



Service for the Lord's Day

Seventh Sunday of Easter

May 24, 2020

11 a.m.



Don't try to diagram the mystery. The Body of Love, in your hands but hard to put your finger on, within, among and yet beyond, is here and not here. The One who Is With You is not present as you wish. Sorrow and joy mingle perfectly. Theories will not help you. You can't look it up. Look here: this, now. In the bed you make, the people you meet, the rumpling within. Even what has left you, your empty arms, is a place to look. Jacob on his stone pillow knew: this loss, this trouble, this gift is the ladder to heaven. Keep looking, but not up there.

- Ascension, by Steve Garnaas-Holmes

Gathered by the Spirit in Christ's Name

Prelude

Be Thou With Me

by J. S. Bach

Introit

O Lord, Hear My Prayer (Verse 1 only)

Glory to God #471

O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer.
Or The Lord is my song; the Lord is my praise:

When I call, an - swer me. O Lord, hear my prayer. O
all my hope comes from God. The Lord is my song; the

Lord, hear my prayer. Come and lis - ten to me.
Lord is my praise: God, the well-spring of life.

Welcome in Christ's Name

The Rev. Ellen Williams Hensle

Call to Worship

Leader: We are gathered: new followers and lifelong disciples, the powerful and the powerless, those who have too little and those who have too much.

People: We are gathered, for we are one in Christ.

Leader: We have come: seekers and skeptics, sinners and saints, the poor in spirit and the rich in faith.

People: We have come, for we are eager to hear God's word.

Leader: Though we are physically apart, we are here, together.

People: Let us glorify the one true God.

1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a bul - wark nev - er
 2 Did we in our own strength con - fide, our striv - ing would be
 3 And though this world, with dev - ils filled, should threat - en to un -
 4 That word a - bove all earth - ly powers, no thanks to them, a -

fail - ing. Our help - er he, a - mid the flood of
 los - ing, were not the right man on our side, the
 do us, we will not fear, for God hath willed his
 bid - eth. The Spir - it and the gifts are ours through

mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing. For still our an - cient foe doth
 man of God's own choos - ing. Dost ask who that may be? Christ
 truth to tri - umph through us. The Prince of Dark - ness grim, we
 him who with us sid - eth. Let goods and kin - dred go, this

seek to work us woe. His craft and power are great, and
 Je - sus, it is he. Lord Sab - a - oth his name, from
 trem - ble not for him. His rage we can en - dure, for
 mor - tal life al - so. The bod - y they may kill; God's

armed with cru - el hate, on earth is not his e - qual.
 age to age the same, and he must win the bat - tle.
 lo, his doom is sure. One lit - tle word shall fell him.
 truth a - bid - eth still. His king - dom is for - ev - er.

Confession of Sin

The Rev. Bill Clark

Call to Confession

Corporate Prayer of Confession

For failing to love others as you have loved us: **God of grace, forgive us.**For wasting your gifts and hoarding our goods: **God of grace, forgive us.**For fearing those who are strange to us and ignoring those in need: **God of grace, forgive us.**For losing heart and abandoning hope: **God of grace, forgive us.**For all the ways we turn from you: **God of grace, forgive us.**

Silent Confession

We offer our prayers in the name of the One who saves us, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

People: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

The Peace

Leader: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Proclaim God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson

Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35

Gelesa Tripps

Cry out to God in joy, all the earth. Cry out to God in
 joy, all the earth. Give glo - ry to the name of the Lord.

Second Lesson

Acts 1:1-14

Leader: The word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Still Waiting

Ellen Williams Hensle

Passages

Hymnals for 5th graders

Pastoral Concerns

Prayers of the People

There Is a Longing in Our Hearts (Refrain only)

GTG #470

Refrain
 There is a long-ing in our hearts, O Lord, for
 you to re - veal your - self to us.
 There is a long-ing in our hearts for love we
 on - ly find in you, our God.

Chords: Dm, All, Gm, C, F, Bb, Gm7, A, A7, Dm, Gm, C, F, Bb, Gm7, A7, Dm (hold last time) Fine

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.

Give Thanks to God

Offering of Ourselves and of God's Gifts to Us

[Click here to make an online donation to Westminster](#) or text 73256 and message **wpc\$** and the amount you wish to give.

A portion of the tithes and offerings we return to God this morning supports our Presbyterian Mission co-workers Charles and Melissa Johnson, who partner with the Synod of Zambia to provide theological and agricultural education, as well as medical care, in Lundazi, Zambia.

Offering Music

Grazioso in D major

by Antonio Vivaldi

Sent to Live Out a God-Sized Vision of Love

Closing Hymn

God of Our Life

GTG #686

1 God of our life, through all the cir-cling years, we trust in thee.
2 God of the past, our times are in thy hand. With us a-bide.
3 God of the com-ing years, through paths un-known we fol-low thee.

