



October 8, 2017 11:15 a.m.

18th Sunday after Pentecost

Gathering Song #401 “Here in This Place”

Welcome and Living Our Faith

Call to Worship

By God’s Spirit we were baptized into one body,
 and chosen by God for loving service to the world.
Let us sing praises to God for making us partners in mission.
 Let us worship God in wonder and joy!

Song #305 “Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!”

Call to Confession

Time of Confession

**Eternal God, in every age there have been men and women
who have lived faithful and obedient lives.
We confess that we are not always in harmony with your will.
You call us to proclaim the truth in love,
but there are times when we are silent.
You command us to do what is just, but too often we sit idle.
You beckon us to live faithfully, but minor matters distract us.
Forgive us and transform us
so that we may follow your guidance
and share Christ-like love with the world. Amen.**

Assurance of God’s Forgiveness

Passing the Peace

Scripture Galatians 5:1, 13-25

Jeff Argus, Lay Reader

Response

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

Thanks be to God.

Song # 458 “Thy Word Is a Lamp unto My Feet”

Message “The Church Plays a Critical Role in Society” Greg Jones

Song #314 “Christ, Be Our Light”

Offering

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

Prayers of the People

The 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.**

Song #768 “We Are the Body of Christ”

Sending

Response #747 “The Lord Now Sends Us Forth”

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

Why Church?

The Golden Age of the church as 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 set forth reasons the church is 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?
November 12	Shaping Character
November 19	Serving the World, Finding Our Soul
December 3	A Prophetic Voice
December 10	Where We Find Hope

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.

Following worship, feel free to make a bouquet to brighten someone's day. Today's flowers are given to the glory of God and in celebration of the baptism of Claire Kennedy Daley given by her grandparents, Joe and Tammy Daley.

Please remember in your prayers Ed Hagopian and Ed Wat who were recently hospitalized.

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

Image: Fruits of the Spirit, www.delightfulhello.com

Pastors: Gregory Knox Jones and Sudie Niesen Thompson

Pianist: Paul Fleckenstein

Song Leader: Sharon Babcock

Digital Artist: Bob Cox

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