

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Large Print

Knowing Christ, Making Christ Known

5th Sunday of Easter
May 3, 2026
10:30 A.M. Contemporary



GATHERING THOUGHT

"The word 'curiosity' connects to the Latin word for care. . . .
Certainty creates an 'other'; curiosity creates a connection."

-MaryAnn McKibben Dana, from *Better Than Normal:
Virtues for an Off-Script Life* (2026)

ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

May 3, 2026

10:30 A.M.

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Death Be Not Proud

Lena Frost
Audrey Assad

WELCOME *(Please sign and pass the Friendship Pad in your pew)*

SONGS OF PRAISE

Glorious

Baloche/Brown

Look inside the mystery, see the empty cross,
See the risen Savior, victorious and strong,
No one else above him, none as strong to save,
He alone has conquered the power of the grave.

Refrain: *Glorious, my eyes have seen the glory of the Lord,
Glorious, he stands above the rulers of the earth.*

Look beyond the tombstone, see the living God,
See the resurrected, ruler of my heart,
No one else above him, none to match his worth,
The hope of his returning fills the universe.

*Glorious, my eyes have seen the glory of the Lord,
Glorious, he stands above the rulers of the earth,
Glorious, glorious, Lord you are glorious. (2X)*

O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go

Matheson/Miner

O Love that will not let me go, I rest my weary soul in thee,
I give thee back the life I owe,
That in thine ocean depths its flow may richer, fuller be.

O Light that followest all my way,
I yield my flickering torch to thee,
My heart restores its borrowed ray,
That in thy sunshine's blaze its day may brighter, fairer be.

O Joy that seekest me through pain,
I cannot close my heart to thee,
I trace the rainbow through the rain,
And feel the promise is not vain, that morn shall tearless be.

O Cross that liftest up my head, I dare not ask to fly from thee,
I lay in dust life's glory dead,
And from the ground there blossoms red,
Life that shall endless be.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

SONG Come As You Are Glover/Crowder/Maher

Come out of sadness from wherever you've been,
Come broken-hearted let rescue begin,
Come find your mercy, O sinner come kneel,
Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal,
Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal.

Refrain: *So lay down your burdens, lay down your shame,
All who are broken lift up your face,
O wanderer come home, you're not too far,
So lay down your hurt, lay down your heart,
Come as you are.*

There's hope for the hopeless and all those who've strayed,
Come sit at the table, come taste the grace.
There's rest for the weary, rest that endures,
Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't cure,
Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't cure. (Refrain)

There's joy for the morning, O sinner be still,
Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal,
Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal. *(Refrain)*

Come as you are, come as you are, come as you are

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

THOUGHT FOR CHILDREN

CONGREGATIONAL GREETING – “The Peace of Christ”

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.

SHARING OUR GIFTS

Creation Sings

Leonard/Jordan

In you we live, in you we move, in you we have our being
In every nation, all the earth, this song of ours is rising

Refrain: Creation all creation

Sings your glory

Sings your glory, God *(Repeat from top)*

Glory to the Father, Glory to the Son,
Glory to the Spirit who was and is to come
Glory to the Father, Glory to the Son,
Glory to the Spirit who was and is to come to chorus

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Acts 17: 16-31

(Pew Bible pg. 900)

While Paul was waiting for them in Athens, he was greatly distressed to see that the city was full of idols. So he reasoned in the synagogue with both Jews and God-fearing Greeks, as well as in the marketplace day by day with those who happened to be there. A group of Epicurean and Stoic philosophers began to debate with him. Some of them asked, "What is this babbler trying to say?" Others remarked, "He seems to be advocating foreign gods." They said this because Paul was preaching the good news about Jesus and the resurrection. Then they took him and brought him to a meeting of the Areopagus, where they said to him, "May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting? You are bringing some strange ideas to our ears, and we would like to know what they mean." (All the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there spent their time doing nothing but talking about and listening to the latest ideas.)

Paul then stood up in the meeting of the Areopagus and said: "People of Athens! I see that in every way you are very religious. For as I walked around and looked carefully at your objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: TO AN UNKNOWN GOD. So you are ignorant of the very thing you worship—and this is what I am going to proclaim to you.

"The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by human hands. And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything. Rather, he himself gives everyone life and breath and everything else.

