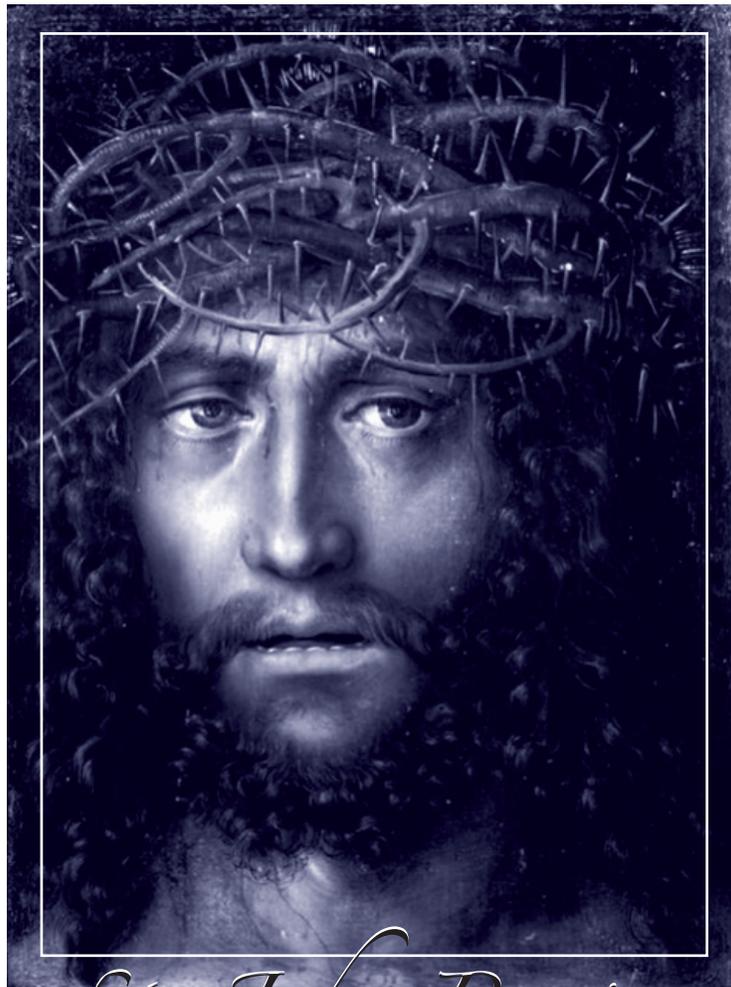




WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
Buffalo, New York

March 19, 2017  
Third Sunday in Lent  
10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary



*St. John Passion*  
Bob Chilcott



## 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.*

***Because of the Masterworks Service, the children will meet for Sunday School at 10:30AM in the Holmes Chapel. Families may decide whether their children would like to stay for the entire worship service or attend Sunday School.***

Invitation to the Passion

Dr. Yorty

### Order of Worship

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#### Prayer Of Confession

**Lord, you know who we are.  
You know everything we have done.  
We thirst for things that will never satisfy us.  
We commit ourselves to things that will never last.  
We worship things that will never bring salvation.  
Still, you offer us the gift of living water.  
Still, you offer us the gift of eternal life.  
Forgive us, O Lord, and give us this living water,  
so that we may never thirst again. Amen.**

*Time for silent prayer*

#### Assurance of Pardon

#### St. John Passion

Bob Chilcott (b. 1955)

1. Sing, my tongue, the glorious battle

Text: Bishop Venantius Fortunatus (c.530-600)  
trans. Percy Dearmer (1867-1936)

Sing, my tongue, the glorious battle  
Sing the ending of the fray;  
Now above the Cross, the trophy,  
Sound the loud triumphant lay:  
Tell how Christ, the world's Redeemer,  
As a victim won the day.

God in pity say man fallen,  
Shamed and sunk in misery,  
When he fell on death by tasting  
Fruit of the forbidden tree;  
Then another tree was chosen  
Which the world from death should free.

