

WESTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Sacrament of Communion
Second Sunday after Pentecost
11 June 2023 + 10:00 a.m.

Welcome and Announcements

Ministry Moment Scholarship Presentation to Mario Berg

Voluntary Allegro Grazioso Frank Bridge

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

***Call to Worship**

Leader: The Lord God called Abram and Saria to travel far, to a place unfamiliar.

People: **Trusting and listening to God, they move farther and farther into the unfamiliar.**

Leader: Thank you for being a God who calls and does not abandon,

People: **Thank you for being a God who is ahead of us on each of our journeys into the unfamiliar.**

Leader: Thank you for being the God who is the journey: the way, the truth, and the life.

People: **Deepen our trust that we may be faithful on our journeys and a blessing for the generations who follow. Amen**

***Processional Hymn 49** The God of Abraham Praise *Leoni*

***Prayer of Confession** God of calling, you called Abraham and Sarah and gave them the strength they needed to follow you. You called a people, cared for and nurtured that people so that they could live life in your abundance. You also call us, yet sometimes we choose different journeys which do not honor you. Forgive us, O God, and grant us the confidence and the hope we need to follow when you call. Hear now our silent prayers of confession.

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

***Declaration of Pardon
and 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

VBS Presentation

Congregational Response Listen, listen, God is calling, through the Word inviting,
offering forgiveness, comfort, and joy.
*Children in grades Pre-K-3 will go to Summer Sunday School
class following the Congregational Response.*

First Scripture Reading Genesis 12:1-9 Pew Bible, OT page 10

Second Scripture Reading Matthew 9:9-13 Pew Bible, NT page 9
Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Meditation Journey by Stages Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer
Text: And Abram journeyed on by stages toward the Nepeb.
Genesis 12:9

Solo Prayer Ludwig van Beethoven
O God, thy goodness reacheth so far, as far as the stars above us.
Thy tender mercies crown our days and show that thou dost
love us. O Lord, my rock, my fortress strong, hear thou my prayer
which I prolong as I now bow before thee.

**The Presentation
and Dedication of our Gifts** *At this time all worshipers are invited to sign and pass
the Ministry of Friendship folders in the pew racks.*

Offertory

Even Here

Mark Miller

As the land's dark roots, in the farthest deep,
where the daylight dimes, where no one can reach,
can the hand of God, can the voice of love find me even here?
I have turned away, I have set my fate, I have run too far,
I repent too late, can the hand of God, can the voice of love
find me even here?

O to climb again where the eagle flies, where its nest is set
in the sun-lit skies. Can the hand of God, can the voice of love
find me even here? O forgive me, Lord, may I see your face,
may I die in peace with a song of praise,
may the hand of God, may the voice of love find me even here.

*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.

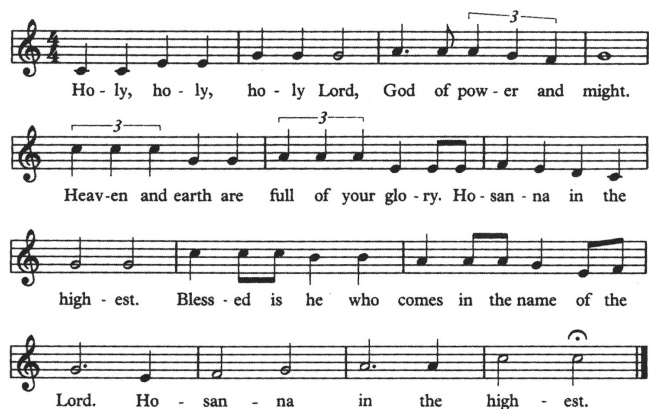
People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

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...Therefore we praise you, joining 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

Hymnal, page 35

Words of Institution

Communion Music

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

Merciful God, you call each of us and through Scripture remind us that you desire mercy and not sacrifice. You showed us your mercy in the life and actions of Jesus Christ. May we who have been nourished at your table live lives of mercy by serving others. Amen.

