



WESTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Seventh Sunday After Pentecost
The Sacrament of Baptism
7 July 2024 + 10:00 a.m.

Welcome and Announcements

Voluntary

Adagio

G.F. Handel

***Ringing of the Bell**

The congregation rises at the ringing of the Tower Bell.

***Call to Worship**

Mark 1:4, 11 Cor. 12:9

Leader:

Jesus Christ, the crucified Lord
Calls us to believe the good news of salvation.

People:

**Christ's grace is sufficient for us.
Let us enter into God's new realm rejoicing,**

Leader:

not in our own strength,
But in the power of the Holy Spirit.

All:

Let us worship God.

***Processional Hymn 612**

We Praise You, O God

Kremser

***Prayer of Confession**

Holy and Loving God, forgive us for misunderstanding the relationship between strength and weakness in your kingdom. We are too often consumed with our personal weakness than we are with the strength of your love to overcome obstacles. In fear, we worship idols; in despair we lose hope. In rage, we are cruel to others. We pray for mercy, because you are merciful, and for transformation, because you make all things new. 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
*Children (Pre-K-Grade 5) are invited to come forward for the
Sacrament of Baptism.*

Sacrament of Baptism

Waterlife

I was there to hear your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized
to see your life unfold.
When you hear the wonder of the Word,
I'll be there to cheer you on.
You were raised to praise the living Lord
to whom you now belong.
I was there to hear your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized
to see your life unfold.

*Following the response students in preschool – Grade 5 will go
to Summer Sunday school.*

First Scripture Reading

II Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10 Pew Bible, OT pages 279

Second Scripture Reading

Mark 6:1-13 Pew Bible, NT page 40

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

Sermon

Strength and Weakness Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer
*Text: "Therefore I am content with weaknesses...for the sake of
Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong." II Cor. 12:10*

Anthem

It is Well with My Soul

Philip Bliss

When peace like a river, attendeth my way
When sorrows like sea billows roll
Whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say
It is well, it is well, with my soul

It is well with my soul
It is well, it is well with my soul

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come
Let this blest assurance control
That Christ has regarded my helpless estate
And hath shed His own blood for my soul (Chorus)

My sin, oh, the bliss of this glorious thought!
My sin, not in part but the whole
Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, o my soul! (Chorus)

*Affirmation of Faith

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven, and sitteth
on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick & the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the
resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

The Church at Prayer

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

Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: **And with your spirit.**
Pastor: Let us pray.

Prayers of the People and 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 in the pew racks.*

Offertory

O Lord on High

Wolfgang Mozart

O Lord on high, we pray Thee guide us
And keep our souls in Thine own care;
When dark our way, with light provide us,
Teach us Thy righteousness to share
Lead Thou us on thro' dangers low'ring,
be Thou shield in fears o'er pow'ring;
Oh, let Thy mercy be e'er be our guard,
over our life keep watch and ward.

***Offertory Response**

Doxology

Hymnal, 606

Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise God, all creatures here below
Praise God above, ye heavenly host
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Gh;ost. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication**

Holy and loving God, thank you for your grace which
sustains us and for being our strength when we are weak.
May we delight in the work that is ours, take responsibility
for the lives we have been given, and, through these gifts,
reflect your loving and generous presence to the world.
Amen.

***Hymn 295**

Go to the World

Sine Nomine

***Charge and Benediction**

***Voluntary**

We All Believe in One True God

J.S. Bach

(*) The congregation is invited to stand.

SERVING THIS SUNDAY AT WESTMINSTER

- **Sunday Liturgists:** Rev. Gerald W. Boutelle
- **Worship Leader:** Liam Kiszely
- **Greeters:** Mary Jo and Dave Jenkins
- **Acolyte:** Lucy Bassett
- **Ushers:** Greg Boutelle (Head Usher), Sophia Choi, Todd Lafrenz, Coleman Moore, Jim Parker, Bill Schlosser, Susan Shaw, Bernie Wiseman
- **Safety Team:** Brad Steller
- **Music:** Linda Andrews, organist, Eleanor VanDeventer, soprano, Lyle VanDeventer, alto saxophone

EDUCATION AND FELLOWSHIP THIS SUNDAY AT WESTMINSTER

- **9:45 a.m. – 12 noon Infants, toddlers, preschoolers (Nursery)** This week's Bible Story: "Jesus Teaches and Heals Us Too" (*Jesus Teaches and Heals*) *Caregiver: Sara Eldridge*
- **10:15 – 11:00 a.m. 10:15 – 11:00 a.m. Sunday School** Children begin in worship with their families & go to Sunday school following the Congregational Response.
 - **Sunday School Children in Kindergarten – Grade 2 (Third Floor Chapel)** The story is "Parable of the Mustard Seed". *Teacher: Meleah Berkowitz*
 - **Sunday School Children in Grade 3 – Grade 5 (Third Floor Tower Classroom).** The story is "He Descended into Hell" (The Apostles Creed). *Teachers: Aaron Berkowitz, Cathy Brower*

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 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 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.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM is celebrated today as Laura and Eric O'Reilly present their daughter Rowen Marie and as Maggie and Joshua Pinke present their daughter, Robin Lu. *The assisting elder is Dr. Scott Day and representing our children are Lily and Connor Hill.*

GENERAL ASSEMBLY CONCLUDED JULY 4 The Presbyterian Church (USA) 226th General Assembly after electing the Rev. Jihyun Oh to serve as Stated Clerk and Reverends CeCe Armstrong and Tony Larson to serve as Co-Moderators.