2. The Garden

Text: John 18:1-13

<sup>1</sup>Jesus went out with His disciples over the Brook Kidron, where there was a garden, which He and His disciples entered. <sup>2</sup>And Judas, who betrayed Him, also knew the place; for Jesus often met there with His disciples. <sup>3</sup>Then Judas, having received a detachment of troops, and officers from the chief priests and Pharisees, came there with lanterns, torches, and weapons. <sup>4</sup>Jesus therefore, knowing all things that would come upon Him, went forward and said to them, "Whom are you seeking?" <sup>5</sup>They answered Him, "Jesus of Nazareth." Jesus said to them, "I am He." And Judas, who betrayed Him, also stood with them. <sup>6</sup>Now when He said to them, "I am He," they drew back and fell to the ground. <sup>7</sup>Then He asked them again, "Whom are you seeking?" And they said, "Jesus of Nazareth." <sup>8</sup>Jesus answered, "I have told you that I am He. Therefore, if you seek Me, let these go their way," <sup>9</sup>that the saying might be fulfilled which He spoke, "Of those whom You gave Me I have lost none." <sup>10</sup>Then Simon Peter, having a sword, drew it and struck the high priest's servant, and cut off his right ear. The servant's name was Malchus. <sup>11</sup>So Jesus said to Peter, "Put your sword into the sheath. Shall I not drink the cup which My Father has given Me?" <sup>12</sup>Then the detachment of troops and the captain and the officers of the Jews arrested Jesus and bound Him. <sup>13</sup>And they led Him away to Annas first, for he was the father-in-law of Caiaphas who was high priest that year.

3. Hymn: It is a thing most wonderful  
*The people stand to sing.*

Text: Bishop William Walsham How (1823-1897)



1. It is a thing most won - der - ful,  
2. And yet I know that it is true; He  
3. It is most won - der - ful to know His

Al - most too won - der - ful to be, That God's own Son should  
chose a pure and hum - ble lot, And wept and toiled and  
love for me so free and sure; But 'tis more won - der -

come from heav'n and die to save a child, a child like me.  
mourned and died, For love of those who loved, who loved him not.  
ful to see My love for him so faint, so faint and poor.

4. Peter's Denial

Text: John 18:14-27

<sup>14</sup>Now it was Caiaphas who advised the Jews that it was expedient that one man should die for the people. <sup>15</sup>And Simon Peter followed Jesus, and so did another disciple. Now that disciple was known to the high priest, and went with Jesus into the courtyard of the high priest. <sup>16</sup>But Peter stood at the door outside. Then the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out and spoke to her who kept the door, and brought Peter in. <sup>17</sup>Then the servant girl who kept the door said to Peter, "You are not also one of this Man's disciples, are you?" He said, "I am not." <sup>18</sup>Now the servants and officers who had made a fire of coals stood there, for it was cold, and they warmed themselves. And Peter stood with them and warmed himself. <sup>19</sup>The high priest then asked Jesus about His disciples and His doctrine. <sup>20</sup>Jesus answered him, "I spoke openly to the world. I always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where the Jews always meet, and in secret I have said nothing. <sup>21</sup>Why do you ask Me? Ask those who have heard Me what I said to them. Indeed they know what I said." <sup>22</sup>And when He had said these things, one of the officers who stood by struck Jesus with the palm of his hand, saying, "Do You answer the high priest like that?" <sup>23</sup>Jesus answered him, "If I have spoken evil, bear witness of the evil; but if well, why do you strike Me?" <sup>24</sup>Then Annas sent Him bound to Caiaphas the high priest. <sup>25</sup>Now Simon Peter stood and warmed himself. Therefore they said to him, "You are not also one of His disciples, are you?" He denied it and said, "I am not!" <sup>26</sup>One of the servants of the high priest, a relative of him whose ear Peter cut off, said, "Did I not see you in the garden with Him?" <sup>27</sup>Peter then denied again; and immediately a rooster crowed.

5. Miserere, My Maker

Text: Anon., c. 1615

Miserere, my Maker,  
O have mercy on me, wretch, strangely distressed,  
Cast down with sin oppressed;  
Mightily vexed to the soul's bitter anguish,  
E'en to the death I languish  
Yet let it please Thee  
To hear my ceaseless crying:  
Miserere, miserere, I am dying.

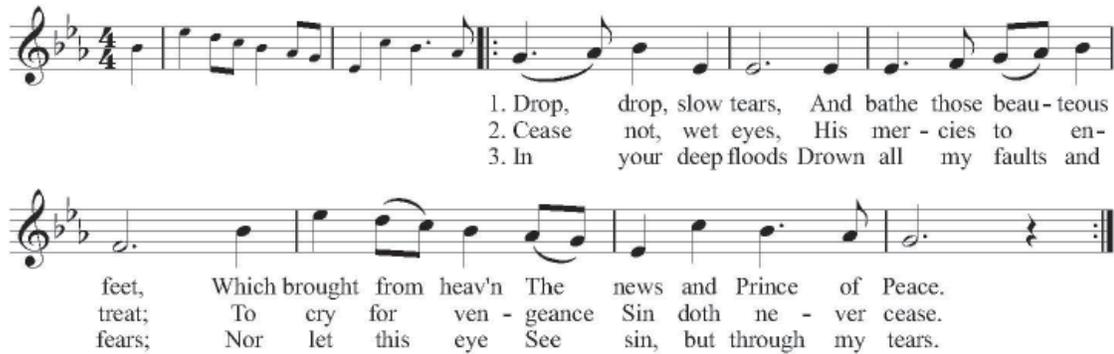
Miserere, my Savior,  
I, alas, am for my sins fearfully grieved,  
And cannot be relieved  
But by Thy death, which Thou didst suffer for me,  
Wherefore I adore Thee.  
And do beseech Thee  
To hear my ceaseless crying:  
Miserere, miserere, I am dying.

