



Service of Worship
23rd Sunday after Pentecost
November 12, 2017
9:00 a.m.

Westminster Presbyterian Church extends an enthusiastic welcome, in Christ's name, to all who worship here or join us in fellowship. Our church family seeks to embody God's boundless love by embracing, liberating and empowering people – whoever they are and wherever they may be on their faith journeys – to realize the transforming power of Christ in our congregation, community and the world beyond.

This Morning at Westminster

8:30 – 11:15 a.m. The Holy Toast Café, in Community Hall, offers free coffee, tea, and fellowship. Breakfast items are available for one dollar per item.

Deacon Team of the Month

Liz Bacon, Beatty Chadwick, Tammy Daley, Nancy Diver, Laura Holmes, Sandy White

8:45 – 11:15 a.m. Nursery for babies and toddlers

9:00 – 9:55 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary

Children are always welcome in worship. We also provide additional opportunities for children to grow in faith.

- ❖ **Godly Care** – Children ages 2 through 4 begin in worship with their families. Following the Time with Our Children, they walk with a parent to the **Preschool Suite** where they are greeted by the morning coordinator and escorted into **Classroom A**. The children experience simple worship rituals and learn key stories in the Bible. They respond through crafts, songs and prayers.
- ❖ **Godly Play 1** – Children in Kindergarten through 2nd grade begin worship with their families. Following the Time with Our Children, they walk with their teachers to the Ruth Christie Room. The children learn the language of God’s people through sacred space, stories, parables and liturgical actions. You may pick up your children in the **Preschool Suite Classroom C**.
- ❖ **Sing-to-Praise Choir Program** – Children in grades 3 through 6 begin worship with their families. Following the Time with Our Children, they meet their leaders in the pavilion and walk together to the Youth Music Room

10:10 a.m.

Education for All Ages

- | | |
|--|-------------------|
| ➤ Sunday School for Preschoolers | Preschool Suite D |
| ➤ Joyful Noise Choir Program for K – 2 | Youth Music Room |
| ➤ Godly Play 2 for Grades 3 – 5 | Classroom 4 |
| ➤ Middle Schoolers for Grades 6 – 8 | Classroom 8 |
| ➤ Senior High for Grades 9 – 12 | Classroom 7 |
| ➤ Sunday Seminars | See page 7 |

11:15 a.m.

Living Mosaics worship in Rodney Chapel. Children are always welcome.

12:00 p.m.

Fellowship Time

Meeting Room

Also Today

5:05 p.m.

180° Youth

Center for Creative Arts

6:00 p.m.

Clean But Not Straight – NA

Club Room

8:00 p.m.

AA

Club Room



Westminster is certified as an “Earth Care Congregation” by the Presbyterian Church (USA). This honor means that we have exhibited exceptional leadership in protecting God’s creation and being good stewards of earth’s resources through our worship, education, outreach and advocacy. Only 2% of the 10,000 Presbyterian congregations in this country have earned this honored distinction.

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

The flowers in the sanctuary today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Amy Michener Lengel by her family – Eric, Katie, Jason and Justin – and her parents, Bunny and Jack.

Consider giving the flowers for Sunday worship to remember or honor loved ones or to celebrate an event, while expressing praise and thanksgiving to God. Please contact Linda Watson during business hours at 302-571-6719 or lwatson@ycst.com for available dates. The next available date is December 31.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE AND PRAYER

Please remember in your prayers:

- ❖ **Recently hospitalized:** Cassandra Piovoso
- ❖ **Those unable to attend worship on a regular basis** by sending a card, saying a prayer, or visiting. This week we ask you to remember Anne Waugh (living near her son in Idaho), Charlene Weaver (living in Texas with her daughter), Margaret Lyle Stevens at Rockland Place, and Kay Johnson at Millcroft.
- ❖ **Westminster's Prayer Team** prays for the needs of our community of faith. You may submit a prayer request by leaving a confidential message on 302-654-5848, ext. 335; or filling out a prayer request card (in the pew pocket) and placing it in the offering plate; or sending an email to wpcprayerlist@gmail.com.

Afghanistan and Iraq often seems far away, and we may neglect to realize that Americans, as well as Afghans, Iraqis and members of coalition forces continue to die. As Christians, we are called to pray for the spreading of peace and justice and an end to violence. If someone in your family is serving in the military, please let us know, so that we may include that person on our prayer list. Contact Cathy Lang: 302-654-5214 ext. 129, or cathylang@wpc.org.

This week we pray for

- This week we pray for Brian Gorman, grandson of Art and Barbara Gorman, serving in the United States military.
- The families of those from the U.S. who have died recently:
Sergeant 1st Class Stephen Cribben, age 33, from Simi Valley, California
- Those suffering from Traumatic Stress Disorder, whose scars may be deep and long-lasting.

