

Westport Presbyterian Church 1835–present

Transfiguration Sunday

Celebration of Holy Communion

March 2, 2025



Image source: *Vincent van Gogh, The Bedroom (1888)* The Art Institute of Chicago

WESTPORT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH WORSHIP SERVICE
TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY
CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION
March 2, 2025

PRELUDE: Sonata, K. 380

Domenico Scarlatti

CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: God's promise to us is that all of us are being transformed.

All: **There is no reason to hide; no reason to wear a mask or to pretend.**

One: God's radiance shines in our lives - its glow intensifying and growing deeper.

All: **And we know that this is God's gift to us – the work of God's Spirit in our lives!**

*OPENING HYMN (You may rise in Body or Spirit):

#366 **Glory to God**

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

UNISON CONFESSION OF OUR NEED OF GOD:

All: **Almighty God, you see us as we are and know our inmost thoughts.
You know the work we've left undone, the mercy we've left ungiven,
the love we've left unshared, the peace we've left unmade.
You know the defensiveness, pride and violence that we've chosen
instead of your path of forgiveness and reconciliation.
Help us to see who we might become, living in the power of Spirit.
Forgive us, and transform us, that we ourselves might become radiant
as followers of the radiant Christ, whose glory fills the whole world. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE:

One: Friends, the Lord sees you and knows you. The Lord sees you and loves you.
The Lord sees you and calls you. Know that you are forgiven, and be at peace.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

SUNG RESPONSE:

#750 **Glory to God**

Goodness Is Stronger than Evil

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST:

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

One: Let's share the peace of Christ with one another.

SCRIPTURE READING: Exodus 34:29-35

2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2

CHORAL ANTHEM: Christus Lux Mea

Heather Sorenson

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION:

One: Almighty God, in your light may we see light,

All: in your truth may we see truth,

One: and in your Holy Word may we be called into holy work.

All: Amen.

MESSAGE: The Light In You

Rev. Jared Witt

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (adapted from *A Brief Statement of Faith*):

**All: We trust in God the Holy Spirit,
everywhere the giver and renewer of life,
who inspired the prophets and apostles,
rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,
engages us through the Word proclaimed,
claims us in the waters of baptism,
feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,
and calls children of God everywhere to all ministries of the church.**

**In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing,
to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,
to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.**

**In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,
we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives,
even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth.**

SUNG PREPARATION FOR PRAYER:

#851 Glory to God

Come, Bring Your Burdens to God

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER:

**Our Mother and 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.**

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION:

THE OFFERING OF OURSELVES/INVITATION TO GIVE:

One: The Lord our God glimmers with generosity.
All that we have, and all that we are, belong to God.
Let us therefore give back to God what God has given to us,
using our gifts of tithes and offerings.

**OFFERTORY SOLO: O Love of God, How Strong and True
Joshua Stark, baritone**

Calvin Hampton

*O love of God, how strong and true,
Eternal, and yet ever new;
Uncomprehended and unbought,
Beyond all knowledge and all thought.*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION:

One: Living Christ, we offer these humble gifts as tokens of our thanks,
and as signs of our hope in the world you are creating.
In your hands and with our hands may these gifts be transformed:
into bread for the hungry, comfort for the weak,
shelter for the lost and peace for the world.

All: **Amen.**

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

GREAT THANKSGIVING

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

COMMUNION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION:

One: God incarnate, in these ordinary elements
you have fed us with the body of the living Christ,
that we might become the body of the living Christ.
Remake our lives in the warm light of Spirit,
that we might be your friends, co-creators of a new world.

All: Amen.

WELCOME: News In, Around, and Beyond the Community

*CLOSING HYMN (You may rise in Body or Spirit):

#291 Glory to God

Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness

CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE: Variation on "Hyfrydol"

Michael Larkin

A WESTPORT WARM WELCOMING!

WELCOME! MEMBERS! NEWCOMERS! FRIENDS! We are so glad you could join us for worship today! **VISITORS**, please take a moment to let us know you were here by picking up an attendance card (in the pews) and filling out whatever information you would like to share with us.

WELCOME FAMILIES! Children's Sunday School meets in the 2nd floor Children's Space, Sunday mornings during the 1st half of worship, beginning at 11:00 am. **NURSERY care is also available upstairs.** Parents are asked to fill out a brief registration form before church begins. (This form only needs to be filled out once).

HEARING ASSISTANCE DEVICES available upon request. Talk to Josh up in the front of the sanctuary at the livestream table if you would like to use one.

2025 PER CAPITA is \$44.98 per member. This money helps support our denomination on the regional and national levels. The breakdown is: \$10.84 to General Assembly, \$3.15 to Synod of Mid-America, and \$30.99 to Heartland Presbytery. **If you would like to help out the church by paying your own Per Capita, make your check out to Westport Presbyterian Church or place money in a pew envelope and include "per Capita" on the memo line. Thank You!**

★The church has upgraded our WIFI network to a commercial grade system, and now has a supply of extra **Google Home WiFi Mesh Routers**. They are designed to work with Fiber Internet service and strengthen the wifi network throughout your home through a series of disks in each room. We are offering

to sell them for **\$25 each** (retail value \$50). Let the church office know if you would like to purchase some. After we offer to church members, we will sell online.