In all the past, through all our hopes and fears, thy hand we see.
Lead us by faith to hope's true prom-ised land. Be thou our guide.
When we are strong, Lord, leave us not a-lone. Our ref-uge be.

With each new day, when morn-ing lifts the veil,
With thee to bless, the dark-ness shines as light,
Be thou for us in life our dai-ly bread,

we own thy mer-cies, Lord, which nev-er fail.
and faith's fair vi-sion chang-es in-to sight.
our heart's true home when all our years have sped.

Benediction

Postlude

Lift High the Cross

by Larry Shackley

With many churches now offering services online, Facebook is experiencing an unusually high volume of streams on Sunday mornings. This may cause interruptions in the live recording or in your playback of the livestreamed worship service. If you are watching live and your stream is interrupted, try lowering your video quality: click the Settings button in the bottom right corner of the video (it looks like a gear), click Quality, then choose 240p. You may also try pausing the video, rewinding the service back a few seconds, then pressing play again. If you are struggling with livestreaming, it may be easier to watch after we have finished recording; the video will remain on our Facebook page. Thank you for your patience as we adapt to new technologies.

What's Happening ... at Westminster Presbyterian Church



For more information, visit our
website at www.wpcaustin.org

May 24, 2020

If You Need Assistance

For assistance during this time of pandemic please contact the church office 512-459-5497 or email, wpc@wpcaustin.org; or email Bill, bill@wpcaustin.org or Ellen, ellen@wpcaustin.org. Staff and members of the church are available and willing to provide supplies and assistance for you if you have that need. We are also available to pray for and with you. Let us know how we may support you, or about others who may need our support. Together we are the body of Christ!

Love Your Neighbor!

Looking for a way to give back during the pandemic? Support our local mission partners:

- Participate in the Stock the Pantry campaign benefiting Manos de Cristo! During the pandemic, Manos has been serving four times the usual number of families and granting those families more frequent access to their food pantry. Help us keep their pantry stocked by [donating here](#). Donations will be matched dollar for dollar through June 21st.
- Drive-A-Senior is continuing to operate its emergency food pantry for seniors. Do you know a senior who could use food and supplies? Call 512-472-6339 to schedule a delivery. DAS is also seeking donations of the following specific items: toilet paper, oatmeal, applesauce/fruit cups, milk, eggs, bread, crackers, instant mashed potatoes, soup, lunch meat, and graham crackers.
- Foundation Communities is seeking donations to their emergency assistance fund to help residents who have lost their jobs. [Click here](#) to contribute.

Thursday Prayers

Join us in virtual prayer via Zoom, and join Lesley Fields and others for a brief time of sharing and prayer at 12:15 p.m. Look for the link in the weekly newsletters. If unable to join, you may "pray in place" and [download prayers here](#).

Text to Give — Available!

Text 73256 and message **wpc\$** and the amount you wish to give. You may select various giving options using the drop down menu.

 www.facebook.com/wpcaustin

Children's Ministry Plans

Join us for virtual Sunday School class each Sunday at 9:30 a.m. (for children 3 yrs. — 1st grade) and 10:15 a.m. (for 2nd — 5th grades). Look for the Zoom links in the weekly newsletters.

Stock the Pantry Campaign

"Our food pantry is really meant to be for emergencies. But now everyone is having an emergency all the time," says Julie Ballesteros, Executive Director of Manos de Cristo. With many Austinites jobless in the wake of the Coronavirus pandemic, our mission partners at Manos de Cristo have stepped up, serving more families more often at their food pantry. Now it's our turn to step up. A member of WPC has issued a \$10,000 challenge grant to encourage our congregation's generosity. Between now and June 21st, the donor will match all donations made to Manos de Cristo through WPC, up to \$10,000. [Click here](#) to give now and help stock the pantry!

Signs of the Spirit

We loved creating the "Wave Your Palms" video so much, we are asking for video submissions again. We are asking for short clips of you (and your household) showing **signs of the Spirit**. The Holy Spirit is often associated with fire, wind, and with things red. Could you wave a red scarf, bandana or cloth showing the movement of the Spirit where you are? Allow your creative ideas to flow! It's recommended you film horizontally with your cell phone, and assume your video will be muted. Please keep video submissions to less than 15 seconds. Email them (Charlotte@wpcaustin.org) to Charlotte Trafton. Submissions are due by **May 29th** at 3 pm.

Online Giving

Online giving is available via the WPC website: either click the link "Giving" at the top left of the website screen, or visit:

<http://wpcaustin.org/church-life/giving/>