

Defining Moments in Our 150 Years of Faith and Service

150th Anniversary Reunion Worship Service May 2, 2004

The sermon for the day was comprised of excerpts taken from Westminster's Senior Pastors over the last century and preached by former Associate Pastors

The Rev. Samuel Van Vranken Holmes, D.D., pastor from 1893-1932, was educated at Williams College and Princeton Theological Seminary and died in 1935. His ministry was marked by great congregational growth, preaching of the “modern” gospel, social service and outreach to the general public.

Preached by Mr. Alan Gilburg, Associate Pastor from 1971-1981

The Rev. Albert George Butzer, D.D., pastor from 1932-1962, was educated at Northwestern University and North Central University Divinity School and died in 1967. His ministry was of great support to the congregation during the Depression, World War II and the great growth of Westminster's membership, Sunday School and community leadership during the 1950's.

Preached by Rev. Dr. Alison Halsey, Associate Pastor from 1977-1986

The Rev. Ray H. Kiely, D.D., pastor from 1962-1970, was educated at Middlebury College and Union Theological Seminary. He provided wisdom and patience for Westminster through a period of rapid social change nationally and in Buffalo, as well as nurturing and leading ecumenical relationships and global mission projects.

Preached by Rev. Dr. Rex Stewart, Associate Pastor from 1987-1989

The Rev. Thomas P. Stewart, pastor from 1971-1994, was educated at Princeton University and Union Theological Seminary and died in 1994. His ministry provided a “Light to the City” and prophetic voice with regard to matters of social justice and change; programs of personal growth; and expanded membership from the larger metropolitan area.

Preached by Rev. Barbara Tipton, Associate Pastor from 1991-1996

A special thank you to John McClive and Rev. Dr. Thomas H. Yorty for selecting these passages.

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