Holy Spirit, miserere,  
Comfort my distressed soul, grieved for youth's folly,  
Purge, cleanse, and make it holy;  
With Thy sweet dew of grace and peace inspire me,  
How I desire Thee.  
And strengthen me now  
In this, my ceaseless crying:  
Miserere, miserere, I am dying.

6. Hymn: Drop, drop, slow tears

Text: Phineas Fletcher (1582-1650)

*The people stand to sing.*



1. Drop, drop, slow tears, And bathe those beau-teous  
 2. Cease not, wet eyes, His mer-cies to en-  
 3. In your deep floods Drown all my faults and

feet, Which brought from heav'n The news and Prince of Peace.  
 treat; To cry for ven-geance Sin doth ne-ver cease.  
 fears; Nor let this eye See sin, but through my tears.

7. The Judgement Hall

Text: John 18:28-36

<sup>28</sup>Then they led Jesus from Caiaphas to the Praetorium, and it was early morning. But they themselves did not go into the Praetorium, lest they should be defiled, but that they might eat the Passover. <sup>29</sup>Pilate then went out to them and said, "What accusation do you bring against this Man?" <sup>30</sup>They answered and said to him, "If He were not an evildoer, we would not have delivered Him up to you." <sup>31</sup>Then Pilate said to them, "You take Him and judge Him according to your law." Therefore the Jews said to him, "It is not lawful for us to put anyone to death," <sup>32</sup>that the saying of Jesus might be fulfilled which He spoke, signifying by what death He would die. <sup>33</sup>Then Pilate entered the Praetorium again, called Jesus, and said to Him, "Are You the King of the Jews?" <sup>34</sup>Jesus answered him, "Are you speaking for yourself about this, or did others tell you this concerning Me?" <sup>35</sup>Pilate answered, "Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have delivered You to me. What have You done?" <sup>36</sup>Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, My servants would fight, so that I should not be delivered to the Jews; but now My kingdom is not from here."

8. Hymn: Jesu, grant me this, I pray

Text: 17th-century Latin  
 trans. Sir Henry Williams Baker (1821-1877)

*The people stand to sing.*



1. Je - su, grant me this, I pray, Ev - er in thy  
 2. If the e - vil one pre - pare, Or the world, a  
 3. If the flesh, more dan-g'rous still, Tempt my soul to  
 4. Death will come one day to me; Je - su, cast me

heart to stay; Let me ev - er - more a - bide Hid - den in thy wound - ed side.  
 temp - ing snare, I am safe when I a - bide In thy heart and wound - ed side.  
 deeds of ill, Naught I fear when I a - bide In thy heart and wound - ed side.  
 not from thee: Dy - ing let me still a - bide In thy heart and wound - ed side.

9. Christ, my Beloved

Text: William Baldwin (died c.1563)

Christ, my Beloved which still doth feed  
 Among the flowers, having delight  
 Among his faithful lilies,  
 Doth take great care for me indeed.  
 And I again with all my might  
 Will do what so his will is.  
 My Love in me and I in him,  
 Conjoined by love, will still abide  
 Among the faithful lilies  
 Till day do break, and truth do dim  
 All shadows dark and cause them slide,  
 According as his will is.

<sup>37</sup>Pilate therefore said to Him, "Are You a king then?" Jesus answered, "You say rightly that I am a king. For this cause I was born, and for this cause I have come into the world, that I should bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice." <sup>38</sup>Pilate said to Him, "What is truth?" And when he had said this, he went out again to the Jews, and said to them, "I find no fault in Him at all. <sup>39</sup>"But you have a custom that I should release someone to you at the Passover. Do you therefore want me to release to you the King of the Jews?" <sup>40</sup>Then they all cried again, saying, "Not this Man, but Barabbas!" Now Barabbas was a robber. <sup>1</sup>So then Pilate took Jesus and scourged Him. <sup>2</sup>And the soldiers twisted a crown of thorns and put it on His head, and they put on Him a purple robe. <sup>3</sup>Then they said, "Hail, King of the Jews!" And they struck Him with their hands. <sup>4</sup>Pilate then went out again, and said to them, "Behold, I am bringing Him out to you, that you may know that I find no fault in Him." <sup>5</sup>Then Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. And Pilate said to them, "Behold the Man!" <sup>6</sup>Therefore, when the chief priests and officers saw Him, they cried out, saying, "Crucify Him, crucify Him!" Pilate said to them, "You take Him and crucify Him, for I find no fault in Him." <sup>7</sup>The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and according to our law He ought to die, because He made Himself the Son of God." <sup>8</sup>Therefore, when Pilate heard that saying, he was the more afraid, <sup>9</sup>and went again into the Praetorium, and said to Jesus, "Where are You from?" But Jesus gave him no answer. <sup>10</sup>Then Pilate said to Him, "Are You not speaking to me? Do You not know that I have power to crucify You, and power to release You?" <sup>11</sup>Jesus answered, "You could have no power at all against Me unless it had been given you from above. Therefore the one who delivered Me to you has the greater sin."

