



WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Service of Worship **19th Sunday after Pentecost** **October 15, 2017** **9:00 a.m.**

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, Travis Lucas,
Charlotte Paulsen (guest), Isai Jess Muñoz (guest)

DIRECTOR OF FINANCIAL OPERATIONS

Colleen Falasco

DIRECTOR OF FACILITIES AND SECURITY

Paul Crothamel

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

Cathy Lang, Lola Miller, Carol Neff, Ann Shadduck, Jerry Spilecki, Pam White, Debbie Wise

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

9:00 – 9:55 a.m. Worship with communion 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 – 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.

11:15 a.m.

Flying Solo brunch at Catherine Rooney’s 1616 Delaware Ave.

12:00 p.m.

Fellowship Time Meeting Room

Later Today

This afternoon
4:00 p.m.
5:00 p.m.
6:00 p.m.
8:00 p.m.

Stewardship Home Gatherings
Family Promise Ministry
180° Dinner and Fellowship
Clean But Not Straight – NA
AA

Members’ homes
Downstairs
Begin in Community Hall
Club Room
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 Jay Spilecki, born October 15, 1978, by the Spilecki family.

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 dates are October 22 and 29 and December 31.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE AND PRAYER

Please remember in your prayers:

- ❖ **Recently hospitalized:** Philo Atwood and Ed Wat
- ❖ **Westminster's homebound** who can no longer attend worship with us, by sending a card, saying a prayer, or visiting. This week we ask you to remember Lois Rogers at Jenners Pond, and Margit and Spence Stradley at Country House.
- ❖ **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.
- 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

For the mystery of your presence in and beyond all that can be seen thanks be to you, O God. Guide me further this day into the inner universe of my soul ever opening inwards light upon light new depth after new depth. Guide me through strange and fearful spaces towards the place of your eternal dwelling and assure me again that in drawing closer to you I draw closer to the heart of every living being; that in drawing closer to you I approach the heart of life. Amen.

J. Philip Newell, *Celtic Benediction*

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

A Trumpeting

Dale Wood

CALL TO WORSHIP

We come together in the Spirit of the One who unites us all.

We gather in the loving Spirit of Jesus.

We gather to deepen our ties with God and with one another.

Let us worship God together.

*HYMN No. 650

“O Beauty Ever Ancient”

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Gracious and loving God,

**We give great thanks for our community of faith and
for the ways it serves as our extended family:**

by welcoming us when we are anxious and lonely,

by loving us when we are only marginally lovable,

by encouraging us when our confidence is vanishing,

by lifting us when we feel low,

by cheering us when we have something to celebrate,

and by supporting us when we face a multitude of challenges.

**Help us deepen our bonds to share your love with one another
and with a divided and chaotic world that is starving for love.**

In your holy name, we pray. Amen.

TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN

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

*The congregation is asked to please refrain from taking photographs
or video recording during the worship service.*

PRESENTATION OF THE PARENTS AND CHILD

Elder Barbara Jobe

OPENING WORDS

People brought little children to see and hear Jesus.
The disciples tried to turn them away, but Jesus said:
 **“Let the little children come to me and do not stop them;
 For it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs.”**
And Jesus took the children in his arms, laid his hands on them and blessed them.

PROMISES OF COMMITMENT

Do you acknowledge Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior? **We do.**

Relying on God’s grace, do you promise to live the Christian Faith and to teach that faith to your son? **We do.**

CONGREGATION

Will we, the people of the church, nurture and support Nathaniel, and his parents, and will we encourage him to become a faithful Christian? **We will.**

CHILDREN

Do you promise to help Nathaniel be a part of our church family by being a friend to him?

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING OVER WATER

ACT OF BAPTISM

PRAYER FOLLOWING BAPTISM

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

ANTHEM

“For This Cause”

Harold Friedell

For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, of whom the whole family in heav'n and earth is named, that he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner soul; that Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; and to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fullness of God. Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.

- Ephesians 3:14-21

SERMON

“Where Community is Built”

Greg Jones

*HYMN NO. 316

“Where Charity and Love Prevail”

TWENTY-FOURTH

OFFERING

“If you see no reason for giving thanks, the fault lies within yourself.”
 ~ Chief Tecumseh

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Devotion

arr. John Ness Beck

I am Thine, O Lord, I have heard Thy voice,
 And it told thy love to me;
 But I long to rise in the arms of faith
 And be closer drawn to Thee.
 Consecrate me now to Thy service, Lord,
 By the power of grace divine;
 Let my soul look up with a steadfast hope
 And my will be lost in Thine.
 Draw me nearer, blessed Lord,
 To the cross where Thou hast died;
 Draw me nearer
 To Thy precious, bleeding side.
 Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.

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. 306

“Blest Be the Tie That Binds”

DENNIS

BENEDICTION

ORGAN POSTLUDE

Tu es petra

Henri Mulet

Thou art Peter (“rock”)... and the gates of hell shall not prevail against Thee.

GOING FORTH

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



Parables of Jesus in Luke: A Video Series by Dr. Ken Bailey

Today, and October 22
Facilitator: Randy Williamson
Classroom 3

This 4 week series will focus on Jesus as a theologian through the study of selected parables from the Gospel of Luke. Each section will begin with a video presentation of Dr. Bailey providing his insights into the parable using his experience of living over 40 years in the Middle East, deeply integrated in the Arabic culture of the region. We will then engage in open discussion of the parable and its theological message.
Today's topic: The Good Samaritan

The Rebirthing of God: Christianity's Struggle for New Beginnings

Today
Teacher: Greg Jones
Classroom 6

Along with many others concerned about the future of the church, visionary spiritual leader and scholar, John Philip Newell writes: "The walls of Western Christianity are collapsing...There are three main reactions to this collapse...Deny it, try to shore up the foundations of the old thing, or ask: What is the new thing that is trying to emerge from deep within us and from deep within the collective soul of Christianity?"

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.

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| 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 | | |

Music at Westminster



Merideth Hite Estevez
Oboe and English Horn

Merideth and Paul
to Open 2017-2018
Concert Season



Paul Fleckenstein
Organ and Piano

Friday, October 20, 8:00 p.m.

FREE ADMISSION; OFFERING RECEIVED

**FALL
FESTIVAL**

**Sunday, October 29
11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Community Hall**

There will be hot dogs, apple cider, games, prizes, face painting and plenty of TREATS! All ages and costumes are WELCOME. Hope to see you there! Hosted by the Westminster deacons. Questions? Please contact Tammy Daley (302-633-0222) or Amy Bickhart at (302-547-5631).

Please note that there is ONE worship service on Sunday, October 29, at 10:00 a.m., followed immediately by the Fall Festival in Community Hall.