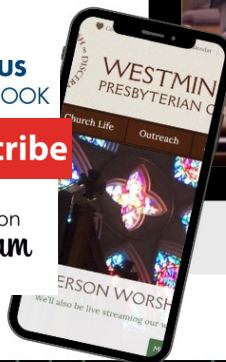


Welcome!

Thank you for joining our virtual worship service. We're glad you're here this evening! You can access our livestream each week on **Facebook** and **YouTube**.

Feel free to send us a **chat** during the service. And **scan the QR code** to sign our Friendship Register — we want to know you're here with us today! Please note, prayer requests are not published online for privacy reasons.

We use the **Glory to God** and **Sing the Faith** worship hymnals. If you would like a hymnal to use as you worship, email us at wpc@wpcaustin.org.





Service for the Lord's Day

Fifth Sunday of Easter

April 28, 2024
11 a.m.



Almighty God, we pray for your blessing on the church in this place. Here may the faithful find salvation, and the careless be awakened. Here may the doubting find faith, and the anxious be encouraged. Here may the tempted find help, and the sorrowful comfort. Here may the weary find rest, and the strong be renewed. Here may the aged find consolation and the young be inspired; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Gathered by the Spirit in Christ's Name

Prelude *Andante espressivo* by Paulo Mauri
Tolling of the Bell
Welcome in Christ's Name The Rev. Bill Clark
Introit *I Bind unto Myself Today (Verse 4)* GTG #6

*Call to Worship

Leader: We gather this day in joy and Christian fellowship,

People: for we are the church of Jesus Christ!

Leader: We pray for the Holy Spirit to be among us,

People: opening our hearts and minds to the worship of God!

*Opening Hymn *Let Us with a Gladsome Mind* GTG #31

Confession of Sin The Rev. Ellen Williams Hensle

Call to Confession

Corporate Prayer of Confession

Holy and merciful God, in your presence we confess our failure to be what you created us to be. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your love. By your loving mercy, forgive our sins, and help us to live in your light and abide in your ways, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Silent Confession

Response *God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me (Verse 1)* GTG #543

God, be the love to search and keep me; God, be the prayer to move my voice;

God, be the strength to now uphold me:

O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.

Assurance of Pardon

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

People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

*Act of Praise

God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me (Verse 4 and 5)

GTG #543

***Walking behind to hem my journey, going ahead to light my way,
and from beneath, above, and all ways:
O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.***

***Christ in the eyes of all who see me, Christ in the ears that hear my voice,
Christ in the hearts of all who know me:
O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.***

*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

Amie Henry

First Lesson: 1 John 4:7-21

Leader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Second Lesson: John 15:1-8

Leader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Life on the Vine

Bill Clark

*Hymn

O God, You Search Me (Verse 1, choir; Verses 2-5, all)

GTG #29

*Affirmation of Faith from *A Brief Statement of Faith*

Children: In life and death we belong to God.

People: Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit,

Children: we trust in the one triune God,

People: the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.

Children: With believers in every time and place,

People: we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Children: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Pastoral Concerns

Prayers of the People

Give Thanks to God

Invitation to Share

Offering of Ourselves and of God's Gifts to Us

A portion of the tithes and offerings we return to God this morning supports Merry Market, WPC's alternative gift market, which raises funds for local and international mission partners.

Offertory

Be Thou My Vision

arr. by Dan Forrest

*Response

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

GTG #609

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all creatures here below.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost!

Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

*Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give God thanks and praise...

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.

Sent to Live Out a God-Sized Vision of Love

*Hymn

Source and Sovereign, Rock and Cloud

GTG #11

Benediction

Postlude and Going Forth

Mosso moderato

by Giulio Bentivoglio