



WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



For All People

THE ELEVENTH
SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

AUGUST 16, 2020

MORNING WORSHIP AT 10:00 A.M.

For All People

GATHERING: PREPARING TO HEAR THE WORD

In Preparation for Worship

*“The apostles remembered what many modern Christians tend to forget—
that what makes the gospel offensive isn’t who it keeps out but who it lets in.”*

— Rachel Held Evans, *Inspired: Slaying Giants, Walking on Water, and Loving the Bible Again*

Opening Voluntary *(A musical prayer offered on behalf of the people of God.)*

“I: Adagietto pianissimo” from *Suite de dansas criollas*
Janlee Richter, Piano

Alberto Ginastera

Welcome and Sharing the Life of Westminster

Rev. Laurie Hartzell

++Call to Worship *(based on Psalm 65, Christine Longhurst, re: Worship)*

One: Come and worship, everyone on earth, everywhere the sun shines,

All: Let’s praise God together!

One: For listening when we call, answering our prayers,
forgiving our mistakes, and providing what we need:

All: Let’s praise God together!

One: Come and worship, everyone on earth, everywhere the sun shines,

All: Let’s praise God together!

++Opening Hymn 766

“The Church of Christ Cannot Be Bound”

McKee

**The church of Christ cannot be bound by walls of wood or stone.
Where charity and love are found, there can the church be known.**

**True faith will open up the door and step into the street.
True service will seek out the poor and ask to wash their feet.**

**True love will not sit idly by when justice is denied.
True mercy hears the homeless cry and welcomes them inside.**

**If what we have we freely share to meet our neighbor’s need,
then we extend the Spirit’s care through every selfless deed.**

**The church of Christ cannot be bound by walls of wood or stone.
Where charity and love are found, there can the church be known.**

Prayer of Confession

Rev. Jen Porter

(Trusting that God is love, we express our lament, our brokenness, and our failings to God.)

**God our guide, you sent us Jesus, prophets, and a law of love to model the way that leads to
life, and oh how we miss the mark. We ignore prophetic messages among us. We forget
your covenant that binds our will with yours. We choose our own comfort over the courage
required to create a world where everyone belongs. In your abounding grace, hear our silent
prayers now...**

Silent Confession

The Assurance of God’s Grace

++Response Hymn 63

“The Lord is God”

Azmon

The Lord is God, the Lord alone! Give honor, thanks, and praise to God, the maker of all things and giver of our days.

++Passing the Peace of Christ

(A sign of forgiveness and reconciliation.)

One: Jesus embodied God’s message of peace on earth, blessing all creation.

All: To live in such a way takes practice.

One: So we practice now.

May the peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

Ministry of Music

“III: Allegretto cantabile” from *Suite de dansas criollas*

Alberto Ginastera

Janlee Richter, Piano

THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

(We pray that the words of Scripture may be encountered as God’s Word.)

Rev. Jeremy Bork

Scripture

Isaiah 56:1-8

Old Testament

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

For All People

Rev. Jeremy Bork

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Prayers of the People and The Lord’s Prayer

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give thanks and praise.

The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Offering Our Lives

Offertory

“For Everyone Born”
Mary Geurink, Soprano
Eric Richter, Tenor

TEXT: Shirley Erena Murray
MUSIC: by Brian Mann

For everyone born, a place at the table, for everyone born, clean water and bread,
a shelter, a space, a safe place for growing, for everyone born, a star overhead,

Refrain:

and God will delight when we are creators of justice

and joy, compassion and peace:

yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice, justice and joy!

For woman and man, a place at the table, revising the roles, deciding the share,
with wisdom and grace, dividing the power, for woman and man, a system that’s fair,

Refrain:

For young and for old, a place at the table, a voice to be heard, a part in the song,
the hands of a child in hands that are wrinkled, for young and for old, the right to belong.

Refrain:

For everyone born, a place at the table, to live without fear, and simply to be,
to work, to speak out, to witness and worship, for everyone born, the right to be free,

Refrain:

++Doxology *(means “words of glory”—they are a traditional expression of praise to God.)*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost!**

GOING OUT TO BE THE CHURCH

++Prayer of Dedication

Covenant-keeping God, our hearts ache for a world freed from racism, exclusion, and illness. As we rededicate ourselves to a life of love, pour out your strength and courage upon us, so we might become co-creators of justice and joy, until all those who have been cast out are welcomed home to a place where we all belong.

