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

8:45 – 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 to 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 the Library (for already confirmed youth)

**Adult Education: Blessed Be the Tie That Binds?** in the Sanctuary
*(see announcement on page 6)*

11:15 – 12:00 p.m.  
**Living Mosaics worship** in Rodney Chapel

4:30 – 7:00 p.m.  
**180° Youth Group** Scavenger Hunt
in Walton Community Hall, Classroom 6 and offsite

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

**The Music:** Our offertory solo will be sung by Margaret Mezzacappa, a section leader in the Westminster Choir. Margaret rose to prominence in the opera world as the Grand Prize Winner of the 2012 Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions. A graduate of Philadelphia’s Academy of Vocal Arts, the Ohio native has performed with Opera Philadelphia, Opera New Jersey, San Francisco Opera, the Philadelphia Orchestra, Columbus Symphony, Phoenix Symphony, and with the Germantown Oratorio Choir & Orchestra.

**The sanctuary flowers** are given to the Glory of God by Teresa and Aaron Wemhoff in gratitude for their 10th wedding anniversary and with loving memory of their father/father-in-law Rich Lunardi. 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.

**Westminster’s Prayer Team** prays for the needs of our community. Submit your prayer request to [wpcprayerlist@gmail.com](mailto:wpcprayerlist@gmail.com) or online at [wpc.org/care-support](http://wpc.org/care-support).

**You can make a contribution** to Westminster Presbyterian Church by visiting our website at [wpc.org](http://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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

PRELUDE

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Johann C. Kittel

CALL TO WORSHIP

We gather in awe before the Source of all things.

We come to praise the Maker of heaven and earth.
Powerful Presence above us, below us, within us and around us,
touch us with a sense of wonder and a reverence for your good creation.

Hymn No. 275

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

EIN´ FESTE BURG

CALL TO CONFESSION

We are God’s children,
created with a desire to love God and to love others as ourselves
but sin tempts us to damage our deepest relationships.

Let us confess the ways we alienate ourselves from God,
from others, and even from ourselves.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Creator of heaven and earth,
we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart, soul and mind
because we have been distracted by false idols.
We confess that we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves
because we are preoccupied with our own needs.
Create in us grateful hearts for the blessings of our lives
so that we may love you with our whole being
and experience the reward of bringing joy to the lives of others.
In the name of the compassionate Christ, we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD’S FORGIVENESS

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

Sudie Niesen Thompson

Sunday, October 29, 2023 – Page 3
I give to you a new commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.

Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.

Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor.

Exsultemus et in ipso jucundemur.

Timeamus et amemus Deum vivum.

Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero.

Where charity and love are, God is there.

Christ's love has gathered us into one.

Let us rejoice and be pleased in him.

Let us fear and let us love the living God,

And let us love God with a sincere heart.

I give to you a new commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.

Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.

Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor.

Exsultemus et in ipso jucundemur.

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Let us fear and let us love the living God,

And let us love God with a sincere heart.

O Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control,
Our spirits long to be made whole.
Let inward love guide every deed;
By this we worship, and are freed.

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.
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.
TODAY, OCTOBER 29

Blessed be the Tie that Binds?
Presenter: Heath W. Carter, Ph.D.
10:10 a.m. | Sanctuary
Watch live at: wpc.org/watch

We are living through a season of historic political polarization, one in which, with seemingly each passing day, more and more Americans view their neighbors as enemies. During this challenging season for church and nation alike, what can we learn from the witness of those who have gone before? What role might Presbyterian and other mainline Protestant churches play on the road ahead? Dr. Heath W. Carter is an associate professor at Princeton Theological Seminary, where he teaches and writes about the intersection of Christianity and American public life.

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 Event
The War in Gaza
Dr. Jones will share his perspective on the Israeli/Hamas war and the history leading up to this tragedy.
November 2 | 7 p.m. | Zoom
Link: bit.ly/peace-justice-zoom
Hosted by our Peace & Justice Work Group.
zoom.us/join | Meeting ID: 860 2752 1655

The interfaith prayer service that had been scheduled for Thursday evening has been cancelled.

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.
2023 Distinguished Speaker

The Rev. Dr. Thomas G. Long

Christian Funerals: What They Mean and How They Got into Trouble

Sunday, November 5, 2023 | 10:10 a.m. | Sanctuary

In this presentation, we will take a brief look at how the Christian funeral service developed historically, what this service means in terms of our faith, and how it has come under stress in recent decades.