From one man he made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he marked out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands. God did this so that they would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from any one of us. 'For in him we live and move and have our being.' As some of your own poets have said, 'We are his offspring.'

"Therefore since we are God's offspring, we should not think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone—an image made by human design and skill. In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent. For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to everyone by raising him from the dead."

Pastor: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Sacred Curiosity

Leah Hrachovec

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

We will partake of the Sacrament by intinction; you are invited to come forward row by row. Take bread from the basket, dip it in the chalice, partake of the elements, return to your seat. If you are unable to come forward, remain seated and elements will be brought to you. Please keep the line moving by utilizing all servers when doubled up. The right section is gluten-free bread. There will also be prepackaged elements up front if you would prefer to receive the Sacrament in that way.

Invitation

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

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

People: It is right to give thanks and praise.

Words of Institution

Sharing the Bread and Cup *Almighty God*

Leonard/Jordan/McCracken

Communion Prayer

SONG OF RESPONSE

Christ Is Risen

Fieldes/Maher

Let no one caught in sin remain inside the lie of inward shame
But fix our eyes upon the cross,
And run to him who showed great love
And bled for us, freely you've bled for us.

Refrain: *Christ is risen from the dead,
Trampling over death by death*

*Come awake come awake, come and rise up from the grave
Christ is risen from the dead, we are one with him again
Come awake come awake, come and rise up from the grave.*

Beneath the weight of all our sin, you bowed to none but heaven's will
No scheme of hell no scoffer's crown,
No burden great can hold you down
In strength you reign, forever let your church proclaim (*Refrain*)

O death where is your sting, O hell where is your victory
O church come stand in the light,
The glory of God has defeated the night
Singing O death where is your sting,
O hell where is your victory? O church come stand in the light
Our God is not dead. He's alive, he's alive (*Refrain*)

BENEDICTION

SONG OF SENDING

Christ Is Risen

Fieldes/Maher

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Death Be Not Proud

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Glorious

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O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go

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Come As You Are

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Almighty God

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Christ Is Risen

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Worship
Times:
9:00 a.m.
10:30 a.m.

WELCOME VISITORS! We are glad you are here today. To help us welcome you personally, please sign the *Friendship Pad* with your name, address, email and/or phone number.

If you are interested in knowing more about being a follower of Jesus, have any questions, or desire follow-up information, please contact the church office or use the QR code to register.

The next new members' class is **Sunday, May 31, 2026 from 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.**



Scan me

LECTIONARY PASSAGES: Acts 7:55-60 and Psalm 31:1-5,15-16, or Proverbs 4:10-18 NS Psalm 119:9-32; 1 Peter 2:2-10; John 14:1-14

NARRATIVE LECTIONARY: Acts 17:16-31, John 1:16-18

NURSERY CARE (6 months thru 4 years old) is available **until 11:45am** in Room 109.

YOUNG CHILDREN & WORSHIP. Children (pre-K thru grade 5) are dismissed to the Chapel after the Thought for Children. Dismissal time is 11:40am.

WORSHIP BAND: Jon Frost, acoustic guitar; Tim Evers, bass guitar; Tyler Lindblade, drums; Electric guitar; Noah Uy, Becky Reid, piano; Elissa Mauro and Lisa Merrill, vocals

USHER: Chuck Lambing, Laura Mauro

* * * * *

Ministers of Jesus Christ
Pastors
Parish Associate
Pastor Emeritus

All the Members of the Congregation
Eric Dorville, Jon Frost, Leah Hrachovec
Emily Chudy
Bob Young

WORSHIP INFORMATION

WEEKLY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday Morning in the Sanctuary

9:00am – Traditional worship

10:30am – Contemporary worship with band

Wednesday Morning in the Chapel

9:10-9:30am – Prayer and Communion worship

CARING FOR OUR SANCTUARY – We ask that you refrain from bringing food and drink into our Sanctuary to protect our carpet.

A REMOTE TV MONITOR is in the Quiet Room (just outside the sanctuary in the west hallway) to view and hear worship in progress for those with restless children or who need to leave the sanctuary.

HEARING ASSISTANCE DEVICES are available for worship at the Information Center in the Narthex. Additionally, the sanctuary is equipped with an induction loop system that transmits to hearing aids and cochlear implants with telecoils. **PEW CUSHIONS** also available at the Information Center.

