



WESTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

World Communion Sunday

October 1, 2023



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.



A Covenant Network Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

An Earth Care Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

A Matthew 25 Church of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

TODAY AT WESTMINSTER

8:30 – 9:15 a.m. **Cereal Sunday** for Hanover Food Pantry in the Westminster parking lot

8:45 – 12:15 p.m. **Nursery Care** for infants and toddlers in Preschool Suite D

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

Time with Our Children (approximately 9:15 a.m.)

The young and young-at-heart are invited to join the worship leader at the front of the sanctuary. Following the TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN, young ones through grade 5 may be escorted for Children's Programming or they are welcome to remain in worship.

Children's Programming (9:20 – 10:00 a.m.)

- Preschool Sunday School: Ages 3 and 4 in the Preschool Suite Room C
- Joyful Noise Choir: Kindergarten–Grade 5 in the Youth Music Room

10:00 – 10:45 a.m. **Holy Toast Café** in Walton Community Hall

Enjoy free coffee, tea, and fellowship. Breakfast items are available for one dollar.

10:10 – 11:00 a.m. **Children and Youth Programming**

- Nursery Care: Age 4 and under in Preschool Suite D
- Kids Zone Sunday School: Kindergarten–Grade 5 in Classroom 1
- Middle School Zone: Grades 6–8 in Classroom 3
- High School: Grades 9–12
 - Confirmation Class in Classroom 7
 - Small Groups in Ruth Christie Room (for already confirmed youth)

Adult Education classes (see page 6)

11:15 – 12:00 p.m. **Living Mosaics worship** on the side lawn (Sacred Grounds)

Rain location: Rodney Chapel

Flying Solo brunch at Catherine Rooney's (1616 Delaware Ave.)

5:00 – 7:00 p.m. **180° Youth Group** in Walton Community Hall and Classroom 6

For descriptions of our programs for children and youth, visit wpc.org/children-youth.

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The Music: The Westminster Choir is looking for a few more women, men and youth, high school and college. Weekly rehearsals are on Wednesdays from 7–9 p.m. and on Sundays at 8 a.m. The Westminster Handbell Choir will begin rehearsals on Wednesday from 5:30–6:30 p.m. For more information or to participate, contact TonyThurman@wpc.org.

The sanctuary flowers are given to the Glory of God and in memory of Signy Carson whose memorial service was held yesterday. Consider giving the flowers for Sunday worship to remember or honor loved ones or to celebrate an event. Please contact Linda Watson at (302) 571-6719 or lwatson@ycst.com. Dates available are December 3, 17, and 31.

Westminster's Prayer Team prays for the needs of our community. Submit your prayer request to wpcprayerlist@gmail.com or online at wpc.org/care-support.

You can make a contribution to Westminster Presbyterian Church by visiting our website at wpc.org and clicking the "Donate" button or scan this QR code on your smart phone. → We accept donations by bank withdrawal, credit card, and debit card.



ORDER OF WORSHIP

~ Passages in **bold** print may be spoken by all. At the asterisk (*), please stand in body or rise in spirit. ~

TOWER CHIME

Susan Spilecki

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

PRELUDE

This Is My Father's World

Dale Wood

CALL TO WORSHIP

We come from north and south, from east and west.

**God's people are called to the Table
where simple grace nourishes us.**

From down the street to across town, from single households to apartment dwellers:

**God's people are called to community,
where we live and serve one another.**

From every class, every race, and every status;

**God's people are called to witness to God's hope
and to work for peace.**

– The Rev. Thom Shuman

*HYMN NO. 20

All Things Bright and Beautiful

ROYAL OAK

OPENING PRAYER

**Mighty God, you create human beings in your image
and call on us to respect what is sacred and holy.**

**We pray for people of faith throughout the world
who respond to your call to share love with one another
and to work for a world where there is justice for all.**

**Let us never be so sure of ourselves that we close our minds to new possibilities,
but may we be ready to discover more truth,
so that we may be in harmony with your Spirit. Amen.**

TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN (See "Today at Westminster" on page 2 for more information.)

Sudie Niesen Thompson

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Philippians 2:1-11

New Testament, page 174

SERMON

Gregory Knox Jones

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

As the Grains of Wheat

Marty Haugen

As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill
Were gathered into one to become our bread;
So may all your people from all the ends of earth
Be gathered into one in you.

As this cup of blessing is shared within our midst,
May we share the presence of your love.
Let this be a foretaste of all that is to come
When all creation shares this feast with you.

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Christ invites the entire world to this Holy Feast.

