



WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
29 August 2021 + 10:00 a.m.

Welcome and Announcements

Voluntary A Tribute

Andrew Fletcher

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

***Call to Worship** Psalm 92 and 34

Leader: It is good to give thanks to you, O Lord,
to sing praises to you, O God Most High,
**People: to declare your steadfast love in the morning
and your faithfulness by night.**
Leader: For you, O Lord, have made us glad by your works.
People: At the work of your hands we sing for joy.
Leader: Those who hunger for righteousness gather gladly
in your reliable presence.
**People: O taste and see that the LORD is good;
happy are those who take refuge in God.**

***Hymn 509** All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly *Holy Manna*

***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 our hesitancy to sit 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**
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 Proverbs 9:1-6 Pew Bible, OT page 591-592

Music On Jordan's Stormy Banks I Stand Lloyd Larson, arr.

Second Scripture Reading Mark 7:1-8, 14-15 Pew Bible, NT page 42

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon Table Matters Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer

Text: "Wisdom has set her table..." Proverbs 9:2b

Solo For Everyone Born Brian Mann

The text for the solo is 769 in the hymnal.

***Affirmation of Faith** *A Brief Statement of Faith*

We trust in God the Holy Spirit,
everywhere the giver and renewer of life.
The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,
sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us
together with all believers
in the one body of Christ, the Church.
The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles
rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,
engages us through the Word proclaimed,
claims us in the waters of baptism,
feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,
and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church.
In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage
to pray without ceasing,
to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,
to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.
In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,
we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks
and to live holy and joyful lives,
even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth,
praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

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 Lord's Prayer

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 Modérément animé Claude Debussy

Offertory Response Doxology Hymnal, 606

*Prayer of Dedication O God, receive these gifts for the work of your church. With these gifts we
dedicate ourselves
to live and speak the truth of your word,
May we seek justice, love kindness
and walk humbly with you;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Hymn 727 Will You Let Me Be Your Servant *The Servant Song*

*Charge and Benediction

*Voluntary Paeon Andrew Moore

(*) The congregation is invited to stand.

HOME COMING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

Join your Westminster family for Homecoming Sunday on September 12
as we begin the 2021-2022 Ministry Year!

We will celebrate worship at 10:00 a.m. welcome the Westminster Choir,
and commission the 2021-2022 Education Leadership Team.

A brunch reception in Parish Hall will follow worship and includes
ministry displays and children's activities, and the opportunity to sign up for
Education, Fellowship, Music, Mission and Service.

Do not miss this new beginning at Westminster!

SERVING THIS SUNDAY AT WESTMINSTER

- **Sunday Liturgist:** Rev. Christian K. Choi
- **Worship Leader:** Karen Sherrick
- **Greeter:** Maribeth Norton
- **Ushers:** Alyssa Haaker (captain), Sara Eldridge, Bud Green, Greg Humphrey, Nancy Huston, Richard Leary, Mike Sundquist
- **Safety Team:** John Stafford
- **Music:** Matthew Nall, Pianist, Lyle VanDeventer, Bass, 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: Joe and the Slow Soup Caregivers: *Sophia Choi and Dr. Andy 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 100 Sheep. *Teacher: Christy Pound, Karen Sherrick*

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.

PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE - On August 14 Haiti was hit with a catastrophic 7.2 earthquake. PDA is providing relief and short-term recovery in the impacted areas of Haiti through its local partners and established partnerships throughout the entire recovery process. Please consider donating to help Haiti by indicating PDA on your envelope and/or check.

SESSION CALLED A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING on **Sunday, October 10** for the purpose of adjusting the terms of call to the Rev. Christian K. Choi which include the title change to Associate Pastor for Parish Life, to elect an APNC for the position of Associate Pastor for Family Ministry, and to elect the Church Officers presented by the Nominating Committee.

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND YOUTH MINISTRY PARTNER ORIENTATION - Youth Ministry Partners (Junior and Senior High) will meet **Sunday, August 29, from 11:15 – 1:00 p.m.** in the Second Floor Classroom for orientation and lunch. Thank you to ministry partners: Jim Kincaid, Anna Koeppel (Junior High) and Susan Day, Bill Deemer, Mary Ray (Senior High).