WORSHIP NOTES

All children who leave the sanctuary after Time with Our Children must have a completed yellow security label on their backs. If you do not find a security label in the pew pocket, you can obtain one in the Preschool Suite. This policy is for your child's protection. Children will only be released to a parent or an adult pre-approved by the parent. Thank you for your help.

Worship Resources – You can obtain large print hymnals and hearing devices from any usher. Worship bags for children ages 3-6 include a children's bulletin designed for them. Children's bulletins for ages 7-12 are also available from the ushers.

Are you wearing a nametag? Whether you are a long-time member or new to our church family, wearing a nametag provides others the opportunity to meet you, greet you by name, and for you to become more familiar with others at church. You will find nametags and markers in baskets at all major entrances.

You can make a contribution to Westminster Presbyterian Church by visiting our website www.wpc.org and click the "Donate Now" button or scan the QR code on your smart phone.



ORDER OF WORSHIP

MUSIC OF THE TOWER BELLS

Craig Checkel

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Holy God, give me the wisdom to discern your guidance and the will to follow you. Grant me a mind to meditate on you; eyes to behold you; ears to listen for your word; a heart to love you by the way I treat others; and a life to live in harmony with the way of Christ. Amen.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please sign and pass the friendship folder, at the end of the pew, to the person next to you.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

ORGAN PRELUDE

Sonata in G major

Gaetano Valeri

CALL TO WORSHIP

We gather as a family of faith to listen for the voice of God.

**We come eager to encounter our Creator
and to be transformed by God's Spirit.**

Let us open our hearts to God

so that we may live abundant lives.

*HYMN NO. 14

"For the Beauty of the Earth"

DIX

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of compassion and mercy,

look with favor upon us as we confess our weaknesses:

Our faith is fragile in the face of crisis.

Our trust wavers when troubles arise.

Our hope collapses when we do not get what we want.

Mighty God, embolden us with your Spirit.

When our vision dims, restore our sight.

When our confidence wanes, give us courage.

Strengthen our resolve to live according to your ways

so that we may once again be your faithful people.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN

Sudie Niesen Thompson

*Children through Grade 6 may leave for Godly Care, Godly Play 1, and Sing-to-Praise Choir,
or they may remain in worship.*

At the asterisk (), please stand as you are able*

ANTHEM

“Sleepers, Wake”
(from *Saint Paul*)

Felix Mendelssohn

Sleepers, wake, a voice is calling;
It is the watchman on the walls,
Thou city of Jerusalem.
For lo, the Bridegroom comes!
Arise, and take your lamps.
Hallelujah!
Awake! His kingdom is at hand.
Go forth, go forth to meet your Lord.

TELLING OF THE SCRIPTURE STORY

Luke 10:25-37

*Mary-beth Howard and Shelley Gnade, Storytellers
Westminster By Heart*

SERMON

“Shaping Character”

Greg Jones

*HYMN NO. 432

“How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord”

REPTON

OFFERING

“Whatever we give carries the energy of our motivation and the level of our spiritual development.”

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“You Are God”

David M. Cherwien

Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to another. Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the earth were born, from age to age you are God! Satisfy us by your steadfast love in the morning; so shall we rejoice and be glad all our days. May the graciousness of the Lord our God be upon us; prosper the work of our hands; prosper our handiwork.

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.**

*HYMN NO. 822

“When We Are Living”

SOMOS DEL SEÑOR

BENEDICTION

ORGAN POSTLUDE

Marche Pontificale

Jacques-Nicolas Lemmens

GOING FORTH

If you are visiting with us and wish to learn more about our church family, we invite you to meet today’s ambassadors, Ellie and Don Furry, at the back of the center aisle following the service. They are happy to share information about our many programs for children, youth and adults.

New to Westminster?

Welcome! We are so glad you are here.

Here is some information you might find helpful:

- Hymnals are located on a shelf under the pew in front of you, or at the ends of the pew. Please join us in singing!
- A red Friendship Pad at the end of the pew will be passed during the service. We hope you will sign it and let us know how we can welcome you with a follow-up contact.
- There will be an Ambassador at the back of the church at the end of worship, who would love to answer any questions you might have or give you more information about Westminster.
- For more information about our community of faith, sign up for our weekly e-newsletter from the home page of our website (www.wpc.org) or contact the Rev. Sudie Niesen Thompson at sniesenthompson@wpc.org or (302) 654-5214 ext. 103.



**Please join us for coffee or tea in Community Hall after the service.
Ask someone to show you the way!**

SERMON SERIES: WHY CHURCH?

The Golden Age of the church has passed. Or has it? The church will never regain its place of importance. Or will it? The Christian Church in the West has been on a downward slide for decades. Belief in God remains high among Americans, but church membership is on the decline. Is this the long, slow death of Christianity, or is it the long, slow death of the church as we know it today? Are we living in the final days of the church or could this be the beginning of the reformation of the church?

On seven Sundays this fall, Dr. Jones will lay out the reasons that the church is absolutely crucial to the state of the world.

October 8 The Church Plays a Critical Role in Society

October 15 Where Community is Built

November 5 Can the Church Revive Our Sense of Enchantment with the World?

