

MORNING WORSHIP  
And Then, Ask Again

GATHERING: PREPARING TO HEAR THE WORD

In Preparation for Worship

"To pray does not primarily mean to think about God in contrast to thinking about other things, or to spend time with God instead of spending time with other people. Rather it means to think and to live in the presence of God. As soon as we begin to divide our thoughts into thoughts about God and thoughts about people and events, we remove God from our daily life and put God in a pious niche where we can think pious thoughts and experience pious feelings."

—Henry Nouwen

Sharing the Life of Westminster

Susan Jennings

Opening Voluntary "What God Ordains Is Always Good" Johann Walther

++Call to Worship Rev. Jen Porter

One: We come to God—our generous parent, our patient teacher, our constant friend.

All: We live by the hope of God's promise.

One: We seek to follow God's way,

All: and to rely on the gift of God's Spirit.

One: For it is in God's power that we breathe, and move, and pray.

All: We come to worship God.

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

Prayer of Confession Lauren Vanderkaay

Holy God, our lives are intended to reflect your goodness. You created us with the capacity for your grace to flow through our lives. And yet, we are uncertain. We struggle to grasp the wideness of your mercy. We doubt our ability to live within your holiness. The promise of your constant presence and care seems distant. We stop asking. We stop looking. We try to live on our own. Lord, call us again to seek first your love. Help us to give ourselves fully to you. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer...

Silent Confession

Kyrie - Unison "Lord, Have Mercy" Lee J. Afdahl

Assurance of God's Grace

One: Forgiveness and mercy ceaselessly flow from the heart of God. This is good news!

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God!

++Response Hymn 817 "We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight" Dunlap's Creek

We walk by faith and not by sight;  
with gracious words draw near,

O Christ, who spoke as none e'er spoke:  
"My peace be with you here."

++Passing the Peace of Christ

One: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

Ministry of Music "Berceuse" from Dolly Gabriel Fauré  
Janlee Richter, Piano  
Helen Hofmeister, Piano

Blessings with Younger Disciples Nancy Greidanus

(Children three years through fourth grade may finish their time of worship in the worship centers. Children's worship leaders or parents will shepherd them from the Sanctuary to their rooms. Parents may pick them up in their worship rooms following the service.)

Congregation: As you worship together, may God be with you.

Children: And also with you.

Congregation: Go in peace!

THE WORD

Scripture Luke 11:1-13 New Testament p. 72

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon "And Then, Ask Again" Rev. Jen Porter

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

++Affirmation of Faith (from The Confession of 1967)

God the Holy Spirit fulfills the work of reconciliation in us. The Holy Spirit creates and renews the church as the community in which we are reconciled to God and to one another. God enables us to receive forgiveness as we forgive one another and to enjoy the peace of God as we make peace among ourselves. God gives us power to become representatives of Jesus Christ and his gospel of reconciliation to all people.

Prayers of the People and 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 "Messieu Aoul" from Dolly Gabriel Fauré  
Janlee Richter, Piano  
Helen Hofmeister, Piano

++Doxology

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

++Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

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.

God our creator, you give every good gift upon this earth. We live our lives with you and we dedicate our lives to your holy way. Accept these offerings, that through them we may do justice, and love kindness, and walk humbly with you. Amen.

GOING OUT TO BE THE CHURCH

++Closing Hymn 850 "In Great, Unbounded Darkness" Divinum Mysterium

++Charge and Benediction

Closing Voluntary "What God Ordains Is Always Good" (Finale) Johann Walther

CONGREGATIONAL CHARGE

Go into the world in peace. Have courage. Hold on to all that is good. Return no one evil for evil. Do justice. Walk with those who are fainthearted. Help those who suffer. Honor all people. Love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

