

# WESTOVER HILLS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)



*The Parable of the Wise and Foolish Bridesmaids* William Blake, 1822

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

A SERVICE OF THE WORD AND SACRAMENT

MARCH 19, 2023 10:30AM

## Grace Notes

**Welcome to WHPC!** If you are visiting us today, we are so glad you joined us for worship. If you have not already, please take a moment to record your contact information on the visitor card you will find in the pew and drop it in the offering box or hand it to a greeter at the door. We are always glad to share the great things happening at WHPC!

If you are looking for a new church home and would like to join in fellowship with Westover Hills, please join us in the Parlor (outside the sanctuary doors) and we will gladly share more about life at WHPC or, if you are ready, receive you into membership.

**Childcare** is available in the nursery. Please check with a greeter.

# WESTOVER HILLS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## A SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT

*\*Indicates the congregation is invited to stand.*

**Bold text** indicates unison readings.

### WE GATHER AT GOD'S INVITATION

WELCOME & OPPORTUNITIES FOR DISCIPLESHIP

Rev. Michael Gallup

PRELUDE

David Austin, Music Director

CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist, Ray Stephens

Are you awake? Are you alert?

**Christ is coming into our lives in a new way.**

Are you watching the signs?

Are you interpreting what is happening today?

**Christ is coming into our lives in a new way?**

Do you see opportunities for ministry?

Do you see the poor, the homeless, the hungry, the needy?

**Christ is coming into our lives in a new way.**

Come, let us worship and let us work in the reign of God.

**Christ has extended the invitation: let us work together in the reign of God on earth.**

OPENING PRAYER

You do not want us  
to be ignorant of your  
dreams and hopes for us,  
God of holiness,  
so you speak to us in parables,  
so we might pay careful attention  
to your words;  
you tell us stories about  
our grandparents in the faith,  
so we might become mentors  
to our grandchildren, and theirs.  
Filling us with the holy oil  
of generosity and grace,  
you make us ready to welcome  
Jesus Christ into our lives,  
and to open our hearts  
to those who are in need. Amen.

†HYMN OF PRAISE #15    *"Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers"*

LLANGLOFFAN

## Grace Notes

**“Lord, have mercy”** derives from a Greek translation of the phrase “eleison me kurie.” The phrase appears often in the Psalms and in the New Testament. The translation “Lord, have mercy” is one of the best known prayer petitions in the church.

### CALL TO CONFESSION

If we say we are completely put together, the truth is not in us.

But if we confess our distractions, our errors, and our anxieties, God will meet us and renew us. Together let us confess our sins against God and one another.

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION. (RESPONSIVE)

Lord Jesus, you seem absent  
when we struggle with suffering,  
but you are there with your strength:  
Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Jesus Christ, often we forget you  
in the cares of everyday life,  
but you are there with us:  
Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, we neglect to care for you  
in our sick and neglected brothers and sisters,  
but you want us to serve you in them:  
Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Forgive us all our sins, Lord,  
and make us look for your presence.  
Walk with us and lead us  
to the feast of everlasting life. **Amen.**

*Silence is kept*

### SUNG RESPONSE “You Are the Lord, Giver of Mercy” WAYFARING STRANGER

You are the Lord, giv-er of mer-cy!

You are the Christ, giv-er of mer-cy!

You are the Lord, giv-er of mer-cy!

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

...in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

**Thanks be to God!**

## Grace Notes

Respectful of individual preferences concerning contact, please extend either a hand or a gesture of peace to your neighbors.

**Rev. Michael Gallup**, recently received by the Presbytery of Arkansas and pastor of The Table, is filling the pulpit today.

**Phoebe Traquair's** "The Parable of the Ten Bridesmaids" is one of many murals by the noted Scottish artist in the former Mansfield Place Church in Edinburgh. The church is now the Mansfield Traquair Centre.

