

*Westminster Presbyterian Church
The Lord's Day Morning Worship*

January 3, AD 2021

10:55 AM

The Preparation for Worship

Prelude

Let us prepare ourselves for worship. Use this time for silent prayer and meditation on the Word. "O God, whose infinite mercies in our blessed Savior encourage us to call upon You; We beseech You graciously to hear us; and grant that we may both perceive and know what is Your good, and acceptable, and perfect will revealed to us, and also have grace and power to faithfully fulfill the same, that we may present ourselves a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to You, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

Welcome and Announcements

*The Call to Worship

Minister: Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips,

All: Giving thanks in His name!

Minister: Let us worship God!

The Lord's Praise

*Invocation and Lord's Prayer Pastor Reiber

*Hymn #226: *As with Gladness Men of Old* Dix

*As with gladness men of old did the guiding star behold;
as with joy they hailed its light, leading onward, beaming bright;
so, most gracious God, may we evermore be led to thee.*

*As with joyful steps they sped to that lowly cradle bed,
there to bend the knee before him whom heav'n and earth adore;
so may we with willing feet ever seek thy mercy seat.*

*As they offered gifts most rare at that cradle rude and bare;
so may we with holy joy, pure, and free from sin's alloy,
all our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to thee, our heav'nly King.*

*Holy Jesus, ev'ry day keep us in the narrow way;
and when earthly things are past, bring our ransomed souls at last
where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glory hide.*

*In the heav'nly country bright need they no created light;
thou its light, its joy, its crown, thou its sun which goes not down;
there forever may we sing alleluias to our King.*

Confession of Sin *Reformed Liturgy of the Palatinate*

All: We, poor sinners, acknowledge before You, our God and Creator, that we have terribly and in many ways sinned against You, not only outwardly, but much more with inward blindness, unbelief, doubts, despondency, impatience, pride, covetousness, envy, hatred, malice, and other sinful affections, as You, our Lord and God, know well, and we cannot deeply enough deplore. But we repent of these things, and are sorry for them, and heartily ask You for mercy, for the sake of Your beloved Son Jesus Christ. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon Galatians 3:13

Minister: Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree").

All: Amen.

*Confession of Faith *The Apostle's Creed*

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

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

The Lord's Gifts

Offertory Prayer Pastor Reiber

*The Doxology p. 731

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures here below; Praise him above, ye heav'ly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Hymn #197: *Comfort, Comfort Ye My People* Thirsting

Comfort, comfort ye my people, speak ye peace, thus saith our God; comfort those who sit in darkness, mourning 'neath their sorrow's load. Speak ye to Jerusalem of the peace that waits for them; tell her that her sins I cover, and her warfare now is over.

*Yea, her sins our God will pardon, blotting out each dark misdeed;
all that well deserved his anger he no more will see or heed.
She hath suffered many a day now her griefs have passed away;
God will change her pining sadness into ever-springing gladness.*

For the herald's voice is crying in the desert far and near, bidding all men to repentance, since the kingdom now is here. O that warning cry obey! Now prepare for God a way; let the valleys rise to meet him, and the hills bow down to greet him.

Make ye straight what long was crooked, make the rougher places plain; let your hearts be true and humble, as befits his holy reign.

*For the glory of the Lord now o'er earth is shed abroad;
and all flesh shall see the token, that his word is never broken.*

The Lord's Word

Pastoral Prayer Pastor Reiber

Scripture Matthew 16:18

Sermon *The Holy Catholic Church III*

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

*Hymn #241: *Thou Dost Reign on High (v.1,2,4)* Margaret

Thou dost reign on high with a kingly crown, yet thou camest to earth for me, and in Bethlehem's home was there found no room for thy holy nativity: O come to my heart, Lord Jesus, there is room in my heart for thee.

Heaven's arches rang when the angels sang, proclaiming thy royal degree; but of lowly birth didst thou come to earth, and in great humility: O come to my heart, Lord Jesus, there is room in my heart for thee.

Thou camest, O Lord, with the living word that should set thy people free; but with mocking scorn, and with crown of thorn, they bore thee to Calvary: O come to my heart, Lord Jesus, thy cross is my only plea.

The Lord's Supper

*Hymn #241: *Thou Dost Reign on High (v.5)* Margaret

When heav'n's arches shall ring, and her choirs shall sing, at thy coming to victory, let thy voice call me home, saying, "Yet there is room, there is room at my side for thee." And my heart shall rejoice, Lord Jesus, when thou comest and callest for me.

*Benediction Pastor Reiber

Postlude

*Congregation Standing

Morning Worship Sermon Outline

Text: Matthew 16:18

Title: The Holy Catholic Church III

Introduction

I. How may the true church be distinguished from the false? By the marks of the True Church (WCF 25.4) *The first mark of the true church is the pure preaching and teaching of the truth of God's Word.*

II. The Second Mark by which the True Church of the Lord Jesus Christ may be identified is the pure Administration of the Sacraments.

A. How are the sacraments to be observed? The sacraments are to be observed in accordance with their nature, in accordance with the manner in which the Lord has instituted them, in accordance with our Lord's own word.

B. According to their Nature

C. Manner of Christ's institution and according to His Word

D. With a serious and holy regard for Christ and His benefits

Announcements

Welcome to Westminster – *The Westminster family extends a warm welcome to all who worship with us this morning. We pray that God's rich blessings in Christ may be yours. We are delighted to have you with us this Lord's Day.*

The Lord's Supper at Westminster is for all those who have received Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, who do now repent, endeavor to live a holy life, and have publicly professed their faith through membership in an evangelical church. Children who have not publicly confessed Christ by being received by the Session into communicant Church membership should refrain from the Sacrament and learn by reverent observation; this, even though they may already have received Christ privately. Those without personal saving faith in Jesus Christ are to refrain from the Sacrament and are urged to repent and receive Him by faith.

Tithes and Offerings may be given at the collection points on either side of the front and rear of the sanctuary as offering plates will not be passed.

Easy On-line giving to WPC is now available. See the link on our website (www.wpcvicksburg.com). You may also text your gift by texting "Give" + amount (i.e. Give 100 to donate \$100) to 601-207-0484.

Westminster Shorter Catechism #29: *How are we made to take part in the redemption Christ bought? We take part in the redemption Christ bought when the Holy Spirit effectively applies it to us.*



Homebound Mildred Coleman
Pray for those with birthdays: Charles Orman, 3; Leigh
Sherwin, 8
Bible Readings: Gen 5:1-22:24; Mt 3:7-7:29; Ps 3:1-9:12; Prov
1:10-2:22

Welcome
To
Westminster Presbyterian Church
Presbyterian Church in America



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Rev. Scott L. Reiber, Pastor
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Proclaiming the Savior ♦ Equipping the Saints ♦ Reaching Out in Love