## 11. Away vain world

Text: Alexander Montgomerie (c.1545-1610)  
modernized by Bob Chilcott

Away vain world, bewitcher of my heart!  
My sorrow shows, my sin makes me to smart!  
Yet will I not despair  
But to my God repair,  
He has mercy ay,  
Therefore will I pray.  
He has mercy ay and loves me  
Though by his humbling hand he proves me.

Once more away, shows loth the world to leave,  
Bids oft adieu with is that holds me slave.  
Loth am I to forgo  
This sweet alluring foe.  
Since thy ways are vain,  
Shall I thee retain?  
Since thy ways are vain, I quite thee.  
Thy pleasures shall no more delight me.

What shall I say? Are all my pleasures past?  
Shall worldly joys now take their leave at last?  
Yea, Christ, these earthly toys  
Shall turn in heavenly joys  
Let the world be gone, I care not.  
Christ is my love alone, I fear not.

## 12. Jesus is Crucified

Text: John 19:12-22

<sup>12</sup>From then on Pilate sought to release Him, but the Jews cried out, saying, "If you let this Man go, you are not Caesar's friend. Whoever makes himself a king speaks against Caesar."<sup>13</sup>When Pilate therefore heard that saying, he brought Jesus out and sat down in the judgment seat in a place that is called The Pavement, but in Hebrew, Gabbatha. <sup>14</sup>Now it was the Preparation Day of the Passover, and about the sixth hour. And he said to the Jews, "Behold your King!" <sup>15</sup>But they cried out, "Away with Him, away with Him! Crucify Him!" Pilate said to them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but Caesar!" <sup>16</sup>Then he delivered Him to them to be crucified. So they took Jesus and led Him away. <sup>17</sup>And He, bearing His cross, went out to a place called the Place of a Skull, which is called in Hebrew, Golgotha, <sup>18</sup>where they crucified Him, and two others with Him, one on either side, and Jesus in the center. <sup>19</sup>Now Pilate wrote a title and put it on the cross. And the writing was: "JESUS OF NAZARETH, THE KING OF THE JEWS." <sup>20</sup>Then many of the Jews read this title, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, Greek, and Latin. <sup>21</sup>Therefore the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, "Do not write, 'The King of the Jews,' but, 'He said, 'I am the King of the Jews.'" <sup>22</sup>Pilate answered, "What I have written, I have written."

## Offertory

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

### 13. There is a green hill far away

Text: Mrs. Cecil Frances Alexander (1818-1895)

There is a green hill far away,  
Without a city wall,  
Where the dear Lord was crucified,  
Who died to save us all.

He died that we might be forgiv'n,  
He died to make us good,  
That we might go at last to heav'n,  
Saved by his precious blood.

We may not know, we cannot tell,  
What pains he had to bear,  
But we believe it was for us  
He hung and suffered there.

Oh dearly, dearly has he loved,  
And we must love him too,  
And trust in his redeeming blood,  
And try his works to do.

### 14. The Crucifixion

Text: John 19:23-27

<sup>23</sup>Then the soldiers, when they had crucified Jesus, took His garments and made four parts, to each soldier a part, and also the tunic. Now the tunic was without seam, woven from the top in one piece. <sup>24</sup>They said therefore among themselves, "Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it, whose it shall be," that the Scripture might be fulfilled which says: "They divided My garments among them, And for My clothing they cast lots." Therefore the soldiers did these things. <sup>25</sup>Now there stood by the cross of Jesus His mother, and His mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. <sup>26</sup>When Jesus therefore saw His mother, and the disciple whom He loved standing by, He said to His mother, "Woman, behold your son!" <sup>27</sup>Then He said to the disciple, "Behold your mother!" And from that hour that disciple took her to his own home.

