



November 12, 2017 11:15 a.m.
23rd Sunday after Pentecost

Gathering Songs

#62

“Love the Lord Your God”

#288

“Spirit of the Living God”

Welcome and Living Our Faith

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.

Song #63

“The Lord Is God”

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

Passing the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Telling of the Scripture Story

Luke 10:25-37

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

Response

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.
Thanks be to God.

Message

“Shaping Character”

Greg Jones

Song #203

“Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love”

Offering

Please sign the blue friendship notebook and pass it to the person next to you.

Song #468

“In My Life”

**In my life, Lord, be glorified; be glorified.
In my life, Lord, be glorified today.**

In our song, ...

Prayers of the People

Song #468

**In your church, ...
In your world, ...**

The Lord’s Prayer

Song #822

“When We Are Living”

Sending

Song #543

“God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me”

Verses 1 and 5

*Following worship, please join us in the Meeting Room
for coffee, tea, and fellowship.*

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	November 19	Serving the World, Finding Our Soul
October 15	Where Community is Built	December 3	A Prophetic Voice
November 5	Can the Church Revive Our Sense of Enchantment with the World?	December 10	Where We Find Hope
November 12	Shaping Character		

We are thankful for your presence and participation this morning. Westminster has two worship options each Sunday. Our other Sunday morning worship service is held at 9:00 a.m., and includes a choir, organ music and a brief Children's Message. Both services include prayers, singing, scripture and sermon.

Please remember in your prayers Cassandra Piovoso.

Children are welcome in worship. You will find yellow worship bags for all children at the chapel entrance.

Image: <http://educationpost.org/when-it-comes-to-standards-for-our-kids-what-choice-are-you-making/>

Pastors: Gregory Knox Jones and Sudie Niesen Thompson
Pianist: Paul Fleckenstein
Song Leader: Christian Sanders
Guitarist: Matthew Lavanish
Digital Artist: Bob Cox

