



# WESTMINSTER

————— Presbyterian Church —————

Albany, New York  
April 11, 2021

**WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AT WORSHIP ONLINE**  
**The Second Sunday of Easter**

April 11, 2021

Service of Worship 10:00 a.m.



**WE ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME**

*(Let the notes of our Opening Voluntaries be the musical curtain through which we pass as we gather to worship together. Let the preparation we make together be prayerful.)*

**Opening Voluntaries**

Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands (four settings):

- |   |                                      |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Chorale (Hymn 237)                           | Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)    |
| 2. Trio   | Friedrich Wilhelm Zachau (1663-1712) |
| 3. Chorale Prelude (from <i>Orgelbüchlein</i> ) | J. S. Bach                           |
| 4. Chorale Fugue                                | Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)         |

*"Christ Jesus lay in death's strong bands for our offences given;  
but now at God's right hand Christ stands and brings us light from heaven;  
therefore let us joyful be and sing to God right thankfully  
loud songs of hallelujah!  
Hallelujah!"*

--Martin Luther (1483-1546)



**Opening Sentences**

The Lord is risen! Alleluia!

*Luke 24:34*

**Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!**

Judy Hartley



**Opening Hymn 248**

Christ Has Risen! Shout Hosanna!  
*(words and music at end of bulletin)*

HYMN TO JOY

**Call to Confession**

The Lord says: Come.

*Revelation 22:17*

Let anyone who wishes take the water of life as a gift.

Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

Judy Hartley

**Prayer of Confession**

**Almighty God,  
in raising Jesus from the grave,  
you shattered the power of sin and death.  
We confess that we remain captive to doubt and fear,  
bound by the ways that lead to death.  
We overlook the poor and the hungry,  
and pass by those who mourn;  
we are deaf to the cries of the oppressed,  
and indifferent to calls for peace;  
we despise the weak,  
and abuse the earth you made.**

Forgive us, God of mercy.  
Help us to trust your power  
to change our lives and make us new,  
that we may know the joy of life abundant  
given in Jesus Christ, the risen Lord.

### Declaration of Forgiveness

Acts 2:17, 21

Hear the good news of God's promise:  
I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh.  
Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.  
In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!  
**Thanks be to God.**

### Passing The Peace

### Words of Welcome and Land Acknowledgment

Rev. Heather Kirk-Davidoff

### Time for Children

"Who Are the Easter People?"

Video

## WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD



### Prayer for Illumination

Adrienne Gambles

Living God, with joy we celebrate  
the presence of your risen Word.  
Enliven our hearts by your Holy Spirit  
so that we may proclaim the good news  
of eternal and abundant life;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



### Scripture Lessons

Psalms 133, Romans 1:8-12

Adrienne Gambles

### Solo

How Can I Keep from Singing?  
Susan Hermance Fedak, *mezzo-soprano*

Alfred V. Fedak (b. 1953)

### Sermon

"New Beginnings Needed"

Elder Elona Street-Stewart



### Hymn 246

Christ Is Alive!  
(words and music at end of bulletin)

TRURO

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

### Prayers of the People

Gabriel Ofori-Okai

#### 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.



#### Offering

Judy Hartley

## WE ARE SENT IN GOD'S NAME



#### Closing Hymn (Insert)

Like the Stars That Hymned Creation  
*(words and music at end of bulletin)*

WESTMINSTER CHURCH

### Charge and Benediction

Elder Elona Street-Stewart

### Closing Voluntary

Improvisation-Toccata on "Victory"

Alfred V. Fedak

### Community Celebrations



**After worship, we invite you to stay for an open conversation with Elona Street-Stewart.** Bring your questions and comments about her vision for the church and her insights about how we might respond boldly to God's call.

**FOCUS Interfaith Food Pantry:** For April, Westminster is asked to donate deodorant and razors. Until further notice, please email [office@wpcalbany.org](mailto:office@wpcalbany.org) to arrange to drop off your donation.

