



WESTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Baccalaureate Sunday
2 June 2024 + 10:00 a.m.

Welcome and Announcements

Voluntary

To You, Jehovah

Sigfrid Karg-Elert

***Ringing of the Bell**

The congregation rises at the ringing of the Tower Bell.

***Call to Worship**

Psalm 139

Leader:

O Lord, you have searched me and known me,
you discern my thoughts from far away

People:

**You search out my path and my lying down,
and are acquainted with all my ways.**

Leader:

Where can I go from your spirit?
or where can I flee from your presence?

People:

**If I ascend to heaven, you are there;
if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.**

Leader:

If I take the wings of the morning and settle in the
farthest limits of the sea.

People:

**Even there your hand shall lead me, and your
right hand shall hold me fast. Amen.**

***Processional Hymn 749**

Come! Live in the Light

We Are Called

***Prayer of Confession**

Loving God, in shines light in the darkness. We pray for
wisdom and discernment on each of our journeys. Forgive
us when we live divided lives that disrespect our siblings.
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's Sermon Education and Compass Leadership Recognition

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 Sunday school class
following the Congregational Response.*

First Scripture Reading Psalm 81:1-3, 5b-7a, 8b-10a Pew Bible, OT page 541

Second Scripture Reading II Corinthians 4:5-12 Pew Bible, NT page 180-181
Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon Light up the Darkness Rev. Dr. John S. Kay
Text: For it is the God who said, "Light will shine out of darkness,"
who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the
glory of God in the face of Christ. *II Corinthians 4:6*

Anthem O All Ye Works Philip W. J. Stopford
O all ye works of the Lord, bless ye the Lord:
praise and magnify God forever.
O ye angels of the Lord; O ye heavens;
O ye waters that be above the firmament;
O ye sun and moon, ye stars of heaven:
O ye showers and dew; O ye winds of God;
O ye fire and heat; O ye winter and summer;
O ye dews and frosts; O ye frosts and cold;
O ye ice and snow; O ye nights and days;
O ye light and darkness; O ye lightnings and clouds;
Bless ye the Lord, praise and magnify God forever.

Recognition of High School Graduates

The Church at Prayer

Choir: Surely the presence of our God 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 our 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

Sing for Joy George Frederick Handel
Sing to God! Serve the Lord with gladness.
Come into God's house singing songs of joy.
The Lord alone is God! Let praises fill the house.
Rejoice and sing!

*Offertory Response

Doxology

Hymnal, 606

*Prayer of Dedication

**Holy and loving God, we celebrate your light which shines in
our hearts and guides us on journey through life. Accept these
gifts given in gratitude and joy. May they be used to extend
your grace and light to others. Amen.**

*Hymn 726

Will you Come and Follow

The Summons

*Charge and Benediction

Closing Response

A Blessing

Martin Shaw

Go forth into the world in peace; be of good courage;
hold fast that which is good; render no one evil for evil;
strengthen the faint-hearted; support the weak ;
help the afflicted; honor everyone.

Love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.
And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the
Holy Spirit be upon you and remain with you forever. Amen.

*Voluntary

Postludio Festivo

Sigfrid Karg-Elert

(*) The congregation is invited to stand.

SERVING THIS SUNDAY AT WESTMINSTER

- **Flowers in the Chancel** are given in loving memory of the Rev. Dr. James and Silvey Barge by their sons, Kevin and Stephen and families.
- **Sunday Liturgist:** Rev. Dr. Blythe Denham Kieffer
- **Greeters:** Julie Robbs
- **Worship Leader:** Sam Batterman
- **Acolytes** Reese and Harper Huston
- **Ushers:** George Botanga (Head Usher), Mervice Alah Abung, Julie Barton, Deb Fritsch, Gregg Humphrey, Melanie Humphrey, Julie McDonough, John McNutt
- **Safety Team:** Jim Dolan, Marilyn Rigney
- **Music:** The Westminster Choir, Dale Rogers, organ
- **Videographers and Sound:** Bob Fox, Krista Steller

