

#### This Week at West Green Tree

|                       |             |                     |
|-----------------------|-------------|---------------------|
| TODAY                 | 11:00 a. m. | Worship Team Picnic |
| Monday, October 27    | 11:00 a. m. | Ladies Bible Study  |
| Wednesday, October 29 | 6:30 p. m.  | Youth Group         |
| Thursday, October 30  | 7:00 p. m.  | Men's Bible Study   |

#### Future Events at West Green Tree

|                        |             |                                                |
|------------------------|-------------|------------------------------------------------|
| Saturday, November 1   | 5:00 p. m.  | Family Picnic in the Woods<br>Turn Clocks BACK |
| Saturday, November 8   | 9:00 a. m.  | Sisters in Christ                              |
| Sunday, November 9     | 5:30 p. m.  | Praise & Worship Night                         |
| Tuesday, November 11   | 7:00 p. m.  | Congregational Forum                           |
| Wednesday, November 12 |             | Youth Shoebox Shopping                         |
| Saturday, November 15  | 11:00 a. m. | Community Memorial Service                     |
| Sunday, November 16    |             | OCC Shoeboxes Due!                             |
| Tuesday, November 18   | 7:00 p. m.  | Leadership Team Meeting                        |
| Wednesday, November 26 | Noon        | Office Closing<br>No Youth Group               |
| Thursday, November 27  |             | Thanksgiving/Office Closed                     |
| Friday, November 28    |             | Office Closed                                  |
| Saturday, December 6   | 4:00 p. m.  | E-town Holiday Parade                          |

#### West Green Tree Deacons

|                         |                                              |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Jim & June Kolp         | 717-905-9242 (Jim)<br>717-526-9454 (June)    |
| Dewey & Kathy Martin    | 717-629-9343 (Dewey)<br>717-341-9253 (Kathy) |
| Sylvia Coble            | 717-602-3434 (Sylvia)                        |
| Cliff & Dawn Shirk      | 717-405-4914 (Cliff)<br>717-468-1761 (Dawn)  |
| Mike & Marcia Hawthorne | 717-689-0460 (Mike)<br>717-475-9314 (Marcia) |

#### Contact Information

740 Greentree Road  
Elizabethtown, PA 17022  
Phone: 717-653-5367  
[www.westgreentree.org](http://www.westgreentree.org)  
[paula@westgreentree.org](mailto:paula@westgreentree.org)

#### Gathering Times

Sunday School/Small Groups 8:30 am  
Large Group Gathering 9:45 am

#### New to WGT?

New Here? Scan the QR code and tell us about yourself! Stop at the Welcome Center outside the sanctuary for a small gift and for info about our church! You can also fill out the card in the pew to tell us about yourself! Thanks for gathering with us! If you would like further information please visit our website: [www.westgreentree.org/new-to-wgt](http://www.westgreentree.org/new-to-wgt)



# SANCTIFICATION OVER PERFECTION

SERMON SERIES: OVER PERFECTION

PHILIPPIANS 1:6

PSALM 138:8

OCTOBER 26, 2025

West Green Tree  
Church of the Brethren  
740 Greentree Road  
Elizabethtown, PA 17022  
[westgreentree.org](http://westgreentree.org)  
717 653 5367

West Green Tree  
Church of the Brethren  
October 26, 2025

9:45 AM Large Group Gathering

*"To Know, Love, & Follow Jesus by Serving All"*

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**Opening Hymn**

*"Wonderful Grace of Jesus" - pg. #338*

**Missions Invitations**

*Collecting tithes and offerings as an act of worship.*

**Songs of Worship**

*"Just As I Am (I Come Broken)"*

*"Clean Heart"*

**Time of Prayer**

**Song of Declaration**

*"The Lord Will Provide"*

*Children ages Pre-K to 5th Grade are  
dismissed to Junior Church.*

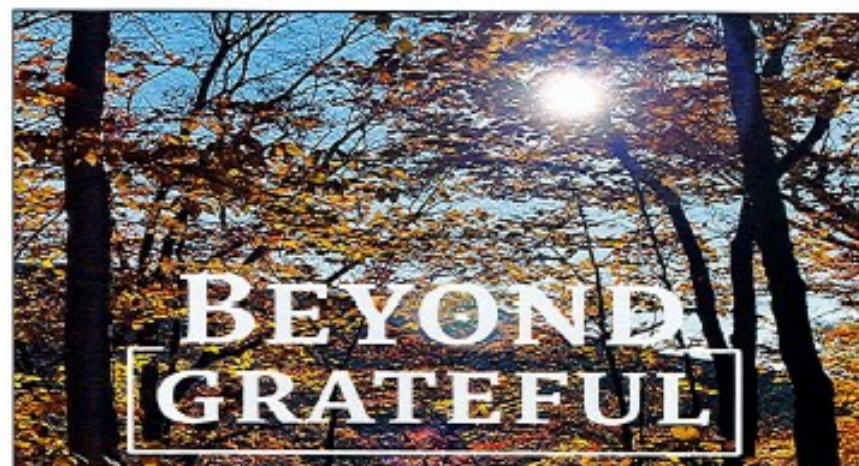
**Message**

*"Sanctification Over Perfection"*

**Songs of Response**

*"More Like Jesus"*

**Benediction**



Life keeps coming. Work stress, family pressure, disappointments that stack up, those brief wins that fade before we can even celebrate them properly. Our hearts get pulled in every direction, and most days we're just trying to keep up.