### 15. Jesus, my leman

Text: 13th-century English  
adapt. Bob Chilcott

When I see upon the Cross, Jesus, my leman,  
And by him standing Mary and Johan, with his back scourged  
And his side pierced, for the love of man,  
Well ought I to weep, and sins relinquish, if I know of love.

### 16. Jesus dies on the cross

Text: John 19:28-30

<sup>28</sup>After this, Jesus, knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the Scripture might be fulfilled, said, "I thirst!" <sup>29</sup>Now a vessel full of sour wine was sitting there; and they filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on hyssop, and put it to His mouth. <sup>30</sup>So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, "It is finished!" And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit.

### 17. Hymn: When I survey the Wondrous Cross

Text: Isaac Watts (1674-1748)

*The people stand to sing.*



1. When I sur - vey the Won - drous Cross,  
2. For - bid it Lord, that I should boast,  
3. See from his head, his hands, his feet,  
4. Were the whole realm of na - ture mine,



On which the Prince of glo - ry died, My rich - est gain I count but loss,  
Save in the death of Christ my God; All the vain things that charm me most,  
Sor - row and love flow min - gled down; Did e'er such love and sor - row meet,  
That were a pre - sent far too small; Love so a - maz - ing, so di - vine,



And pour con - tempt on all my pride, and pour con - tempt on all my pride.  
I sa - cri - fice them to his blood, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.  
Or thorns com - pose so rich a crown, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown.  
De - mands my soul, my life, my all, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

**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.**

## Benediction

*The Congregation is invited to remain in the Sanctuary for prayer. Please leave the Sanctuary in silence.  
 Please join us for refreshments and fellowship at Meet & Mingle in the Holmes Room*

## 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

### *Orchestra*

Mark Filsinger, Trumpet  
 Rich Reiderer, Trumpet  
 Tim Schwartz, Horn  
 Robert King, Trombone  
 Mark Jones, Tuba  
 Larry Dubill, Percussion  
 Derek Chazen, Viola  
 Nancy Anderson, Cello

### *Soloists*

Victor Schuel, Jesus  
 James Judd, The Evangelist  
 Nicholas John, Pilate  
 Hannah Taylor, Soprano  
 Max Pipinich, Peter  
 Rob Szustak, Officer  
 Brian Page, Servant

## Deacons Serving Today

Shea Akers, Russell Braun, Doug Fabian, Teddie Granville, Callan Izatt, Kirsten Kifner-Kennedy,  
 Johnpatrick Marr, Becky Read-Lukan, Ron Sutz

## Notes on Today's Music

My setting of the Passion was written specially for Matthew Owens and the Choir of Wells Cathedral and first performed on Palm Sunday 24 March, 2013, during a service of worship.

As in the great Passion settings by J.S. Bach, the story is narrated by a tenor Evangelist. I have designed the narrative to be sung in an arioso style that gains momentum as the drama unfolds. The solo roles in the narrative have instruments from the ensemble that are identified with the respective roles—the Evangelist is accompanied by viola and cello solo, Pilate by two trumpets, and Jesus by horn, trombone, tuba, and organ.

The role of the choir within the narrative is to play the part of the crowd or of soldiers who comment from time to time in short outbursts. The larger role that the choir has to play is the singing of four meditations that punctuate various points of the drama. I have tried in these meditations to emulate the style of a strophic carol in the mold of a writer such as Thomas Ravenscroft, cast in a simple, melodic way. The texts they sing are English poems from the 13th to the early 17th centuries that express deeply human responses to death, to life, and to man's relationship with the world and with God. Two of these meditations are sung by the choir with soprano solo, the last of which expresses most poignantly the human response to seeing Christ crucified on the cross.

I have also set four well-known Passiontide hymn texts (It is a thing most wonderful; Jesus, grant me this, I pray; Drop, drop slow tears; and When I survey the wondrous cross) as hymns that are designed to be sung by the choir and congregation together.

I was fortunate as a singer to sing the Evangelist role in both the great Passions of Bach a number of times. I also remember as a boy chorister in King's College, Cambridge singing the simpler renaissance versions of the Passion chanted by the Dean and Chaplain of the Chapel in Holy Week. It is the austerity, the agony and ultimately the grace of this story that has inspired me to write this piece, to be performed for the first time in a magnificent building where this same story has been commemorated for almost a thousand years.

## 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 are **March 26 and 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, khkeaton@verizon.net or any staff member.