EDUCATION AND FELLOWSHIP THIS SUNDAY AT WESTMINSTER

- **9:00 a.m. 2024 Youth Mission Team Final Meeting (Sanctuary)**
- **9:30 a.m. VBS Team Meeting (Parish Hall)**
- **9:45 a.m. – 12 noon Infants, toddlers, preschoolers (Nursery)** This week's Bible Story: "Disciples Follow Jesus" Caregivers: Erin Winn, Dee Dee Duffy
- **10:15 – 11:00 a.m. Summer Sunday School** will 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 Sower".
Teachers: Meleah Berkowitz, Julie Robbs
 - **Grade 3 – Grade 5 (Third Floor Tower Classroom)** The story is "Bible Bootcamp".
Teachers: Aaron Berkowitz, Marc DeJong
- **11:15 a.m. Parish Nurse Ministry (Church Office)**
- **11:15 a.m. Baccalaureate Reception (Parish Hall)** Thank you to the Congregational Fellowship Committee of the Board of Deacons for hosting the reception.
- **11:30 a.m. Westminster Choir Brunch at the Home of Meg and Jim Kontio**

BACCALAUREATE SUNDAY

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

Melanie Angelo from Legend High School in Parker, CO. attending Arizona State University Honors College. Melanie is the granddaughter of Carolyn & Keith Beatty.

Rose Ballantyne, from SHS attending University of Missouri. Rose is the granddaughter of Nance and Chip Woodward.

Charlotte Beatty from RHS attending University of Kentucky. Charlotte is the granddaughter of Carolyn & Keith Beatty.

Matthew Bright from Macomb HS attending Monmouth College.

Ciearra Davis from LHS attending college TBD.

Finley DuBois from SHS attending Cosmetology School.

Kristianna Eastvold from SHS attending Calvin University.

Avaree Hack from Lakes Community High School in Lake Villa, IL attending the University of Iowa. Avaree is the granddaughter of Sandy Bellatti.

William Hovey from SHS attending the University of Arizona.

Benjamin Morgan from PPHS attending SIU Carbondale. Ben is the grandson of Rev. Jerry & Mrs. Judy Boutelle.

Sam Simonson from SHS attending the University of Illinois.

Henry Stutz from Oak Park River Forest HS attending Knox College. Henry is the grandson of Marty & Alan Stutz.

COLLEGE AND GRADUATE DEGREES

Mervice Alah Abung – M.A. in Accounting from the University of Illinois Springfield.

Drew Borland - B.S. in Finance and Business Analytics from Miami University Honors Program in Oxford, Ohio. Drew will work in Chicago as a Data Management Consultant at Northern Trust.

Second Lt. Noah Bright - B.S. from the United States Military Academy at West Pointe – He will be stationed at Fort Campbell, KY in the 3rd Brigade Airbourne Division.

Reaney Gaines - M.S. in Business Analytics from Drake University.

Sophie Lettes - B.A. in Finance & Sustainability from University of Virginia – Sophie will work for Barclays Bank in NYC in sustainable energy. Sophie is the granddaughter of Marty & Alan Stutz.

Carolyn Lowe - B.S. in Psychology from Belmont University. Carolyn will work in counseling for a year and then return to begin a doctorate program.

Natalie Miller - B.S. in Nursing from the University of Illinois Chicago.

Jocelyn Nester - B.S. in Aerospace Engineering from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, FL in December 12, 2024. Jocelyn will be commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Navy where she will continue to train as a pilot.

Lydia Pehlman - B.A in History from Baylor University. Lydia will pursue her masters in Intellectual History at the University of Edinburgh, Scotland. Lydia is the granddaughter of Sue Cull.

Samuel Rogers - J.D. Law Degree and M.A. in Government Organization from Creighton University School of Law and Columbus School of Law. Sam will continue to be part of the legal staff for the House Agriculture Committee in Washington, D.C. Sam is the nephew of Dale Rogers.

Amalia Schneider - B.S. in Industrial & Labor Relation from Cornell University – Amalia will move back to Philadelphia to look for a job in her field.