The psalmists get it. They wrote from real life—the loneliness, the anger, the exhaustion, the unexpected joy. And through all of it, they kept returning to this practice of praise. Not because it made them feel better in the moment (sometimes it didn't), but because it kept them connected to something bigger than their circumstances.

"Praise" feels like such a churchy word, doesn't it? The kind of thing that makes some of us think of raised hands and worship songs we don't quite connect with. The Psalmists weren't talking about a style of worship or a certain kind of music. They were talking about something we all desperately need: a way to stay grounded when life keeps coming at us.

So this November, I want us to explore what happens when gratitude grows into something more sustaining. What if praise isn't just something we add to our faith, but actually how faith stays alive in us?

Join us for four weeks as we walk through some psalms together and discover why this ancient practice might be exactly what we need for the lives we're actually living.

Sundays in November | 9:45 AM

Nov 2: Built for More (Psalm 150)

Nov 9: Raw and Real (Psalm 13)

Nov 16: Power in Unity (Psalms 133 & 95)

Nov 23: The New Normal (Psalm 34)



## Sanctification Over Perfection

Transformation — becoming more like Jesus — is a \_\_\_\_\_, not a \_\_\_\_\_.

That process has a beautiful name: \_\_\_\_\_.

(*"Becoming like Jesus through the patient, relational work of the Holy Spirit — over a lifetime."*)

### The Perfectionism Prison - 4 Traps

Perfectionism sounds holy — but it's a \_\_\_\_\_.

#### 1 Formulas Over Faith

Perfectionism says: *"Achievement equals holiness."*

But God doesn't operate by \_\_\_\_\_ — He meets us with \_\_\_\_\_.

*"The Lord will work out his plans for my life... for your faithful love, O Lord, endures forever."* (Psalm 138:8)

☞ Perfectionism gives you a formula to follow. Sanctification gives you a \_\_\_\_\_ to follow.

#### 2 Uniformity Over Uniqueness

Perfectionism says: *"Everyone's growth should look the same."*

But the Shepherd **"calls His own sheep by \_\_\_\_\_ and leads them out."** (John 10:3)

Each path is \_\_\_\_\_, Same God — different \_\_\_\_\_.

☞ Perfectionism creates clones.

Sanctification creates sons and daughters — each bearing the family resemblance, none identical.

#### 3 Impatience Over Trust

Perfectionism demands \_\_\_\_\_. But transformation happens *"from glory to glory"* (2 Cor. 3:18).

God's work is often \_\_\_\_\_, not \_\_\_\_\_.

Failure isn't disqualification — it's part of \_\_\_\_\_.

☞ Perfectionism reduces holiness to \_\_\_\_\_. Sanctification deepens holiness through \_\_\_\_\_.

#### 4 Exhaustion Over Rest

Perfectionism says: *"You're the \_\_\_\_\_."* But Scripture says: *"The fruit of the \_\_\_\_\_."* (Gal. 5:22–23)

The Spirit doesn't just help you live holy — His \_\_\_\_\_ makes you holy.

### Two Paths: Saul vs. David

Saul defended himself with religious \_\_\_\_\_. David responded with humble \_\_\_\_\_.

*"The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a contrite heart, O God, You will not despise."* — Psalm 51:17

☞ Perfectionism brings \_\_\_\_\_. Sanctification brings \_\_\_\_\_.

## Why Sanctification Frees

1 Relational, Not Transactional You're sacred because \_\_\_\_\_ lives in you, not because you're \_\_\_\_\_.

2 Progress, Not Perfection *"We are being \_\_\_\_\_."* (2 Cor. 3:18)

3 Symphony, Not Monotony God's grace doesn't sound the same in every life. He composes a \_\_\_\_\_ in each of us.

## Three Movements Toward Freedom

1 Abide — John 15:5

*"Apart from Me, you can do \_\_\_\_\_."*

The Spirit isn't your assistant — He's your \_\_\_\_\_.

2 Participate — John 17:17

*"Sanctify them by the truth: Your word is \_\_\_\_\_."*

Sanctification doesn't just fix behavior — it frees your \_\_\_\_\_ to love rightly.

3 Rest — 2 Cor. 12:9

*"My grace is \_\_\_\_\_."*

Perfectionism despises \_\_\_\_\_; sanctification \_\_\_\_\_ it.

## The Beauty of "Not Yet"

Perfectionism \_\_\_\_\_.

Sanctification \_\_\_\_\_.

Perfectionism \_\_\_\_\_.

Sanctification \_\_\_\_\_.

Perfectionism \_\_\_\_\_.

