only, the group will meet on Wednesday, March 29, 7PM to 9PM. The group will resume meeting on Tuesdays in April. The group works on their individual projects as well as prayer shawls, scarves and other handmade items for members of the church. Beginners welcome! Contact Fran Holmes: mfranholmes@verizon.net for information and dates.

WESTMINSTER PRESENTS

Fridays at Westminster: Come for the music - Stay for lunch! Each Friday, local Buffalo artists present a 30 minute lunchtime recital in Westminster's Historic Sanctuary at noon. Lunch provided by a local food truck. Donations benefit the Westminster Friends of Music.

April 7: Musical Delights Piano Quartet, Food Truck: Cheesy Chick

Choral Evensong: Every Wednesday at 6PM in the Holmes Chapel. The Choristers of the Westminster Choir School lead this service showcasing repertoire they are studying.

Choral Evensong: Sunday, April 9 at 4:00 PM. The Westminster Choirs and visiting choirs present this service of Evening Prayer. Join us for an organ prelude recital at 3:30 PM.

Taizé Worship: April 21, and May 19 at 5:30 PM. Start your weekend with this service of calming prayer and meditation.

Western New York Chamber Orchestra: Friday, April 21 at 7:30 PM. WNYCO presents Mozart's "Great" Mass in C minor, and John Corigliano's *Creation*. The concert features the Masterworks Choir of SUNY Fredonia, the Westminster Choir, and guest soloists.

Westminster Handbell Choir: Sunday, May 7 at 4:00 PM. Join us for an afternoon of music presented by Westminster's renowned handbell choir and talented guest artists.

MEET & MINGLE - FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Please join us in the Holmes Room immediately following the 10:30am worship service for a relaxed and inviting fellowship opportunity. *Meet & Mingle* offers beverages, light healthy snacks and provides a meaningful time of gathering and bonding for our congregation. Continue to stop by the **Heavenly Grounds Café** in the Oak Room which is open from 9AM to noon with coffee service until 10:30AM. **We need YOUR help!** In order to keep it running successfully we are looking for YOU to help in one of the following ways:

1. Be a shopper – Purchase the food from a list provided and bring to church for storage. Bring receipts for reimbursement.
2. Be a host for the week. The hosts come early to church to make the punch, put the food on serving plates before the 10:30 service; monitor the need to refill punch or food platters; clean up dirty dishes, put unused food away, and take home tablecloths to be laundered and returned.
3. Be a sponsor – Make a donation to WPC to cover the weekly costs. Please contact Debby LaMendola (716-983-4993) if you can help!

PALM SUNDAY BREAKFAST

Sunday, April 9th at 9:15 AM. Join us for good food, lively conversation and making crosses out of palm branches and other intergenerational activities. The breakfast will be catered with a free will offering. Sign up on the information table in the Gallery Room or call the church office 884-9437.

EASTER RECEPTION

Join us for a time of fellowship at a reception in the Case Library, immediately following the 10:30 AM service on April 16. 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. Please sign up on the Information Table in the Gallery Room.

TUESDAYS IN LENT: DEEP STORIES AND COURAGEOUS CONVERSATIONS

We will hold our annual dinner/discussions
Tuesday 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 at jadamczyk@wpcbuffalo.org

Given the great chasms revealed by the recent election that divide our nation among common, everyday folks, many are calling for efforts to bridge the divides. Suggestions range from "Courageous Conversations" about politics to listening to and learning from one another's "Deep Stories."

Three recent best sellers – *The End of White Christian America*, *Strangers in Their Own Land: A Journey Into the Heart of Our Political Divide*, and *Hillbilly Elegy* – each tells the deep story of various groups of people and specific individuals representing those groups. Deep stories are, as one of the authors says, "how we feel about and experience life"; deep stories give us our orientation to the world; they are the values, assumptions, and social tenets we learn early in life and that shape our attitudes and commitments as adults.

In the spirit of deepening the bond of our own community here at Westminster, and learning to listen deeply to one another, our Lenten Dinner Series will give us an opportunity to hear the deep stories of some of our staff and church leaders. Our goal is to equip us to help bring about healing in our community as we listen deeply to others and learn how to think and speak deeply about ourselves.

From our neighbors in city neighborhoods and suburbs, to perhaps even our own family members we thought we knew but realized in the current political climate that we don't, this series will help us listen with compassion and speak with courage about faith, values, and even politics.

Tuesday, April 4: *Deep Stories and Courageous Conversations*
The Reverend Beth Hennessy, Pastoral Care Associate, WPC.

GOOD NEWS!

Air conditioning is coming to the Holmes Chapel and Holmes Room! Thanks to a special gift from Dr. Philip and Donna Niswander, the summer worship services in the Holmes Chapel will be temperature controlled creating a more comfortable worship experience for all of us. We are grateful for this wonderful gift from the Niswander family and we look forward to worshipping together when we officially begin our one-worship summer hours on Sunday, June 25, 2017, 10 AM.

COMMUNITY SHREDDING EVENT

Sponsored by Buffalo Sunrise Rotary Club. Saturday June 17, 10am - 1pm at Westminster This service ensures safe and secure disposal of unneeded, outdated business and personal papers. The cost is \$10.00 per box (approx size 10"x12"15") Rotarians will be on hand to assist with unloading boxes from your vehicle. For additional information about Rotary or this event call 716-479-8711 visit the Buffalo Sunrise Rotary Facebook page.