PRAY GROUNDS ARE LOCATED along the sides of our Sanctuary and are geared towards young children to engage in items from the cart during worship. This allows a space more suitable for them to be a part of the worship service.

LIVE STREAMING of our services is offered over the internet. A service bulletin for worship may be found through the link on our website or in the weekly update. We invite you to join us at westminsterpc.org when not able to attend worship.

FINANCIAL: Donate from your smart phone. Scan this image using your phone's QR code reader. Your Giving Makes a Difference. Give online (westminsterpc.org/give), text Give and amount to 1-877-361-7859, or mail to Westminster Presbyterian Church, 10 W. Pleasant Grove Rd., West Chester, PA 19382.



PRAYER MINISTRY members receive a weekly list of prayer requests via email and members include them in their conversations with God. To have a prayer request included in the Prayer Ministry or to become a member, contact Janet Gauger at gauger.janet@gmail.com or the church office. Anyone desiring to gift a Prayer Shawl/Comfort Critter to someone, please contact the church office.

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION is celebrated the first Sunday of every month in all services. If you desire or know of someone desiring **HOME COMMUNION**, please contact Eric Dorville, Transitional Associate Pastor at 610-399-3377 ext. 109.

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM is celebrated the **third Sunday of every month**. Our **BAPTISM CLASS** is offered the last Sunday of each month, except December at 11:45 a.m. in the library. Children are welcome to attend the class.



NEWS AND EVENTS

May 3, 2026



**Knowing Christ,
Making Christ Known**

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
10 W. Pleasant Grove Rd. West Chester, PA 19382
610-399-3377 www.westminsterpc.org

TODAY AT WESTMINSTER

FORGIVENESS BENEFITS THE FORGIVER

Today, 10:15 AM, Spellman Hall

How does practicing forgiveness benefit us physically, emotionally and mentally? This interactive session will include stories, an exploration of the research of the positive impact of forgiveness, and a discussion of 12 tools to practice the process of forgiveness. Led by Eileen Donnelly, a Forgiveness Coach through the Path of Forgiveness Institute. This session plays a great significance in our homes, our communities, and our world. You won't want to miss it!

EXPIRED/UNWANTED RX COLLECTION

Today, 8:30-11:30AM, in the Narthex

Please bring your expired and unwanted prescription and over the counter medications for proper disposal.

Westminster will host a collection event along with the Chester County Sheriff's Medication Drop Box. No syringes please. Questions? Email bschivito@gmail.com.

NEW JOURNEY SERIES

THE EYES OF YOUR HEART

Today and Sundays through May 24, 10:15 am, Spellman Jr & Zoom

This class starts with meditation on a great work of art and then moves to meditation on a related scripture. This is a blending of two Christian meditation practices; lectio divina or "divine reading" and visio divina or "divine seeing." By incorporating works of art (both familiar and new) into prayer, this invites us to bring our sense of sight as well as our imagination into our relationship with God, consider the gifts of creativity that God planted in the artist and in relationship to certain scripture.

FOOTSTEPS & PAWS WALKING GROUP

Today, 2:00 pm, Sadsbury Woods Preserve

Please join us for a hike around Sadsbury Woods Preserve. Sadsbury Woods is part of the largest remaining, unfragmented woodlands in Chester County. The preserve is an important habitat for several species of birds—such as Scarlet Tanager, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, and Ovenbird—that are dependent on its deep, sheltering forest for their survival. Parts of the trails are VERY rocky, bring hiking poles! A few sets of extra poles will be available, if don't have your own. The parking lot at Sadsbury Woods is not large, so there will be carpooling from the church. We will be meeting at 1:15pm at the church to carpool.



WESTMINSTER'S ANNUAL MOTHER'S DAY DIAPER DRIVE

We will be collecting diapers and wipes during the Month of May. All sizes are appreciated, but Sizes 4, 5, 6 & 7 are very much in need. They will be distributed to 8 organizations in Chester County that work with families in need. Diapers and wipes can be left in collection bins in the Heckert Center and Cafe 10 West. Diapers and wipes may also be purchased online, and delivered directly to: Westminster Presbyterian Church, 10 West Pleasant Grove Road, West Chester PA 19382. Please consider honoring a Mom you know by donating diapers & wipes this month. Questions? contact Angela Emrich at ang.emrich@gmail.com



PLANT SHARE, SUNDAY, MAY 17

8:30am-12:00pm under the Front Portico.

