

# The Lord's Service

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*The Fifth Sunday of Easter*

MAY 18, 2025



Westminster Presbyterian Church

POST TENEBRAS LUX

## PRELUDE

*Please use the prelude as a time of silent preparation for the worship of the Triune God.*

## GREETING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**



## CALL TO WORSHIP

PSALM 148:1–4

Praise the LORD!

**Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise him in the heights!**

Praise him, all his angels;

**Praise him, all his hosts!**

Praise him, sun and moon, praise him, all you shining stars!

**Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!**



## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, through your only Son you overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life. Grant that we who celebrate our Lord's resurrection, may, through the renewing power of your Spirit, arise from the death of sin to the life of righteousness; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**



## HYMN OF PRAISE

*The Heavens Declare Your Glory, Lord*

138

## CONFESSION OF SINS

**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 fail to proclaim the gospel in word and deed, we ignore your call to discipleship. We overlook the poor and the hungry, and pass by those who mourn. 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. Amen.**

## THE KYRIE ELEISON

***Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.***

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON





## RESPONSIVE READING OF THE LAW FROM THE PSALMS

God spoke all these words, saying; I am the Lord your God, you shall have no other gods before me.

**Against thee, thee only, I have sinned, and done that which is evil in thy sight.**

You shall not make for yourself graven images...you shall not bow down to them or serve them.

**O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker! For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.**

You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.

**O Lord, open thou my lips, and my mouth shall show forth thy praise.**

Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. **How lovely is thy dwelling place, O Lord of Hosts! For a day in thy courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.**

Honor your father and your mother. **Remember not the sins of my youth, or my transgressions; according to thy steadfast love remember me, for thy goodness' sake, O Lord!**

You shall not kill.

**Search me, O God, and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts! And see if there be any wicked way in me.**

You shall not commit adultery.

**Thou hast set our iniquities before thee, our secret sins in the light of thy countenance.**

You shall not steal.

**Have mercy on me, O God, blot out my transgressions.**

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

**Put false ways far from me; and graciously teach me thy law!**

You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant, or his maidservant, or his ox, or his ass, or anything that is your neighbor's.

**Incline my heart to thy testimonies, and not to gain! Deliver me from all my transgressions.**

The Lord is near to all that call upon him, to all that call upon him in truth. He fulfills the desire of all who fear him, he also hears their cry, and saves them.

**My mouth will speak the praise of the Lord, and let all flesh bless his holy name forever and ever.**



## THE PEACE



## GLORIA PATRI

735

***Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.***

## INTERLUDE

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

God of life, your Spirit raised Jesus from the dead. Your Spirit inspired the prophets and writers of Scripture. Send your Spirit now to give us light, encouragement, faith, and hope through the proclamation of the everlasting gospel. **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

PSALM 35

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

PHILIPPIANS 2:5-11



GOSPEL LESSON

MATTHEW 5:38-48



RESPONSE

The Word of the Lord.  
Praise be to God.

SERMON

*“Nevertheless”*



THE NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds: God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made: Who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man, and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried; and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. And he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.**

**And we believe in the Holy Spirit, The Lord, and Giver of Life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets.**

**And we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. And we look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERTORY



DOXOLOGY

731

*Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow. Praise Him, all creatures here below. Praise Him above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen, amen.*

⌘ SURSUM CORDA

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

⌘ PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

⌘ 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.**

THE COMMUNION

*(Outer ring alone is grape juice)*

COMMUNION HYMN

*According to Thy Gracious Word*

423

*According to thy gracious word,  
in meek humility,  
this will I do, my dying Lord,  
I will remember thee.*

*Thy body, broken for my sake,  
my bread from heav'n shall be;*

*thy testamental cup I take,  
and thus remember thee.*

*When to the cross I turn mine eyes,  
and rest on Calvary,  
O Lamb of God, my sacrifice,  
I must remember thee.*

⌘ HYMN OF DEPARTURE

*Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder*

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⌘ CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

⌘ POSTLUDE

MINISTER: Rev. Steve Froehlich  
WORSHIP LEADER: James Phillips  
ORGANIST: Diane Pedrosa

## Missions Work Highlight

## RICHARD AND ROBYN CRANE— MISSION TO THE WORLD

In 2003, the Cranes relocated to Miami where Richard works with numerous organizations connected to MTW developing distance education courses in pastoral psychology. Richard and Robyn reach Spanish speakers all around the globe as they conduct leadership training by extension using the internet, printed material, and intensive courses internationally. More information is available for Mission to the World and the Cranes at [www.mtw.org](http://www.mtw.org).

