



WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
4 July 2021 + 10:00 a.m.

Welcome and Announcements

Ministry Moment

COVID-19 Task Force Recognition

Voluntary

God of the Ages

George W. Warren

10:00 a.m. *Ringing of the Bell

The congregation rises at the ringing of the Tower Bell.

*Call to Worship

Psalm 133

Leader:

How very good and pleasant it is
when kindred live together in unity!

People:

**It is like the precious oil on the head,
running down upon the beard,**

Leader:

on the beard of Aaron,
running down over the collar of his robes.

People:

**It is like the dew of Hermon,
which falls on the mountains of Zion.**

Leader:

For there God's blessing is ordained, life forevermore.

*Processional Hymn 337

My Country Tis of Thee

America

*Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, you delight when brothers and sisters dwell together in unity and show respect for one another. Forgive us for all the pettiness that divides us and for the profound injustices we have persisted though the ages. Give us a stronger sense of who we are that we may celebrate and delight in the gifts of one another. Hear now our silent prayers of confession.

*Sung Response

Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us

Hymnal, Back Cover

***Declaration of Pardon**

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.**
All: **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

***Response of Praise**

Gloria Patri

Hymnal, Back Cover

Children's Sermon

Congregational Response

**Listen, listen, God is calling, through the Word inviting,
offering forgiveness, comfort, and joy.**

*Children in grades Pre-K-2 will go to Summer Sunday School
class following the Congregational Response.*

First Scripture Reading

Genesis 4:1-9

Pew Bible, OT pages 3-4

Solo

Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory

19th Century American Melody

Second Scripture Reading

Psalm 133

Pew Bible, OT pages 575

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Am I My Brother's Keeper?

Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer

*Text: 9 Then the Lord said to Cain, "Where is your brother Abel?"
He said, "I do not know; am I my brother's keeper?" Genesis 4:9*

Music The Call

Ralph Vaughan Williams

Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life: such a Way, as gives us breath:
Such a Truth, as ends all strife: such a Life as killeth death.
Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength: such a Light, as shows a feast:
Such a Feast, as mends in length: such a Strength, as makes his guest.
Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart: such a Joy, as none can move:
Such a Love, as none can part: such a Heart, as joys in love.

George Herbert

*A Litany for Our Nation

Leader: Almighty God, giver of all good things: We thank you for the natural majesty and beauty of this land. They restore us, though we often destroy them. Heal us.

People: **We thank you for the great resources of this nation. They make us rich though we often exploit them. Forgive us.**

Leader: We thank you for the men and women who have made this country strong. They are models for us, though we often fall short of them. Inspire us.

People: **We thank you for the torch of liberty that has been lit in this land. It has drawn people from every nation, though we have often hid from its light. Enlighten us.**

Leader: We thank you for the faith we have inherited in all its rich variety. It sustains our life, though we have been faithless again and again. Renew us.

People: **Help us, O Lord, to finish the good work here begun. Strengthen our efforts to blot out ignorance and prejudice, and to abolish poverty and hunger. Hasten the day when all people, with many voices in one united chorus, will glorify your holy Name. Amen.**

The Church at Prayer

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And with your spirit.**

Soloist: Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place,
I can feel his mighty power and his grace.
I can hear the brush of angels' wings
I see glory on each face;
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.

Pastor: Let us pray.

The Presentation of Our Gifts

At this time all worshipers are invited to sign and pass the Ministry of Friendship folders found in the pew racks.

Offertory Melita John B. Dykes

Offertory Response Doxology Hymnal, 606

***Prayer of Dedication** Divine Giver, all that we have is a gift from you,
and your grace is our sufficiency.
Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts
that they may unite brothers and sisters in unity,
through the grace and mercy of Christ. Amen.

***Hymn 339** Lift Every Voice and Sing *Lift Every Voice*

***Charge and Benediction**

***Voluntary** Liberty Bell March John Philip Sousa

(*) The congregation is invited to stand.

IN MEMORIAM

Elder Sandra E. Deilkes 05/18/1952 – 06/20/2021
United with Westminster 11/19/2017

SERVING THIS SUNDAY AT WESTMINSTER

- **Sunday Liturgists:** Rev. Christian K. Choi, Rev. Gerald W. Boutelle
- **Worship Leader:** Karen Sherrick
- **Greeter:** Mary Ray
- **Ushers:** Nathaniel Brower (Captain), Jessica Borland, Erin Ekstedt, Tara Fritsch, Bob Leffler, Mary Peura, Bob Stuart, Jess Weitzel, Ushers
- **Safety Team:** Mary Ray and Alan Schuermann,
- **Music:** Adam Miller, Tenor and Hymn singer, Dale Rogers, organist

