

3rd Sunday in Lent
March 20, 2022 at 10:30 a.m.



At the ringing of the chimes please silence your conversations and prepare your hearts and minds for an encounter with the Living God. We also ask that you power off your cell phones to prevent interference with our live-streaming and recording equipment.

Bolded text is read or sung by all.

**Please rise in body or spirit.*

Follow us also on



or on our church website at westminsterakron.org

Voluntary

Wondrous Love

from The Sacred Harp, 1844
Arr. David N. Johnson

Call to Worship

Lord, as the day's light breaks the darkness of the night,
As the glory of the morning pierces the night's stillness,
So a new waking to life dawns within us,
So a fresh beginning opens.
In the morning light of this day,
In the first actions of our worship,
Let us be awake to You.
In our soul and in our seeing,
Let us be alive to the gift of this new day.
Lord, let us be fully alive in You.

INTROIT

When Israel Was In Egypt's Land

Arr. Drew Rutz
Choral Scholars

*Hymn #77

Forty Days and Forty Nights

AUS DER TIEFE RUFTE ICH

Call to Confession

If we claim to be sinless, we deceive ourselves and are strangers to the truth. If we confess our sins, God is just, and may be trusted to forgive our sins and cleanse us from every kind of wrong. Let us, therefore, admit our sins before God.

Prayer of Confession

**O God, we Your people now stand in Your sight, praying that
Your do not withhold Your covenant-grace.
For the sins which our bodies commit, too many to fully
recount in this brief hour, we cannot hide from You.
O Christ, take us into Your loving arms, and wrap us round
with the dream of heaven's city. Since it is our lives You**

redeem on the cross beam of the Calvary, give us Your sweet forgiveness as we lean into Your love.

O Holy Spirit. Who comes to meet all the needs of our lives, bring us a scent of the kingdom to come. Take us by the hand and lead us homeward into the Son of God's heavenly land. In the name that is above all names, the very name of Christ the Lord, we pray. Amen.

Silence is observed.

Response Hymn #78 Alas! And did My Savior Bleed Verse 1
**Alas! And did my Savior bleed, And did my Sovereign die?
Would He devote that sacred head for sinners such as I?**

Assurance of Forgiveness

*Response Hymn #181 Come Sing to God Verse 1
Come sing to God O living saints, Sing praises to God's name. God's anger is not permanent, God's love will never wane. Though tears may tarry for the night with sighs of deepest pain, Yet joy comes with the morning sun, A peace that is not vain.

*Passing the Peace
Greet both friends and strangers saying,
The Peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

During this time of pandemic, a nod of the head and wave of the hand will suffice.

Time for Church Life and Call for the Offering

Offertory When I Survey the Wondrous Cross Gilbert Martin
Text may be found at hymn #100

*Response 592 Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow Doxology
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Following the Time for Young Disciples, children are invited to stay with their families. Participate in the K-6 children's choir rehearsal, or visit with our childcare staff in the nursery.

Prayer for Illumination

Almighty God, by your Holy Spirit, illumine the sacred page, we pray, that our minds may be open to receive your Word, our hearts taught to love it, and our wills strengthened to obey it; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The First Lesson

Psalm 63: 1-8

63:1 O God, you are my God, I seek you, my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

63:2 So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory.

63:3 Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you.

63:4 So I will bless you as long as I live; I will lift up my hands and call on your name.

63:5 My soul is satisfied as with a rich feast, and my mouth praises you with joyful lips

63:6 when I think of you on my bed, and meditate on you in the watches of the night;

63:7 for you have been my help, and in the shadow of your wings I sing for joy.

63:8 My soul clings to you; your right hand upholds me.

*Hymn #85

What Wondrous Love Is This

WONDROUS LOVE

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon

The Reverend David Aber

*Affirmation of Faith

Heidelberg Catechism

What is your only comfort, in life and in death?

That I belong—body and soul, in life and in death—not to myself but to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ, who at the cost of his own blood has fully paid for all my sins and has completely freed me from the dominion of the devil; that he protects me so well that without the will of my Father in heaven not a hair can fall from my head; indeed, that everything must fit his purpose for my salvation. Therefore, by his Holy Spirit, he also assures me of eternal life, and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.

Prayers of the People, Silent Reflection and The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

*Hymn #538

Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing

SICILIAN MARINERS

*Charge and Benediction

*Choral Response Let There Be Peace on Earth

Voluntary

Mitten wir im Leben sind

Helmut Walcha

(Translation: In the Midst of Earthly Life)

Serving as liturgist today is Kristy Yates.

Announcements

The Flowers in the Chancel Today are given by Nancy Keogh in loving memory of her husband, Jack.

Youth Fellowship and Service Event is now today, Sunday, March 20 at 11:30 a.m. The lunch, in the youth room, will be followed by community garden clean-up at the New Covenant Community Church.

Handicapped Parking on Sunday Mornings only persons with handicapped permits may use the parking spaces along the back of the church, the east side driveway, near the dumpster, and near the playground.

The Script will cover only one month, the month of April 2022.

Monthly Finance Report

February 2022	Actual	Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Total Revenues	\$20,719.42	\$31,286.08	\$105,367.98	\$82,359.66
Total Expenses	\$38,993.38	\$47,615.77	\$51,300.69	\$89,156.54
Net	(\$18,273.96)	(\$16,329.69)	\$54,067.29	(\$6,796.88)

Please contact the Finance Office if you would like a copy of the detailed financial report for the period ending February 28, 2022.

Westminster's policy presently includes the following:

- *The rise of the Omicron COVID variant has necessitated review of Westminster's church service safety policy. Session has agreed to require masks for all worshipers until further notice.*
- *Seating in alternate pew rows will continue.*
- *Please dispose of your used masks in the trash receptacles located in Wright-Herberich Hall.*

Calendar of Church Building Events For March 20—27, 2022

Sunday, 3/20 - 3rd Sunday of Lent

- 8:30 am Nursery Opens
- 8:45 am Adult Choir Rehearsal in Choir Room
- 9:30 am Sunday School - Parenting Group
- 10:30 am Worship Service & YouTube Livestream
 Children's Choir Rehearsal
- 11:30 am Congregational Meeting/Electing New Officers
- 11:30 am Youth Lunch and Service Event
- 11:45 pm Zoom Personnel Committee Meeting
 Worship Committee Meeting in Room 106

Monday, 3/21

- 7:00 pm Zoom Women's Evening Circle

Tuesday, 3/22

- 2:30 pm Adult Bell Choir Rehearsal
- 7:00 pm Session Meeting in Room 106

Thursday, 3/24

- 10:00 am Staff Meeting in the Library
- 7:00 pm Adult Education Zoom Meeting

Sunday, 3/27 - 4th Sunday of Lent

- 8:30 am Nursery Opens
- 8:45 am Adult Choir Rehearsal in Choir Room
- 9:30 am Sunday School - Parenting Group
- 10:30 am Worship Service & YouTube Livestream
 Children's Choir Rehearsal



Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

- Please call ahead and inquire about building access if you are coming after 2:00 p.m.
- Weekly deadline for information to be included in the Sunday Update and Sunday bulletin is Tuesday at noon.

WPC Staff

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