



WESTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
21 July 2024 + 10:00 a.m.

Welcome and Announcements

Ministry Moment Compass for Kids Camp

Voluntary Fugue Gerald Near

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

***Call to Worship** Psalm 46:1-3a, 10-11

Leader: God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.

People: **Therefore we will not fear,
though the earth should change;**

Leader: though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;
though its waters roam and foam,

People: **be still and know that I am God.**

Leader: The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge.

People: **In our going and our coming, may Jesus Christ be praised.**

***Hymn 667** When Morning Gilds the Skies *Laudes Domini*

***Prayer of Confession** Holy and loving God, you uphold those who are falling
and raise up all who are bowed down. Therefore, we
confess our sins—both things we have done and things we
have left undone—in every confidence that you will open
your heart to us in an embrace of forgiveness. As we find
rest amid our going and our coming, may faith in Christ be
our anchor, and the light of your love be our guide. 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.

***Response of Praise**

Gloria Patri
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be
world without end, Amen, Amen.

Children's Sermon

Congregational Response

Listen, Listen, God is Calling Neno Lake Mungu
**Listen, listen, God is calling, through the Word inviting,
offering forgiveness, comfort, and joy.**
*Students in Pre-K– Grade 5 will go to their Summer Sunday school
class following the Congregational Response.*

First Scripture Reading

Ephesians 3:14-21 Pew Bible, NT page 193

Second Scripture Reading

Mark 6:30-34, 53-56 Pew Bible, NT page 41-42

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

Sermon

Coming and Going Rev. Dr. Blythe Denham Kieffer
*Text: Jesus said to them, "Come away to a deserted place all by
yourselves and rest a while. For many were coming and going,"*
Mark 6:31

Solo

A Mighty Fortress is Our God/Be Thou My Vision
Luther Traditional, arr. Moore

***Affirmation of Faith**

Psalm 139

O God, you have searched me and known me.
You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
you discern my thoughts from far away.
You search out my path and my lying down
and are acquainted with all my ways.
You hem me in, behind and before,
and lay your hand upon me.
Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is so high that I cannot attain it.
Where can I go from your spirit?
Or where can I flee from your presence?
If I ascend to heaven, you are there;
if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.
If I take the wings of the morning
and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,
even there your hand shall lead me,
and your right hand shall hold me fast. Amen

The Church at Prayer

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

Veni Creator Spiritus

John Eggert

***Offertory Response**

Doxology

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

***Prayer of Dedication** Holy and loving God, we rejoice with thanksgiving for all we have received in our going and our coming. Accept these gifts of gratitude and use them so that the world may more deeply know the ebb and flow of your presence and may experience the wideness of your mercy. Amen.

***Hymn 435** There's a Wideness in God's Mercy *In Babilone*

***Charge and Benediction**

***Voluntary** Toccata Giocosa Gilbert Martin
(*) 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

- **Sunday Liturgist:** Rev. Gerald Boutelle
- **Worship Leader:** James Maeda
- **Acolytes:** Juliana Eastvold and Lily Swanson
- **Greeters:** Judi Mier and Maribeth Norton
- **Music:** Linda Andrews, organist, Katie Moore, flute, Pat Moore, euphonium
- **Ushers:** Sabrina Holmes (Head Usher), Sophia Choi, Todd Lafrenz, Julie McDonough, Jim Parker, Bill Schlosser, Susan Shaw, Bernie Wiseman
- **Safety Team:** Marilyn Rigney
- **Videographers and Sound:** Bob Fox, Krista Steller

EDUCATION AND FELLOWSHIP THIS SUNDAY AT WESTMINSTER

- **9:45 a.m. – 12 noon Infants, toddlers, preschoolers (Nursery)** This week's Bible Story: "Jesus Wants Us to Share with Others" (Jesus Feeds a Crowd) *Caregivers: Julie and Mike Sundquist, Sally Godbey*
- **10:15 – 11:00 a.m. Sunday School** Children begin in worship with their families & go to Sunday school following the Congregational Response.
 - **Kindergarten – Grade 2 (Third Floor Chapel)** The story is "Parable of the Unforgiving Servant." *Teachers: Meleah Berkowitz*
 - **Grade 3 – Grade 5 (Third Floor Tower Classroom)** The lesson is "And Will Come Again to Judge the Living and the Dead" (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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 membership, talk to Dr. Kieffer.

WE WELCOME LINDA ANDREWS as our guest organist today. Dale Rogers is traveling in Scotland.

WE WELCOME THE REV. GERALD BOUTELLE as liturgist this morning as Rev. Christian Choi is on temporary leave through July.

COMPASS FOR KIDS SUMMER CAMP concluded on Friday, July 19. Thank you to Westminster youth Emily Brower, Kristianna Eastvold, Ben Parker, and Matthew Scott who served as counselors. 943 children were served and the camp received the Engage Every Student National Award. Compass was one of 13 programs in the country and the only one in Illinois to receive this honor.