Allison Scott – B.A. in Diplomacy from DePaul University in Chicago, IL

Mack Shepherd B.A. in Special Education from Hope College. Mack will teach special ed.

Ethan Sommer – B.A. from Northwest College in Boston, MA. Ethan is the grandson of Sharon Zook.

Eli Vogler B.S. in Microbiology from San Diego State University. Eli is headed to medical school at the University of Queensland in the fall.

EDUCATION AND COMPASS LEADERSHIP RECOGNITION

Thank you to our leadership! We purchased a **dairy cow** through Heifer International. Heifers bring health, prosperity, and peace. Heifer cow gift donations can change lives, giving hope to families in even the most difficult of circumstances. We are grateful for these individuals and their **“moo-valous” work** nurturing the faith of our children, youth, adults, and Graham Elementary School students.



Nursery Guild: Linda Caupert, DeeDee Duffy, Sara Eldridge, Sally Godbey, Priscilla Kluge, Dr. Judy Knox, Meg Kontio, Maria Lafrenz, Val Leonatti, Lynn McMenamin, Millie McNutt, Leigh Milward, Christy Pound, Sue Scaife, Julie Sundquist, Erin Winn

Sunday School Teachers: Dr. Aaron and Mrs. Meleah Berkowitz, Lindsay Boutelle, Cathy Brower, Sophia Choi, Dr. Marc DeJong, Juliana and Kristianna Eastvold, Adam and Chelsea Ekstedt, Sara Eldridge, Kate Morthland, Laura and Eric O'Reilly, Karen Sherrick, Julie Robbs, Erin Winn

Bridges Midweek Fellowship: Meleah Berkowitz, Kathy Bacon, Pat Roller

Children of Abraham: Meleah & Aaron Berkowitz, Dr. Kieffer, Mary Ray, Dale Rogers, Sophia Choi, Georgina Hudspeth, Pat McNutt, Susan Shaw

Confirmation Prep (Grades 6-7): Cara Barnett, Meridith Bryans, Joe Fierstos, Mary Ray

Confirmation (Grade 8): Dr. Aaron Berkowitz, Dr. Peter and Rev. Dr. Blythe Keiffer, Mary Ray

Youth Group Leadership Team: Cathy Brower, Susan Day, Kyle Duffy, Mary Ray

Adult Education: Dr. Aaron Berkowitz, Dr. Katie Carlson-Eastvold, Rachael Hickman and Jess Weitzel and the Refugee Ministry Committee, Rev. Dr. Lonnie Lee, Dr. Peter and Rev. Dr. Blythe Keiffer, Katie and Michael Morthland, Dr. Debbie Parker, Mary Ray and 2023 Youth Mission Team, Dale Rogers, Lyle VanDeventer, Dr. Roy Wehrle

COMPASS for Kids: Cathy Brower, Ellen & Rance Carpenter, Juliana & Kristianna Eastvold, Dr. Tanya DeSanto, Kris Gates, Angie Lafrenz, Jade Robinson, Jamie Robinson, Dr. Diane Rutledge.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL Monday – Friday, June 3-7

Registrars: Pat Roller and Linda Purves **Photos:** Bob Fox

Assembly Leader: Dr. Aaron Berkowitz

Bible Story and drama team: Dr. Kieffer and Dr. Aaron Berkowitz, Charlotte and William Affrunti, Abigail Eldridge, Sophia Llosa, Ned Moore

Art/Crafts: Pat McNutt **Games:** Isaac and Ethan Alt, Emily Brower

Music: Katie Moore **Snack:** Pat Hymans **Decorations:** Al Hymans

Camp Counselors: Kathy Bacon, Ann Collins, Juliana Eastvold, Dorothy Hutchinson-Gross, Carole and Jay Kennerly, Liliana Kennerly, Maria Lafrenz, Susan Shaw, Karen Sherrick, Julie Sundquist, Eleanor VanDeventer

Mission: The children will collect school supplies for Camp Compass:

Crayons	Markers	Scissors	Pencils	Sanitizer	Colored Pencils
Book Bags	Glue Sticks	Kleenex	Sticky Notes	Sharpener	Healthy Snacks
Clorox Wipes	Index Cards	Erasers	Pens	Spiral Notebooks	



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 joining, please speak to Dr. Kieffer.

