



# WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Aerial view of the North Carolina Baptist Men's disaster kitchen, 2008 Texas floods, FEMA photographer Mike Moore.

THE SIXTEENTH  
SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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SEPTEMBER 20, 2020

## MORNING WORSHIP AT 10:00 A.M.

### *Gifts in the Wilderness: Provision for the Moment*

## GATHERING: PREPARING TO HEAR THE WORD

### In Preparation for Worship

“Traditionalism is one of the great enemies of the church...for it feeds upon what was given to preceding generations instead of gathering the manna of the morning.”

— Douglas John Hall, *Thinking the Faith: Christian Theology in a North American Context*

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

“Allegro di molto”

C. P. E. Bach

Helen Hofmeister, Organ

### Welcome and Sharing the Life of Westminster

Rev. Lynette Sparks  
Children of WCDC

### **++Call to Worship** - (*Adapted from liturgy by Teri Peterson, liturglink.net.*)

Deb Larson

One: God is a baker, providing abundance that surpasses our hopes.

**All: We praise the One who feeds us with love.**

One: God mixes and kneads, bringing together many to create one.

**All: We worship God who offers the Bread of Life to make us whole.**

### **++Opening Hymn 664**

#### “Morning Has Broken”

Bunessan

**Morning has broken like the first morning;  
blackbird has spoken like the first bird.  
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!  
Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!**

**Sweet the rain’s new fall sunlit from heaven,  
like the first dewfall on the first grass.  
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,  
sprung in completeness where God’s feet pass.**

**Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning,  
born of the one light Eden saw play!  
Praise with elation; praise every morning,  
God’s re-creation of the new day!**

### **Prayer of Confession**

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

**God of abundance, even though you provide for us, we buy into the myth of scarcity. When things don’t go our way, we doubt that you will be there for us. We want to return to the past that we know, rather than live into the courageous future that we don’t know. Sometimes we complain loudly, even as you wait patiently for us to trust you. Forgive our lack of trust in your goodness, and hear us as we confess our shortcomings to you...**

*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: Christ welcomes everyone, no matter their background or status.

**All: Let us be Christ to everyone we meet.**

One: Let us open our hearts and homes and lives to one another.

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

**Ministry of Music**

“Meditation” from *Thaïs*  
Lee Copenhaver, Cello

*Jules Massenet*

THE WORD

**Prayer for Illumination**

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

**Scripture**

Exodus 16:2-15

Old Testament

One: The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon**

*Gifts in the Wilderness: Provision for the Moment*

Rev. Lynette Sparks

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

**Focus on Mission and Commissioning of Westminster Child Development Center Staff**

**Prayers of the People and The Lord’s Prayer**

Rev. Jeremy Bork

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

“Salut d’Amour”  
Lee Copenhaver, Cello

*Edward Elgar*

**++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

**Lord God, you are the giver of all good gifts. You have graced us with work to do, and blessed us with more than we could ever earn. Accept the offerings of ourselves and our resources, and use them to grow your kingdom of unconditional love and justice. We pray in Christ’s name. Amen.**

### ++Closing Hymn 396

**“Brethren, We Have Met to Worship”**

*Holy Manna*

**Brethren, we have met to worship and adore the Lord our God.  
Will you pray with all your power while we try to preach the word?  
All is vain unless the Spirit of the holy One comes down.  
Brethren, pray, and holy manna will be showered all around.**

**Sisters, will you come and help us? Moses’ sister aided him.  
Will you help the trembling mourners who are struggling hard with sin?  
Tell them all about the Savior. Tell them that he will be found.  
Sisters, pray, and holy manna will be showered all around.**

**Is there here a trembling jailer, seeking grace and filled with fears?  
Is there here a weeping Mary pouring forth a flood of tears?  
Brethren, join your cries to help them; sisters, let your prayers abound!  
Pray, O pray, that holy manna will be scattered all around.**

**Let us love our God supremely; let us love each other, too.  
Let us love and pray for sinners till our God makes all things new.  
Christ will call us home to heaven; at his table we’ll sit down.  
Christ will gird himself and serve us with sweet manna all around.**

### ++Charge and Benediction

Closing Voluntary

“Sketch No. 3”  
Helen Hofmeister, Organ

*Robert Schumann*

### DEVOTION FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 20

I invite you to keep this question before you: What are you after? And what would it mean to eat the real food of covenantal faithfulness, to receive and accept it, to live it and give it, to be transformed and weaned away from the stuff that only makes you more hungry?

