Westminster
Presbyterian Church
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April 30 2023
Fourth Sunday of Easter

Welcome and Announcements **Rev. Dr. Enikő Ferenczy**

Let us open our hearts and minds to the rhythm of the gathering music as it centers us in God's presence for worship.

Prelude **Prelude on "Old Hundredth"** ***L. Bourgeois, arr. K. Uppercue***

***Gathering Words** **Rich Drushal**

*The * in the liturgy indicates that you are invited to stand in body or in spirit.*

God calls us together in community
and God calls us each to our own specific work, too.
God calls us together in community
and God reminds us that our community cannot contain God's grace.
God calls us together in community
and God sends us out, nurtured, empowered, and supported.

***Opening Prayer** **Rich Drushal**

Let us pray…

Each day is a miracle, O God,
though we rarely pause to notice.

We give thanks for your generous providing,
for rain and sun, for changing seasons,
for joy and laughter, food and water,
breath and belonging.
In every ordinary moment is an opportunity,
as all creation witnesses to your goodness.

As we come to worship,
we take time to see what you have done,
to offer our praise and gratitude,
to re-set our egos and attention,
to be ready for whatever new thing you will do today.
Amen.

Opening Hymn No. 23 **"God, You Spin the Wheeling Planets"** *Pleading Savior*

Call to Confession **Josie Drushal**

Let us confess ourselves to the God who loves us and welcomes us exactly as we are.
Let us pray together the prayer of confession…

Prayer of Confession **Josie Drushal**

You are present in the world, Living God,
working for life in all things,
from the ordinary to the extraordinary,
and we confess that we too-rarely recognize you.

We are boxed-in by our own experience, background, traditions, and expectations.
We struggle to imagine that something else is possible.

Forgive us for not leaping to our feet and walking into the new life you offer.
Forgive us for misplacing our trust,
for clinging to nostalgia and try to stuff your new thing into our old frame.

Forgive us, shift our perspective, and open our minds and hearts to see what could be.
Kindle our imaginations to the service of your kin-dom,
that we may truly live for your glory.
Amen.

Silent Confession

Musical Response No. 698 **"Take, O Take Me as I Am"** *Iona/Bell*

Assurance of Forgiveness **Josie Drushal**

Just as the Spirit commissioned Paul, Barnabas, and Lydia, so she still calls to us.

Thanks be to you, O God,
for forgiving us, for healing our brokenness, for granting us your grace and peace
so that we may live as imitators of Jesus, embodying your wholeness-bringing love to all.
Amen.

Musical Offering **"Bagatelle"** ***Robert Schumann***
Bob Iams, piano

We offer our gifts of money, talents, time, and energy—the gifts of our lives in gratitude for God's relentless love and grace for all. These gifts represent our commitment to heed God's call and join God in God's mission of healing and transforming our world.

Prayer of Illumination **Rev. Dr. Enikö Ferenczy**

Scripture Reading **Acts 13:1-3; 14:8-18 (Common English Bible)**

13 The church at Antioch included prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon (nicknamed Niger),
Lucius from Cyrene, Manaen (a childhood friend of Herod the ruler), and Saul. [2] As they were
worshipping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Appoint Barnabas and Saul to the work I
have called them to undertake." [3] After they fasted and prayed, they laid their hands on these two
and sent them off.

14[8] In Lystra there was a certain man who lacked strength in his legs. He had been crippled since
birth and had never walked. Sitting there, he [9] heard Paul speaking. Paul stared at him and saw that
he believed he could be healed. [10] Raising his voice, Paul said, "Stand up straight on your feet!" He
jumped up and began to walk.

[11] Seeing what Paul had done, the crowd shouted in the Lycaonian language, "The gods have taken
human form and come down to visit us!" [12] They referred to Barnabas as Zeus and to Paul as Hermes,
since Paul was the main speaker. [13] The priest of Zeus, whose temple was located just outside the city,
brought bulls and wreaths to the city gates. Along with the crowds, he wanted to offer sacrifices to
them.

