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.
Today at Westminster

9:00 – 9:30 a.m.  **Cereal Sunday** for Hanover Food Pantry
You may bring donations to the Westminster parking lot or leave them in the bin inside the 1502 entrance.

9:15 – 10:45 a.m.  **Nursery Care** in Preschool Suite D

9:30 – 10:30 a.m.  **Worship** in the sanctuary
Children are always welcome in worship. We also provide additional opportunities for children to grow in faith. Children are escorted to classes after the **TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN** during worship.

**Children’s Programming (9:50 – 10:30 a.m.)**
❖  Children age 2 through grade 2 in Preschool Suite C

10:30 – 11:00 a.m.  **Summer Tea** in the Meeting Room

For descriptions of our programs for children and youth, please visit [wpc.org/children-youth](http://wpc.org/children-youth).

Please see page 6 for information on Educational Offerings for Adults.

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**The Music:** The Westminster Choir will return to worship on Sunday, September 10. Weekly rehearsals are on Wednesdays from 7-9 p.m. For more information or to participate, contact TonyThurman@wpc.org.

**Time with Our Children:** 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 second grade may leave for Children’s Programming or remain in worship.

**The sanctuary flowers** are given to the glory of God and in honor of his wife Kitty's birthday by Gary Knox.

**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. Dates available are October 1, 8, and 29; November and 26.

**Westminster’s Prayer Team** prays for the needs of our community. Submit your prayer request to: wpcprayerlist@gmail.com.

**The Westminster Weekly Word e-newsletter** will help you stay connected with our community of faith. You may subscribe on the homepage of our website [wpc.org](http://wpc.org), or by liking us on Facebook [facebook.com/wpcdelaware](http://facebook.com/wpcdelaware), or following us on Instagram [instagram.com/wpcdelaware](http://instagram.com/wpcdelaware).

**You can make a contribution** to Westminster Presbyterian Church by visiting our website [wpc.org](http://wpc.org) and clicking the “Donate” button or scan this QR code on your smart phone. 
We now accept your donations by credit and debit card.
ORDER OF WORSHIP- SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2023

Passages in **bold** print may be spoken by all. At the asterisk (*), please stand as you are able.

**TOWER CHIME**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*PASSING OF THE PEACE*

**PRELUDE**

*Chorale-Prelude on LOBE DEN HERREN*

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

We follow Jesus, who says, “Take up your cross.”

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**HYMN NO. 35**

*Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty*  LOBE DEN HERREN

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Eternal God, we confess that we stray from your path when we live only for ourselves, when we turn from our neighbors and refuse to share their burdens, and when we ignore the pain of the world by neglecting people who are poor or ill. Free us from our self-centered ways and inspire us to follow your way of compassion-fueled justice so that we may experience the abundant lives you want us to live. Amen.

**ASSURANCE OF GOD’S FORGIVENESS**

**TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN**

Sudie Niesen Thompson

Children age 2 through Second Grade may leave for Summer Sunday School in the Preschool Suite, or they may remain in worship.

**SCRIPTURE LESSON**


**SERMON**

Gregory Knox Jones

**OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY**

*Lift High the Cross*  Nicholson/arr. Faye López

**CELEBRATION OF THE LORD’S SUPPER**

**INVITATION TO THE TABLE**

As much as we are loved by God, **so we are to love one another.** Come to this table of grace with your hearts open wide.

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*We seek to be nourished by the One who loves us.*
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…

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

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.

PRAYER FOLLOWING COMMUNION

God of grace and mercy,
you renew us with the bread of life and cup of salvation.
May these elements inspire us to love you by loving others
and to serve you through our service to others.
We pray in the name of Christ. Amen.

*HYMN NO. 718    Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said
*HYMN NO. 509    All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly
*HYMN NO. 718    Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE    Lift High the Cross

Following worship, please join us for tea in the Meeting Room.
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.

UPCOMING SUNDAY SCHEDULE

**September 10**

9:00 a.m. One service in the sanctuary
10:00 a.m. Homecoming Celebration on the lawn

**Resuming September 17**

8:45 a.m.–1:15 p.m. Nursery for infants and toddlers
9:00–9:55 a.m. Traditional worship service in the sanctuary
9:20–10:00 a.m. Children’s programming (age 3–grade 5)
10:00–10:45 a.m. Holy Toast Café reopens!
10:10–11:00 a.m. Education classes for all ages
11:15 a.m. – Noon Living Mosaics worship service on the lawn*
5:00–7:00 p.m. 180° Youth Ministry fall kick-off

*Weather permitting, the Living Mosaics service will be held in the side yard along Clayton Street (Sacred Grounds). Once the weather turns too cool to gather outdoors, and in cases of inclement weather, we will worship in Rodney Chapel.
EDUCATIONAL OFFERINGS

You can find virtual Christian education and small group opportunities on the Westminster website (wpc.org) and discover other Education Offerings for Adults on YouTube.

**Online Bible Study**

**Thursdays, 6–7 p.m. on Zoom**

This Bible Study, facilitated by Randy Williamson and Mary Anne Peters, continues and new faces are always welcome. Email randywilliamson1@comcast.net for the Zoom link.