AHEAD IN WORSHIP

**July 31**

**It's Not About the Fish! - Part 1**

Rev. Lynette Sparks

Jonah 1-2

Music: Jeff Wilkinson, Tenor; Josh Leckrone, Baritone

**August 4**

**It's Not About the Fish! - Part 2**

Rev. Lynette Sparks

Jonah 3:1-10

Music: John Schlafley, Tenor

SUMMER BOOKS FOR CHILDREN'S WORSHIP

*During the summer, children's ministry focuses on reading children's books that teach children how to apply biblical concepts to real world situations. Your children can join the children's centers during worship, or you can follow along with your children at home!*

This week: *Survivor Tree* by Marcie Colleen and Aaron Becker  
Next week: *Norman Didn't Do It! (Yes, He Did.)* by Ryan T. Higgins

Leaders: John Meyers and Marika Patterson

This hopeful story of a resilient tree that grew (and still grows) at the base of the twin towers is a simple introduction for young readers to gain an understanding of September 11th and the impact it had on America. One September day, the perfect blue sky exploded. Dust billowed. Buildings crumbled. And underneath it all, a tree sprouted green leaves in its distress. Pulled from the wreckage, the tree saw many seasons pass as it slowly recovered far away from home. Until one day, forever scarred and forever stronger, it was replanted at the 9/11 Memorial. This story of the real Survivor Tree uses nature's cycle of colors to reflect on the hope and healing that come after a tragedy—and assures readers of their own remarkable resilience.

**Activity:** Children may use black crayons to draw the tree trunk and branches and then watercolors for the leaves of the various seasons/plant a tree in the Gathering Place.

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Preacher.....Rev. Jen Porter, Associate Pastor  
Liturgists.....Susan Jennings, Pastoral Care, Membership, and Mission  
.....Lauren Vanderkaay, Worship Committee  
.....Nancy Greidanus, Minister for Children and their Families

Musicians.....Helen Hofmeister, Minister of Music  
.....Janlee Richter, Piano

Ushers.....Team A  
.....Mary Dirkse, Lou VanderHave, and Chuck Wylie  
.....Bill Baguley, Tom Kormos, Jeanne Marshall,  
.....Michael Marshall, Pete Persons, Bill and Carole Warren  
.....Todd Helle, and Heather Lermont-Pape

Welcome to Westminster

**MEMBERSHIP**

If you have questions about the life of the church or becoming a member, please email Susan Jennings at [susanj@wpcgr.org](mailto:susanj@wpcgr.org). More information about worship and updates from the church can be found at [westminstergr.org](http://westminstergr.org). You are welcome and celebrated here!

**MASKING**

Based on the most current guidance from the CDC, the Way Forward Committee has decided that masking in our facilities is optional, including in Sunday worship.

