



WESTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
World Communion Sunday
Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
1 October 2023 + 10:00 a.m.

Welcome and Announcements

Ministry Moment 2024 Stewardship Campaign Bill Deemer

Voluntary We Are Marching in the Light of God Zulu melody
Procession of Bridges Children with breads of the world.

***Ringing of the Bell** *The congregation rises at the ringing of the Tower Bell.*

***Call to Worship**

Leader: Around the world people gather
to break bread and pour wine.

People: **We gather with them in heart and mind.**

Leader: Around the world the broken body is made whole.

People: **As part of that body, we join in its unity.**

Leader: Around the world the Banquet of God
is prepared for the table.

People: **We, who share in the banquet, come eagerly to be fed.**

Leader: Let us worship together, let us share God's gifts.

***Processional Hymn 318** In Christ There is No East or West *St. Peter*

***Prayer of Confession** Loving and wise God, thank you for setting the table
which nourishes our lives, and for calling us to set aside
immaturity and walk in the way of insight. Forgive us for
not recognizing that all are welcome at your table and for
our tendency to get caught up in the minutia of our lives
and this world. Hear now our silent prayers of confession.

***Sung Response** Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us Hymnal, Back Cover

***Declaration of Pardon**

***Passing of the Peace**

Leader: Friends, believe the good news.

People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us greet one another with the sign of peace. Amen.

***Response of Praise** Gloria Patri Hymnal, Back Cover

Children's Sermon

Congregational Response God welcomes all, strangers and friends;
God's love is strong and it never ends.
Children in grades Pre-K-5 will go to Sunday School class following the Congregational Response.
Grades 6-7 remain in worship for communion.

Scripture Reading 1 Corinthians 12:4-13 Pew Bible, NT pages 174
Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Meditation The Table of God Rev. Dr. Lonnie H. Lee
Text: For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit,"
1 Corinthians 12:13

Anthem Jubilate, Exultate! Victor C. Johnson
Jubilate, exultate Deo! Gaudeamus hodie.
Cantate ei canticum novum. O lift your voice; sing joyfully unto God. Rejoice in the Lord, all ye people!
Sing to God a new song. Sing aloud with hymns of praise!

The Presentation of Our Gifts

At this time all worshipers are invited to sign and pass the Ministry of Friendship folders at the end of each pew.

Offertory

Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

Harold Friedell

The text for the anthem is 529 in the Hymnal

Offertory Response

Doxology

Hymnal, 606

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Pastor: It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, Creator God...Therefore we lift our voices with choirs of angels and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:

The people sing:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might.

Heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the

high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the

Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Leader: You are holy, O God of majesty...Accept this, our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving as a living and holy offering of ourselves, that our lives may proclaim the One crucified and risen. Great is the mystery of faith:

People: **Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

Leader: Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine...

Hear now the prayer Christ taught us to pray, saying:

The Lord's Prayer

Words of Institution

Distribution of Elements

The elements are served without interruption. Partake of the bread as you receive it and hold the cup until all have been served so that we may symbolize our unity in Christ.

Gluten-free bread is available in the center of the plate.

*Prayer after Communion

Gracious God, you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. You have fed us with the bread of life and renewed us for your service. Help us to be faithful disciples so that our daily living may be part of the life of your kingdom, and our love be your love reaching out as we serve your city and the world beyond. Amen.

*Hymn 351

All Who Love and Serve Your City

Charlestown

*Charge and Benediction

Choral Response

Amen

William Smith

*Voluntary

Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun

Gilbert Martin

(*) The congregation is invited to stand.