*Hymn 727

Will You Let Me Be Your Servant

The Servant Song

*Charge and Benediction

*Voluntary

Postlude in B-flat

William Faulkes

(*) The congregation is invited to stand.

In the Reformed Tradition, the Exchange of Peace follows the Declaration of Pardon and is a response to God's forgiveness. This exchange of signs and words of unity and of Christ's peace is an ancient greeting. This is a time when we extend to one another what we ourselves have received from God in Christ. You may shake hands and say "The peace of Christ be with you" or simply "Peace be with you," the greeting of Jesus Christ to his disciples after his resurrection. By exchanging the Peace of Christ to one another, we witness to God's reconciling love.

SERVING THIS SUNDAY AT WESTMINSTER

- **Chancel Flowers** are given in loving memory of Ruth Nuess Irwin by her son, Richard Irwin and family
- **Sunday Liturgist:** Rev. Christian K. Choi
- **Worship Leader:** Braden Barton
- **Acolytes:** Charlotte Affrunti and William Affrunti
- **Bible & Cross Carriers:** Abigail Eldridge and Sophia Losse
- **Greeter:** Jeanne VanGieson
- **Today's Communion Bread** is artisan sour dough and was lovingly baked by Peter Kieffer.
- **Communion Prep Team:** Mary Ray, Priscilla and Tim Kluge, Elisabeth and Mark Luttrell, Krista Steller
- **Elders Serving Communion:** Mary Ray (Team Leader), Aaron Berkowitz, Scott Day, Mal Hildebrand, Robyn Hovey, Will Hovey, Becky Huston, Jay Kennerly, Tim Kluge, Amanda Kurmann, Dave Leonatti, Sarah Zerfas
- **Home Communion Teams:** Melanie and Bud Green, Dee Dee Duffy and Bruce Strom, Mary and Coleman Moore, Sarah Eldridge and Mary Peura, Val Leonatti and Krista Steller, Judy and Matthew Knox
- **Music:** Adam Miller, Dale Rogers, organist
- **Ushers:** George Botanga (Head Usher) Mervice Alah Abung, Terry Haynor, Melanie Humphrey, Mary King, Julie McDonough, John McNutt, Bruce Strom
- **Safety Team:** Jim Dolan and Aland Schuermann
- **Videographers and Sound:** Bob Fox, Krista Steller

EDUCATION AND FELLOWSHIP THIS SUNDAY AT WESTMINSTER

- **9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Parish Nurse Ministry (Church Office)** Ellen Carpenter will be available for blood pressure checks and consultation.
- **9:45 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. Infants, toddlers, 2 & 3 year olds (Nursery)** gather for play and Bible Story. This week's lesson: "Wonder Together" *Caregivers: Sara Eldridge, Sally Godbey*
- **10:00 – 11:00 a.m. Children in Pre-K – Grade 2** begin in worship with their families & go to Sunday school (**Third Floor Chapel**) following the Congregational Response. This week's lesson: "The Good Neighbor" (Luke 10:25-37) *Teacher: Karen and Andy Sherrick*
- **11:15 a.m. – 12 noon 2023 Youth Mission Team Meeting (Second Floor Classroom)** Participants of this year's June 24-July 1 mission trip to Selma meet to learn final details of the mission. Leader: Mary Ray

WI-FI HEARING ASSISTANCE SYSTEM is available in our Sanctuary. A basket is located at each Sanctuary entrance with instructions to install the app for those with Bluetooth enabled hearing aids, lanyards, and hearing amplifier packets for those with regular hearing aids, hearing amplifier packets and disposable earbuds for those without hearing aids. Please return the lanyards and hearing amplifier packets at the end of worship. For assistance, ask an usher.

The Library Committee has prepared a cart in the West Narthex including books on ecology and family from our Adult and Children's libraries which are available for checkout. Please plan to stop by to peruse the books and resources.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE WELCOME VISITORS! Information about who we are 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, please speak to a pastor.