### SUNDAY MORNING SPIRITUAL GROWTH

**A Case Library and Adult Bible Study Joint Lenten Series Presentation**  
9:00am to 10:15am in the Case Library

*How to Read the Bible and Still be a Christian* by John Dominic Crossan  
**March 19, & 26**

*Is God Violent? An exploration from Genesis to Revelation*

The acclaimed Bible scholar and author of *The Historical Jesus* and 12 other books grapples with scripture's conflicting visions of God and Jesus. At times the Bible depicts a loving God, and at other times a vengeful God. Crossan explains how Christians can discern and decipher which passages to trust and follow. Please join us for what promises to be a very stimulating program!

**March 12:** Part II & Part IIIa: Chapters 3-6 – Civilization & Covenant  
Discussion Leader – John Montague

### Spiritual Life

Sunday, 9AM to 10:15AM in the Heritage Room

**March 19, 2017: Mindfulness**

Presenters: Fred Cooley and Larry Castellani

As we discuss, reflect on and practice various ways to be spiritual, some of us believe additional effective tools can always be helpful to some. Larry Castellani and Fred Cooley will suggest ways to identify various blockages in your cognitive and emotional milieu that can sap spiritual energies and be disguised as anxieties, obsessions, and other negative forces within. Identification (knowing that I don't know) can be followed by practices to ameliorate these drains on your peacefulness and happy spirituality.

### 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.

### LET'S STAY CONNECTED!

We need your help in keeping our church records up-to-date. By doing so, we can ensure your family is kept informed about all that's happening at Westminster as we continue to design effective & interesting programming, provide timely Pastoral Care. Forms to update your information can be found on the Information Table in the Gallery Room.

### WOW KNITTING GROUP

For the month of March only, the group will meet on Wednesday, March 15 and Wednesday, March 29, 7PM to 9PM. The group will resume meeting on Tuesdays in April, from 7PM to 9PM. 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.

**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.

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

**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.

## 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!** Meet & Mingle is a great success! Thanks to everyone for participating! 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 – each week we are looking for a different family to serve as the host. 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. As you reflect on how you can best give of your time, talent and treasure, please contact Debby LaMendola (716-983-4993) and let her know how YOU can help!

## LENT FOOD DRIVE -THROUGH APRIL 2

To remind ourselves and teach our children how the need for food is a daily need, we are asking people to put aside a daily donation of one or two non-perishable food items during the weeks of Lent. Then each Sunday during Lent, food items to fill the empty barrels for the Food Bank. At the end of Lent or as the barrels are filled, the Food Bank will pick up our donated food items.

## 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.

## 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"x15") 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.

## 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.

## - 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](mailto:jadamczyk@wpcbuffalo.org)

This year our traditional Wednesdays in Lent has moved to Tuesdays in Lent. 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, March 21

*Deep Stories and Courageous Conversations*  
Roger Seifert, Entrepreneur, Sales Executive

### Tuesday, March 28

*Deep Stories and Courageous Conversations*  
Elder Mimi Steadman, Associate Vice President, Institutional Effectiveness, Daemen College

### Tuesday, April 4

*Deep Stories and Courageous Conversations*  
The Reverend Beth Hennessy,  
Minister for Pastoral Care, WPC

## EASTER RECEPTION

Join us immediately following the 10:30 AM service on April 16, Easter Sunday. Finger foods, punch, coffee & tea are featured for your enjoyment. Please sign up on the Information Table in the Gallery Room.

## PREACHING AND WORSHIP SCHEDULE IN LENT

*Worship: 8:15AM in the Holmes Chapel with the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper and 10:30AM in the Sanctuary. Rev. Yorty will preach in March.*

Lent from the Old English means 'to lengthen.' In Lent the days begin to lengthen, the natural world around us stretches out of its winter slumber sunward and we, too, find our hearts and minds opening up to burgeoning life all around.

This season of the year was used and still is in some traditions for new converts to the Christian faith to prepare for their baptisms on Easter Day. So the weeks of Lent at Westminster have also been focused over the years on deepening and growing our personal faith and our congregation work and witness.

The sermons this Lent will address the organic nature of our faith – as a living, growing thing – a seed per Jesus' Parable of the Sower – that requires good soil, nurture and care. I invite you to join me Sundays as we consider the biblical stories that take us from the temptation of Jesus in the wilderness to the encounter of Jesus and Nicodemus to the woman at the well, to the man born blind, to dead Lazarus in his tomb. These stories are all moments of crisis in personal faith. But in each case, a way opens up unexpectedly, surprisingly, astonishingly.

### March 26-Lent IV-The Reverend Dr. Thomas H. Yorty

*The Importance of Personal Experience: Not Just Libraries; John 9:1-41*

### April 2-Lent V-The Reverend Dr. Thomas H. Yorty

*The Importance of Ultimate Trust: Dead or Alive; John 11:1-45*

## Holy Week

### Palm Sunday - April 9 - Worship at 8:15 and 10:30 AM

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

### Choral Evensong - April 9 - 4:00 PM, Prelude Recital, 3:30 PM

The Westminster Choir and guest conductor, Gerald Gray, present Britten's *Rejoice in the Lamb*

### Maundy Thursday - April 13, 6:00 PM in the Holmes Chapel

The Westminster Choirs sing this solemn service for the Last Supper.

