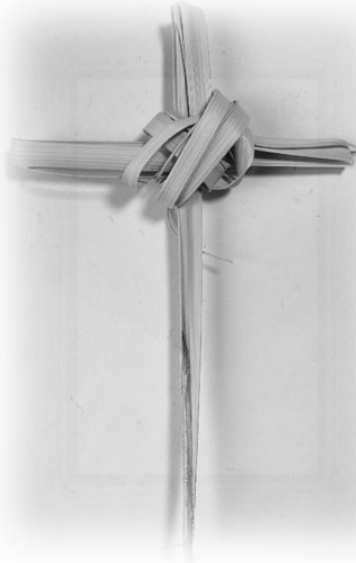


4th Sunday in Lent
March 27, 2022 at 10:30 a.m.



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

God So Loved the World

John Stainer

Elizabeth Crabtree and Ben Hayes

Call to Worship

from Sounds of the Eternal: A Celtic Psalter

In the silence before time began,
In the quiet of the womb,
In the stillness of the early morning,
Is Your beauty.

At the heart of all creation,
At the birth of every creature,
At the center of each moment,

Is Your splendor.

Rekindle in us the sparks of Your beauty
That we may be part of the splendor of this moment.

**Rekindle in us the sparks of Your beauty
that we may be part of the blazing splendor
that burns from the heart of this moment.**

Introit

Ave Verum

Charles Gounod

Choral Scholars (translation can be found at the offertory)

*Hymn #356

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

NETTLETON

Call to Confession

Kate Clark

Prayer of Confession

This morning's Prayer of Confession is from Celtic Prayers,
selected by Avery Brooke from the collection of Alexander Carmichael, 33–35.

**Thanks to Thee, O God, that I have risen today, to the rising of
this life itself; may it be to Thine own glory, O God of every
gift, and to the glory of my soul likewise. O Great God, aid
Thou my soul with the aiding of Thine own mercy; even as I
clothe my body with wool, cover Thou my soul with the
shadow of Thy wing. Help me to avoid every sin, and the
source of every sin to forsake; and as the mist scatters on the
crest of the hills, may each ill haze clear from my soul, O God.**

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.**

Time for Church Life and Call for the Offering

VBS Announcement Margo Works

Offertory Ave Verum Edward Elgar

*Jesus, Word of God Incarnate, Of the Virgin Mary born, On the
Cross for us, thy Body suffered pain and cruel scorn. By thy
blood and water cleanse us, Flowing from thy pierced Side:
With thy broken body feed us, when in death we must abide.
O sweetest, O kindest, O Jesus, son of Mary, O hear us.*

*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.**

Time with Young Disciples Walter Hayes

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

The First Lesson

Psalm 32

1 Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

2 Blessed is the one against whom the Lord counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

3 For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.

4 For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.

5 I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord," and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.

6 Therefore let everyone who is godly offer prayer to you at a time when you may be found; surely in the rush of great waters, they shall not reach you.

7 You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

8 I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you.

9 Be not like a horse or a mule, without understanding, which must be curbed with bit and bridle, or it will not stay near you.

10 Many are the sorrows of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts in the Lord.

11 Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart!

*Hymn #272

God of the Sparrow

ROEDER

The Second Lesson

Luke 15: 1-3, 11b-32

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

Sermon

The Reverend David Aber

*Affirmation of Faith

May my soul's desire be to see the face of God, and to rest in God's house.

May my soul's desire be to study the Scriptures, and to learn the ways of God.

May my soul's desire be to be freed from all fear and sadness, and to share Christ's risen life.

May my soul's desire be to imitate my King, and to sing His praises always.

May my soul's desire be to enter the gates of heaven, and to gaze upon the light that shines forever.

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 #298

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

IN BABILONE

*Charge and Benediction

*Congregational Response

Let there Be Peace on Earth

Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.

Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.

With God our creator, children all are we.

**Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.
Let peace begin with me; let this be the moment now.
With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow:
to take each moment and live each moment in peace
eternally.
Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.**

Voluntary	Mitten wir im Leben sind <i>In the Midst of Earthy Life</i>	Helmut Walcha
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Today we hear two different settings of Ave Verum. The introit is by the French Composer Charles Gounod, and the offertory by the English composer Edward Elgar. Next Sunday you will hear a third, probably the best known setting, by W. A. Mozart with an orchestral accompaniment.

Serving as liturgist today is Kate Clark.

Announcements

The Flowers in the Chancel are given by Carroll Polak and family in memory of Catheryn and Dave Taliaferro.

The Two Arrangements on the Pedestals are from Bruce Bain's memorial service and the white rose on the pedestal last week was for Bruce Bain.

The Two Quilts in the Sanctuary are for WPC members Betty Cole and Marilyn Carr.

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.

Elders and Deacons Installation of officers will be on Sunday, April 3 during worship service.

Calendar of Church Building Events ***For March 27—April 3, 2022***

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
- 11:30 am Personnel Committee Zoom Meeting

Tuesday, 3/29

- 2:30 pm Adult Bell Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, 3/31

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

Saturday, 4/2

- 8:00 am Food for life in the kitchen

Sunday, 4/3 - 5th 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
 Glorious Music with Guest Musicians
 Children's Choir Rehearsal
 Installation of Officers
 First Sunday Food Collection
- 11:30 am Annual Congregational Meeting



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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Margo Works, Interim Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministry	wpcchildren1250@gmail.com
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Laurel Labbe, Youth Music Director	llabbe@roadrunner.com
Kristy Yates, Volunteer Handbell Choir Director	ksjyates@gmail.com
Bruce Klucharich, Audio-Visual Technician	wpcoffice1250@gmail.com

Voted by Session:

- *Masks are now optional during worship service.*
- *Coffee will return every Sunday after worship and birthday cake will be back the first Sunday of the month, starting May 1.*
- *Starting in April the Script will be monthly.*
- *8:30 a.m. summer worship will return in June and July 2022.*



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