CHILDREN OF ABRAHAM art project is displayed in the West Narthex. Children created "unweaving" art pieces on burlap squares as part of the Liturgical Arts Festival of Springfield.

KNIT 2 PURL 4 MISSION AND FELLOWSHIP meets on **Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m.** in the Second Floor Classroom. Contact Mary Jo Jenkins at 217-622-8657. On **Tuesday, July 23**, knitters are invited to knit at Sue Cull's home at 1:00 p.m. Bring your knitting and enjoy dessert, fellowship, and a beautiful view of Lake Springfield. Call Mary Jo at 217-623-8657 to arrange carpooling.

APOSTLES' READ LIBRARY BOOK GROUP meets **Tuesday, July 23 from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.** in the Ziegler Library to discuss Before the Coffee Gets Cold by Toshikazu Kawaguchi. New members are always welcome! Led by Dr. Aaron Berkowitz.

YOUTH MISSION TEAM REUNION PARTY will be **Saturday, July 27 at 5:30 p.m.** at Susan and Scott Day's Home (47 Fairview Lane, 62712). Everyone is invited to come out to enjoy the lake and outdoor games. Pulled Pork sandwiches will be provided. Please bring the following: Grade 8- Sides Grades 9-10, Desserts, Grade 12 – Drinks. Please let Mary Ray know if you are unable to attend.

SPECIAL SESSION MEETING TO RECEIVE NEW MEMBERS will be held next **Sunday, July 28 at 9:30 a.m.** in the Library. New members will be recognized during worship.

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 is an hour and a half commitment starting at 9:30 a.m. There are currently 7 slots for 2-person teams. Sign up is available today in the West Narthex, or at wpcspi.org.



HISTORIC WESTSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION hosts the 2024 National Night Out on **Tuesday, August 6, 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. at Westminster.** Head West sub sandwiches, ice cream treats, chips, and beverages provided. Join in this annual neighborhood gathering.

SUMMER CHOIR will rehearse on **Thursday, August 8 at 7:00 p.m.** to prepare for **Sunday, August 11.** If you have considered 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 hold its annual retreat at Indian Point Presbyterian Church on Saturday, September 14. Mark your calendars for these upcoming dates for the choir.

PRESBYTERIAN MEN'S FELLOWSHIP SUMMER COOKOUT SATURDAY, AUGUST 10, AT 5:00 P.M. Men of the congregation and their spouses/partners are invited to a summer cookout at the Grigsby/Hale Farm (15594 Rogge St, Tallula 62688) on Saturday, August 10 at 5:00 p.m. Please RSVP to Jennie Alt and let her know whether you will bring a side dish, dessert or drink. Those who want to come early to fish are welcome.

SUMMER ADULT ED FORUM presents "Democracy in the World Today" on **Sunday, August 11 at 11:15 a.m.** in Parish Hall. Join Dr. Roy Wehrle in a discussion about democracy. In many countries the center of the political spectrum is hollowing out while the right and left are growing. In many cases, the conservative and far right parties are gaining votes and pushing for stronger, less democratic leaders. We will set forth several possible causes stretching from too rapid change, people's insecurity, issues & choices becoming too complex to understand, to "I give up, let a strong leader take care of things." There will be discussion on the meaning of this shift and what is at stake if we continue in this direction.

CONTACT MINISTRY BACKPACK COLLECTION continues through **Sunday, August 11.** 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! So far this year, **we have collected 38.** Please drop your donated backpacks in the basket located in the West Narthex.



FAIR TRADE The next Fair Trade sale will be held Sunday, August 18 following worship in the West Narthex. All Equal Exchange products (coffee, chocolate, tea, olive oil, nuts, etc.) can be purchased any day the church office is open.

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 is September 1. Applications are available on our website on the Mission and Services page. 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) _____

WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

Monday, July 22

Tuesday, July 23

- 10:30 PM Staff Meeting (Pastor's Study)
- 1:00 PM Knit 2 Purl 4 (Off site)
- 6:00 PM Apostles Read Book Club (Library)

Wednesday, July 24

- 10:30 AM Worship Planning (Pastor's Study)
- 4:00 PM Depression and Bi-Polar Support Group (Conference Room)
- 5:00 PM Helping Hands Meals Delivered
- 6:00 PM Adult Education Committee (Pastor's Study)

Thursday, July 25

Friday, July 26

Saturday, July 27

- 5:30 PM Youth Mission Reunion Party (Off site)

Sunday, July 28

- 9:30 AM New Members Session Meeting (Library)
- 10:00 AM Worship Service (Sanctuary)
- 10:15 AM Sunday School PreK- Grade 5 (Third Floor Chapel)

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
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