TODAY'S SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT: The Family Ministry Committee approved a \$500 scholarship for Mario Berg to participate in the Sea Base Scout Ship 123. The ship will attend the sea base in the lower Florida area for a weeklong sailing on 2 - 45-ft sail boats. During this time Mario will learn new techniques for sailing and youth leadership skills. Mario has been assisting staff during the week after school for the last year and a half under the supervision of Gary Warnick. In the last few months, Mario completed 43 service hours toward this scholarship.

VBS PRESENTATION AND RECEPTION TODAY, JUNE 11. VBS was a time to “relish” our children and “ketch-up” with Jesus as we welcomed 31 children served by 25 ministry partners working together to share the good news of Christ through Bible stories, music, crafts, games, and snacks. Children were nourished by scripture and introduced to Westminster's Hunger initiatives. The children learned about the hunger ministries at Westminster. They designed lunch bags for our Salvation Army Cooling/Warming Center monthly meals with uplifting words of love and encouragement. They also collected cans of food for *Central Illinois Food Bank*. This organization is the central source of food for numerous food pantries in the region. Westminster supports this organization's mission through “Give a Meal a Month,” holding an ongoing collection for particular food items.



2023 YOUTH MISSION TRIP - The entire team will meet Sunday, June 11 at 11:15 a.m. in the Second Floor Classroom. The trip is June 24 – JULY 1. The destination is Selma, AL as we rebuild following the January 2023 tornados and visit civil rights museums and monuments. Youth will report to the congregation during worship on Sunday, July 2.



THANK YOU FOR “WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT” from the following members who are writing a note for each day of the mission trip to one of the participants: Brownie Anderson, Meridith Bryans, Katie Carlson-Eastvold, Ellen Carpenter, Deb Coontz, Sue Cull, Bill Deemer, Dee Dee Duffy, Joe Fierstos, Tara Fritsch, Mary Jo Jenkins Carole Kennerly, Peter Kieffer, Judy Knox, Todd Knox, Val Leonatti Becky Martin, Lynne McMenamin, Leigh Milward, Christy Pound, Marilyn Rigney, Julie Robbs, Diane Rutledge, Karen Sherrick, Brad Steller, Krista Steller, Jeannie VanGieson, Sarah Zervas. This is a cherished Westminster tradition. Notes are due to Mary Ray by Sunday, June 18.

ALL-CHURCH COOKOUT FRIDAY, JUNE 16 AT 6:00 PM Consider Yourself Part of the Family! The Ninth Annual All-Church Cookout to welcome new members and recognize milestone members will be Friday, June 16, 6:00 p.m. at the Kieffers' (26 Island Bay Lane, 62712). The congregation is invited! Please RSVP (online or sign up in the West Narthex today) and let us know whether you will bring a salad, side dish, or dessert. New members and milestone members will be our guests. The evening will include a sing-along and boat rides.



CHILDRENS BOOKS (K-Grade 5) are being collected to be placed in the Book Nook at Graham Elementary School next to our Little Pantry. The box is located in the West Narthex. Thank you to Will Hovey who is building the Book Nook for his Eagle Scout Project.



SERVICE WEEK JUNE 19-23. The team will meet Tuesday, June 13, 5:30 p.m. to review projects. This year's focus will be repairing and painting front porches. Additionally, a team is creating flowerpots for neighbors front porches. Please consider joining us for one or more days as we spread goodwill in the neighborhood! RSVP on thr QR code or sign up in the West Narthex today. We began the service week the summer of 2020.

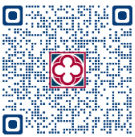


MISSION TRIP CAR WASH AND BAKE SALE FUNDRAISER will be Sunday, June 18, 9:30 -11:30 a.m.. We hope members will come out on Father's Day to support the Youth Mission Team for their final two fundraisers before they depart for Selma. Arrive early with your car for the youth to clean them and stop by the table of delicious baked goods prepared by members of the youth mission team and their parents.



