



WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost
17 October 2021 + 10:00 a.m.

Welcome and Announcements

Ministry Moment SPUD bake Bryce Pound

Voluntary Prelude Norman Warren

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

***Call to Worship** Based on Psalm 104

Leader: Bless the Lord, O my soul,
People: **O Lord my God, you are very great and clothed with honor and majesty.**
Leader: O Lord, how manifold are your works!
People: **In wisdom you have made them all.**
Leader: May the glory of the Lord endure forever;
People: **Let us sing praise to our God while we have being;**
Leader: Let us worship and bless the Lord with praises.

***Hymn 806** I'll Praise My Maker *OLD 113TH*

***Prayer of Confession** Gracious and Merciful God, too often we rely on your graciousness without thinking about the sacrifice. We want to sit beside you in your glory, but fail to stand beside you in your suffering. We are eager to be the first in your kingdom, but we are among the last to care for the least. Forgive and teach us to be persisting in reverence throughout every season and circumstances of life. 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

**God welcomes all, strangers and friends
God's love is strong and it never ends.**

Children in grades Pre-K-Grade 5 will go to Sunday school class following the Congregational Response.

First Scripture Reading Job 38:1-7 Pew Bible, OT page 484

Second Scripture Reading Hebrews 5:1-10 Pew Bible, OT page 220

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon Persisting in Reverence Rev. Christian K. Choi

Text: In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission."
Hebrews 5:7

Anthem

The Meditations of My Heart

Elaine Hagenberg

May the words of my mouth and the meditations of my heart
be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord. O Lord my rock, O Lord,
my strength, O Lord my God and redeemer.

Psalm 19:14

***Affirmation of Faith**

Colossians 1:15-20

**Jesus Christ is the image of the invisible God,
the firstborn of all creation;
in Christ all things in heaven and on earth were created,
things visible and invisible.
All things have been created through Christ and for Christ.
Christ himself is before all things,
and in Christ all things hold together.
Christ is head of the body, the church;
Christ is the beginning,
the firstborn of the dead,
so that Christ might come to have first place in everything.
For in Christ all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,
and through Christ God was pleased to reconcile all things,
whether on earth or in heaven,
by making peace through the blood of the cross. Amen.**

The Church at Prayer

Leader: 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.

Leader: Let us pray.

The Lord's Prayer

The Presentation and Dedication of Our Gifts

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

Offertory Reflection Percy Whitlock

Offertory Response Doxology Hymnal, 606

***Prayer of Dedication** Loving God, we give you thanks for all your gifts of
goodness and grace. Receive our lives and gifts dedicated
in your name as a sacrifice of praise to you and teach us to
honor you each day by our obedience to your will.
Amen.

***Hymn 796** We Come to You for Healing, Lord *Land of Rest*

*Charge and Benediction

***Voluntary** Epilogue Healey Willan

(*) The congregation is invited to stand.

SERVING THIS SUNDAY AT WESTMINSTER

- **Sunday Liturgist:** Rev. Gerald W. Boutelle
- **Worship Leader:** Bryce Pound
- **Greeters:** Pat Hildebrand-Culler & Mal Hildebrand
- **Ushers:** Nathaniel Brower (Head Usher), Jessica Borland, Erin Ekstedt, Tara Fritsch, Bob Leffler, Mary Peura, Bob Stuart, Jess Weitzel
- **Safety Team:** John Stafford
- **Music:** Lyle VanDeventer, bass, the Westminster Choir, and 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: Creation. *Caregivers: Leigh Milward, Ella Kurmann*
- **10:00 – 11:00 a.m. Children Pre-K – Grade 5** will begin in worship with their families & go to Sunday school following the Congregational Response.
 - Pre-K – Grade 2** (Third Floor Chapel) Story: A Family with a Big Disagreement
Teachers: Cara Barnett (Lead), Sophia Choi
 - Grades 3-5** (Third Floor Tower Classroom) Story: A Family with a Big Disagreement
Teachers: Cathy Brower (Lead), Karen Sherrick
- **11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. Junior High Confirmation** (Third Floor Classroom) BGBQ session 1: What is Confirmation? *Ministry Partners: Rev. Choi, Jim Kincaid*
- **11:15 a.m. – 12 noon Adult Education Forum** (Second Floor Classroom) This week we will learn about state programs that address hunger, the people being served, and ways we might advocate to enhance this safety net, the main source of food assistance for the hungry in our community. *Leader: Stephanie Bess, long-term administrator for the Illinois Department of Human Services.*
- **5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Senior High Dinner and Youth Group Fellowship** (Parish Hall, Youth Room) *Dinner: Sophia Choi. Theme: Fellowship Day! Ministry Partners: Rev. Choi, Susan Day, Bill Deemer, Mary Ray*

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.