November 12 Shaping Character

November 19 Serving the World, Finding Our Soul

December 3 A Prophetic Voice

December 10 Where We Find Hope



Sunday Seminars

Making Space for the Holy

Today and November 19th

Classroom 3

Facilitator: Rev. Sudie Niesen Thompson

How do you help your little ones prepare to welcome the Christ child? How do you help children learn the story at the heart of Christmas? With Advent and Christmas just around the corner, join Sudie to discuss ways families with young or elementary-aged children can observe these special seasons at home.

My Key Theological Problem

Classroom 5

Facilitator: John Johnston

The “atonement” doctrine is arguably the most widely accepted religious doctrine in the history of the world. For Christian “progressives” it is also “the most unfortunately successful piece of theology” in the history of the world – and the doctrine that most separates progressives from the vast majority of Christians. Over two classes, John Johnston will explore the atonement doctrine and the explanations by progressives, including Greg and Sudie, to explain the “meaning” of Jesus’s crucifixion. John will also share his personal struggle with the role of Christ’s death and how he finally settled on the approach of Richard Rohr.

Beyond Backpacks: Mentors are the Real Deal

Classroom 6

Presenter: Sue Linderman

Join us to hear educators, administrators, parents, students and Westminster volunteers speak of the profound impact of mentoring. Learn more about opportunities that exist in our local community, and see how easy it can be to step up and make a difference in a student’s life, and in your own. Grab a cup of coffee and come for our special refreshments – you’ll be glad you did!

PASTORAL STAFF

Gregory Knox Jones, Head of Staff
Sudie Niesen Thompson, Associate Pastor
Jill Getty, Pastoral Care Assistant

CHURCH EDUCATOR: Susan Moseley

MUSIC STAFF

Paul Fleckenstein, Organist/Director of Music
Merideth Hite Estevez, Director, Faith Formation through Music and Arts -Teaching Artist in Residence
Soloist/Section Leaders: Elizabeth Holmes, Sharon Babcock, Christian Sanders, Travis Lucas

YOUTH MINISTRY TEAM

Susan Moseley, Merideth Hite Estevez, Josh Cox, Chris Hickey

SUPPORT STAFF

Susan Alexander, Reception Area Supervisor
Paul Crothamel, Director of Facilities and Security
Colleen Falasco, Director of Financial Operations
Nicole Hughes, Director of Communication and Database Management
Jerry Hunter, Financial Assistant
Suzie Hurlock, Administrative Assistant
Cathy Lang, Administrative Assistant
Sextons: Thomas Carter, Robert King, Joan Truitt, John Young

SESSION

Jen Barrington, Ty Burns, Sally Buttner, Chad Chandler, Jeanne Checkel, Art Colbourn, Joe Daley,
Rich Diver, Michael Enderle, Mike Gnade, Cathy Higgins, Carol Hogue, Barbara Jobe, Kali Kniel,
Kelly McCulloch, Jon McPheeters, Mark Mosher, Margo Reign, Roger Reinicker, Craig Stabler, Barb Stratton,
Mary Vane, Susan Williamson, Helen Zumsteg

BOARD OF DEACONS

Liz Bacon, Don Beddie, Amy Bickhart, Beatty Chadwick, Barry Cobb, Tammy Daley, Nancy Diver, Teisha Fooks,
Nicole Fox, Laura Holmes, Hillary King, Cathy Lang, Kris Marvel, Sally McBride, Blair McConnel,
Mary Lou McDowell, Susan McPheeters, Lola Miller, Bob Moore, Carol Neff, Cassandra Piovoso, Ann Shadduck,
Jerry Spilecki, Lisa Stoddard, Judy Stoffer, Josh Thomas, Sharlym Torres, Jennifer Trickey, Lois Underhill,
Lowell Underhill, Jennie Wagner, Gen Wallace-Roe, Sue Weissinger, Pam White, Sandy White, Debbie Wise

TRUSTEES

Charley Babcock, Gary Bryde, Jim Carter, Denison Hatch, Bobbe Hoy, Fred Iobst, Bill Nace, Mary Lu Pamm,
Kris Qualls, Bob Ridout, Bruce Weber, Dan Weintraub

PARTNERS IN WORLDWIDE MINISTRY

South Sudan – Bob and Kristi Rice
Congo – PCUSA Mission Co-workers John and Gwenda Fletcher, Jeff and Cristi Boyd,
Larry and Inga Sthresley, Cecilé de Sweemer, MD, Members of Kamulumba-Ditalala Parish
Iran, Iraq, Syria and Lebanon – Mission Co-workers the Reverends Elmarie and Scott Parker, Dr. Mary Mikhael
Peace Drums Steel Band – Ibillin and Haifa, Israel/Palestine
Guatemala - Rosario Diaz and the Association of Mam Christian Women for Development, CEDEPCA, Leslie Vogel, and
Sandi and Brian Thompson-Royer