

Westminster Presbyterian Church

The Lord's Day, March 22, 2020



WPC exists to develop in ourselves and others a passion for the glory of God and the preeminence of Christ in all of life and in all the world, as revealed in the infallible, inerrant Word of God alone.

The Lord's Day

March 22, 2020 5:30 p.m.

*** THE CALL TO WORSHIP (READ ALOUD)**

Pastor: Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praise!

Congregation: The LORD has made known his salvation; He has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations. He remembers his steadfast love and faithfulness.

All: His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for Him. For the LORD has made known His salvation.

*** SONG OF PRAISE #55**

“To God be the Glory”

PRAYER OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION

Heavenly Father,

We lift up our eyes to the hills- where does our help come from? It comes from **you**, O God, the **maker** of **heaven** and **earth**. You **rule** over the **nations**, over the destiny of **every** man, and over **every** plague, virus, and sickness. **Nothing** happens but by **your** everlasting decree.

We **rejoice** today in your **righteous rule**, for you are not only a **wise, just, and powerful King**, but you are **our** King. “**I** will be your God, and **you** shall be my people.” You are our **fortress**, our **rock**, our **keeper**. You are the shade on our right hand: the sun shall not strike us by day, nor the moon by night. You will not let our feet be moved. You neither sleep nor slumber, but ever live to watch over us. You will keep us in your care. You will keep us from all evil. You will watch our going out and our coming in, from this time forth and forevermore.

O God, we cry out to you in the midst of our fears, weakness, and troubles: forgive the weakness of our faith. Forgive us for giving way to **fear** and **frustration** when we are overwhelmed by circumstances beyond our control. Forgive us for retreating into **selfishness** and **self-pity** when confronted with suffering. Forgive us for **presumption** and **entitlement** when times are easy, and for **cynicism** and **despair** when times are hard. Forgive us for allowing **bitterness** and **vengeance** a foothold in our minds. Forgive us for **trusting in ourselves**, and for **forgetting your promises** to us.

Wash us with the cleansing blood of Jesus our Lord. **Renew** us in this hour as we worship you. **Draw near** to us as you speak words of comfort and hope. **Humble** us with a glimpse of your awesome glory.

In the name Jesus, our Lord. Amen

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON (READ ALOUD)**

“For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve,
and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

(Mark 10:45)

READING OF SCRIPTURE

Acts 11:19-30

*** PSALM 13**

“How Long Wilt Thou Forget Me”

How Long wilt Thou forget me? Shall it forever be?
O LORD, how long neglect me, and hide Thy face from me?
How long my soul take counsel, thus sad in heart each day?
How long shall foes exulting, subject me to hear their sway?

O LORD, my God, consider, and hear my earnest cries;
Lest I in death should slumber, enlighten Thou mine eyes:
Lest foes be heard exclaiming against him we prevailed;
And they that vex my spirit rejoice when I have failed.

But on Thy tender mercy I ever have relied;
With joy in Thy salvation my heart shall still confide,
And I with voice of singing will praise the LORD alone,
Because to me His favor He has so largely shown.

PASTORAL PRAYER

One or more of you could pray for the following:

- That God would bring good out of the Corona Virus health crisis; that He would use it to humble proud hearts, to convince unbelievers to turn to him in faith and repentance, to remind us of our mortality, to make His promises more precious to us
- For WPC to stay connected and care for one another in the midst of this health crisis; for the Lord to give us unique opportunities in the midst of this crisis to love and encourage one another
- For our leadership to make wise decisions as we navigate this extraordinary time
- or our marriages and families to be protected from spiritual attack during a time that unusually stressful and involves more time together than usual
- That God would provide for and protect the poorest and most vulnerable of our city, especially those who are normally served by our food ministry (which will be canceled for a while)
- That we would stay connected with the children of catechism club through this crisis, and that this crisis would demonstrate to them the need to trust God

THE READING OF SCRIPTURE

HABAKKUK 1:1-11

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD OF GOD

REV. KNOX WHITE

“God Always Has Something Up His Sleeve”

1. A Perplexed Prayer

2. A Perplexing Prophecy

“ Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me”

Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee;
let the water and the blood, from thy riven side which flowed,
be of sin the double cure, cleanse me from its guilt and pow’r.

Not the labors of my hands can fulfill thy law’s demands;
could my zeal no respite know, could my tears forever flow,
all for sin could not atone; thou must save, and thou alone.

Nothing in my hand I bring, simply to thy cross I cling;
naked, come to thee for dress; helpless, look to thee for grace;
foul, I to the Fountain fly; wash me, Savior, or I die.

While I draw this fleeting breath, when mine eyelids close in death,
when I soar to worlds unknown, see thee on thy judgment throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in Thee.

*** THE BENEDICTION (READ ALOUD)**

“Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit
and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ.

He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.”

(1 Thessalonians 5:23-24)