#### Stay in Touch with Westminster

- Visit our website: [www.wpcalbany.org](http://www.wpcalbany.org)
- Like us on Facebook: Westminster Presbyterian Church Albany
- Get weekly news email messages by providing a current email address to the church office at [office@wpcalbany.org](mailto:office@wpcalbany.org) or calling (518) 436-8544
- For more about Westminster's online communications, please contact us: [communications@wpcalbany.org](mailto:communications@wpcalbany.org)

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

### Sunday, April 11, 2021

10:00 am     Worship, *via Zoom only*  
11:00 am     Second Hour, *via Zoom only*

### Tuesday, April 13, 2021

7:00 am     FOCUS Breakfast, *Take Out Only*

### Wednesday, April 14, 2021

7:00 am     FOCUS Breakfast, *Take Out Only*  
7:00 pm     Westminster Prayer Line, *via Zoom only*

### Sunday, April 18, 2021

10:00 am     Worship, *via Zoom only*  
11:00 am     Second Hour, *via Zoom only*

## 2021 CHURCH OFFICERS

### Session

John Bossung	Leah Threatte, Clerk	
Jessica Chamberlain	Lily Mercogliano Easton	Hannah Ohemaa-Takyi
Kelly Crisfield	Arthur Fullerton	Larry Volk
	Adriene Gambles	

### Deacons

	Peter McKee and Kris Wilhelm, Co-Moderators	
Christabel Abban	Mary Bullis	Dodie Seagle
Ervin Ashburn	Kate Gallagher	Ned Trudeau
Ruthanne Brod	Elizabeth McMillan	

### Trustees

	Dixon Southworth & Nancy Ost, Co-Chair	
Leif Hartmark	Pete Seagle	Peter Wrede
Marie McClumpha	Joy L. Tallmadge	
David Norman	Kathy Walter	

## CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Heather Kirk-Davidoff, Pastor  
[pastor@wpcalbany.org](mailto:pastor@wpcalbany.org)  
Cell: 240-281-5005

Jennifer Schoenfisch, Office Administrator  
Belinda Quaye, Director of Christian Education  
Alfred V. Fedak, FAGO, ChM, Minister of Music and Arts  
Joy L. Tallmadge and John Fox, Associate Sextons  
Forrest Holroyd, Treasurer  
Carlie D'Annunzio, Comptroller  
Kim Deal, Communications

## WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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## Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna! 248

1 Christ is ris - en! Shout Ho - san - na! Cel - e - brate this day of days!  
 2 Christ is ris - en! Raise your spir - its from the cav - erns of de - spair.  
 3 Christ is ris - en! Earth and heav - en nev - er - more shall be the same.

Christ is ris - en! Hush in won - der: all cre - a - tion is a - mazed.  
 Walk with glad - ness in the morn - ing. See what love can do and dare.  
 Break the bread of new cre - a - tion where the world is still in pain.

In the des - ert all - sur - round - ing, see, a spread - ing tree has grown.  
 Drink the wine of res - ur - rec - tion, not a ser - vant, but a friend.  
 Tell its grim, de - mon - ic cho - rus: "Christ is ris - en! Get you gone!"

Heal - ing leaves of grace a - bound - ing bring a taste of love un - known.  
 Je - sus is our strong com - pan - ion. Joy and peace shall nev - er end.  
 God the First and Last is with us. Sing Ho - san - na ev - ery - one!

In commenting on this late 20th-century text, the author has stressed his intention to affirm the social implications of an Easter faith: "Christian peace and justice action finds its wellspring, not in moral zeal or guilty conscience, but in the resurrection."