## Notes

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines, typical of notebook paper. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There is no handwriting or other markings on the paper.

## Prayer Requests

**Saints/Families of the Month:** Ezra Kuliszewski family, Ruth Lettieri, Art Luse, Gill Mackay family, Jon Mathews family

**Weekly Prayer Focus:** Pulpit Search Committee, Abigail Elmendorf with child (due 9/25), Angela DeMatteo Davis' mother Jane (recovery from surgery), David Babick (recovery from leg surgery), Kameron Riffard (Esther's grandson battling alcoholism), Mary McCorvey (cancer), Jeanne Phillips (James's mother, limited responsiveness), Megan Brossman (mental health)

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## Announcements

We are delighted to welcome Rev. Steve Froehlich, who will typically be ministering the Word and Sacrament to us on the first three Sundays of each month. Rev. Froehlich is a retired PCA minister from Ithaca, NY, and he most recently served as the interim pastor of a church in New Mexico during their search for a pastor.

There is Sunday School for all ages today.

Please join us at 6pm for the evening service.

Coldenham Reformed Presbyterian Church is having a Psalm Sing tonight at 3:00 PM. Refreshments to follow. 469 Coldenham Rd., Walden NY. All are welcome.

Today is Compassion Sunday, a day dedicated to helping lift children out of poverty. A table is set up in the Narthex with more information.

The annual congregational meeting will be held on 5/25 after a joint service with Christ's Church. There will be no Sunday School or Evening Service on that day. Adam Kuliszewski, Gary Berg, and Robert David will be standing for election as ruling elder. Joe Hall and Ed Timberger will be standing for election as deacons.

Our final chart (May/June) for praying for Sunday School classes and teachers is posted in the upper hallway. As the Lord leads, please sign up to pray once a week for the remaining six weeks for each student and teacher listed. Thank you to the faithful people praying this year.

# WELCOME TO WESTMINSTER

Westminster Church is both a place and a people. We gather in this sacred space to worship, to learn, and to serve God as he meets us in Christ. To this end we dedicate our time, our talent, and our resources. Here the Gospel of Christ is freely proclaimed: *We are weaker and more sinful than we ever dared admit, but through Christ we are more loved and accepted than we ever dared hope.* As a community of Christians, we are building a bridge to the future through faith and friendship. To this end, we pray God will give us strength, vision, and wisdom. We are thankful that you could join with us today. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Welcome to Westminster!

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## Westminster Stated Services

Worship	10:00AM
Sunday School ( <i>Sept–June</i> )	11:45 AM
Sunday Evening Service	6:00 PM

## Christ’s Church of the Hudson Valley

Worship	10:30 AM
Sunday School	12:00 PM

## Church & Office Location

560 Station Road  
Rock Tavern, NY 12575

T 845.496.7971 | F 845.496.7916  
[www.westminsterchurch-ny.org](http://www.westminsterchurch-ny.org)  
[office@westminsterchurch-ny.org](mailto:office@westminsterchurch-ny.org)

## Cover

The Celtic cross reminds us, as Presbyterians, of our historical roots in the British Isles dating back at least to the fifth century. *Post Tenebras Lux* is a Latin slogan from the 16th-century Protestant Reformation meaning *After Darkness, Light*. The cross and the slogan combine to express our desire to be rooted in the ancient faith and to embrace the attainments of the Protestant Reformation.

Westminster was organized in 1854 and is affiliated with the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA).

## Senior Pastor

*Vacant*

## Assistant Pastor

Rev. Justin Chiarot

## Session (Ruling Elders, with Class Year)

Robert David (2025), Gary Berg (2025),  
Mike Bonagura (2026), James Phillips (2026),  
Ron Bonagura (2027), Bob Maucher (2027)

## Board of Deacons (with Class Year)

Joe Hall (Chair: 2025), Bill Cooke (2025),  
Ed Timberger (2025), David Babick (2026),  
Noah Watson (2026), John Grammer (2027),  
Ethan Westlund (2027)

## Board of Trustees

Robert David (Chairman)  
Adam Kuliszewski (Vice-Chairman)

## Staff

Administrative Secretary	Jo-Anne Weber
Christian Education	Brenda Grammer
Evangelism	Gary Berg
Fellowship	JoAnn Maucher
Music Committee	Lori Steinberger
Organist	Elaine H. Simpson
Property Manager	Joe Schlegel
Sexton	Rachel McDuffie
Treasurer	Kevin Quirk