Rev. Choi's title change to Associate Pastor for Parish Life and increased compensation was approved by the congregation at the October 10 meeting effective October 1, 2022.

The following persons were elected to serve by the Congregation on Sunday, October 10:

APNC for Associate Pastor for Family Ministry: Craig Batterman, Meleah Berkowitz, Meridith Bryans, Adam Ekstedt, Tom Owen, Krista Steller, and Youth Emily Brower

Elders: Class of 2024: Jay Kennerly, Tim Kluge, Dave Leonatti, Michael Morthland, Christy Pound, Karen Sherrick, Eleanor VanDeventer, Sarah Zervas Youth Elders – Emily Brower and Bryce Pound Elder Class of 2022: Peter Kieffer

Board of Deacons: Class of 2024: Mervis Alah Abung, George Botanga, Sophia Choi, Melanie Green, Camille Massey, Jim Parker, James Rigney, Susan Shaw Youth Deacons – Braden Barton and Mia Marcy

Strategic Planning Committee: Todd Knox, Valerie Leonatti

2022 Nominating Committee: Bill Deemer, Deb Coontz, Alan Stutz, and Julie Sundquist

BOARD OF DEACONS HOSTS:

AN AFTERNOON AT THE SHEEDY SHORES WINEGARDEN

TODAY FROM 2:00 - 4:00 P.M.

Members and friends are invited to a time of fellowship at Sheedy Shores WineGarden. Bring a snack to share with others in the beauty of fall as we enjoy the cooler weather together. Sheedy Shores WineGarden is located at 10300 Johns Creek Rd, Loami, IL 62661.



REV. CHOI PARTICIPATES IN ECUMENICAL YOUTH CONFERENCE Christian will represent PC(USA) on a panel of speakers in an ecumenical collaboration with the Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren via Zoom today from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m..

HUNGER ACTION TEAM will provide a meal **Tuesday, October 19** at the Springfield Cooling Center for 30 homeless persons. Krista Steller and Pat Hymans invites those who would like to help with this meal or one in the future to contact them.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR – Children grades K-2 are meet Tuesdays at 4:45 in the choir room.

LYDIA CIRCLE meets on **Tuesday, October 19 at 9:30 a.m.** in the Third-Floor classroom. The lesson will be on *Tamar*. Call Nancy Canady (217-899-9890) for details.

COMPASS FOR KIDS in-person gatherings begin at Westminster on **Tuesday, October 19 at 3:00 p.m.** This weekly tutoring after-school program also offers a life skills class. A snack will replace the weekly dinner this year. We are grateful for the following ministry partners who will serve on the 2021-2022 team: **Cathy Allen, Rance Carpenter, Kris Gates, Carole Kennerly, Mia Marcy, Mary Caroline Mitchell, Lynn McMenamain, Kate and Michael Morthland, and Kate Wilson.**

BRIDGES MID-WEEK FELLOWSHIP & CHORISTERS – **BRIDGES** children grades 3-5 are invited to meet on Wednesday from 4:00 – 4:45 p.m. in the Tower Classroom. **CHORISTERS** then follows from 4:45 to 5:30 p.m. in the choir room.

WESTMINSTER ARTIST'S EXHIBIT is **Sunday, October 24** Join us in Parish Hall for an exhibit of paintings, drawings, pastels, pottery, photography, collage and other medium created by our members. The exhibit will be on view prior to the 10:00 a.m. service and following the service with a reception and a time for the artists to speak about their work.



THE ANNUAL SPUD BAKE is **Sunday, October 24**, Youth will gather in the kitchen from 9:00 a.m. to Noon to prepare loaded baked potatoes to raise funds for the Contact Ministries Christmas Gift Distribution. Members are invited to buy a Spud for \$5.00 and help our youth share God's love! Spuds can be pre-orders at www.wpcspi.org/spudbake, pick up your spud following worship, bring it home or enjoy it in Parish Hall while visiting the Westminster Art Exhibit.

FAIR TRADE SALE – Becky Martin and Jeanne VanGieson will have items available for sale on October 24 in the West Narthex.

“READ THE BIBLE IN A YEAR” CELEBRATORY DINNER – **Friday, October 29, 6:00 p.m.** at Finley's Tap House, members and friends who participated in Reading the Bible in a Year Study are invited to an evening of celebration, fellowship, and discussion.

GIVE-A-MEAL-A-MONTH – Canned Chili or soup with pop tops, biscuit mix, and 100% juice or water canned fruit.