**ASSISTANCE**

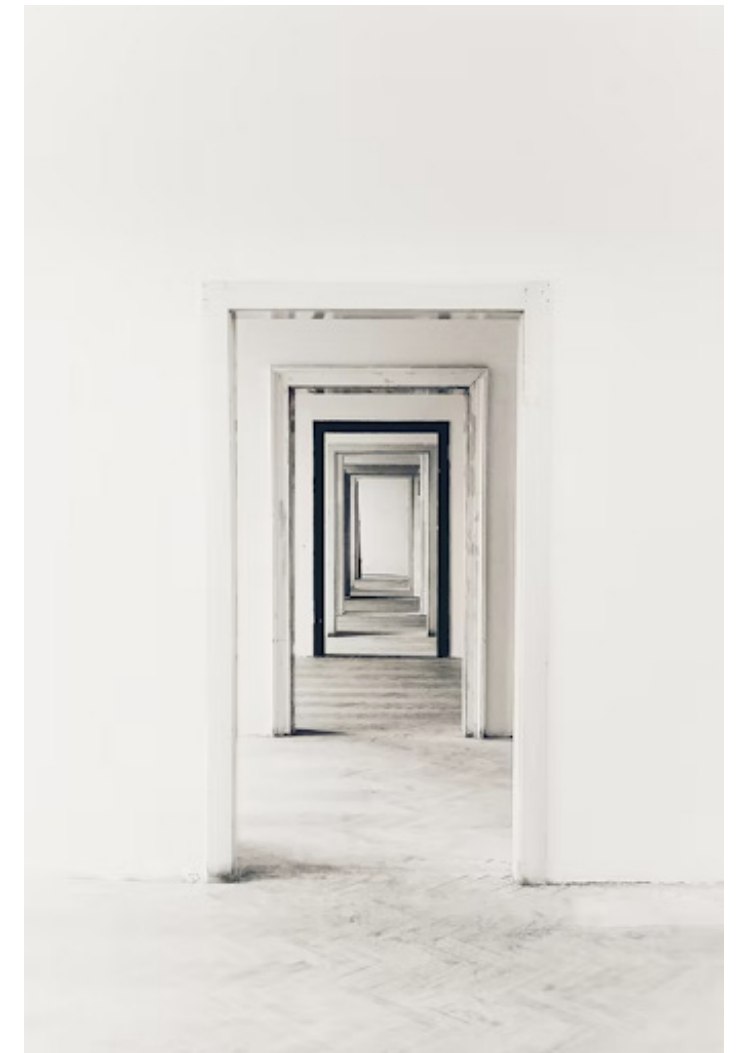
If you'd like a large-print bulletin or a hearing device, please ask one of the ushers at a Sanctuary entrance. For T-loop hearing assistance, set your hearing aid to T.

**CHILDREN**

Parents of three-year-olds to fifth graders, come to the children's check-in tables in the Gathering Place before the service to sign in. Ask an usher if you'd like special worship bags, folders, or children's bulletins to help your kids engage in worship. The nursery (babies through two-year-olds) is available during the service. Children (ages 3 through 2nd grade) will begin worship in the Sanctuary and be invited to continue worship in the interactive settings of our worship centers. Leaders will shepherd them to their centers, but parents are welcome to lead them as well. Children will wait for you at the end of the service in the Children's Ministry hallway off the Gathering Place.

**YOUTH**

If you would like more information about youth ministry, please contact our Interim Lead Youth Coordinator Christy Roosien at [christyr@wpcgr.org](mailto:christyr@wpcgr.org). To sign up for updates via email from our youth program, email [emmar@wpcgr.org](mailto:emmar@wpcgr.org).



*And Then, Ask Again*

SEASON OF  
THE SPIRIT

JULY 24, 2022  
10:00 A.M.

# Announcements

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**HABITAT FOR HUMANITY VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY:** On July 30, Habitat for Humanity of Kent County is reserving a job site for Westminster volunteers. The work will be on the site of 2022's Carbon Footprint Build (just a block south of Electric Cheetah), and will give Westminster an opportunity to help local families in need of affordable housing, a chance to address climate change, and a time to build fellowship and community within the church. Contact Mark Ogland-Hand at [mhand@habitatkent.org](mailto:mhand@habitatkent.org) to learn more.

**ASSISTANT FACILITIES MANAGER POSITION OPENING:** We need your help finding an Assistant Facilities Manager! The primary focus of this full-time position is to serve as back-up to the facilities manager and to ensure that Westminster's facilities are properly maintained and cleaned to host events and programming. If you know someone who would be a good candidate for this role, please pass along the "Employment Opportunities" page on our website (under the "Get Involved" tab) or direct them to our Facilities Manager, Brad Hambelton, at [bradh@wpcgr.org](mailto:bradh@wpcgr.org) or 616-717-5536. Thank you for your help in finding someone to work in this vital role!

**DID YOU KNOW?** The large stained-glass window on the west side of the Sanctuary was installed in the late 1880s. It's called the Resurrection window and contains multiple symbols. The pomegranates, oak leaves, crown and vines all represent Christ. The pomegranates shown in the open position, ready to burst their seeds, represents the resurrection. The Cross and the Trinity are depicted by the shapes of the flower petals.