Clearing out plants from your yard this spring? Dividing your perennials? Extra plants to share? Check out Westminster's plant share! Drop off your plants, seeds, old garden tools to share in the labeled boxes under the front portico and the café entrance any time. Please include plant type. Join the fun Sunday, May 17, swapping! Questions? Contact the Church Office.



CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRY

END OF YEAR PICNIC

4 pm-6:30 pm, May 17, Tyson Park

Join us as we wrap up the year with an End-of-Year Picnic for our Children & Family Ministry! Bring the whole family for an afternoon of food, games, and fun as we celebrate what God has done this year and look ahead to what's next.

The church will provide burgers, dogs, buns, condiments, and plates/cups/utensils/napkins. When you register in church center, please indicate the number of people coming (picnic attendees) and what you will bring - a side, veggie, drinks, and/or dessert to share.



THE MUSIC OF AMERICA

A CHORAL CONCERT

4:00 pm Sunday, May 17 • Sanctuary

Our Chancel Choir season culminates with a presentation of American choral music that traces the evolution of music in America. Ranging from Sacred Harp to modern works, this celebration of The United States Semiquincentennial will be a wonderful free concert.

ALL PLAY FOR WORSHIP

7:00 pm Tuesday, May 26 • Spellman Hall

Attention instrumentalists!

Do you play a concert band/orchestra instrument (winds/brass/strings/percussion), or have you in the past? Come and rehearse the evening of May 26 & play during the 9:00 am worship service on Sunday, May 31. Youth welcome! Contact Kirsten at krutschman@westminsterpc.org to sign up or for questions.

NEW MEMBERS' CLASS

11:30AM – 2 PM, May 31, in Spellman Hall

Are you interested to learn more about or becoming a member of Westminster?
This class is for you! All are welcome.
There's no obligation to join.

A light lunch will be provided. Childcare is available if requested by May 26. Register online at: westminsterpc.org/about-us/membership or call the church office at 610-399-3377 to request a registration form.

Those joining will be introduced in worship on **Sunday, June 7 at either service**. For questions or more information, contact Pastor Eric Dorville at edorville@westminsterpc.org.



CHILDREN'S MUSIC CAMP

9:30-11:30 am, August 17-20

Children entering K-6 in the fall can now register for summer Music Camp at Westminster! This free camp features songs, games, percussion instruments, crafts, and more. For more information (or to volunteer), contact Kirsten at krutschman@westminsterpc.org



ANNOUNCEMENTS

TUESDAY Fellowship continues May 5 and our speaker is Katie Cloutman, team member of Living Waters for the World outreach at Westminster. The title of her presentation is: **Living Waters for the World: Empowering others to implement, operate, educate & maintain to have clean water for a generation.**

Come learn about how 'Living Waters for the World' is helping to bring purified drinking water and health education to underserved communities. First time visitors are welcome to enter by the single door just to the right of the main entrance. Please arrive at 9:30 for snacks, tea, and coffee with GREAT conversations. Katie Cloutman's presentation will be from 10 - 11 AM. All are welcome to attend Tuesday Fellowship in Spellman Jr or ZOOM online. Those wishing to ZOOM should contact Dave Goodale (dbgpharma@gmail.com). He will send you a link.



Register for Camp SPARK:

A Place at the Table - June 22-26

Campers: Enroll now!

Some workshops are filling up!

Volunteers or Leaders: Adult & Youth Volunteers and Leaders are needed

Pickleball Season-4 All skill levels are welcome. We meet **Mondays from 6:30–8:00 PM** running through **May and June.** **Tim Jaques and Lauren Smith** will be leading on Monday nights.

We're also hoping to build a small team to help host **Wednesday evenings.** If you're interested, please respond in **Church Center** or email laureasmith@gmail.com or tjaques1@icloud.com. See you on the court for Season 4!

Westminster's Library-Please visit the library to see our "Mother's Day/Spring" display. While there, feel free to check out any books, DVDs, or study guides of interest. Please remember to check out all items taken from the library.