WESTMINSTER'S LITTLE PANTRY at Graham School. Please check SignUpGenius for open dates in October. Items are located on shelves on the lower level by the elevator. We encourage our ministry partners to use the supplies that are provided. Thank you to shoppers Bill Deemer, Peter VanGieson, Nancy Huston and to Bill Ward who stock organize our shelves weekly

REFORMATION AND HARVEST SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31

This year Reformation Sunday falls on Halloween, so we are moving the Harvest Festival to the morning and inviting members to **wear costumes to worship** and join Westminster families in Parish Hall following the service (11:00 a.m. -12:30 p.m.) for a festive gathering. Highlights and activities will include:



A DELICIOUS LUNCH will be provided and treat bags sent home with the children.

PUMPKIN CRAFTS AND TREATS, STORY-TELLING AND FACE PAINTING in the Parish Hall.

A HARVEST MAZE in the Youth Room.

2022 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN REFLECTION – I HAVE CALLED YOU FRIENDS

Greetings, my name is Brinton Wilkey and I have been a member of Westminster Presbyterian Church for about 3 years now. I am currently serving my second year as a Deacon and enjoy the committees I serve on. My wife Susan and my three grown children, Megan, Brinton Jr., and Allison are currently members of St. Agnes but enjoy visiting Westminster when they are in town. My Dad is/was a Methodist minister so naturally, I have been a Methodist my entire life. He retired when he turned 65 after 45 years and moved to Atlanta, Texas where lo and behold he unretired with a local small, rural church outside Atlanta where he continued to preach until this June when he retired again at age 85.

I was a Methodist until 3 years ago when I decided that Westminster was a better fit for me. Why? Because of several things but most importantly, it was the people that go here that Susan and I already knew and were friends with and how they really were happy with this church. Joining a church when you already know the Knox's, Vasconcelles', Zervas', Julie and Jim McDonough, Jeannie Pittman, the Duffys and the list goes on is a pretty good start, wouldn't you say? I hadn't been here two weeks and Dee Dee Duffy is asking me if I'd be interested in being a Deacon! I thought I'd wait a year to see exactly what a Deacon does before signing up!

Another important reason I joined Westminster is the traditional service we have that is disappearing from a lot of other churches. I understand that a lot of people want a praise band and big screens with bouncing balls for you to follow along with, but quite frankly, I don't. "Give me that old time religion, that's good enough for me". I think that quote is from an old country or blue grass song but I can't give the author credit because I don't know who it was.

I have been asked to comment on the Stewardship Campaign and why it's important to contribute to this campaign. I think it's important to define what "contribute" means and I believe it's much more than money. Your personal pledge is important no matter what amount you choose to give but it's also very important to contribute your time and efforts to the church in order for us to continue to impact in a positive way our local community as well as our impact on our State, Nation and the world in general. For the benefit of planning purposes, it's also important to fill out your pledge card and return it in a timely manner so that Westminster can plan and budget accordingly for the upcoming year. I'm proud to be a member of Westminster and am looking forward to my future here in whatever capacity that may lead to. Thank you for your time and God Bless you as you make your pledge commitment.

As of **Thursday, October 14**, we have received **98** pledges for a total of **\$462,563**. This is **58%** toward our dollar amount goal. Stewardship brochures and pledge cards are located in the pew pockets. You are also welcomed to pledge online. Please pledge by Dedication Sunday, October 24.

THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

Monday, October 18

Tuesday, October 19

9:30 AM Lydia Circle (3rd Floor Classroom)
10:30 AM Staff Meeting (Pastor's Office)
1:00 PM Knit 2 Purl 4 (2nd Floor Classroom)
3:00 PM Compass for Kids
4:45 PM Children's Choir (Music Room)
5:30 PM I.T. Committee (2nd Floor Classroom)
7:30 PM St. Andrew's Sisters (Offsite)

Wednesday, October 20

4:00 PM Bridges (Tower Classroom)
4:45 PM Chorister's (Music Room)

Thursday, October 21

10:00 AM Pastors Pray in the Chancel
10:30 AM Worship Planning (Pastor's Study)
6:00 PM Dr. Kieffer's Bible Study
7:30 PM Choir (Parish Hall)

Friday, October 22

Saturday, October 23

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

Sunday, October 24 – SPUD Bake Youth Fundraiser

9:00 AM Spud Bake (Parish Hall)
10:00 AM Worship Service
10:15 AM Sunday School
11:00 AM Congregational Art Exhibit (Parish Hall)
11:00 AM Fair Trade (West Narthex)
11:15 AM Adult Ed (Second Floor Classroom)

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

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

Deb Watts Elliott
*Saturday Worship Pianist and
Music Coordinator*

Karen Sherrick
Director for Children's Ministry

Leigh Milward
Nursery Coordinator

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