Sanctification \_\_\_\_\_.

You are:

- Positionally \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ.
- Progressively being \_\_\_\_\_ by the Spirit.

Your holiness is His \_\_\_\_\_, not your \_\_\_\_\_.

Your transformation is His \_\_\_\_\_, not your \_\_\_\_\_.

*"He who began a good work in you will carry it to completion."*

— Philippians 1:6

### West Green Tree Upcoming Events/News.

- ⇒ **Operation Christmas Child - [Servant Opportunity](#)**  
OCC Shoebox kick-off is TODAY. Boxes are available to pick up, fill & return to WGT so that a child will be blessed this Christmas. Please see Dana Youtz with questions.
- ⇒ **Family/All Church Picnic in the Woods**  
Join us Saturday, November 1st, for a Family in the Woods Picnic! Meal begins at 5 pm with a guest speaker at 6 pm. Main dish, drinks & paper goods provided. Plan to bring a dish to share and a chair. Invite your friends, family & neighbors. Sign-up at the Information Center so we can plan for food.
- ⇒ **Tiny Timbers Fundraiser - [Servant Opportunity](#)**  
Support Tiny Timbers Christian Preschool with yummy soft pretzels! We are fundraising with Dutch Country Soft Pretzels in Mount Joy. Please return your order form and payment to the Tiny Timbers church mailbox by November 1st! Order forms and info sheets were in your church mailbox. If you need a new one or have questions, you can talk to one of our committee members: Brenda Drawbaugh, Laura Hollinger, or Dewey Martin. You can also email Amy at [director@westgreentree.org](mailto:director@westgreentree.org). Thank you for supporting Tiny Timbers!
- ⇒ **Praise & Worship Night**  
Plan to join us for a Praise and Worship Night Sunday, November 9th. This will be a gathering focused on singing songs of praise to the King of Kings. Psalm 150 resounds with the declaration "Let everything that has breath praise the Lord." Will you come and use the breath He gave you to praise His name? Refreshments will be served afterwards! Join us!
- ⇒ **Fall Congregational Forum**  
Tuesday, November 11th, at 7 pm is the Fall Congregational Forum (formerly CBM). Report packets were emailed to those whose emails are on record. Hard copies are available at the welcome center. If you take a hard copy, plan to bring it with you to the forum. There will be a limited number of packets at the forum.
- ⇒ **Annual Holiday Remembrance Service**  
A memorial service honoring family members & friends who have passed on will be held Saturday, November 15th, at WGT. Special music at 10:30 am followed by the memorial service at 11 am. After the service, a reception will be held in the WGT Fellowship Hall. This special memorial service is open to all members of the community. Kindly RSVP to Sheetz Funeral Home (717-653-5441) with the number of people representing your family plus names of family members to be remembered.

### ⇒ **2026 Directories**

It's time to update information for the 2026 WGT Directory. You should have received an update form in your church mailbox. Please complete the necessary information and return it to the church office no later than Sunday, November 30th. If you did not receive a form & wish to be included in the 2026 Directory, please contact the church office.

### ⇒ **Ladies Outing - Amish Prepared Meal**

Ladies and girls come experience a delicious Amish meal, Friday, December 5th at 6 pm. Invite family/friends/someone who needs some encouragement! The cost is \$12 (4 & under free) with payment due to Kathy Martin (checks payable to her) in advance or the night of the dinner. If finances are an issue, see Kathy. The menu: pot roast & chicken, mashed potatoes & noodles, green beans, salad, homemade bread, peanut butter spread & chow chow. Water, tea and coffee will be available and ice cream, cherry pie & chocolate cake will top off the meal! The address: Allan & Amanda King, 5105 Elizabethtown Road, Manheim.

### ⇒ **2026 Giving Envelopes**

If you currently use envelopes for your givings, please let the church office know if you need a new box for 2026.

### ⇒ **Christmas Fellowship Meal - [Servant Opportunity](#)**

There is a sign-up sheet available at the Christmas Fellowship Meal Station for volunteers. Beginning in November there will be sign-up sheets for those who are interested in contributing food or baked goods. Please see Brienna Brown with any questions.

### ⇒ **Thank You**

We are deeply grateful for your generous gift and kind words during Pastor Appreciation Month. The gift certificate to Sight & Sound is such a thoughtful blessing that our entire family will enjoy together. Your encouragement and support mean more to us than you know. Thank you for your love and partnership in ministry. To God be the glory.

Shawn, Amanda, and Noelle

### **Prayer**

If you would like anointing/prayer, please come to the front of the sanctuary at the end of the gathering and the deacons/pastor will be happy to pray with you. Prayer needs may be emailed to [prayer@westgreentree.org](mailto:prayer@westgreentree.org), sent using the online form located under 'worship' on the website, or called in to the church office at 717-653-5367.

This week, our congregation is holding the Hanoverdale Congregation in prayer.

May our great God provide for them abundantly,

### **Timber Talk**

What do you like about the sun?

"It gives us light", "I just like the red things around it"