SERVING THIS SUNDAY AT WESTMINSTER

- **Sunday Liturgist:** Rev. Christian K. Choi, Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer
- **Greeters:** Tara and Debbie Fritsch
- **Worship Leader:** Bridges Children
- **Acolytes:** Charlie Graham and Ned Moore
- **Bible and Cross Carriers:** Abigail Eldridge and Macklin Metzger
- **Music:** St. Andrew's Sisters, Westminster Choir, David Tell, Japanese Flute, Dale Rogers, organist
- **Today's Communion Bread** is potato bread and was lovingly baked by Pat McNutt.
- **Elders Serving Communion:** Mary Ray (Team Leader), Scott Day, Mal Hildebrand, Robyn Hovey, Will Hovey, Jay Kennerly, Tim Kluge, Judy Knox, Christy Pound, Jeanne Van Gieson, Peter Van Gieson, Sarah Zerfas
- **Communion Prep Team:** Ann Collins, Priscilla and Tim Kluge, Elisabeth and Mark Lutrell, Leigh Milward, Mary Ray, Krista Steller
- **Home Communion Teams:** Jeanne VanGieson and Kathy Kenyon, Melanie and Bud Green, Marilyn & Jim Rigney, and Mary Peura & Judy Knox
- **Ushers:** Jim Parker (Head Usher), George Botanga, Sophia Choi, Kathy Kenyon, Susan Shaw, Bob Stuart, Jess Weitzel
- **Safety Team:** Brad Steller
- **Videographers and Sound:** Bob Fox, Krista Steller

EDUCATION AND FELLOWSHIP THIS SUNDAY AT WESTMINSTER

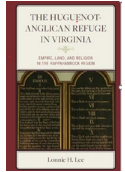
- **9:00 – 9:45 a.m. New Members Class (Pastor's Study)** Visitors are welcome to learn about membership at Westminster. Led by Dr. Kieffer
- **9:00 – 12 noon Nursery (lower level)** Infants and toddlers begin in the Nursery. Preschoolers begin in worship with their families and leave during the Congregational Response. Today's Bible Story: "Jesus Teaches and Heals" *Caregivers: Erin Winn, Maria Lafrenz, Sara Eldridge,*
- **10:15 – 11:00 a.m.**
 - **Sunday School (Third Floor Chapel)** Children Kindergarten – Grade 5 begin in worship with their families & leave during the Congregational Response Today's Lesson: "Finding God's Ways" (Matt. 21:23-32). Teachers: Meleah and Aaron Berkowitz
- **11:15 a.m. – 12 noon**
 - **Parish Nurse Ministry (Church Office)** Blood Pressure Checks by Ellen Carpenter
 - **Confirmation (Conference Room)** Grade 8 meet for Lesson Three: "Fall of Jerusalem" from Church History, Led by Dr. Aaron Berkowitz and Mary Ray
 - **Adult Ed Forum (Parish Hall)** presents "The Huguenot-Anglican Refuge in Virginia." Dr. Lonnie H. Lee will speak about his research and his new book.
- **1:00 p.m. CHURCH WORLD SERVICE CROP HUNGER WALK** Join the Springfield community as we address hunger in our world and community today. The walk begins and ends at Third Presbyterian Church (1030 North Seventh St).



ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE WELCOME VISITORS! Information about who we are is in our Welcome Brochure located in the pew pockets and on our website at www.wpcspi.org. Please complete the Ministry of Friendship folder located on the end of each pew. If you are interested in joining Westminster, please speak to one of the pastors. **New Members Class meets next Sunday, October 8.** Those who choose to join will meet with the Session on Sunday, October 15.

WE WELCOME THE REVEREND DR. LONNIE H. LEE as our guest preacher on this World Communion Sunday. Dr. Lee will present his new book, *The Huguenot-Anglican Refuge in Virginia* during the Adult Education Forum today at 11:15 am in Parish Hall. Hardback copies of the book (\$60) may be purchased in the West Narthex following worship. Dr. Lee will sign books at the end of his presentation. Dr. Lee served as Westminster's Seventeen Senior Minister from 1995 – 2012.



WORLD COMMUNION PROCESSIONAL Bridges children will process during the voluntary with breads of the world and lead in the Call to Worship. These breads will be served in the West Narthex following worship. The Communion table is adorned with African textiles, a gift of the late Andrea Butler.

HOME COMMUNION will be provided for those members unable to join us for worship today. Thanks to our Elders and Deacons for bringing this fellowship and sacrament.

H.E.A.L. FUND provides “helpful emergency assistance for living” to members of the Springfield community through Contact Ministries and within our church family as needed.