MISSION & OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES:

★WINTER WEATHER CLOTHING DRIVE: Westport Showers is collecting coats, hats, gloves, warm socks, and boots. Look through your closets and see if you have any extra items you can donate.

WESTPORT SHOWERS happens on Sunday mornings & Thursday nights. Items Needed for our **CLOTHING CLOSET** include: Sneakers, T-shirts, Underwear (Men's Boxer Briefs), Socks, Women's pants/shorts size 0-8, Men's pants/shorts size 28-40, Band-aids, Sweatpants, Leggings, Belts, Backpacks, Body wash, Sports bras, & Washcloths.

WESTPORT SHOWERS is looking for additional volunteers to help with Sunday mornings. With the increase in guests, we would like to have teams of 2 volunteers upstairs working together at the door and 2 downstairs working in the shower/laundry room each Sunday. You would be working with experienced volunteers who can train you in what is needed. If you would like to help, and are willing to volunteer 1 Sunday morning a month, reach out to Drew Irwin or Allison Rozga for more information.

We are giving out lunches on **Wednesdays in the RESOURCE CENTER** and **Sundays as part of WESTPORT SHOWERS.** Food donations of bread, fruit, meat, cheese, peanut butter are always needed.

CONNECTION HOUR SMALL GROUPS:

Sunday Mornings

- 9:30 a.m.** **“Overcoming Dumpster Fire Overwhelm”** lead by **Jennifer White.**
Does it feel like everywhere you look the world is on fire? This weekly workshop will give you 1-5 minute tools to help deal with the stresses of our modern way of living.
- 10:00 a.m.** **Book Discussion Group** readings related to various topics including faith, art, culture, politics, earth care. Currently reading *The Partly Cloudy Patriot* by Sarah Vowell. The next book will be: *Wanderlust: A History of Walking*, by Rebecca Solnit.

MISSOURI LEGISLATIVE UPDATE: from Riva and the League of Women Voters

for Apr. 8, 2025 General Municipal Elections LWVKC Candidate Forums:

School Boards are some of the most important, yet undersung, elected positions in any community.

The following forums will be held:

North Kansas City School Board Wednesday, Mar. 19, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.

Hickman Mills School Board Thursday, Mar. 20, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.

Raytown Alderman Wednesday, Mar. 26, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.

Lee's Summit School Board Thursday, Mar. 27, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.

Kansas City School Board Tuesday, Apr. 1, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.

Raytown School Board Wednesday, Apr. 2, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.

If you are unable to attend these forums on the date, you can watch a recording on You Tube (type in lwvkc).

**INREACH & OUTREACH IN THE COMING WEEK:
(All Events are at the Church, 201 Westport Rd – unless noted)**

Monday, Mar. 3	6:30 p.m.	Men's AA Meeting (Storefront)
	7:30 p.m.	Boy Scout Troop 60 (Westport Rising Room)
Tuesday, Mar. 4	4:30 p.m.	Centering Prayer and Silence – 20 min (Chapel)
Wednesday, Mar. 5		ASH WEDNESDAY
	10:00 a.m.	Resource Center Open (Storefront)
	11:00 a.m.	Sack Lunches Distributed (Storefront)
	6:00 p.m.	Ash Wednesday Service (Sanctuary)
Thursday, Mar. 6	5:30 p.m.	Westport Showers – For Women, Trans, & Gender Non-conforming people (Basement)
Friday, Mar. 7	11:30 a.m.	Children's Mercy Healthy Families (Fellowship Room)
Saturday, Mar. 8	8:30 a.m.	Session Retreat (Fellowship Room)
	-2:00 p.m.	
	8:30 a.m.	Living Integrated (Men's Support Group) (Storefront)
	10:00 a.m.	Cub Scouts (Westport Rising Room)
	2:30-4:30 p.m.	Lauden Birthday Party (Fellowship Room)
	7:00 p.m.	KC English Dance (Westport Rising Room)
Sunday, Mar. 9	8-9:30 a.m.	Westport Showers (Fellowship Room & Basement)
		Connection Hour Small Groups:
	9:30 a.m.	"Overcoming Dumpster Fire Overwhelm"
	10:00 a.m.	Book Discussion Group
	11:00 a.m.	*Please plan to join us for a unique Sunday of worship and conversation. Along with singing and praying, we will be engaging in conversation together about the future of our congregation. In small group settings, we'll share stories of what we love about our congregation. (Sanctuary) Children's Sunday School (Upstairs Children's Room)
	12:15 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

LOOKING AHEAD:

Tuesday, Mar. 11

No Session Meeting

STAFF:

Interim Pastor.....	Rev. Dr. Jared Witt
Music Director.....	Emily Davidson
Office Manager.....	Deanna Capps

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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There is also a free mobile app available for download at the Apple® App store in iTunes®, Google Play™ store and the Amazon Fire App Store. Simply search for "[Instant Church Directory](#)" to get the download.

You will need to use your email address as listed in our directory to create a log-in the first time you use the directory online and via the mobile app.

Need help or have questions?

Please contact: info@westportpresbyterian.org

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