++Closing Hymn 772

“Live into Hope”

Truro

**Live into hope of captives freed, of sight regained, the end of greed.
The oppressed shall be the first to see the year of God’s own jubilee!**

**Live into hope! The blind shall see with insight and with clarity,
removing shades of pride and fear, a vision of our God brought near.**

**Live into hope of liberty, the right to speak, the right to be,
the right to have one’s daily bread, to hear God’s word and thus be fed.**

**Live into hope of captives freed from chains of fear or want or greed.
God now proclaims our full release to faith and hope and joy and peace.**

++Charge and Benediction

Closing Voluntary

“Praise the Lord, O My Soul”
Janlee Richter, Organ

Max Drischner

DEVOTION FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 16

A Prayer by Sister Joyce Rupp:

“Trusted Gardener, tame what has grown too wild. Free what has become too tame. Claim what has been neglected. Awaken what has been dormant. Thank you for the companions whose presence led me to my deeper self. I open the door of my heart to you. I open the door of my heart. In Christ’s name, Amen.”

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Preacher Rev. Jeremy Bork, Minister for Youth and Their Families
Liturgists Rev. Laurie Hartzell, Interim Executive Pastor
..... Rev. Jen Porter, Associate Pastor for Faith Formation and Pastoral Care

Technology Team Rachel Kamstra, Stella Sheckler
Peter Larson, and Dan Cisler

Worship Musicians Janlee Richter, Piano and Organ
Mary Geurink and Eric Richter, Singers

AHEAD IN WORSHIP

Livestreaming from the Westminster Sanctuary

August 23 – Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Rev. Jen Porter preaching

A Sizeable Query

Scripture: Isaiah 51:1-8 and Matthew 16:13-20

Music: Cheri Reid, Soprano and
Lambert Zuidervaart, Bass

August 30 – Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Rev. Lynette Sparks, preaching

Who am I that I Should Go?

Scripture: Exodus 3:1-15

Music: Margi Hankins, Soprano
Bruce Klein-Wassink, Baritone

We're glad you worshiped with us today! If you'd like to know about the life and ministry of Westminster, visit our website at westminstergr.org, or contact Susan Jennings at susanj@wpcgr.org.

Join us for a Zoom - After Worship Coffee Time

Time: August 16, 2020 11:00 AM Eastern Time

Susan Jennings is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Coffee Hour on Sunday, August 16

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81147901383?pwd=ZUFOZjMxeWMzelpmN3VpcXgyZHZZZ09>

Meeting ID: 811 4790 1383

The call-in number is (1) 929-205-6099. If people dial that on their phone as if they're calling someone, it will bring them into our Zoom meeting.

In lieu of our coffee time next Sunday, August 23, Rev. Sparks will be in the parking lot off Jefferson ready to greet you safely following the worship service **from 11:15a until 12:15p**. Enter from Jefferson, wave from your car and call out a greeting and then please exit onto Oakes.

Congratulations and Welcome:

Today we celebrate the birth of Arie Andrew Velting, who was born on August 9, 2020. Congratulations to parents Brent and Martha Velting on the birth of their new son.

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION! We are planning our next new member orientation via Zoom for Thursday, **September 10 and 24, 7:00-8:30 p.m.** We will use this time to introduce ourselves to one another and present a general overview of Westminster. Our staff has put together short individual ministry videos that you may view at your convenience between the 2 meetings. We'll spend our second gathering reviewing the information from the staff videos and answering questions. New members will be received into membership on Sunday, September 27. If you are interested in attending the new member orientation, please contact Erin VandenBroek at erinv@wpcgr.org.

ONLINE CONTRIBUTIONS: Even before the COVID-19 pandemic struck, Kathy Cisler had been working on expanding ways for people to make donations digitally. We recognize that many are facing new and unforeseen financial implications in the wake of this pandemic and this message is not meant to put any pressure on people. However, we are also aware that many are able to continue, or increase, their offerings to help us pay our bills, our staff, and continue our ministry that brings justice, peace, and hope into a world God loves. Please [click here](#) for a document that provides information on new ways you can give digitally to the church. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Kathy through her phone number at the church, (616) 717-5533.



Using Engage Giving by Scanning the QR Code: Scan the code using a QR code reader app or the camera on your phone or mobile device. It will take you to the Engage Giving log-in window where you can follow the directions above for giving using the website.

WAY FORWARD UPDATE: The Way Forward Committee continues to meet regularly as we discern our path forward as a congregation in these COVID days. [Click here](#) to read a letter written by our Elder for Worship, Peter Larson titled "When Worship Turns Virtual, Chapter 2." You can find ongoing updates on the church website.

WCDC STILL HAVING LOTS OF FUN, BUT SAYING GOODBYE TO OUR SCHOOL-AGERS: We are officially wishing our school-agers farewell for the summer. Although we had to make significant changes to our summer program this year, the kids still had a blast. They made the best of our current situation by playing board games, taking nature walks, sidewalk painting, running through sprinklers and trying their hand at some cooking projects. We wish them the best of luck this year as they leave us and head back to school soon.