FOOD FOR OUR NEIGHBORS

MAY – CANNED FRUIT

**For questions about any of our activities or events,
visit the website at westminsterpc.org or call the church office.**

FINANCIAL



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March 2026

General Fund – Mission and Church Operations

Year To Date	Actual	Budget	Fav/ (Unfav)	
Pledged Revenue	\$848,501	\$778,564		8.9%
Non-pledged giving	\$ 51,133	\$ 56,000		(8.6%)
Other Revenue	\$ 103,967	\$ 89,719		15.8%
Total Revenue	\$1,003,601	\$924,283		8.6%
Total Expenses	\$606,997	\$613,444		(1%)
Net Surplus (Deficit)	\$396,605	\$310,840		27.5%

Year-to-date revenue remains strong running 8.6% above budget, with giving exceeding expectations for the second consecutive month and first quarters giving reaching 40.1% of the annual budget. This follows our historic pattern of giving with some members using QCDs or CGA to fulfill pledges early in the year.

Expenses are slightly under budget overall despite some timing-related overages in March. Additional revenue streams and program participation (especially youth retreats) are exceeding expectations. As a result, the church has generated a net surplus of 27.5% ahead of budget, while continuing to monitor seasonal giving patterns.

Attendance –4/26/26 – Total (837)

9:00 am - In Person –252, Phone –2, Online – **(392)**

10:30am - In Person –94, Online -- **(95)**

Offering Figures for 4/26/26 (including online giving)

General Fund-Sunday Svc/Mailed/Online	\$ 47,684.99
Per Capita	\$ 195.00
Non-Budgeted Missions	\$ 0.30
Pastor's Discretionary	\$ 1,022.28
Music Supply Fund	\$ <u>25.00</u>
Total	\$ 48,987.57

Calendar for the Week of May 3, 2026

Sunday, May 3

- 9:00 A.M. Mental Wellness Event (Spellman Hall)
- 8:15 A.M. Nursery care (109)
- 9:00 A.M. Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)
- 9:00 A.M. Kids Connect/ Wee Connect (Various Rooms)
- 10:15 A.M. Journey Class (Spellman Jr.)
- 10:30 A.M. Contemporary Worship (Sanctuary) / Young Children and Worship (Chapel)
- 5:00 P.M. Taizé Worship (Chapel)

Monday, May 4

- 9:00 A.M. Thrift Shop open until 3 PM
- 10:00 A.M. Book Discussion Group (Library)
- 1:00 P.M. Racial Allies (Library)
- 6:30 P.M. The Chosen Study (Chapel)
- 6:30 P.M. Pickleball (Back Parking Lot)
- 7:00 P.M. Outreach Committee (Spellman Jr.)

Tuesday, May 5

- 7:30 A.M. "Morning Joe" Parent Support Group (407)
- 9:30 A.M. Tuesday Fellowship (Spellman Jr.)
- 9:30 A.M. Small Group Women's Bible Study (414)
- 10:00 A.M. Thrift Shop open until 3PM
- 12:00 P.M. Stitch Unto Others (Quiet Room)
- 7:00 P.M. Nominating Committee (Zoom)

Wednesday, May 6

- 9:10 A.M. Chapel Service (Chapel)
- 10:00 A.M. Thrift Shop open until 3PM
- 4:45 P.M. Children's and Cherub Choir Rehearsal (Spellman Hall)
- 7:00 P.M. Worship Collective (Sanctuary)
- 7:00 P.M. Care for Creation (Zoom)
- 7:00 P.M. Chancel Ringers Rehearsal (Spellman Hall)
- 7:00 P.M. Gathering of Men (Spellman Jr.)
- 7:00 P.M. The Chosen Study (Zoom only)

Thursday, May 7-Thrift Shop Closed

- 7:00 P.M. Boy Scouts (outdoors)
- 7:00 P.M. Celebrate Recovery (online only)
- 7:00 P.M. Chancel Choir (Music Room)

Friday, May 8

10:00 A.M. Thrift Shop open until 3PM

Saturday, May 9

9:00 A.M. Thrift Shop open until noon

Sunday, May 10

8:15 A.M. Nursery care (109)

9:00 A.M. Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)

9:00 A.M. Kids Connect/ Wee Connect (Various Rooms)

10:15 A.M. Journey Class (Spellman Jr.)

10:30 A.M. Contemporary Worship (Sanctuary) / Young Children and Worship (Chapel)