— Walter Brueggemann, *A Gospel of Hope*

## PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Preacher ..... Rev. Lynette Sparks, Senior Pastor and Head of Staff  
 Liturgists ..... Deb Larson, WDCD Board President  
 ..... Rev. Jeremy Bork, Minister for Youth and Their Families

Minister of Music ..... Helen Hofmeister  
 Worship Musicians..... Lee Copenhaver, Cello and Janet Carter, Soprano

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

### AHEAD IN WORSHIP

*Livestreaming from the Westminster Sanctuary*

**September 27 – Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost**

***Gifts in the Wilderness: Grace, in Spite of...***

Rev. Lynette Sparks preaching

Scripture: Exodus 17:1-7

Music: Josh Leckrone, Baritone and  
 Cara Hyink, Soprano

**October 4 – Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**World Communion Sunday**

***Gifts in the Wilderness: Loving Boundaries***

Rev. Lynette Sparks preaching

Scripture: Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20

Music: Viviana Kloostra, Soprano and  
 Eric Richter, Tenor

**Sermon Discussion Groups:** In our faith formation survey, we heard a desire to continue to get to know one another and to share in smaller group conversation. Beginning Sunday September 20, following our worship via livestream, households will be placed into groups to discuss the morning's scripture and sermon. Groups will be together for three Sundays: 9/20, 9/27, and 10/4. Another opportunity will be available soon to sign up for new groups for 10/11, 10/18, and 10/25. Are you unsure about committing to those particular three Sundays? An open group will receive anyone who has not joined a group and wishes to participate on any given Sunday.

### **WESTMINSTER CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTERS STAFF BEING COMMISSIONED TODAY**

Sarah Alvarado	Amber Marz-Momany	Madelon Sprite
Arianna Edwards	Linda McDirmid	Jennifer Taylor
Jessica Eisen	Katherine Phillips	Rachel Vredevelt
Tanya Gilbert	Jacqueline Sain	Patti Walsh
Michelle Hidalgo	Samantha Shuff	Veronica Washington
Jenna Kuiper	Kristen Sokol	Megan Woltjer



*Announcements following on page 5 & 6, church calendar on page 7*

## **BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THE CONGREGATION:**

As I reflect on this past Sunday's installation service and reception at Riverside Park, I am filled with gratitude to you all for your warm welcome, well wishes, and presence in body or in spirit. It was a special day for me and Brad. I extend a special thanks to all who participated in the service, and to every member of the Pastor Nominating Committee for hosting the reception. The framed Trillium artwork created by Josh Leckrone will make its home in a central place in my church office -- a stunning reminder of God's constant presence on the journey that brought us together and in the years to come. Thank you one and all! In hope and faith, Lynette

**GIFTS IN THE WILDERNESS: WORSHIP THEME FOR SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER:** Wandering in the wilderness is an image that appears prominently in Scripture, and it's an apt metaphor for our current reality that includes the COVID pandemic and social unrest. Nothing is easy in the wilderness, and most, if not all of us would rather not go there. However, if we look at God's work among God's people all throughout the Bible, the wilderness is always a place where God does something significant. Our worship theme throughout September and October, "Gifts in the Wilderness," embraces the Old Testament stories of Israel's journey through the wilderness after escaping slavery in Egypt, a journey where God accompanied them every step of the way. We'll explore what they have to say to our own lived reality, and discover the gifts waiting to be found. Please join us!

**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.

**PRE-WORSHIP COFFEE HOUR:** Come and gather, beloved of the Lord. This Sunday we will share in a half hour of pre-worship fellowship from 9:30-10:00am. All are welcome to come and greet one another as we prepare to enter livestream worship together at 10am. [Join us here.](#)

**HYMNALS AVAILABLE FOR CHECK-OUT:** If you would like to have a hymnal in your hands for the live-stream services, you may borrow one from the music committee member who will be in the church parking lot after church on September 27 and October 4. You can keep the hymnal at home until our regular services resume in the sanctuary, and then we will need it back! If you want to purchase your own for \$18, here is the website: <https://www.wjkbooks.com/Products/0664503136/glory-to-god-purple-pew-edition-presbyterian.aspx>.

**WESTMINSTER EMERGING ADULTS:** Some say young adults; others say emerging adults. Do you consider yourself either? Are you looking for ways to connect with people your age? Have you ever wished to be part of a group that ranged from discussing sermons and processing current events to playing lawn games, picking apples, and sharing memes? Join us on Sunday, September 20 at 4pm at Riverside Park to meet, mingle, and dream together about everything this group could be. Text Jeremy for more information.

**ADULT FAITH FORMATION:** Three new fall faith formation opportunities begin this week! All are welcome to join Lynette Sparks on **Thursdays at noon** to listen and talk together about the text for Sunday. On **Wednesday evenings**, groups are forming to read through the book of Philippians together. **Following worship on 9/20, 9/27 and 10/4** we will have small groups to discuss the morning's theme and sermon. Sign-ups for all opportunities will be available through the Weekly email tomorrow. If you would like to receive our WM email communication, contact [emmar@wpcgr.org](mailto:emmar@wpcgr.org).

**FOR THE PANTRY: LET'S PRODUCE PRODUCE!** Our pantry clients love fresh produce. Let's challenge ourselves for **September 23, and 30** to donate fresh produce as a product of the week. Fruits and veggies can be dropped off on those Wednesdays between 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. Pantry Director, Angie Kelley will receive them at the parking lot doors. We will then distribute the produce on Thursdays when we are open. This is perfect for the pantry since we will not have to store the produce with a risk of spoilage, and we will be providing healthy desirable food for our neighbors. It's harvest time! Thank you, Angie Kelley, Pantry Director.