WORSHIP AND PREACHING SCHEDULE

Worship: 8:15AM in the Holmes Chapel with the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper and 10:30AM in the Sanctuary.

Palm Sunday - April 9: The Reverend Dr. Thomas H. Yorty
Sermon: The Crowd Speaks Too Loudly

Evensong - April 9: The Westminster Choir will be present Benjamin Britten's groundbreaking work, *Rejoice in the Lamb*. Dr. Gerald Gray, Director of Choral Activities at SUNY Fredonia, Conductor

Maundy Thursday - April 13: The Reverend Dr. Thomas H. Yorty
April 13, 6PM in the Holmes Chapel
Sermon: Calm before the Chaos

Good Friday - April 14: The Reverend Dr. Thomas H. Yorty
Improvisations on Stations of the Cross, Noon in the Sanctuary
Good Friday Tenebrae Service: The Reverend Dr. Thomas H. Yorty
April 14, 7:57PM (sundown) in the Sanctuary
Sermon: After Great Pain, Where Is God?

Easter Sunday, April 16: The Reverend Dr. Thomas H. Yorty
Sermon: Seismic Shift
8:15 AM: Worship with Communion in the Holmes Chapel
10:15 AM: Prelude by the Buffalo Brass Octet
10:30 AM: Worship with Festival Brass Octet, Choirs, Timpani, and Organ, in the Sanctuary

April 23: The Reverend Dr. Thomas H. Yorty
Sermon: Love Welcomed Me And My Soul Drew Back

April 30: The Reverend Dr. Thomas H. Yorty
Sermon: Love Asked If I Lacked Anything; Luke 24:13-35

Worship in the Holmes Chapel - 8:15AM

*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.*

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.

Opening Voluntary

Partita Retrospectiva: Minuetto Malinconico

Sigfrid Karg-Elert (1877-1933)

Welcome and Announcements

Dr. Yorty

Call to Worship

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Hymn, No. 83

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Prayer Of Confession

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if you held our sin against us,
who could live, who could stand?
We seem to have more faith in death
than hope in your promise of life.
We seek peace through war
and find security in weapons.
We abandon the hungry, sick, and dying,
and pursue wealth by making others poor.
And even so, you love us;
still there is forgiveness with you!
Therefore we worship you; for you alone,
O Lord, can save us from death
and redeem us from our sin. Amen.**

Time for silent prayer

Kyrie

The people sing.

John Weaver (1984)



Words of Assurance

Response

GLORIA PATRI

Stand to sing.

Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Ghost; As it was in the be-
gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A - men, A - men.

Passing the Peace of Christ

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

Prayer for Illumination

Psalm Lesson

Psalm 130

Text can be found on page 4 of this bulletin.

Plainchant Tone II.1

Scripture Lesson

John 11:1-45

Text can be found on page 4 of this bulletin.

Anthem

The Best of Rooms

Charles Wood (1866-1926)

Christ, He requires still, wheresoever He comes
To feed or lodge, to have the best of rooms:
Give Him the choice; grant Him the nobler part
Of all the house: the best of all's the heart.

Meditation

The Importance of Ultimate Trust: Dead or Alive

Prayers of the People

Concluding with the Lord's Prayer

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

We will distribute the elements of communion today by intinction – simply take the bread and dip it in the cup. It is appropriate to say "Amen" or "Thanks be to God" when receiving the bread and the cup as they are gifts of God for the people of God. Westminster Presbyterian Church serves only gluten and dairy-free bread in Communion. Please take the aisle nearest you to the communion station at the front of that aisle, and return to your seat by the same aisle.

Sending Hymn

This is a Day of New Beginnings

The people stand to sing. See insert for hymn.

BEGINNINGS

Benediction

Closing Voluntary

First Sonata

Sigfrid Karg-Elert

Worship Leaders

The Reverend Dr. Thomas H. Yorty, Pastor
Garrett F. Martin, Organist and Director of Music Ministries
Brian Glikes, Glynda Stephens Taylor Organ Scholar
Senior Choristers of the Westminster Choir School
Hillary Hunt and Veronica Shanchuk, Chorister trainers

GIVING 2017



**Thanks to your
Generosity
We've
EXCEEDED
OUR GOAL!**

Pledges received as of 03/30/17

Number of Pledges Received	Total Pledges Received	DOLLARS OVER OUR GOAL
292	\$605,258	\$5,258

Thanks to the generosity of members and friends of Westminster, the Ministry of Generosity Committee is pleased to announce that we have exceeded our 2017 Generosity goal of \$600,000! This is our most successful giving campaign in our church's history and we reached it in record time. We are grateful for your financial pledges to this church as it signifies that we have a healthy church, whose members support our mission resoundingly. Through your generosity we are able to continue our ministry as we strive to answer the Prayer of St. Francis to "Love, Comfort, Understand and Give" within our church home and our community. If you have not yet made a pledge and would like to you may do so on our secure site at www.wpcbuffalo.org/giving, or email Sawrie Becker, sbecker@wpcbuffalo.org. Thank you for being a contributing member of this church as your pledge, in any amount, makes us a stronger congregation.



WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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