WESTMINSTER SUMMER CHOIR - The Summer Choir will meet on Thursday, July 11 at 7:00 p.m. to prepare for Sunday, July 14 and August 4 for Sunday August 11. If you have contemplated joining the choir, this is a great time to give it a try. The regular season of the choir will begin on Thursday, September 5 at 7:00 p.m. and will hold its annual retreat at Indian Point Presbyterian Church on Saturday, September 14. Mark your calendars for these upcoming dates for the choir.

JOIN THE SOUND CELEBRATION CHORUS AND LAND OF LINCOLN CHORUS for an outdoor concert held at Duncan Park on **Saturday, July 13 at 7:00 p.m.** Bring your lawn chairs, drinks, snacks, and enjoy an hour of fun and upbeat acapella music. You may see a couple Westminster members!

NEW MEMBER CLASS will be held on **Sundays, July 14 and 21, 9:00 a.m.** in the Pastor's Study. Anyone who has been visiting and would like to learn more about the church, its mission, and becoming a member is invited. New members will be received at the 10:00 a.m. service on July 28 following a Special Session meeting at 9:30 a.m.

SUMMER ADULT ED FORUM - On **Sunday, July 14, at 11:15 a.m.** in Parish Hall, Dr. Roy Wehrle will present "The World Order and the Global South." This forum will provide an opportunity to view the world through the eyes of various countries in the southern hemisphere such as Brazil, India, Indonesia, Turkey, and African nations.

DMA (DON'T MENTION AGE) WILL meet **Friday, July 19 at 5:30 p.m.** for a potluck and program at 6:15 p.m. Peggy Dyson, Executive Director of The Educational Center for the Visually Impaired, will speak on who they serve, how they serve, and what the community can do to help. RSVP with weekly email link, website, or by calling the church office.



MEALS ON WHEELS AUGUST 5-9 AND AUGUST 12-16 Westminster members are needed to assist the Daily Bread program by delivering hot meals prepared by Senior Services at 701 S. Mason St. This service of kindness is best done in pairs and the expected time commitment is about an hour to an hour-and-a-half, starting at 9:30 a.m. To sign up, click/use the QR code or use this [SignUpGenius link](#).



CONTACT MINISTRY BACKPACK COLLECTION Once again, WPC will partner in ministry with Contact Ministries through a backpack collection. This year's backpacks will be filled with school supplies and distributed to the children served by Contact Ministries. We will collect backpacks through Sunday, August 11. Last year, we collected 192 backpacks! Please drop your donated backpacks in the basket located in the West Narthex.



ENDOWMENT MISSION GRANT APPLICATIONS The Mission and Community Service Committee will review grant applications for funding from Westminster's Mission Endowment at its September 4 meeting. The deadline for submission of grant proposals for consideration September 4 is September 1. Applications are available on our website where information on organizations who have received grants is also located. Please contact Jeanne VanGieson, 217-341-9255 for more information.

NOMINATIONS WELCOME

THE 2024 NOMINATING COMMITTEE is now receiving nominations for the following positions of leadership at Westminster.

DEACON (CLASS OF 2027)

ELDER (CLASS OF 2027)

NOMINATING COMMITTEE (CLASS OF 2025)

STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE (CLASS OF 2027)

Nominations may be placed in the offering plate, emailed to the committee chair, Eleanor VanDeventer, at ehuitt@yahoo.com or placed in the Nominating Committee's mailbox on the wall in the West Narthex by the Edwards Street doors. Please complete it by August 18, 2024. Nominees will be presented for election at a Congregational Meeting on Sunday, October 13, 2024.

2024 Nominating Committee members: *Eleanor VanDeventer (Chair), Michael Nenaber, Brad Steller, Alan Stutz, Carolyn Swanson, Julie Sundquist, and Bernie Wiseman*

Name of Nominee _____

Recommended for (check choice)

Deacon Elder Nominating Strategic Planning

1. Qualities that would make this person a good church officer

2. Past experience/current interests and activities in the church

3. Helpful information: special skills, training, employment, community involvement, etc.

Your Name (optional) _____

THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

Monday, July 8

Tuesday, July 9

- 10:30 AM Staff Meeting (Pastor's Study)
12:00 PM Knit 2, Purl 4 Lunch
(2nd Floor Classroom)
1:00 PM Knit 2 Purl 4 (2nd Floor Classroom)

Wednesday, July 10

- ALL DAY Worship Planning
4:00 PM Depression and Bi-Polar Support Group
(Conference Room)

Thursday, July 11

- ALL DAY Worship Planning
1:00 PM PEO BF Meeting (Parish Hall)
7:00 PM Choir (Music Room)

Friday, July 12

- 1:00 PM Prepare bagged lunch for Helping Hands

Saturday, July 13

Sunday, July 14

Holy Communion

- 9:00 AM New Members Class (Pastor's Study)
10:00 AM Worship Service (Sanctuary)
10:15 AM Sunday School PreK-Grade 5 (Third Floor)
11:15 AM Summer Adult Ed Forum (Parish Hall)

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<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
Director for Youth

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

Katie Moore
Director for Children's Music

Erin Winn
Nursery Coordinator

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

James Capler
Part-time Custodian