GATHERING GROUPS FOR CONVERSATION: Below are Zoom links for a number of conversations happening over the next few weeks. These spaces encourage individuals to connect within our faith community about current realities, to hear one another's experiences, to share ideas that have been soul-filling, and to name support that is needed. If you identify with one of these groups, please consider joining a conversation.

Is another virtual conversation too much at the moment? May we give ourselves permission to listen to what we are most needing. Do you have an idea for another group? Contact: jenp@wpcgr.org.

Educators (All those whose jobs are connected to education): Sunday, Aug. 16th, 11:00am - [Click here](#) to enter.

Parents: Tuesday, Aug. 18th, 1:30pm and 7:00pm- [Click here](#) for 1:30pm. And [here](#) for 7:00pm.

Health Care Workers (All those who work in medical fields): Thursday, Aug. 13th, 7:00pm- [Click here](#) to enter.

Those Living Alone (Singles, and others, for whom safe pandemic practices brings increased isolation): Sunday, Aug. 16th, 7:00pm- [Click here](#) to enter.

Mental Health and Caring Professions (Therapists, Chaplains, Para-church Ministry workers): Thursday, Aug. 20th, 7:00pm- [Click here](#) to enter.

ALL CHURCH SUMMER EVENT: Start building your bank in order to build our FOOD PANTRY bank with Fitness and Fun activities! The Children and Families Ministries Committee invites everyone to start either collecting money or pledging the money for our BUILD THE BANK CAMPAIGN. At the end of the bulletin, you can find the instructional poster to help you get started today! If you have questions or would like to pledge to one of our children who is participating, contact Nancy Greidanus at nancyg@wpcgr.org.

PLEASE SUBSCRIBE TO OUR YOUTUBE CHANNEL: Would you like to be notified when our Sunday worship service goes live? Visit our YouTube channel and subscribe! After you subscribe click the bell to receive notifications. We are just a few subscribers away from reaching a new threshold for Westminster on YouTube! Once we reach 1,000 subscribers new tools will be available for us to use to enhance the online worship service.⁵

CHILDREN AGES 1-99 will enjoy engaging with our children's summer worship program! You can find it by going to our Westminster [YouTube channel](#) each week. We are enjoying illustrated books read by our WPC teachers and their families, books that help us think and talk about how we should treat God's creation, each other, and people who have lives that are unfamiliar to us; and what we can do to share God's love and beauty with others. Also, if you'd like to be on the list for children's special activities, songs, and lessons in addition to the YouTube channel, let Nancy Greidanus know at nancyg@wpcgr.org.

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP SUMMER BOOK FOR THIS WEEK, AUGUST 16TH IS—*The Good Egg* by Jory John read by Deb Larson—Meet the good egg. He's a verrrrrry good egg indeed. But trying to be so good is hard when everyone else is plain ole' rotten. As the other eggs in the dozen behave badly, the good egg starts to crack from all the pressure of feeling like he has to be perfect. So, he decides enough is enough! It's time for him to make a change. The Good Egg reminds us of the importance of balance, self-care, and accepting those we love (even if they are sometimes a bit rotten). **Main Focus:** There's no need to be perfect, just loving. (It may prompt discussion on how the only way we can be perfect is if we are seen through the eyes of God. To God, we are made perfect because of Jesus!) **Activity:** Play some silly and fun games with your family.

SUPPORT FOR BEIRUT: The Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Program offers prompt, respectful and important relief in areas of the world where disaster strikes. If you wish to support the relief efforts in Beirut, you can find more information at <https://pda.pcusa.org/situation/beirut-explosion/>.

GREAT OPPORTUNITIES FROM CAMP HENRY FOR THE FALL:

Camp Henry Family Camp | Sept. 4-6, 2020 | All Ages

\$99 (4 & under free)

Summer Camp for the whole Family! You'll find the ultimate all-inclusive family vacation for all ages at Camp Henry this fall! Bring the entire family for this awesome weekend on the Shores of Old Lake Kimball!

Mom and Me Weekend | Sept. 25-27, 2020

All Ages | \$99 (4 & under free)

Moms, Aunts, and Grandmas! Come join us for a meaningful weekend at camp and great activities for you and your kids. Enjoy the outdoors while creating lifelong memories! Both sons and daughters are welcome.

Fall Festival | October 17-18, 2020

Ages 8-17 | \$125

Fall is the most beautiful time of the year at Camp Henry! Come kick off the fall season at Camp Henry with a weekend full of fun and festivities! There'll be classic camp activities along with pumpkin carving, wagon rides, and other fall favorites.

Dad and Me Weekend | Nov 6-8, 2020 | All Ages

\$99 (4 & under free)

Dads, Uncles, and Grandpas! Get ready for a weekend packed full of activities at camp and quality time with the kids. You can look forward to some serious outdoor fun! Both sons and daughters are welcome.