**This morning we remember our sisters and brothers
from above and below the equator,
from the North and from Down Under,
from every time zone around the globe.**

As today's sunlight inches across land and sea

Christians gather to celebrate God's gracious love for all creation.

All are invited and all are welcome.

*HYMN NO. 526

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

LINSTEAD

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Eternal God . . .

LORD'S PRAYER (From *A New Zealand Prayer Book*)

**Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,
Source of all that is and that shall be,
Father and Mother of us all,
Loving God, in whom is heaven:
The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!
The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom
sustain our hope and come on earth.
With the bread we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,
now and for ever. Amen.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE (See next page for communion instructions.)

Today we join the global Christian community in celebrating World Communion Sunday. As we receive the sacrament, we remember our siblings who are breaking bread together in churches around the world, and we celebrate our oneness in Christ. The different breads we use for communion today remind us of the many faces of the Body of Christ.

COMMUNION ANTHEM

Una espiga (Sheaves of Wheat)

Cesáreo Gabaráin

Text: See hymn no. 532

PRAYER FOLLOWING COMMUNION

**Gracious God, you have made us one
with all your people in heaven and earth.
You have fed us with the bread of life,
and renewed us for your service.
Help us who have shared Christ's body and received his cup,
to become his faithful disciples.
May our daily living be part of the life of your divine realm,
and may our love be your love
reaching out into the life of the world. Amen.**

*HYMN NO. 340

This Is My Song

FINLANDIA

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Festivity on HOLY MANNA

Douglas E. Wagner

COMMUNION INSTRUCTIONS

The Lord's Supper is open to all who trust in Christ. To receive communion by intinction, please approach the station on either the lectern or pulpit side, take a piece of bread and dip it in the chalice. If you prefer packaged communion elements, you will find those in the bread basket. Please return to your seat to partake of the packaged elements. If you are unable to come to a station, please tell an usher so that you may be served. Those sitting in the balcony will be served in their pews.

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New to Westminster? Welcome! We're so glad you're here. If you are joining us for the first time, please introduce yourself via our contact form on the [I'm New](#) page of our website or scan this QR code to get there from your mobile device. We look forward to getting to know you.



ADULT EDUCATION

TODAY, OCTOBER 1

The Poetry of Conflict

Presenter: Westminster member Bob Cox

10:10 a.m. | Classroom 6 and Zoom

Zoom link: bit.ly/wpc-adult-ed-zoom

Poets often act as the public conscience. Their verses express truths that reporters and historians can't openly share. From WWI to Northern Ireland to the contemporary Middle East, we'll explore how conflict is expressed through poetry and how the poetic perspective transcends ideology.



Forgiveness: Finding Peace through Letting Go (Session 2)

Video series by Adam Hamilton

Facilitator: Westminster member Margo Reign

10:10 a.m. | Classroom 5

Forgiveness is hard. Methodist pastor Adam Hamilton provides the participants a path on how to receive the freedom that comes with forgiving – even if the person needing forgiveness is ourselves.

NEXT SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8



Reach Riverside

Presenter: Logan Herring, CEO

10:10 a.m.

Classroom 6 and Zoom

Zoom link:

bit.ly/wpc-adult-ed-zoom

Reach Riverside is a major undertaking to rebuild a long-neglected part of the city of Wilmington. Come and learn about recent developments in this massive, transformative effort.

Feeling Good Again: Engaging One Another

Facilitator: Janet Steinwedel, Ph.D.

10:10 a.m. | Classroom 5

Our mental and physical health gets a boost from our positive interactions with others, and research suggests engaging with others promotes a longer and better life. Come join us to learn about and share best practices on how to be in healing conversations and add to our ability to feel good again.

ONGOING/WEEKLY

Online Bible Studies

Midweek Manna Bible Study

Wednesdays | 12 p.m. | Zoom

Facilitator: The Rev. Sudie Niesen Thompson

Contact: sniesenthompson@wpc.org

Thursday Evening Bible Study

Thursdays | 6–7 p.m. | Zoom

Facilitators: Randy Williamson

and Mary Anne Peters

Contact: randywilliamson1@comcast.net

Peace and Justice Thursday Evening Education Event

Who Was American Abolitionist and Orator Frederick Douglass?