## +THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ which passes all understanding be with you all.

**And also with you.**

## WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

### NEW TESTAMENT READING

Matthew 25:1-13

*"At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten young bridesmaids who took their lamps and went out to meet the groom. Now five of them were wise, and the other five were foolish. The foolish ones took their lamps but didn't bring oil for them. But the wise ones took their lamps and also brought containers of oil.*

*"When the groom was late in coming, they all became drowsy and went to sleep. But at midnight there was a cry, 'Look, the groom! Come out to meet him.'*

*"Then all those bridesmaids got up and prepared their lamps. But the foolish bridesmaids said to the wise ones, 'Give us some of your oil, because our lamps have gone out.'*

*"But the wise bridesmaids replied, 'No, because if we share with you, there won't be enough for our lamps and yours. We have a better idea. You go to those who sell oil and buy some for yourselves.' But while they were gone to buy oil, the groom came. Those who were ready went with him into the wedding. Then the door was shut.*

*"Later the other bridesmaids came and said, 'Lord, lord, open the door for us.'*

*"But he replied, 'I tell you the truth, I don't know you.'*

*"Therefore, keep alert, because you don't know the day or the hour."*

### SERMON

"The Wisdom of Waiting"

Rev. Gallup



## Grace Notes

# WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

## +HYMN OF RESPONSE "What Is The World Like"



1 What is the world like when God's will is done?  
2 What is the world like when God's will is done?  
3 What is the world like when God's will is done?  
4 What is the world like when God's will is done?  
5 These are the sto - ries that Je - sus im - parts,

(Em) (C) (Am) (B7)  
Fm D<sup>b</sup> B<sup>b</sup>m C7



Mus - tard seeds grow more than we can con - ceive:  
Wit - ness the wan - der - ing child com - ing home;  
No more is neigh - bor just al - ly or friend;  
Read - y for feast - ing, we watch through the night,  
filled with the Spir - it who joins us as one.

(Em) (Am) (D) (G)  
Fm B<sup>b</sup>m E<sup>b</sup> A<sup>b</sup>



roots thread the soil; branch - es reach for the sun.  
watch as the par - ent breaks in - to a run.  
peace thrives in plac - es where once there was none.  
tend - ing our lamps till the new day's be - gun.  
Born through our voic - es, our hands, and our hearts,

(C) (Em7) (Am7) (D) (G)  
D<sup>b</sup> Fm7 B<sup>b</sup>m7 E<sup>b</sup> A<sup>b</sup>



This is how God moves us each to be - lieve.  
This is how God longs for us when we roam.  
This is how God works when ri - val - ries end.  
This is how God read - ies us for the light.  
this is a new world where God's will is done.

## +AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,**

This text and tune were written to conclude a hymn festival at the 2009 Annual Conference of The Hymn Society in the United States and Canada. Four parables framed both the festival and the hymn including the Parable of the Ten Bridesmaids.

## Grace Notes

This ecumenical version of the Nicene Creed published in 1975 was the work of the International Consultation on English Texts.

The translation follows earlier English translations in many ways except that the 1975 version, in the phrase “for us men and for our salvation,” omits the word “men.”

**A reminder** that the Presbyterian Church (USA) practices open communion. This means that all who wish to receive the meal are welcomed to the table to taste and see that the Lord is indeed good.

All cups contain alcohol-free juice and all bread is gluten-free.

**God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one being with the father  
Through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the Prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

## WE GATHER AT GOD'S TABLE

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

SURSUM CHORDA

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

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 thanks and praise.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

BREAKING THE BREAD

THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

## WE DEPART IN GOD'S NAME

†PARTING HYMN #540 “God Be With You Till We Meet Again”

## Grace Notes

Elders will be in the Parlor (outside the sanctuary doors) following worship if you would like to learn more about WHPC or if you are ready to join as part of the congregation.

RANDOLPH

+CHARGE AND BENEEDICTION

+POSTLUDE

✦✦✦✦✦

## WORSHIP NOTES

**WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY** are Pastor Michael Gallup, Music Director David Austin, Liturgist Ray Stephens, and the Westover Hills Chancel Choir.

## THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

**PASTOR ROBERT** is on the road back from Louisville and the annual meeting of the national committee he chairs for the General Assembly. The PCC writes and administers the ordination exams for the denomination.

**MIDWEEK MANNA BIBLE STUDY** is on Wednesdays at 12:05. The weekly group meets from 12:05-12:55 to give those who work and want to participate time to join during lunch. The study, on Romans, meets in the New Chapel and attendees are invited to bring lunch and join in the conversation. Access will also be available by Zoom; see the CareLine for the link. To learn more, contact Pastor Robert.

**NEW YEAR NEW YOU YOGA** meets Thursdays in the New Chapel at 10am. This low-impact exercise is for all comers and is a great way to keep in shape and stay flexible.