PEACE AND GLOBAL WITNESS OFFERING Each September and October WPC receives the Peace & Global Witness Offering which enables the church to promote the peace of Christ by addressing systems of injustice in our own communities and across the world.

SPRINGFIELD IL CROP HUNGER WALK today, The Walk begins and finishes at Third Presbyterian Church. Join our participating youth in a 2 ½ mile walk. See Becky Martin in the West Narthex following worship to make a donation or use the QR code.



CHILDREN'S CHOIR begin **Wednesday, October 4** under the direction of our Director for Children's Music, Katie Moore. This choir is for all children in kindergarten through fifth grade and meets weekly from 5:00 until 5:45 p.m.

RUTH AND NAOMI CIRCLE meets on **Wednesday, October 4, 7:00 p.m.** at the home of Dr. Diane Rutledge (3925 Surry Place Lane, 62711). Linda Folse will lead the devotional on chapter 6 Bernard of Clairvaux and the Four Degrees of Love including the passage 1 John 4:7-21 from the book, Devotional Classics, edited by Richard J. Foster and James Bryan Smith.

PW LUNCHEON is on **October 6** at 12 noon in Parish Hall. John Stafford, Retired FBI agent and coordinator of the WPC Safety Team, will speak to us on Church Safety. Please RSVP on website or with Jennie Alt by Wednesday, October 4.

CHURCH MICE (infants through age 4) meet **every Saturday** at 11:00 a.m. in the Second Floor Classroom with Mr. Rogers. Follow the cheese.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING - Next **Sunday, October 8**, the congregation will gather immediately following the 10:00 a.m. worship service to elect members to server as Elders, Deacons, as well as members for the Strategic Planning Committee and Nominating Committee.



WESTMINSTER'S ON MY OWN TIME EXHIBIT will be **Sunday, October 8** at 11:15 a.m. in Parish Hall. We look forward to this display as members share their hobbies, collections, and fine art. This is a wonderful way to get to know one another better. We are grateful to those who have already registered to be a part of the day and encourage others. Pat Hymans is providing cookies (her hobby) for all to enjoy. If you would like to participate, contact Dale Rogers (drogers@wpcspi.org).

GREEN TEAM SUMMIT WATCH PARTY is next **Sunday, October 8**, 4:30 – 7:00 p.m. Join the Earth Care Team and Senior High youth at a gathering of Faith in Place, featuring keynote speaker, Leah Thomas – Founder of Intersectional Environmentalist & Author of The Intersectional Environmentalist: How to Dismantle systems of Oppression to Protect People + Planet. A light dinner will be served at 4:30 p.m., and the viewing session and discussion will follow at 5:00 p.m.

ELIZABETH CIRCLE meets on **Monday, October 9**, 1:00 p.m. at the IL Presbyterian Home. Eleanor will host and lead lesson 2 “The Exorcism of Gerasa” from the 2023 Horizon’s Bible Study Sacred Encounters by Olive Mahabir. Call Eleanor VanDeventer (217-341-4032) for details.

PRESBYTERIAN MEN'S BREAKFAST meets on **Thursday, October 14** at 8:00 a.m. in Parish Hall. Scott Dahl, Director at Springfield Convention & Visitors Bureau, will speak on “Tourism in Springfield” Members will provide breakfast and devotions. Please RSVP on our website or contact the church.

2024 STEWARDSHIP CAMPGIAN REFLECTION

I was born into a loving family, the middle child of three. Dad was a teacher who was a positive role model for me, truly a wonderful example. My perfect mother was doctor, nurse, counselor, teacher, discipliner as well as cook, baker, and supportive mentor to me. Both my parents were musical, and I have inherited their love of music.

I was graced by having an extended family nearby. My grandfathers passed on to me the value of a work ethic. Both grandmothers taught me the importance of manners and politeness. Added to all of this were aunts, uncles, and cousins. Family gatherings were frequent and great fun.