WESTMINSTER COOPERATIVE PRESCHOOL ORIENTATION is **Tuesday, August 31 at 6:30 p.m. on Zoom** and the Preschool will be in full swing after Labor Day. Classes begin Tuesday, September 7 for children attending Tuesday and Thursday Classes. Classes begin Wednesday, September 8 for children attending classes Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.

FALL SUNDAY SCHOOL AND YOUTH GROUP BEGIN SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

PRE-KINDERGARTEN - GRADE 2 (THIRD FLOOR CHAPEL): **Growing in God's Love** is a multi-age, companion curriculum for Growing in God's Love: A Story Bible Curriculum. It studies each story in greater depth and also provides intergenerational and at-home ideas to equip families to re-enforce Bible lessons.

GRADE 3-5 (THIRD FLOOR CLASSROOM): **Growing in God's Love** is a multi-age, companion curriculum for Growing in God's Love: A Story Bible Curriculum. Our older students will follow the curriculum, focusing on Bible literacy, activities, and faith formation practices that are appropriate for their grade level.

CONFIRMATION begins on **Sunday, September 19 from 11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.** in the conference room. Confirmation will utilize two curriculums; Sparkhouse's *Echo the Story* and PCUSA's *Big God, Big Questions* to study from baptism to becoming active members of the Presbyterian Church.

SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP begins on **Sunday, September 12**. The youth will explore how our Christian faith is part of our identity: to discover who we are, what we believe, and how we can make a difference in the world. The schedule will go as follows: 5:00 p.m. Fellowship with games & activities in Parish Hall, 5:30 p.m. Youth dinner in Parish Hall, and 6:00-7:00 p.m. Youth Group discussion in the youth room.

BRIDGES AND WESTMINSTER CHORISTERS return to **Wednesday afternoons this year beginning September 15**. Bridges, a mid-week fellowship for Grades 3-5 meets from 4:00 - 4:45 p.m. The Choristers include children in Kindergarten - Grade 5 and meet from 4:45 until 5:30 p.m. The 2021-2022 theme is: Follow Me: Biblical Practice for Faithful Living. We will examine what it looks like to live a life rooted in the two greatest commandments to love God and others.

CHILDREN OF ABRAHAM BEGINS WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22 - Children in Kindergarten through High School are invited to join us for the first gathering of The Children of Abraham. We will be hosted by the Islamic Society of Greater Springfield on **Wednesday, September 22 from 4:30-6:00. Masks will be required for this gathering.**

MISSION AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

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. Sign-up to stock the pantry is available at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0b49a8ae22a3f85-little>.

GIVE-A-MEAL-A-MONTH AUGUST MENU *Beef Stew, Applesauce, Pancake Mix, and Syrup, Dry Cereal, 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.

COMPASS FOR KIDS - During the 2021-2022 school year Compass 4 Kids will return to in-person gatherings at Westminster on **Tuesday, October 19 at 3:00 p.m.** Westminster hosts Compass for the students at Graham Elementary School. If you are interested in joining this meaningful and dynamic team of ministry partners, contact Ann Collins, Dr. Kieffer, or sign up on Sunday, September 12.

GRAHAM ELEMENTARY IS SEEKING MENTORS/TUTORS to work one-on-one with children and help them with the basics in reading and math. Graham is flexible on the amount of time you can give. Contact the parent educator, Brittany Rummans, with questions at brummans@sps186.org or call the school at 217-525-3220.

FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

KNIT 2 PURL 4 – Knit 2 Purl 4 meets in person on **Tuesdays from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. in the Second Floor Classroom.** On September 7, Sharon Brown, Director of Kumlner Neighborhood Ministries, will be our guest at the brown bag lunch at noon. Sharon will explain how our knitted donations are used. Thank you to our “secret knitters” in the congregation. Your contributions are appreciated, and you too are all welcome to join us.