**BRIDGE BUILDERS SPRING STUDY** is considering two books: *The Conversation*, by Robert Livingston and *White Fragility*, by Robin DiAngelo. Whether you have read or not read the books, you are invited for rich discussion of issues on racism. BBRG meets in person, Tuesday, March 21, and 28, 6:30-8:30pm, in the New Chapel at WHPC (off Pine Valley and South Road) and offers the zoom option. Please register at

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAvdeioqjIqHtKDjbjBAvL62kHMkO4cWMZ3>.

**ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING:** On Sunday, April 2 (or you may give any time; please mark checks “OGHS”), Westover Hills will receive the One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) offering. Your gifts are divided three ways: Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Self-Development of People, and the Presbyterian Hunger Program. You will have bulletin inserts and Minutes for Mission on each, plus blurbs in the CareLine. When One Great Hour of Sharing began, back in the late 40’s, it was directed at response to the refugee crisis in Europe. Today OGHS is much broader – *and* it provides the major support for the three agencies, which are *not* in the General Assembly budget. The “one great hour” mantra refers to giving at least the equivalent of one hour’s pay to the offering. Please consider prayerfully how you will observe “one great hour.”

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN’S DAY OF MISSION GATHERING** April 22, 2023 (Saturday) Presbyterian Women’s Day of Mission Gathering at Ferncliff Camp, sponsored by Presbytery of Arkansas PW. There is a \$10 registration fee which includes lunch. Registration is from 8:30 to 9:30am. They are asking women to bring vegetable and flower seed packets and/ or new garden gloves for the Ferncliff Farmstead. Wear comfortable clothing as we will be working in the farmstead (weather permitting) or in the Disaster Assistance Center. If anyone wants to spend Friday night, rooms are available (\$109 double occupancy) on a first-reserved basis. Deadline for room registration is April 1<sup>st</sup>. Call Vicki Erickson (479-659-2398) to reserve a room. Kay Stephens has registration forms for those who would like to attend. Please let Kay know by March 30<sup>th</sup> so she can send in your name. This should be fun!

**FAIR TRADE COFFEE** is available year round. Presbyterian Women make fair trade products available to the congregation not as a moneymaker but as one of our missions. The price we pay for coffee is the price we charge.

Purchasing fair trade coffee helps more money reach the hard-working farmers. Contact Carolyn Nash with questions or to purchase coffee.

**UPDATES TO THE PRAYER LIST** should be sent to the office and copied to Pastor Robert.

**CALENDAR UPDATES AND SESSION DOCUMENTS** should be sent to the office and copied to Candice Misenheimer.

**PLEASE SEND NEWS FOR CARELINE** to [office.westoverhills@gmail.com](mailto:office.westoverhills@gmail.com)

**FOLLOW US** on Instagram @westoverhillspc or on Twitter @ChurchWestover

## PASTORAL CARE

**PLEASE INCLUDE IN YOUR PRAYERS** Shirley Garlington (deat of brother-in- law, Johnny Bynum, in Fredericksburg, TX); Rev. Marion Humphrey and family (death of his mother, Doris Pendleton); Mark Jennings (friend of Pastor Lowry- recovering from stroke); Miriam Holt (Liz Branch's sister- recovering from a fall); Michael Thompson (Son of Alice Ahart's friend- diagnosed with leukemia); Jane and Bob Batton (friends of Pastor Lowry- lost their 42 year old son); Judy Hudson (Donna Callaway's sister, recovering from heart surgery); Vivianna McAtee; Andrea Campbell; Jane Estes (recovery from long haul Covid and toxic mold healing and remediation of their home); Betty Glenn (recovering at home); Mary Chrisman (broken arm); Susan Mauney (health issues); Jonathon Simpson (friend of Ann Patterson, awaiting kidney transplant); Chriztine and the people of Ukraine (Ukraine collaborator with the WHPC PW on 2013 water project, Chriztine has moved to Hungary for safety); Ljubica and Stanislav Radovic (volleyball coach Tanja Eckart's parents, who live in Croatia- anxiety over nearby war); Barry Wood (grandfather of Sydney- blood infection and upcoming heart surgery); Earthquake survivors in Turkey and Syria; TLC (at home) members; Church staff: Pastor Robert, Ulysses, David, Tammy, Sydney and Shawn; Preschool kids, families & staff.

**DEACONS FOR MARCH** are Shirley Garlington and Carol Enderlin

## CALENDAR

The church calendar is available on the website

(scan QR code to be directed to our website)

### WESTOVER HILLS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

6400 RICHARD B HARDIE DRIVE

LITTLE ROCK, AR 72207

501-663-6383