The Rev. Dr. Thomas G. Long is an ordained Presbyterian minister who spent most of his career teaching homiletics (preaching) at Candler School of Theology at Emory University and Princeton Seminary. In 1996, Tom was named one of the 12 most effective preachers in the English-speaking world by Baylor University, along with the likes of Fred Craddock, Billy Graham, James Forbes, Barbara Brown Taylor, and William Willimon. In 2018, Baylor came out with a new list of the 12 most effective preachers and Tom was one of only four from the original list to make the list again.

Dr. Long will also preach at both worship services on November 5.
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

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

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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
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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
275 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

1 A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing. Our helper he, amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing. For still our ancient foe doth man of God's own choosing. Dost ask who that may be? Christ

2 Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing, were not the right man on our side, the truth to triumph through us. The Prince of Darkness grim, we him who with us sideth. Let goods and kindred go, this seek to work us woe. His craft and power are great, and Jesus, it is he. Lord Sabaoth his name, from tremble not for him. His rage we can endure, for mortal life also. The body they may kill; God's

3 And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to unseat. The Spirit and the gifts are ours through

4 That word above all earthly powers, no thanks to them, a-
Sing a New Song unto the Lord 276

(Psalm 98)

Refrain

G          D          D#dim          Em          Am7

Sing a new song unto the Lord; let your song be

D          G          D7/A          G          G          D

sung from mountain’s high. Sing a new song

D#dim        Em        Am7        D7        G

unto the Lord, singing hallelujah!

G          D7/A          Am7/G        D/F#          Em

1 Shout with gladness! Dance for joy! O come before the Lord. And play for God on of the Lord. The trumpet sounds;

Am7          D7sus        D7        G          D7/A

glad tambourines, and let your trumpet sound. sorrow to joy, and filled your soul with song. dead shall be raised. I know my Savior lives.

This loose paraphrase effectively conveys the joyful tone of Psalm 98, largely by incorporating allusions to many other Scriptures, such as Psalm 149:3, Romans 13:11, Psalm 16:9, 1 Corinthians 15:52, and Job 19:25. These familiar echoes help to give the text depth and breadth.
When We Are Living

Pues si vivimos

1 When we are living, it is in Christ Jesus,
   Pues si vivimos, para Él vivimos,

2 Through all our living, we our fruits must give.
   En esta vida frutos hay que dar

3 ‘Mid times of sorrow and in times of pain,
   En la tristeza y en el dolor,

4 Across this wide world, we shall always find
   En este mundo por querer habrá

and when we’re dying, it is in the Lord.
   Y si morimos para Él morimos.

Good works of service are for offering.
   Y buenas obras hemos de ofrecer.

when sensing beauty or in love’s embrace,
   En la belleza y en el amor,

those who are crying with no peace of mind,
   Gen-te que llora y sin consolar.

Both in our living and in our dying,

When we are giving, or when receiving,

whether we suffer, or sing rejoicing,

but when we help them, or when we feed them,

Sea que vivamos o que mudamos,

Sea ya que demos o que recibamos,

Sea que somos o que gastemos,

we belong to God; we belong to God.

Somos del Señor, somos del Señor.

This hymn began as an orally transmitted stanza reflecting on Romans 14:7–8 and was expanded by a Spanish-language hymnal committee to offer additional examples of the many dimensions of life, thereby strengthening the recurring affirmation that we belong to God through them all.
What Is the World Like

Capo 1: (G)  (Em7)  (C)  (D)
Ab  Fm7  Db  Eb

1. What is the world like when God’s will is done?
2. What is the world like when God’s will is done?
3. What is the world like when God’s will is done?
4. What is the world like when God’s will is done?
5. These are the stories that Jesus imparts,

(Em)  (C)  (Am)  (B7)
Fm  Db  Bbm  C7

Mustard seeds grow more than we can conceive:
Witness the wandering child coming home;
No more is neighbor just ally or friend;
Ready for feasting, we watch through the night,
filled with the Spirit who joins us as one.

(Em)  (Am)  (D)  (G)
Fm  Bbm  Eb  Ab

Roots thread the soil; branches reach for the sun.
Watch as the parent breaks into a run.
Peace thrives in places where once there was none.
Tending our lamps till the new day’s begun.
Born through our voices, our hands, and our hearts,

(C)  (Em7)  (Am7)  (D)  (G)
Db  Fm7  Bbm7  Eb  Ab

This is how God moves us each to believe.
This is how God longs for us when we roam.
This is how God works when rivalries end.
This is how God readies us for the light.
This is a new world where God’s will is done.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This text and tune were written to conclude a hymn festival at the 2009 Annual Conference of The Hymn Society in the United States and Canada. Four parables framed both the festival and the hymn: the Mustard Seed, the Prodigal Son, the Good Samaritan, and the Ten Bridesmaids.

TEXT: Adam M. L. Tice, 2009
MUSIC: Sally Ann Morris, 2009
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