EDUCATION AND FELLOWSHIP THIS SUNDAY

- **9:30 a.m. – 12 noon** Infants, toddlers, 2 & 3 year olds (Nursery) gather for play and Bible Story. This week: Clap, Sing, Dance. *Caregivers: Ella Kurman and Annie Sherrick*
- **10:00 – 11:00 a.m.** Children Pre-K – Grade 2 begin in worship with their families & go to the Third Floor Classroom following the Children's Sermon for Summer Sunday school. The story this week is: *The Parable of the Two Builders*. *Teacher: Karen Sherrick, Judy Knox*
- **11:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.** **Parish Nurse Ministry** - RN Marilyn Rigney will check blood pressures today in the Church Office.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE WELCOME VISITORS! Information about us is in our Welcome Brochure located in the pew pockets and on our website www.wpcspi.org. Please complete the Ministry of Friendship folder located on the end of each pew. If you are interested in joining, speak to Dr. Kieffer or Rev. Choi.

RECOGNITION OF THE COVID-19 TASK FORCE

This Sunday, July 4 Westminster will return to serving refreshments in the West Narthex before and after worship as our country celebrates newfound independence thanks to the discovery and distribution of effective vaccines.

Additionally, we will recognize the COVID-19 Task Force during worship. We are grateful for this team which has met regularly by Zoom during the pandemic to guide our Head of Staff and Session on this precarious journey. Special thanks to physicians, Virginia Dolan, Peter Kieffer, Todd Knox, Mike Nenaber, and Cara Vasconcelles and to R.N.s Ellen Carpenter and Marilyn Rigney.



As Illinois is currently in Phase 5 for COVID-19 recovery, Westminster will continue to consult the Task Force which will only meet as needed going forward. Dr. Todd Knox prepared the final Task Force report on June 9, 2021. Those with underlying health concerns and not fully vaccinated should persist in wearing masks. Worship will continue to be live streamed.

THE 2021 YOUTH MISSION: JULY 11-17

Next Sunday, July 11, sixteen youth will be commissioned during the 10:00 a.m. worship service. The week of July 11-17 they join adult mentors **Suzanne Borland, Cathy Brower, Susan Day, Bill Deemer, Amanda Kurmann, and Mary Ray** led by **Rev. Christian Choi** (Associate Pastor for Family Ministry) on a mission to Little Rock, Arkansas. Our youth and mentors will work with the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance at the Ferncliff Camp & Conference Center. In addition to the missional work, the youth and mentors will be visiting the National Civil Rights Museum in Memphis, TN, and other historic places in Little Rock. This year's theme: Mending Links, Breaking Chains is based on Jeremiah 33:3.

Braden Barton
Grace Batterman
Drew Borland
Jessica Borland
Emily Brower
Jeffrey Ellis

Luke Elston
JT First
Madison Kruger
Clayton Kurmann
Ella Kurmann

Samantha Magalis
Benjamin Parker
Avery Pound
Bryce Pound
Matthew Scott

The WPC youth are grateful for the congregation's continued support and prayers and look forward to **leading worship on Sunday, July 18**. Many, many thanks to everyone who supported the 2021 Youth Mission through our fundraisers and the Pentecost Offering! We could not do it without you. This year's fundraisers: **\$3,917-Founders' Sunday Nelson Catered Meal and \$1,406-Car Wash and Bake Sale. The youth received \$395.78 from the Pentecost Offering. These totaled \$5,718.78** thanks to the collaboration and teamwork of our youth, their parents, adult mentors, and this generous congregation.



2021 STEADFAST NEIGHBOR SERVICE WEEK - AUGUST 2-6, 2021

TEAM BUILDING AND ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING ON THURSDAY, JULY 22, 5:30 P.M.

The Steadfast Neighbor Mission Task Force is recruiting ministry partners for this year's service week August 2-6. Join this neighborhood outreach as we get collaborate on projects, build community with one another, and get to know our neighbors. Sign up today in the West Narthex or on our website.

MEALS ON WHEELS MINISTRY PARTNERS NEEDED! We have two routes to fill: **Tuesday, July 13 and Wednesday, July 14**. Please sign up to deliver in the West Narthex, on our website or call Jennie Alt at 217-522-4415. Thank you to the following ministry partners who are providing this community service: *Carolyn and Keith Beatty, Mary King and Marilyn Rigney, Mary Caroline Mitchell and Olivia Simonson, Mary Ray and Gayle Wilson, Linda and Bill Schlosser, Krista Steller.*



HELPING HANDS - The July 9 Helping Hands meal will be prepared by Janie Bahlow, Sally Godbey, Julie James, Pat Picchi, and Amy Xanders. Marc Anderson will provide milk. We are still in need of ministry partners for October, November and December!

LITTLE PANTRY AT GRAHAM ELEMENTARY – The Little Pantry supplies are stocked regularly by our Mission & Community Service committee. Items are located on shelves on the lower level by the elevator. We encourage our ministry partners to use the supplies that are provided. Donations are still encouraged. Contact Lisa Runkle for reimbursement for donations. Sign-up to stock the pantry is available at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0b49a8ae22a3f85-little>.