## Christ Is Alive!

246

1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands  
 2 Christ is a - live! No lon - ger bound to dis - tant  
 3 In ev - ery in - sult, rift, and war where col - or,  
 4 Wom - en and men, in age and youth, can feel the  
 5 Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to

emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with  
 years in Pal - es - tine, but sav - ing, heal - ing,  
 scorn, or wealth di - vide, Christ suf - fers still, yet  
 Spir - it, hear the call, and find the way, the  
 this and ev - every age, till earth and sky and

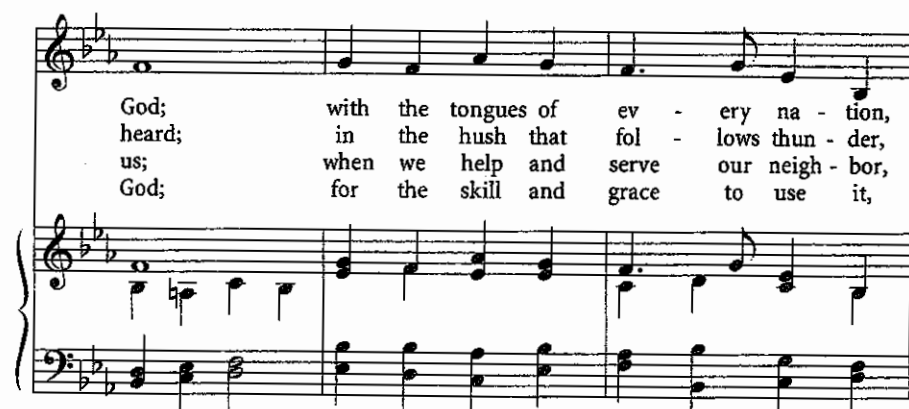
prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.  
 here and now, and touch - ing ev - every place and time.  
 loves the more, and lives, where e - ven hope has died.  
 life, the truth, re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.  
 o - cean ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

In 1968 Easter fell ten days after the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr., and this text was written to express an Easter hope while mindful of that terrible event. Buoyed by a triple-arched tune, it affirms the presence of a wounded, risen Christ with all who suffer.

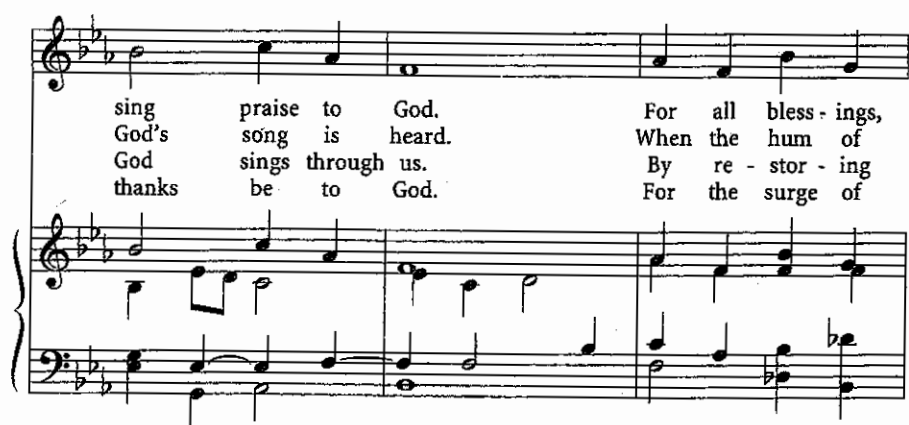
# 24 WESTMINSTER CHURCH • Like the Stars



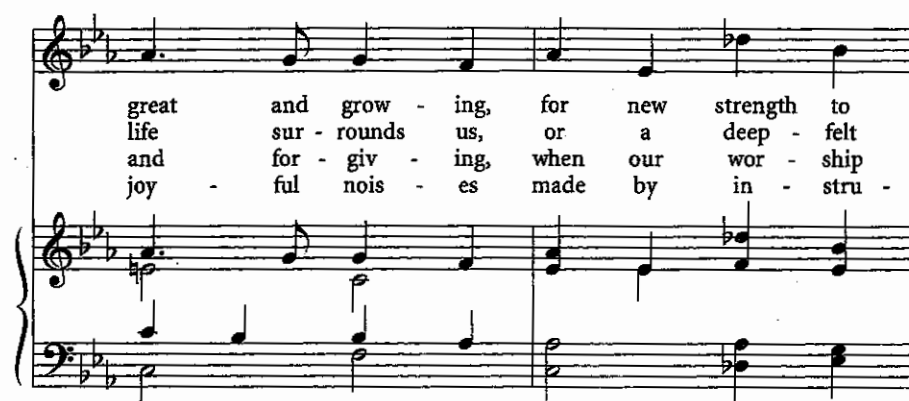
1 Like the stars that hymned cre-a-tion, sing praise to  
 2 In the si-lent pause of won-der, God's song is  
 3 As our minds and bod-ies la-bor, God sings through  
 4 For the glo-rious gift of mu-sic, thanks be to