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**Peace and Justice Thursday Evening Education Event**

**Race and the Jury: Illegal Discrimination in Jury Selection**

**Thursday, September 7, 7 p.m. on Zoom**

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86027521655

*With Sue Linderman*

In too many communities, the fairness, reliability, and integrity of the legal system have been compromised by clear evidence of racial bias in the selection of juries. Unrepresentative juries not only exclude and marginalize communities of color, they also produce wrongful convictions and unfair sentences. Our failure to remedy this longstanding problem of racial bias imperils the legitimacy of the U.S. legal system. How does this happen? What needs to be done? Hosted by Westminster’s Peace & Justice Work Group. Use the Zoom link above or go to zoom.us/join and enter Meeting ID 860 2752 1655.

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**Third Grade Bible Presentation**

**Sunday, September 17**

**During the 9 a.m. worship service**

RSVP by September 10 to: kathleenkennan@wpc.org

The presentation of Bibles is a celebration of God’s Word and a spiritual milestone for our students.
HOMECOMING CELEBRATION  
(with omelettes!)  
Sunday, September 10, 10 a.m.

Join us on the church lawn after the 9 a.m. worship service for a “Homecoming Celebration” sponsored by our Membership and Evangelism Committee. Come and learn about all the wonderful ministries of Westminster and how you can become involved in our church family. Fun activities will be available for children, and (new this year) breakfast will be provided by The Omelette King.

Whether you’ve been here for 5 minutes or 50 years, we have a place for you!

180° Youth Ministry  
Meet and Greet Kick-Off  
Sunday, September 17 | 5–7 p.m.  
Walton Community Hall

All students in grades 6 to 12, parents, and brothers and sisters are invited to attend this kick-off event to meet our 180 leadership team and learn of the youth opportunities that are available throughout the school year and summer of 2024. Dinner will be provided. This will be a fun-filled night with games, laughter, and fellowship. Please RSVP to Kathleen Kennan at kathleenkennan@wpc.org. We look forward to seeing you on September 17!
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

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’S MINISTRIES STAFF
Kathleen Kennan, Director of Christian Education and Youth Ministry
Stephanie Burris-White and Beatrice Taylor, Nursery

SUPPORT STAFF
Susan Alexander, Reception Area Supervisor
Mary Clark, Office Assistant for Data and Archives
Paul Crothamel, Director of Facilities and Security
Colleen Falasco, Director of Financial Operations
Doug Gerds, 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 Duberly, 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, Sharan Kegeirse, 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 Wisnner

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 – PCUSA Mission Co-workers: Jeff and Christi Boyd, Larry and Inge Streshley;
Kananga Presbytery and Members of Kamulumba-Ditalala Parish
Iran, Iraq, Syria and Lebanon – PCUSA 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,
PCUSA Mission Co-workers Betsey and Eric Moe
1 Praise ye the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near; join me in glad adoration!

2 Praise ye the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth, sheltereth thee under his wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!
Hast thou not seen how thy desires e'er have been granted in what he ordaineth?

3 Praise ye the Lord! O let all that is in me acknowledge him! All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him! Let the amen sound from his people again; gladly for aye we adore him.

This very strong 17th-century German hymn employs many phrases from the psalms, especially Psalms 150 and 103:1-6. It did not receive an effective English translation until the mid-19th century, but has remained popular ever since, thanks in part to its stirring tune.
All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly 509

1 All who hunger, gather gladly; holy manna is our bread.
2 All who hunger, never strangers, seek'er, be a welcome guest.
3 All who hunger, sing together; Jesus Christ is living bread.

Come from wilderness and wandering. Here, in truth, we will be fed.
Come from restless-ness and roaming. Here, in joy, we keep the feast.
Come from loneliness and longing. Here, in peace, we have been led.

You that yearn for days of fullness, all around us is our food.
We that once were lost and scattered in communion's love have stood.
Blest are those who from this table live their days in gratitude.

Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.

The United Church of Canada minister who wrote this text was introduced to shape note tunes at the 1990 Hymn Society conference in Charleston, South Carolina. Afterwards she vacationed with friends nearby and worked out this text while humming this tune as she walked up and down the beach.

TEXT: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1990
MUSIC: William Moore's Columbian Harmony, 1825
Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said

1. Take up your cross, the Savior said, if
you would my disciple be; take up your cross with
a willing heart, and humbly follow after me.

2. Take up your cross; let not its weight fill
your weak spirit with alarm; Christ's strength shall bear your
spirit up and brace your heart and nerve your arm.

3. Take up your cross; heed not the shame, and
let your foolish pride be still; the Lord for you accepts
death upon a cross, on Calvary's hill.

4. Take up your cross, then, in Christ's strength, and
bundant life and leads to victory o'er the grave.

Written by a nineteen-year-old in Connecticut, this challenging text has been widely printed on both sides of the Atlantic. It is strengthened by its resolute repetition of the same four words at the beginning of each stanza and by the appropriately stark shape note tune.

TEXT: Charles William Everest, 1833, alt.
ML: Atf. Freeman Lewis, 1814; harm. John Leon Hooker, 1984
Music Harm. © 1984 John Leon Hooker