GIVE-A-MEAL-A-MONTH JULY MENU *Canned spaghetti or pasta meal, canned fruit in juice or water, rice bagged or boxed, disposable razors, hygiene products, and diapers (size 3 or above).* Thank you to all who place items in the West Narthex for the Central Illinois Foodbank and to Jess Werner for delivering the donations each month.

CONTACT MINISTRIES BACKPACK COLLECTION - Once again WPC will partner in ministry with Contact Ministries as we collect backpacks to be distributed at their **Ready for Success Back to School Event on Thursday, August 19, 2:00 – 5:00 p.m.** We will collect backpacks through **Sunday, August 15.** Around 250 school-aged children will receive a new backpack from Contact Ministries and a new pair of Payless shoes from Share the Spirit! Last year, we collected 185 backpacks! Now more than ever the kids in our community need the support. The basket is in the West Narthex.



WESTMINSTER WILL SERVE AS A VACCINATION SITE on Monday, July 19 from 2:00 – 6:00 p.m. This is open to the public, as well as members of the church. A registration link will be available, but it is NOT required. Walk-ins are encouraged. The clinic will offer the Pfizer shot for ages 12 & up and the Johnson & Johnson one dose shot for ages 18 and older. The second shot date is scheduled on August 9. Please contact Jennie Alt or Ellen Carpenter for questions.

2021 VIRTUAL VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL ADVENTURE ISLAND: QUEST FOR GOD'S GREAT LIGHT

We are excited to serve 10 families and 17 children this summer with our at-home vacation Bible school. At the end of June, families picked up a kit with materials to create the daily crafts and a science experiment to accompany the weekly, virtual, day of VBS. Families will share Bible stories, skits, snacks, music, crafts, and experiments to help “shine God’s great light into our world.” **Lesson One was emailed to participating families on Thursday, July 1. Lesson Two will be emailed Thursday, July 8.**



FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Knit 2 Purl 4 – K2P4 invites members and non-members to join In-person knitting weekly on Tuesdays at 1:00 - 3:00 pm. The monthly knitter's lunch is on the first Tuesday of each month at Noon in the Second Floor Classroom. Bring your lunch and enjoy fellowship with all who attend.

The Sound Celebration Chorus and Land of Lincoln Chorus is holding an outdoor concert at Duncan Park (formerly Douglas Park) on **Saturday, July 10 from 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.** Bring your lawn chair and enjoy an evening of fun.

Westminster will host an **ILLINOIS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA** Around the Town Concert on Thursday, August 5 at 7:00 p.m. as a part of a Chamber Music Festival running four days that week and featuring musicians from the Illinois Symphony.

THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

Monday, July 5

Church Office Closed

Tuesday, July 6

9:30 AM Meals on Wheels Delivery
10:30 AM Staff Meeting (2nd Floor Classroom)
12:00 PM Knitter's Lunch (2nd Floor Classroom)
1:00 PM Knit 2 Purl 4 (2nd Floor Classroom)

Wednesday, July 7

9:30 AM Meals on Wheels Delivery
10:30 AM Worship Planning
5:00 PM Mission & Community Service (2nd Floor Classroom)
6:00 PM Communion Practice for Elders (Sanctuary)

Thursday, July 8

8:00 AM VBS Email Sent
9:30 AM Meals on Wheels Delivery

Friday, July 9

5:30 PM Helping Hands Meal Delivered
6:00 PM Kenya Reunion (The Knox Home)

Saturday, July 10

Sunday, July 11 - Youth Mission Trip Commissioning Communion

10:00 AM Worship Service
10:15 AM Summer Sunday School (Pre K-2)

Westminster Presbyterian Church
533 S. Walnut Street
Springfield, IL 62704
Phone (217) 522-4415 Fax (217) 522-4465
www.wpcspi.org

WESTMINSTER STAFF

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

The Reverend Christian K. Choi
Associate Pastor for Family Ministry

The Reverend Gerald W. Boutelle
Parish Associate

Dale T. Rogers
Director of Music and the Arts

Deb Watts Elliott
*Saturday Worship Pianist and
Music Coordinator*

Karen Sherrick
Director for Children's Ministry

Ella Kurmann
Nursery Worker

Ellen Carpenter
Parish Nurse

Pat Hymans
Hospitality Coordinator

Emily Rowley, Kacey Belitos
Cooperative Preschool Teachers

Lisa Runkle
Financial Administrator

Jennie Alt
Church Administrative Assistant

Krista Steller
Webmaster

Gary Warnick
Building and Property Manager

**Terri Gietl, Bill Hibbert,
Eddie Hubbard, Steve Stapleton**
Part-time Custodians



**Cain and Abel, sculpture at Tredegar Iron Works,
American Civil War Museum in Richmond, VA**
Commemorating two brothers killed at Cold Harbor.
Sculpted by William T. Kieffer, Jr. and Ann Feeley