ALL PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN 2021-2022 CIRCLES have chosen the Horizon’s Bible Study “**What My Grandmothers Taught Me,**” based on the women in Matthew’s genealogy of Jesus by Merryl Blair. The book cost is \$11 and can be purchased from Jennie Alt in the Church Office

PW CHURCH-LUNCHEON RESUMES resumes **Friday, September 3 at 12 noon.** Nancy Canady will prepare the meal. The program will be on the expansion of the IL Presbyterian Home by Amy Rasing. Please R.S.V.P by Wednesday, September 1 via the weekly email link, our website, or by calling the church office.

ELIZABETH CIRCLE will meet, **Monday, September 13 at 5:30 p.m.** in the Second Floor Classroom. If you would like information, call Eleanor VanDeventer at 217-341-4032.

PRESBYTERIAN MEN’S BREAKFAST will resume on Thursday, **September 9 at 8:00 a.m.** in Parish Hall. Join us for devotions, Rich Canady will provide breakfast, and Michael Phelon, founder and CEO of the Outlet, will be the speaker. Call Pete VanGieson (217-652-1310) for details.

LYDIA CIRCLE will meet **Tuesday, September 21 at 9:30 a.m.** in the Second Floor Classroom. For information, please call Nancy Canady at 217-899-9890.

DR. KIEFFER’S BIBLE STUDY will resume **Thursday, September 16, 6:00 – 7:15 p.m.** in the Second Floor Classroom. Details are coming!

DMA will resume this fall for their monthly meeting on the third Friday, September 17, October 15, and November 17. Our September program will be given by Dr. Todd Knox on Westminster’s Steadfast Neighborhood Week.

RUTH AND NAOMI will resume on **Wednesday, October 6, 7:00 p.m.** at the home of Linda Chronister. Call Christy Pound (217-971-3082) or Marilyn Rigney (217-494-8039) for information.

WORSHIP AND MUSIC

SOUND CELEBRATION AND LAND OF LINCOLN CHORUS’ CONCERT - Join the Sound Celebration Chorus and Land of Lincoln Chorus for an outdoor concert held at Sherman Village Park today **AUGUST 29 AT 5:00 P.M.** Bring your lawn chairs, drinks, snacks, and enjoy an hour of fun and upbeat acapella music. There will also be food vendors to purchase items to eat or drink.

WESTMINSTER CHOIR resumes rehearsals on **Thursday, September 9 at 7:30 p.m.** and will have its annual Choir Retreat at Indian Point Presbyterian Church on Saturday, September 11 at 1:30 p.m. Following the retreat, the choir is invited to share dinner at the home of Jim and Meg Kontio.

ORGAN CONCERT - On **Sunday, September 26 at 4:00 p.m.** guest youth organist, Trevor Good, will provide an organ concert in the Westminster sanctuary. All are welcome.

THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER
Monday, August 30

Tuesday, August 31

10:30 AM Staff Meeting (Pastor's Study)
1:00 PM Knit 2 Purl 4 (2nd Floor Classroom)
6:30 PM WCP Preschool Parent Orientation
(Zoom)

Wednesday, September 1

10:00 AM Pastor's Pray in Chancel
10:30 AM Worship Planning (Pastor's Study)
12:30 PM Reporter (2nd Floor Classroom)
5:30 PM Mission & Community Service Committee
(3rd Floor Classroom)
5:30 PM Family Ministry Committee
(2nd Floor Classroom)

Thursday, September 2

4:00 PM IL Presbyterian Home Service
5:00 PM Personnel Committee (Pastor's Study)

Friday, September 3

10:00 AM WCP Popsicles on the Playground
11:00 AM PW Board Meeting (2nd Floor Classroom)
12:00 PM PW Luncheon
2:00 PM Graveside Service for Paula Stewart
(Camp Butler National Cemetery)

Saturday, September 4

2:00 PM Inurnment Service for Dr. Ramone Schmidt
(Memorial Garden)

Sunday, September 5

9:30 AM Parish Nurse Ministries (Church Office)
10:00 AM Worship Service
10:15 AM Summer Sunday School (Pre K-2)

Westminster Presbyterian Church
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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 Belitsos
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