October 5 | 7 p.m. | Zoom

bit.ly/peace-justice-zoom

PBS documentary and discussion

with Sue Linderman

Hosted by our Peace & Justice Work Group.

zoom.us/join | Meeting ID: 860 2752 1655

For full descriptions of our programs and more adult education and small group opportunities, visit WPC.ORG/ADULTS or check our events calendar at WPC.ORG/EVENTS. Select adult education programs are available as a livestream/recording on our [YouTube channel](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS

MEMBERSHIP EXPLORATION SERIES

Sundays, October 8 and 22 | 10:10 a.m. | Ruth Christie Room

(access through Rodney Chapel or the Ruth Christie Hallway)

Have you been considering membership at Westminster? Please join us for this two-session series! Membership Exploration series are wonderful opportunities to learn more about Westminster, discover ways to connect with others in the congregation, and explore ways to serve within and beyond our community. For those who wish to join the Westminster congregation, there will be an opportunity at the end of the second session. Our pastors and members of the church will share facets of Westminster. Questions? Contact the Rev. Sudie Niesen Thompson at sniesenthompson@wpc.org.



Blessing of the Animals

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8

During the 11:15 a.m. *Living Mosaics* Worship Service

We will give thanks for the creatures of our planet during our 11:15 a.m. *Living Mosaics* service on the side lawn (Sacred Grounds) on Sunday, October 8. If you have a beloved pet, you are encouraged to bring it to the service!

FALL FESTIVAL

Sunday, October 15 on the lawn
10 a.m. (following the 9 a.m. service)

GAMES

FOOD

CRAFTS

COSTUMES ARE ENCOURAGED!

Sponsored by the Westminster Deacons.

*Rain location: Walton Community Hall

PASTORAL STAFF

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

MUSIC STAFF

Dr. F. Anthony Thurman, Director of Music/Organist
Rebecca Hughes; Margaret Mezzacappa; Teddy Austin; Jerry Polman, Section Leaders
Emily Haas, Director of Music for Children and Youth
Cole Walker, Choral Assistant for Children and Youth

VIDEOGRAPHERS

Tanner Freeman (lead videographer), Rich Albert, Drew Holmes, Chip Pfleegor,
Roger Reinicker, Aaron Wemhoff and Sophia Wolff

COMMUNION STEWARDS

Dan Weintraub and Jenn Barrington

CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRIES STAFF

Kathleen Kennan, Director of Christian Education and Youth Ministry
Sydney Walker, Associate Director of Youth Ministry
Stephanie Burris-White, Director of Preschool Ministries and Beatrice Taylor, Nursery

SUPPORT STAFF

Susan Alexander, Reception Area Supervisor
Mary Clark, Administrative Assistant
Paul Crothamel, Director of Facilities and Security
Colleen Falasco, Director of Financial Operations
Doug Gerdt, Manager of Accounting and Reporting
Nicole Hughes, Director of Marketing and Communications
Cathy Lang, Administrative Assistant
Robert King; Daniel Steele; Joan Truitt; John Young, Sextons

SESSION

Taryn Albert, Adam Blackford, Michelle Butler, Clark Collins, Bob Cox, Sara Dubberly, Rob Gooderham,
Laura Holmes, Dick Jolly, Carla Krupanski, KC Morrison, Dave McBride,
Susan McPheeters, Jan Patrick, Chip Pfleegor, Todd Piercy, Carrie Saathoff, Laura Scanlan,
Kent Smith, Janet Steinwedel, Karissa Thacker, Gill Timon, Dan Weintraub

BOARD OF DEACONS

Liz Bacon, Lisa Bianchi, Jennifer Blackford, Heather Brooks, Russ Butler, Kyle Carrick,
Beatty Chadwick, Diane Chandler, Jack Coleman, Joe Daley, Tammy Daley, Kendra Gallagher,
Sara Gavenonis, Jamie Hickey, Drew Holmes, Barbara Jobe, Sheran Kegerise, Elaine Lunardi, Blair McConnel,
Sarah Mentzer, Robert Moore, Gathoni Murugi-Jenkins, Dan McAllister, Debbie McCullough, Lynne Perkins,
Emily Pfaff, Paula Piercy, Rachel Psaros, Patti Ridout, Robin Rosser, Evie Saathoff, Carol Tatnall,
Lois Underhill, Ginger Ward, Sandie Reinicker, Sue Weissinger, Sandra Wermus, Kathy Wissner

TRUSTEES

Rich Albert, Tom Brooks, Nancy Fleming, John Gavenonis, Lou Hering,
Bobbe Hoy, Brock Jobe, Sue Linderman, Robert Love, Tom Preston, Kris Qualls, Stan Stevenson