**FOOD PANTRY ITEMS NEEDED:** The Food Pantry is asking for donations of cereal during the month of July. The Pantry is also low on plastic grocery bags. Items can be brought to the greeter's desk. Thank you!

**CAMP HENRY 2023 REGISTRATION:** Summer Camp registration for next year is now open! Sign up now at [camphenry.org/summer-camp](http://camphenry.org/summer-camp) to reserve your spot for 2023.

**PARKING LOT GATES:** Construction to install two parking gates has begun in our parking lot. Please consult the FAQ on the home page of our website or in the weekly email newsletter for more information.

**STEWARDSHIP SECOND QUARTER UPDATE:** We are at the halfway point in our All In: Together in the Kin-Dom 2022 journey. As of June 30, we have received \$596,566 in pledge payments and gifts (46% of our goal.) For your generosity and faithful giving, thank you! On the expense side, we have incurred costs of \$725,593 (47% of budget.) We are grateful for our staff's careful management of expenses. You are encouraged to continue your faithful giving as we go into the second half of our journey together. For information on Ways to Give, you can scan the code below, go to [westminstergr.org/support-our-ministry/](http://westminstergr.org/support-our-ministry/) or call the office at 616-456-1456.

**Donations:** Donations can be made by scanning the QR code on this page, through our secure online giving site, or by check sent to the church office. If you have questions about how to give to the church, please email [angiek@wpcgr.org](mailto:angiek@wpcgr.org) or call (616) 717-5533.



# This Week's Calendar

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## SUN. JULY 24

10:00 a.m. Worship Service .....Sanctuary  
11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour ..... Gathering Place

## MON. JULY 25

7:00 p.m. TWM Transportation Meeting.. Conference Room

## TUES. JULY 26

2:00 p.m. Stewardship Meeting..... Hybrid, Library  
3:00 p.m. TWM Childcare Team..... Conference Room  
4:00 p.m. TWM Board Meeting..... Conference Room

## WED. JULY 27

12:00 p.m. Memorial Trust ..... Conference Room

## THURS. JULY 28

10:30 a.m. Food Pantry.....Front Lobby

## SUN. JULY 31

9:15 a.m. Baptism Seminar.....Parlor  
10:00 a.m. Worship Service .....Sanctuary  
11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour ..... Gathering Place

## Upcoming Events

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**BAPTISM SEMINAR: July 31, 9:15 a.m., Parlor** In order to prepare families for the joyful sacrament of baptism, Westminster gives a baptismal seminar led by Nancy Greidanus and another member of the ministry team. If you desire to have your child baptized, come to the July 31 seminar at 9:15 a.m. in the Parlor. We will celebrate Baptism in the service on August 21. Contact Nancy Greidanus at [nancyg@wpcgr.org](mailto:nancyg@wpcgr.org).

### **MEET AND GREET WITH NEW MINISTER WITH YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS**

**July 31** Would you like to meet Kat Jonker, our new Minister with Youth and Young Adults? Although she doesn't officially start with us until August 15, Kat will be available for a meet and greet during coffee hour on Sunday, July 31, immediately following the worship service. This opportunity is for anyone, whether or not you are a youth or young adult!

### **WESTMINSTER CAMP 2022: September 1-4, 2022, Camp Henry**

Sign Up SOON! Register by July 29! No matter your age or particular interests, Westminster Camp has something wonderful for you. Join us as we explore our theme: "Re-Shaped." We will deepen relationships with our church family in the beautiful setting of Camp Henry with all it has to offer: accommodations for many different needs, food prepared for you, plenty of activities for body and soul, and space to relax in God's creation. Everyone is welcome, one day or all: September 1 - 4, Thursday evening through worship Sunday. Contact Nancy Greidanus at [nancyg@wpcgr.org](mailto:nancyg@wpcgr.org) if you have questions. Visit [westminstergr.org](http://westminstergr.org) to register.