All Mission participants will arrive at church at 9:30 a.m. in this years' mission T-shirt. Cars will be washed in our parking lot, so bring all the family cars along! Bring baked goods for the Bake Sale! Thanks to **Dave Leonatti** for organizing the Car Wash and to **Julie Sundquist** for organizing the Bake Sale.

MEALS ON WHEELS DELIVERIES will be July 10-14 and July 17-21. Please sign-up by Sunday, June 18. Each Summer, Westminster partners with Senior Services of Central IL to deliver food to eligible senior citizens as part of their Specialty Daily Bread -



Meals on Wheels program. This year's dates are July 10-14 and 17-21, where you can sign up for one day, all ten days, or number of days you are available to help. This service of kindness is best done in pairs and expected of time commitment is about an hour to hour-and-a-half, starting at 9:30 a.m. For more information and sign up, click/use the QR code.



THE STEADFAST NEIGHBOR HABITAT HOUSE DEDICATION THURSDAY, JUNE 22 AT 5:00 P.M.

Members of the congregation are cordially invited. The dedication will take place at the new home located at 626 S. Glenwood. The Presbyterian Women invite the congregation to join them in a "Housewarming Sprinkle" by purchasing a gift from Target and bringing it to the dedication. Paris and James Capler have listed items on their Target Registry that would benefit them in their new home.



APOSTLES' READ LIBRARY BOOK GROUP meets Tuesday, June 27 from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. in the Ziegler Library to discuss Evicted by Matthew Desmond. New members are always welcome! Led by Dr. Aaron Berkowitz.

DR. KIEFFER'S BIBLE STUDY will gather for a potluck and communion Thursday, July 13, 6:00 p.m., at the Kieffer Home. We will select our 2023-2024 curriculum as we begin the ninth year of studying scripture together. Spouses are invited to the July 13 gathering. New members are always welcome.

GIVE-A-MEAL-A-MONTH JUNE MENU

Canned tuna, boxed meals to use with tuna, canned fruit, canned vegetables, Granola Bars, Dry Cereal (No baby food, please.) Thank you to all who place items in the West Narthex for the Central Illinois Foodbank (CIFB). Thank you to Ed Caupert, Jim Rigney, Mike Sundquist, and Bernie Wiseman for delivering the food to the CIFB.

THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

Monday, June 12

Tuesday, June 13

- 9:00 AM Yearly Planning Staff Meeting (Offsite)
- 1:00 PM Knit 2, Purl 4 (2nd Floor Classroom)
- 5:00 PM Habitat Steering Committee (Youth Room)
- 5:30 PM SNE Service Week Team Meeting

Wednesday, June 14

- 1:30 PM Worship Planning (Pastor's Study)

Thursday, June 15

- 3:00 PM Depression & Bi-Polar Support (Conference Room)

Friday, June 16

- 6:00 PM All-Church Cookout at the Kieffers'
(26 Island Bay Lane, 62712)

Saturday, June 17

Sunday, June 18 – Happy Father's Day!

- 9:30 AM Car Wash & Bake Sale Fundraiser (Parking Lot)
- 10:00 AM Worship Service – Founders' Sunday (Sanctuary)
- 10:15 AM Sunday School PreK-5 (Sanctuary)

Westminster Presbyterian Church
533 S. Walnut St.
Springfield, Illinois 62704
Phone (217) 522-4415 Fax (217) 522-4465
<http://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

Karen Sherrick
Director for Children's Ministry

Katie Moore
Director for Children's Music

Caroline Haynor
Nursery Worker

Ellen Carpenter
Parish Nurse

Pat Hymans
Hospitality Coordinator

Lisa Runkle
Financial Administrator

Jennie Alt
Church Administrative Assistant

Krista Steller
Communications Coordinator

Emily Rowley, Keri Tate
Cooperative Preschool Staff

Gary Warnick
Building and Property Manager

**James Capler, Terry Gietl,
Bill Hibbert, Steve Stapleton**
Part-time Custodians