**T-SHIRT BAGS FOR THE FOOD PANTRY:** Save your old t-shirts to make Food Pantry bags – The Children and Families Committee is still planning an All-Church Event where we get together and have a bag-making party. Keep saving t-shirts (preferably medium to extra large adult sizes), and be on the look-out for information about how we plan to make this happen! Questions? Ask Nancy Greidanus at [nancyg@wpcgr.org](mailto:nancyg@wpcgr.org).

**ALL CHURCH SUMMER EVENT:** Keep 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 continue collecting money or pledging money for our BUILD THE BANK CAMPAIGN. At the end of the bulletin, you can find the instructional poster with all the details! If you have questions or would like to pledge to one of our children who is participating, contact Nancy Greidanus at [nancyg@wpcgr.org](mailto:nancyg@wpcgr.org).

**WCDC NEEDS YOUR HELP:** To protect ourselves and others from COVID-19, the Kent County Health Department now requires all of our preschool aged children to wear cloth face coverings while indoors in common spaces. We are having a hard time finding masks small enough to fit our little ones. If sewing happens to be one of your skills and you have some spare time we would greatly appreciate having a few masks donated for our WCDC friends. Please drop the masks off at our LaGrave door. Just ring the doorbell and we will come and grab them. We are here all day.... 6:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Thank you!

**GREAT NEWS FOR OUR NEW PROGRAM YEAR!** Westminster enjoys worshiping as a large family. To make that somewhat possible virtually, our children's ministry is coordinating its stories each Sunday with the focus of the worship service. Children, youth, and adults can discuss and wonder about the same scripture. Each week, children's bulletins, lessons, stories, songs and videos as well as the memory verse, and prayers of the month will be on the WPC website home page. The videos will also be on our YouTube Channel. These are for all ages! If you can't find them, contact Nancy Greidanus at [nancyg@wpcgr.org](mailto:nancyg@wpcgr.org).

**THIRD GRADE BIBLES** – Do you have a 3rd grader in your family? If you do, it is a special year for them at Westminster! This year traditionally marks their progression from Worship Centers to full participation in the worship service. This fall, they will learn about the parts of our worship service, participate in a worship seminar, engage in communion, and receive a Bible from the church. This year a Bible will be presented to each of them by a deacon who will be his or her "Bible Buddy." On **October 18**, 3rd graders will be part of our liturgy in the worship service as well. If you know of a 3rd grader who has not yet received this information, please contact Nancy Greidanus at [nancyg@wpcgr.org](mailto:nancyg@wpcgr.org).

**GREAT OPPORTUNITIES FROM CAMP HENRY FOR THE FALL:** Take a break from the new normal and let us serve you with an energizing, yet relaxing weekend experiences! Refresh your family in the great outdoors and take in all the smile-inducing activities camp has to offer. Simply show up and enjoy! Families need camp now.

### **Trail Rides at Camp Henry**

Join us with your friends and family for a trail ride through different portions of our 212 acres! Our trained and knowledgeable staff will guide you on an hour long trail ride filled with fresh air, loving horses, and great company. Cost: \$20 per person Ages: 10\* - adult\*(riders 10 - 12 years old will need to have an adult rider register with them)

**Dates & Times:** Sept 20: 1pm & 3pm • Oct 3 & 4: 1pm & 3pm • Oct 18: 1pm & 3pm • Oct 24: 1pm & 3pm • Oct 25: 1pm & 3pm • Nov 1: 1pm & 3pm. Bring your family and friends to camp for a scenic trail ride!

**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.

Registration for all of them are at [camphenry.org/events](http://camphenry.org/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 [camphenry.org](http://camphenry.org) or call for more information.

**FROM THE FOOD PANTRY: A COUPLE OF 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

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

## SUN. SEPT 20

9:30 am ..... Pre-worship Coffee Hour  
10:00 am ..... Livestream Worship  
11:00 am ..... Sermon Discussion Groups  
4:00 pm ..... Westminster Emerging Adults

## MON. SEPT 21

6:00 pm ..... Mission Partnership Committee  
6:30 pm ..... Trustees

## TUES. SEPT 22

3:30 pm ..... Stewardship Committee  
7:00 pm ..... Nominating Committee

## WED. SEPT 23

7:00 am ..... Youth Prayer Breakfast

## THURS. SEPT 24

10:30 am ..... Food Pantry  
12:00 pm ..... Thursday Text Talk  
7:00 pm ..... New Member Orientation

## SUN. SEPT 27

8:30 am ..... Confirmation  
9:00 am ..... Session Meeting with New Members  
9:30 am ..... Pre-worship Coffee Hour  
10:00 am ..... Livestream Worship  
11:00 am ..... Sermon Discussion Groups  
4:00 pm ..... Youth Group

## TUES. SEPT 29

3:30 pm ..... Stewardship Committee  
7:00 pm ..... New Member Orientation

## WED. SEPT 30

7:00 am ..... Youth Prayer Breakfast

## THURS. OCT 1

10:30am ..... Food Pantry  
5:00 pm ..... Tech Committee  
7:30 pm ..... MGD Committee