### Improvisations on Stations of the Cross - April 14, Noon in the Sanctuary

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

### Good Friday Tenebrae Service - April 14, 7:57 PM (sundown) in the Sanctuary

The Westminster Choirs sing this solemn Good Friday service.

### Easter Sunday, April 16 - Worship at 8:15 and 10:30 AM in the Sanctuary

The Westminster Choirs celebrate the Resurrection on Easter Day with Brass, Timpani, and Organ.

## THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

### Sunday, March 19- Lent III

8:00 AM Infant/Toddler Care  
 8:00 AM Senior Choristers  
 8:15 AM Worship/Communion  
 9:00 AM Spiritual Life  
 9:00 AM Case Library/Adult Bible  
 9:00 AM Heavenly Grounds  
 9:15 AM Confirmation Class  
 9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal  
 9:30 AM Dialogue Diner  
 10:30 AM Worship/Masterworks  
 10:30 AM Sunday School  
 11:30 AM Meet & Mingle  
 12:30 PM St. Patrick's Parade

### Tuesday, March 21

7:15 AM Wake Up Group  
 9:00 AM Management Mtg.  
 4:30 PM Choir School Rehearsal  
 4:30 PM ENERGY Program

5:00 PM Personnel Committee Mtg.  
 5:00 PM Worship, Music & Arts  
 6:00 PM 3rd Lenten Dinner/Program  
 6:00 PM Zen Dharma  
 7:00 PM WECF Parent Board Mtg.

### Wednesday, March 22

9:30 AM Worship Planning Mtg.  
 12:00 PM Bulletin Deadline  
 12:00 PM Enews Info. Deadline  
 1:30 PM Staff Mtg.  
 4:30 PM ENERGY Program  
 4:30 PM Choir School Rehearsal  
 5:30 PM Pathways To Peace  
 6:00 PM Choir School Evensong  
 6:30 PM Session Mtg.  
 8:00 PM AA Mtg.  
**Thursday, March 23**  
 7:15 AM Wake Up Group  
 7:30 AM Budget & Finance Mtg.

8:45 AM Centering Prayer  
 4:30 PM ENERGY Program  
 4:30 PM Choir School Rehearsal  
 6:00 PM Handbells  
 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal

### Sunday, March 26 - Lent IV

8:00 AM Senior Choristers  
 8:00 AM Infant/Toddler Care  
 8:15 AM Worship/Communion  
 9:00 AM Spiritual Life  
 9:00 AM Case Library/Adult Bible Class  
 9:00 AM Heavenly Grounds  
 9:15 AM Confirmation Class meets Session  
 9:30 AM Dialogue Diner  
 9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal  
 10:30 AM Worship/Confirmation Sunday  
 10:30 AM Sunday School  
 11:30 AM Meet & Mingle  
 12:30 PM Inquirer's Mtg/Light Refreshments



# Arts Weekend @wpc

**Friday, May 12**

**7:30 PM at the Saturn Club**

The Second Annual Gala  
Featuring Singer - Songwriter  
Christopher Keenan  
and

**Sunday, May 14**

**4:00 PM in the Sanctuary**

Featuring Diane Bish  
Guest Organist



**Second Annual Gala featuring Christopher Keenan.** If you attended last year’s sold out event, you enjoyed a fantastic evening of food, fun, and music—all while supporting the Westminster Choirs, Handbell Choir, and the extensive music programming that occurs throughout the year. This year’s event is sure to be even bigger and better—buy your tickets today, before they sell out! Please consider that your ticket goes a long way to support so many aspects of our music program, 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.

**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. Paul’s Cathedral.

Tickets are available at [www.wpcbuffalo.org](http://www.wpcbuffalo.org)

## WESTMINSTER PRESENTS



**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.



## 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

### Welcome and Announcements

Dr. Yorty

### Call to Worship

*The people stand and remain standing for the hymn.*

### Hymn, No. 76

My Song is Love Unknown

LOVE UNKNOWN

### Prayer Of Confession

**Lord, you know who we are.  
You know everything we have done.  
We thirst for things that will never satisfy us.  
We commit ourselves to things that will never last.  
We worship things that will never bring salvation.  
Still, you offer us the gift of living water.  
Still, you offer us the gift of eternal life.  
Forgive us, O Lord, and give us this living water,  
so that we may never thirst again. Amen.**