For more information and to register for any or all of these great opportunities go to the Camp Henry website (camphenry.org) and click on events. Or call camp at 616-459-2267.

Also, Summer Camp 2021 registrations are already open. Go to the Camp Henry website to register for Summer Camp 2021 at info@CAMPHENRY.ORG or call for more information.

FROM THE FOOD PANTRY: A COUPLE COVID REQUESTS... MASKS! The pantry is open on each Thursday and practices COVID masking and social distancing. There is a problem with this that you might not realize. Where do our clients get their masks? Unfortunately, many wear masks that are paper, of questionable quality, and too-often over-used. Please consider donating cloth masks to the pantry. Our clients really appreciate washable masks, and we are having a hard time keeping up. This will greatly enhance our ability to continue to serve safely. RECEIPTS: the pantry is still participating in the *SpartanNash Direct Your Dollars* program. Please remember to mail in your D & W and Family Fare receipts to the pantry. The entire receipt. For each \$150,000 in receipts the pantry receives \$ 1,000! This is a great revenue source for us. Keep praying for this ministry – It is vital to our purpose to help those in need.

BUILD THE BANK CAMPAIGN

Fitness and Fun = \$\$ for our Food Pantry

MAKE YOUR OWN BANK

Decorate or use a food box, jar, or any container to use as your bank. We hope to have a collection parade later.

GET PLEDGES - Tell grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, neighbors, and friends about our church Food Pantry. Maybe you have visited the Food Pantry and can describe it or tell them how the pantry helps people. Ask them to pledge a specified amount of money for you to fulfill an activity or contribute for each minute or hour that you participate in activities.

DECIDE ON FUN ACTIVITIES - Possible ideas: Walking, biking, rollerblading, scootering, yoga, hopscotch, jump rope, swimming, running or any sport or game that involves lots of movement or even mowing the lawn.

Do something you love and remember to have FUN!

Checks can be made payable to Westminster Food Pantry



Please take photos and post on the WPC Parents Facebook page AND send photos and notes to Nancy so they can be shared with our church family.



ANOTHER FUN ACTIVITY to Grow your Bank: Fill in the contribution blanks before you start counting! Items that many people don't have, that we often take for granted.

<u>Contribution Per Item</u>	<u>Number of Items counted</u>		<u>Total Collected</u>
_____	_____	For every beverage in your fridge	_____
_____	_____	For every piece of fresh fruit in the house	_____
_____	_____	For every fresh vegetable	_____
_____	_____	For every frozen food item in freezer	_____
_____	_____	For every canned food	_____
_____	_____	For every boxed food	_____
_____	_____	For every snack food	_____
_____	_____	Each time you eat take-out food	_____
_____	_____	Each time you use the dishwasher in a month	_____
_____	_____	For every mug or drinking glass you own	_____
_____	_____		_____
_____	_____		_____
_____	_____		_____

Calendar of Events

— WESTMINSTER'S BUILDING IS STILL CLOSED —
ALL MEETINGS TAKE PLACE VIRTUALLY
WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE FOOD PANTRY

SUN. AUG 16

10:00 am Worship Online
11:00 am Zoom Coffee Hour
11:00 am Conversation for Educators
7:00 pm Conversation for Those Living Alone

TUES. AUG 18

1:30 pm Conversation for Parents
5:00 pm Communications Committee
7:00 pm Conversation for Parents

THUR. AUG 20

7:00 pm Conversation for Mental Health
and Caring Professions

FRI. AUG 21

4:00 pm Camp Henry Executive Committee

SUN. AUG 23

10:00 am Worship Online
11:15 am Drive-Through Meet & Greet

MON. AUG 24

7:00 pm Social Justice Committee

WED. AUG 26

7:00 pm Faithworks

FRI. AUG 28

4:00 pm Camp Henry Executive Committee

SUN. AUG 30

10:00 am Worship Online
11:00 am Zoom Coffee Hour

ANTI-RACISM RESOURCES: As we seek to be active in response to the racism and struggles that continue to grip our nation and community, we must not underestimate the power of educating ourselves. We must learn to face the ways racism has been bred into us as white people and how we benefit from racist systems. This is necessary if we are going to be part of real, systemic change. Educating ourselves, facing our white privilege, and praying for healing are, in fact, meaningful actions as we learn to be allies in this anti-racism work. Throughout the past few days, people from our Social Justice and Mission Partnerships committees have been gathering resources. An abbreviated list of those resources [is attached here](#). It is also important that we work in partnership in our community. We have many community partners and will continue in those relationships. Another email later this week will share information about our partnerships. If you would like more resources, please reach out to laurieh@wpcgr.org or to someone from our Social Justice or Mission Partnerships committees.