

WEST BERLIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Established 1876
Julia Roll, Organist

Dr. Robert J. Gustafson, Pastor

Tom Roll, Liturgist
Amy Martindale, Principal Vocalist

3rd Sunday of Lent

March 23, 2025

GATHERING TIME (10:15 – 10:30 AM) Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6145951009>

Dial 929 436 2866 or 312 626 6799 Meeting ID: 614 595 1009

WELCOME & PRELUDE

God is Good. **All the time.** & All the time. **God is good.**

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Everyone who thirsts:

P: Come to the waters, seek the Lord, repent and return so that you may live.

L: All who are hungry for righteousness:

P: Come to the waters, seek the Lord, repent and return so that you may live.

L: All who need the help of God:

P: Come to the waters, seek the Lord, repent and return so that you may live.

CALL TO CONFESSION

The Scriptures call us to turn from sinful ways and return to God, who offers mercy and pardon. Trusting in that mercy, let us call upon God who is near.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, we confess that we have grown complacent in our response to you. You set before us a rich feast of blessing, but we are drawn to lesser things that cannot satisfy. You call us to attend to urgent needs in the world, but we indulge our own desires. Our ways are not your ways; our thoughts do not ascend to your thoughts. Forgive us when we fall short of your claim upon our lives. Disturb our complacency and quicken our desire for a more fruitful life. Be patient, we pray, as we amend who we are, in the hope of becoming who you intend us to be. We ask this in the name of our Savior, your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

God's love is sure and steadfast, always providing a way out, a way through, a way back to God. Through the waters of baptism, we have died with Christ and are raised with him. With gratitude, in faith, we will walk the way of Christ.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

"Gloria Patri"

No. 9

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION & FIRST READING

Psalm 63:1-8 Comfort and Assurance in God's Presence

¹ O God, you are my God; I seek you; my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water. ² So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory. ³ Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you. ⁴ So I will bless you as long as I live; I will lift up my hands and call on your name. ⁵ My soul is satisfied as with a rich feast, and my mouth praises you with joyful lips ⁶ when I think of you on my bed and meditate on you in the watches of the night, ⁷ for you have been my help, and in the shadow of your wings I sing for joy. ⁸ My soul clings to you; your right hand upholds me.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

YOUTH MESSAGE God's Thermometer

SPECIAL MUSIC

SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 10:1-14 Warnings from Israel's History

¹I do not want you to be ignorant, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, ²and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, ³and all ate the same spiritual food, ⁴and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. ⁵Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

⁶Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. ⁷Do not become idolaters as some of them did, as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play." ⁸We must not engage in sexual immorality, as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. ⁹We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. ¹⁰And do not complain, as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. ¹¹These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. ¹²So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. ¹³No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it. ¹⁴Therefore, my beloved, flee from the worship of idols.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON "Warnings from History"

HYMN "Take Time to Be Holy" No. 512 (See attached)

ANNOUNCEMENTS - JOYS & CONCERNS – PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE – 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.

CALL TO OFFERING - PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING – DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise him, all creatures here below. Praise him above, ye heav'nly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

HYMN "God Will Take Care of You" No. 107 (See attached)

CHARGE, BENEDICTION AND POSTLUDE

May the Lord, mighty God, bless and keep you forever.

Grant you joy, perfect peace, strength in every endeavor.

Lift your eyes and see his face, feel his grace forever.

May the Lord mighty God bless and keep you forever.

Take Time to Be Holy

512

Without holiness no one will see the Lord. Hebrews 12:14

1. Take time to be ho - ly; Speak oft with thy Lord. A - bide in Him
2. Take time to be ho - ly; The world rush-es on. Spend much time in
3. Take time to be ho - ly; Let Him be thy Guide, And run not be -
4. Take time to be ho - ly; Be calm in thy soul- Each tho't and each

al - ways, And feed on His Word. Make friends with God's chil-dren; Help
se - cret With Je - sus a - lone. By look - ing to Je - sus, Like
fore Him, What - ev - er be - tide. In joy or in sor - row, Still
mo - tive Be - neath His con - trol. Thus led by His Spir - it To

those who are weak, For - get - ting in noth - ing His bless - ing to seek.
Him thou shalt be; Thy friends in thy con - duct His like - ness shall see.
fol - low thy Lord, And, look - ing to Je - sus, Still trust in His Word.
foun - tains of love, Thou soon shall be fit - ted For ser - vice a - bove.

WORDS: William D. Longstaff, 1882
MUSIC: George C. Stebbins, 1890

HOLINESS
6.5.6.5.D.

God Will Take Care of You

Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you. 1 Peter 5:7

1. Be not dis - mayed what - e'er be - tide; God will take care of you.
 2. Thro' days of toil when heart doth fail, God will take care of you.
 3. All you may need He will pro - vide; God will take care of you.
 4. No mat - ter what will be the test, God will take care of you.

Be - neath His wings of love a - bide; God will take care of you.
 When dan - gers fierce your path as - sail, God will take care of you.
 Noth - ing you ask will be de - nied; God will take care of you.
 Lean, wea - ry one, up - on His breast; God will take care of you.

Refrain

God will take care of you, Thro' ev - 'ry day, o'er all the way.

He will take care of you; God will take care of you.
 take care of you.

WORDS: Civilla D. Martin, 1904
 MUSIC: W. Stillman Martin, 1904

GOD CARES
 C.M. w. Ref.