PARTNERS IN WORLDWIDE MINISTRY

DR Congo – PC(USA) Mission Co-workers: Jeff and Christi Boyd, Larry and Inge Sthreshley;
Kananga Presbytery and Members of Kamulumba-Ditalala Parish
Iran, Iraq, Syria, and Lebanon – PC(USA) Mission Co-worker the Rev. Dr. Elmarie Parker
Fellowship of Middle East Evangelical Churches,
Israel/Palestine – Peace Drums Steel Band
Guatemala - CEDEPCA, AJPU, the Association of Mam Christian Women for Development,
PC(USA) Mission Co-workers Betsey and Eric Moe

20 All Things Bright and Beautiful

Refrain

All things bright and beau-ti - ful, all crea-tures great and small,

all things wise and won-der - ful, the Lord God made them all. *Fine*

1 Each lit - tle flower that o - pens, each lit - tle bird that sings,
 2 The pur - ple-head-ed moun-tain, the riv - er run - ning by,
 3 The cold wind in the win - ter, the pleas-ant sum-mer sun,
 4 God gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell

God made their glow-ing col - ors; God made their ti - ny wings.
 the sun - set, and the morn - ing that bright-ens up the sky:
 the ripe fruits in the gar - den, God made them ev - ery one.
 how great is God Al - might - y, who has made all things well. *to Refrain*

One of a series of hymns the author wrote for children on the Apostles' Creed, this text (originally in seven stanzas) expands "Maker of heaven and earth." The first stanza became the refrain when the text was later set to a popular tune from the age of King Charles II.

TEXT: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1848, alt.

MUSIC: English melody, 17th cent.; adapt. Martin Shaw, 1915; harm. *The Hymnbook*, 1955
 Music Harm. © 1955, ren. 1983 John Ribble (admin. Westminster John Knox Press)

ROYAL OAK
 7.6.7.6 with refrain

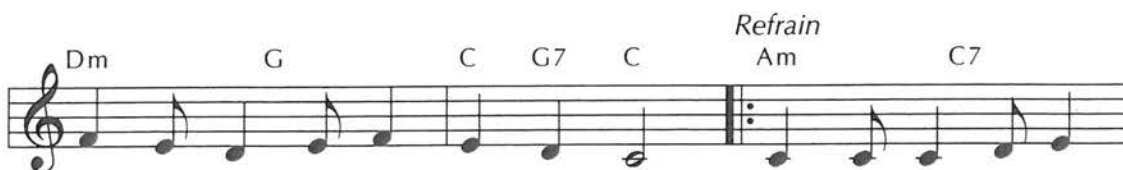
526 Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ



1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a
 2 Christ is a - ble to make us one; at the ta - ble he
 3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a



shout of joy: bread is bro - ken; the wine is poured;
 sets the tone, teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless,
 world of doubt, gives us love to tell, bread to share:



Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.
 love in word and in deed ex - press. Je - sus lives a - gain;
 God (Im - man - u - el) ev - ery - where!



earth can breathe a - gain; pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

Maracas and other rhythm instruments may be used. ||: ♩. ♩. ♩. :||

This "communion calypso" (as the author called it) affirms the continuing presence of Christ both in the sacramental meal and in the lives of Christians. Because this text was written to fit a pre-existing tune, it has a rather telegraphic style that encourages pondering.

This Is My Song

1 This is my song, O God of all the na - tions,
 2 My coun - try's skies are blu - er than the o - cean,
 3 This is my prayer, O Lord of all earth's king - doms:

a song of peace for lands a - far and mine.
 and sun - light beams on clo - ver - leaf and pine.
 thy king - dom come; on earth thy will be done.

This is my home, the coun - try where my heart is;
 But oth - er lands have sun - light too, and clo - ver,
 Let Christ be lift - ed up till all shall serve him,

here are my hopes, my dreams, my ho - ly shrine;
 and skies are ev - ery - where as blue as mine.
 and hearts u - nit - ed learn to live as one.

The first two stanzas of this hymn were written between the 20th century's two world wars and focus on the theme of international peace. The third stanza, by another author and added later, uses the language of the Lord's Prayer to voice a distinctly Christian perspective.



but oth - er hearts in oth - er lands are beat - ing
So hear my song, O God of all the na - tions,
So hear my prayer, O God of all the na - tions:

The first system of the musical score consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef and the lower staff is in bass clef. Both staves are in the key of B-flat major (two flats) and 4/4 time. The melody is primarily composed of chords, with some single notes in the upper staff. The lyrics are centered between the two staves.



with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.
a song of peace for their land and for mine.
my - self I give thee; let thy will be done.

The second system of the musical score also consists of two staves, treble and bass clef, in the same key and time signature. The melody continues with chords and single notes. The lyrics are centered between the staves. The system concludes with a double bar line and a final chord in both staves.