TODAY, WE WELCOME THE REV. JOHN S. KAY AS GUEST PREACHER. John served as Westminster's Associate Pastor from 1984 to 1990. During the search for a new Pastor and the construction of Parish Hall, he also served as Moderator of Session and Head of Staff. He also served pastorates at Farmingdale and Jacksonville and spent six years on the Denomination's National Staff as a Consultant for the Church Financial Campaign Service. After retirement in 2014, John and Betty moved to Wilmette, IL to be near their family. He was also gratified to serve as Interim Pastor for congregations in Decatur, La Grange and Mt. Prospect.

John received the B.A. degree from Belhaven College, the M.Div. degree from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, the D.Min. degree from McCormick Theological Seminary, and the D.H.L. degree from Illinois College, *honoris causa*. For eighteen years, John participated in Illinois College Baccalaureate Services and for fifteen years served as a Charter Trustee. In 2022, he was elected Trustee Emeritus and awarded the Doctor of Humane Letters degree.

When John completed his time on our staff, Betty was ordained and installed as Elder and served as our Clerk of Session. She was a faithful member of the Westminster Choir for many years and, in 1991, the Kays joined the Choir on their tour of Scotland and England. They are delighted to be able to reconnect with the Westminster congregation today.

SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS TODAY JUNE 2 Children in Kindergarten through Grade 2 will continue to meet in the Third Floor Chapel with Meleah Berkowitz and Ministry Partners in a study of the Parables. Children in Grade 3 through 5 will continue to meet in the Third Floor Tower Classroom with Aaron Berkowitz and Ministry Partners in a study of the lectionary readings.

RUTH AND NAOMI CIRCLE will meet **Wednesday, June 5** at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Pat Wheat (11 Pickering Lane, 62712). Christy Pound will lead the devotional *Finding Faith in the Mundane* by Kathleen Norris (pages 363-368).



YOUTH MISSION FUNDRAISERS THE CAR WASH / BAKE SALE

Next Sunday, June 9 – 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Please support the Youth Mission Team for their final two fundraisers before they depart for NOLA. 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 year's 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 **Nichole Magalis** for organizing the Bake Sale.



STEADFAST NEIGHBOR SERVICE WEEK JUNE 17-21 We invite you to join us for one or more days during the third week of June as we spread goodwill throughout the neighborhood. If you are interested, sign-up at wpcspi.org. and let us know which days you are able to serve. Questions: Contact Todd Knox at hardknox1@mac.com. **The Steadfast Neighbor Team Meeting** will be Tuesday, June 11 at 5:30 p.m. in Parish Hall.



THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

Monday, June 3

- 9:15 AM VBS
1:00 PM Refugee Subcommittee (Conference Room)

Tuesday, June 4

- 9:15 AM VBS
1:00 PM Knit 2 Purl 4 (Off Site)
1:30 PM Staff Meeting (Pastor's Study)

Wednesday, June 5

- 9:15 AM VBS
2:00 PM Worship Planning (Pastor's Study)
4:00 PM Depression and Bi-Polar Support Group
(Conference Room)
5:30 PM Mission and Community Service
(2nd Floor Classroom)
7:00 PM Ruth & Naomi Circle (Off Site)

Thursday, June 6

- 9:15 AM VBS

Friday, June 7

- 9:15 AM VBS

Saturday, June 8

- 9:00 AM Public Meeting: Springfield's Energy Future
(Parish Hall)

Sunday, June 9

- 9:30 AM Car Wash/Bake Sale
10:00 AM Worship Service (Sanctuary)
10:15 AM Sunday School (Pre-K- Grade 2)
11:00 AM Bake Sale/Fair Trade
4:00 PM IL Symphony Guild Annual Meeting
(Parish Hall)

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

**Peter Bysko, James Capler,
Terry Gietl**
Part-time Custodians