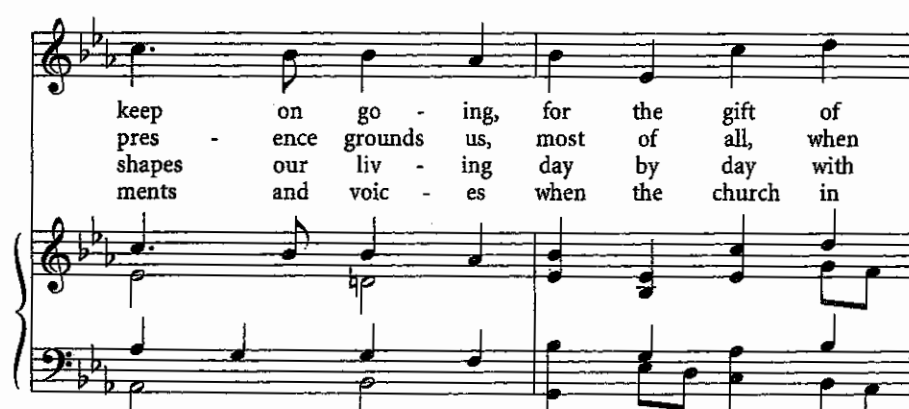
God; with the tongues of ev-ery na-tion,  
 heard; in the hush that fol-lows thun-der,  
 us; when we help and serve our neigh-bor,  
 God; for the skill and grace to use it,



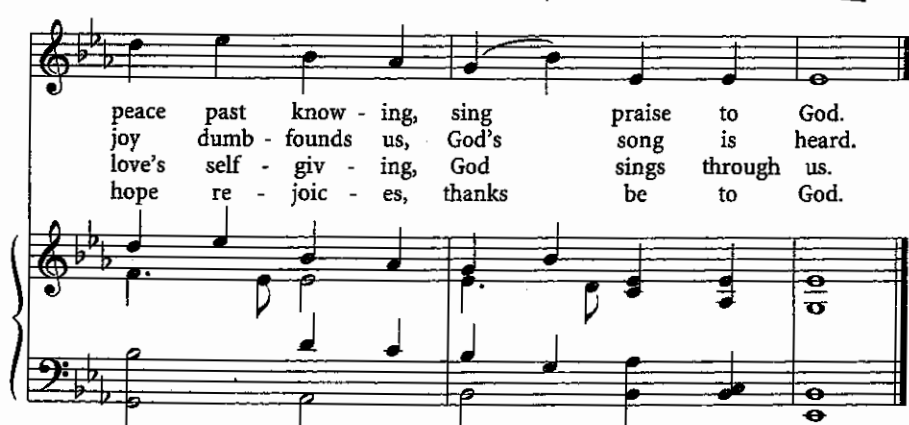
sing praise to God. For all bless-ings,  
 God's song is heard. When the hum of  
 God sings through us. By re-stor-ing  
 thanks be to God. For the surge of



great and grow-ing, for new strength to  
 life sur-rounds us, or a deep-felt  
 and for-giv-ing, when our wor-ship  
 joy-ful nois-es made by in-stru-



keep on go-ing, for the gift of  
 pres-ence grounds us, most of all, when  
 shapes our liv-ing day by day with  
 ments and voic-es when the church in



peace past know-ing, sing praise to God.  
 joy dumb-founds us, God's song is heard.  
 love's self-giv-ing, God sings through us.  
 hope re-joic-es, thanks be to God.