[14] When the Lord's messengers Barnabas and Paul found out about this, they tore their clothes in
protest and rushed out into the crowd. They shouted, [15] "People, what are you doing? We are humans
too, just like you! We are proclaiming the good news to you: turn to the living God and away from
such worthless things. God *made the heaven, the earth, the sea, and everything in them.* [16] In the past, God
permitted every nation to go its own way. [17] Nevertheless, God hasn't left Godself without a witness.
God has blessed you by giving you rain from above as well as seasonal harvests and satisfying you
with food and happiness." [18] Even with these words, they barely kept the crowds from sacrificing to
them.

Sermon **Practicing Presence** **Rev. Dr. Enikö Ferenczy**

Hymn No. 300 **"We Are One in the Spirit"** ***They'll Know We are Christians***

Sharing of Joys and Concerns **Josie and Rich Drushal**

Prayer of the People **Josie and Rich Drushal**

Through the power of your Spirit and in the name of Jesus the Christ,
who taught us to pray, saying:

Our God in heaven, holy is your name.
Your kin-dom come,
Your will be done, on earth as is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kin-dom, the power and the glory are yours.
Now and forever. Amen.

Closing Hymn No. 722** **"Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak"** ***Canonbury

***Benediction** **Rev. Dr. Enikő Ferenczy**

Postlude **"My Faith It Is an Oaken Staff"** ***arr. Lani Smith***

My faith, it is an oaken staff, oh let me on it lean;
My faith, it is a trusty sword, may falsehood find it keen!
Thy Spirit, Lord, to me impart, O make me what Thou ever art
Of patient and courageous heart, As all true saints have been.
(T.T. Lynch, 1818-1871)

The service continues with fellowship.

*The prayers were adapted from Rev. Teri Peterson, written for BibleWorm Narrative Lectionary series.
*Hymns are from the Glory to God Hymnal.
*Music: Tom Shaw, organ; Bob Iams, piano
*Sunday service flowers: Josie Drushall
*Sunday service treats: Dorothy Iams



To continue to assure the safety of all, the offering plate is located on a table in the back of the sanctuary. If you are moved to support our ministry, we invite you to place your gifts in the plate.

GIVE NOW

You may also give online through our website by clicking on the "GIVE NOW" button at the bottom of the home page.
Your generosity helps us to fulfill our calling to engage in God's transformative mission in our community.

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Upcoming Events

Sunday, April 30

- Choir rehearsal – 9 am – The Meeting **Place**
- Worship Service – 10 am – Mackey Hall
- Wooster Friends Meeting – 10.30 am – The Meeting Place

Monday, May 1

- Troop 61 – 6 pm – Mackey Hall

Wednesday, May 3

- **Wooster Area Interfaith Partners - 9 am - Zoom** - Special speaker John Schluep, Founder of "Warriors Journey Home" a healing circle for veterans. **https://warriorsjourneyhome.org/**

Thursday, May 4

- Dance and Exercise – 8.30 am– The Meeting Place

Sunday, May 7

- Choir Rehearsal – 9 am – The Meeting Place
- Worship Service – 10 am – Mackey Hall
- Wooster Friends Meeting – 10.30 am – The Meeting Place

Westminster Presbyterian Church

Pastor Rev. Dr. Enikő Ferenczy
Minister of Music Rev. Dr. Thomas Shaw
Office Administrator Rev. Dr. Jim Henery
AV Assistant/Event Steward Tony Mendiola
Custodian Kara Akers

Office Hours: Monday through Friday, 10 a.m.-2.p.m.

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Westminster Presbyterian Church strives to be a safe place for all people to worship regardless of ethnicity, creed, age, cultural background, gender identity, or sexual orientation.