I met Krista in high school, and we married in 1979. We moved to Springfield in 1982 where our two daughters were born. Erin and Lizzie both were baptized at Westminster and grew up attending Sunday School, children’s choir, confirmation, youth group and mission trips. They are both married with two children each and we see them all often. I am truly blessed by my family.

Now for the serious message of this ramble... Consider the blessings of our relationships to Westminster Presbyterian Church. Dear friends, the stunning beauty of our building with its towering sanctuary and spacious facilities for fellowship are not to be taken for granted. Our ministers are the scholarly mentors of our faith. The music that is brought to us weekly is truly exceptional, and visual art is displayed to enhance our worship. We enjoy the beautiful gardens and well-maintained lawn.

Essentially, our Westminster family is the recipient of the generosity and foresight of previous generations of members who imagined what this church is meant to be. Our privilege now is to continue their vision and prepare to pass our gifts for those to come. Let’s collectively count our blessings, dear friends, stewardship time is here. Please give what you can. *Blessings indeed, Brad Steller*

The stewardship brochure and pledge card are the pew pockets. Please complete the pledge card and return by Stewardship Dedication Sunday, October 29, 2023. Pledges can also be made online at www.wpcspi.org. Serving on the Committee: Susan and Scott Day, Bill Deemer, Jim Dolan, Becky Huston, Becky Martin, Jeanne Pittman, Steve Scaife, Bill Schlosser, Brad Steller, and Jay Kennerly, Chair.

THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

Monday, October 2

9:00 AM Garden Club of Springfield (Off site)

Tuesday, October 3

10:30 AM Staff Meeting (Pastor's Study)

1:00 PM Knit 2 Purl 4 (2nd Floor Classroom)

Wednesday, October 4

10:00 AM Pastors Pray in the Chancel (Sanctuary)

10:30 AM Worship Planning (Pastor's Study)

4:00 PM Bridges (Tower Classroom)

4:00 PM Depression and Bi-Polar Support
(Conference Room)

5:00 PM Children's Choir (Music Room)

5:15 PM APNC (Pastor's Study)

5:30 PM Mission and Community Service
(2nd Floor Classroom)

7:00 PM Ruth and Naomi Circle (Off site)

Thursday, October 5

2:30 PM Memory Loss Group (2nd Floor Classroom)

5:30 PM Dr. Kieffer's Bible Study (2nd Floor Classroom)

7:00 PM Choir (Music Room)

Friday, October 6

11:00 AM PW Board Meeting (Conference Room)

12:00 PM PW Luncheon (Parish Hall)

Saturday, October 7

11:00 AM Church Mice (2nd Floor Classroom)

Sunday, October 8

9:00 AM New Members Class (Pastor's Study)

10:00 AM Worship Service

10:15 AM Sunday School Pre-K to Grade 5 (Chapel)

10:15 AM Confirmation Prep (Conference Room)

11:00 AM Congregational Meeting (Sanctuary)

11:15 AM On Your Own Time Exhibit (Parish Hall)

4:30 PM Green Team Watch Party (Parish Hall)

Westminster Presbyterian Church
533 S. Walnut Street
Springfield, IL 62704
Phone (217) 522-4415
www.wpcspi.org

WESTMINSTER STAFF

The Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer
Pastor and Head of Staff

The Reverend Christian K. Choi
Associate Pastor for Parish Life

The Reverend Gerald W. Boutelle
Parish Associate

Dale T. Rogers
Director of Music and the Arts

Mary Ray
Interim Director for Youth

Meleah and Aaron Berkowitz
Co-Directors for Children's Ministry

Katie Moore
Director for Children's Music

Millie McNutt, Erin Winn
Nursery Coordinators

Emily Rowley, Keri Tate
Cooperative Preschool Staff

Ellen Carpenter
Parish Nurse

Pat Hymans
Hospitality Coordinator

Lisa Runkle
Financial Administrator

Jennie Alt
Church Administrative Assistant

Krista Steller
Communications Coordinator

Gary Warnick
Building and Property Manager

**Peter Bysko, James Capler,
Terry Gietl, Bill Hibbert,**
Part-time Custodians