*Time for silent prayer*

### Kyrie

*The people sing.*

John Weaver (1984)

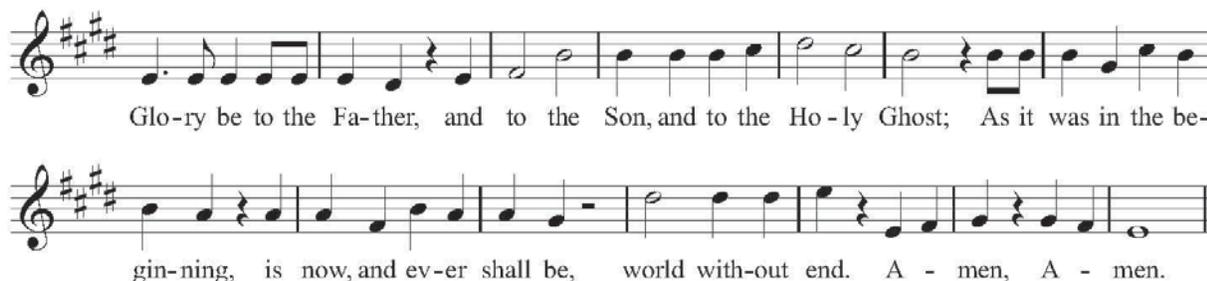


### Words of Assurance

### Response

GLORIA PATRI

*Stand to sing.*



## Passing the Peace of Christ

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

## Prayer for Illumination

## Scripture Lesson

John 18:28-36

<sup>28</sup> Then they took Jesus from Caiaphas to Pilate's headquarters. It was early in the morning. They themselves did not enter the headquarters, so as to avoid ritual defilement and to be able to eat the Passover. <sup>29</sup> So Pilate went out to them and said, 'What accusation do you bring against this man?' <sup>30</sup> They answered, 'If this man were not a criminal, we would not have handed him over to you.' <sup>31</sup> Pilate said to them, 'Take him yourselves and judge him according to your law.' The Jews replied, 'We are not permitted to put anyone to death.' <sup>32</sup> (This was to fulfil what Jesus had said when he indicated the kind of death he was to die.) <sup>33</sup> Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, 'Are you the King of the Jews?' <sup>34</sup> Jesus answered, 'Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?' <sup>35</sup> Pilate replied, 'I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?' <sup>36</sup> Jesus answered, 'My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.'

## Meditation

The Passion

Dr. Yorty

## 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, No. 371

Lift High the Cross  
*The people stand to sing.*

CRUCIFER

## Benediction

## Closing Voluntary



## 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



# GIVING 2017



Pledges received as of 03/17/17

<b>Number of Pledges Received</b>	<b>Total Pledges Received</b>	<b>Dollars to Goal</b>
<b>286</b>	<b>\$593,308</b>	<b>\$6,691</b>

We ask that you prayerfully consider the blessings you have received and with a grateful heart return your pledge card with support for 2017. Your financial pledge will enable Westminster 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. Pledge cards are available in the Holmes Room and you may return your pledge card by mail, make a pledge or a pledge payment on our secure site at [www.wpcbuffalo.org/giving](http://www.wpcbuffalo.org/giving), or email Sawrie Becker, [sbecker@wpcbuffalo.org](mailto: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

724 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14209 716-884-9437 [www.wpcbuffalo.org](http://www.wpcbuffalo.org)

### *Westminster Presbyterian Church*

The Rev. Dr. Thomas H. Yorty, Pastor, [tyorty@wpcbuffalo.org](mailto:tyorty@wpcbuffalo.org), ext. 313

The Rev. Beth Hennessy, Pastoral Care Associate, [bhennessy@wpcbuffalo.org](mailto:bhennessy@wpcbuffalo.org), 716-697-0919

Garrett F. Martin, Organist and Director of Music Ministries, [gmartin@wpcbuffalo.org](mailto:gmartin@wpcbuffalo.org), ext. 318

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Matthew Marco, Assistant to the Pastor and to the Director of Music, [mmarco@wpcbuffalo.org](mailto:mmarco@wpcbuffalo.org), ext. 306

Jamie Adamczyk, Administrative Assistant, [jadamczyk@wpcbuffalo.org](mailto:jadamczyk@wpcbuffalo.org), ext. 326

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

### *Westminster Early Childhood Programs*

Dr. Cindy Lynn-Garbe, Director, [clynn-garbe@wpcbuffalo.org](mailto:clynn-garbe@wpcbuffalo.org), ext. 328

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### *Facilities*

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Jeff Kaczmarek, Maintenance, ext. 319, 716-345-8013

Austin Becker, Maintenance, 716-479-0668