GIVE
HOPE

God, You Spin the Whirling Planets 23



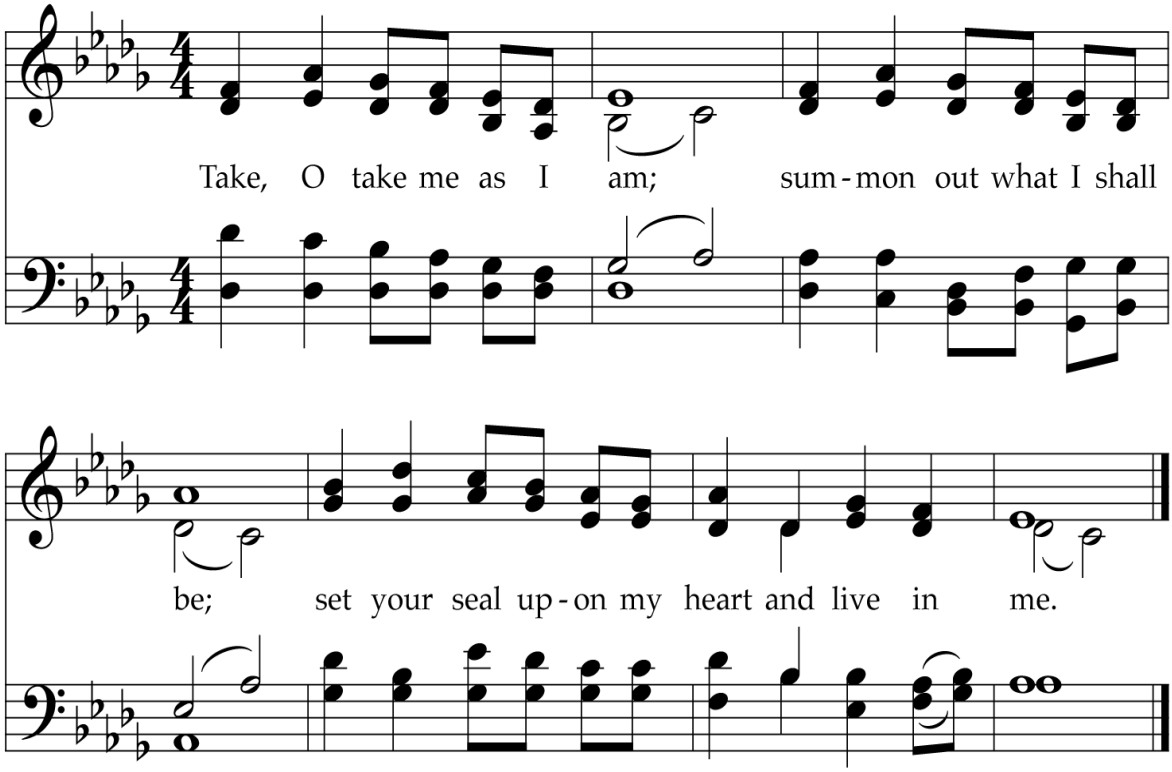
This text was written for the 1979 National Meeting of United Presbyterian Women, whose theme, "In the Image of God, " is variously considered here as reflection, focus, distortion, and polishing for clarity. The words are well set to an anonymous 19th-century American tune.

TEXT: Jane Parker Huber, 1978
MUSIC: American melody, 1830; harm. Richard Proulx, 1986
Text © 1980 Jane Parker Huber (admin. Westminster John Knox Press)
Music Harm. © 1986 GIA Publications, Inc.

PLEADING SAVIOR
8.7.8.7.D
(alternate harmonization, 717)
(alternate tune: AUSTRIAN HYMN)

DEDICATION AND STEWARDSHIP

698 Take, O Take Me as I Am



The brevity of this text and tune invite repeated singing, either as a sustained chain of sound or as a sung response in a series of prayers. It offers a more reflective approach to the same theme of self-dedication evident in older hymns such as "Just as I Am" (see no. 442).

TEXT and MUSIC: John L. Bell, 1995 TAKE ME AS I AM
Text and Music © 1995 WGRG, Iona Community (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.) 7.7.7.4

We Are One in the Spirit 300

They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love



A parish priest at St. Brendan's on the South Side of Chicago in the 1960s was very involved in the local Civil Rights movement and needed something for his youth choir to sing at ecumenical, interracial events. Finding nothing, he wrote this song in a single day.

TEXT and MUSIC: Peter Scholtes, 1966
Text and Music © 1966 F.E.L. Publications, assigned 1991 to The Lorenz Corp.

THEY'LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS
7.6.7.6.8.6 with refrain

DISCIPLESHIP AND MISSION

722 Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak



Two great truths inform this text: first, that the testimony of experience is powerful and persuasive; and second, that no one should venture to minister on one's own strength rather than God's. The tune reflects a 19th-century practice of adapting piano pieces as hymn tunes.

TEXT: Frances Ridley Havergal, 1872, alt.
MUSIC: Robert Schumann, 1839, alt.

CANONBURY
LM