

MORNING WORSHIP
An Ethic of Abundance

GATHERING: PREPARING TO HEAR THE WORD

In Preparation for Worship

“The power of the future lies not in the hands of those who believe in scarcity but of those who trust God’s abundance.”
—Walter Brueggemann

Sharing the Life of Westminster

Rev. Lynette Sparks

As we prepare for worship, we are invited to be attentive to God’s presence in our midst.

Opening Voluntary "Prelude and Fugue in g minor"

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

Ronald Krebs, Organist

++Call to Worship

Elder Sam Walma

One: All your works shall give thanks to you, O God,
and all your faithful shall bless you.

**All: For you uphold all who are falling
and raise up all who are bowed down.**

One: All look to you; you give them their food in due season.

**All: You open your hand,
satisfying the desire of every living thing.**

One: We lift our hearts and hands in worship.

++Hymn 32

"I Sing the Mighty Power of God"

Ellacombe

Prayer of Confession

O Christ, when the crowds surrounded you, hungry for bread and for your word, you took an offering—five loaves, two fish—and made for them a feast. Still, O Lord, we doubt the abundance of your grace. We hesitate to share the gifts we have. We wonder whether there is enough for all. Forgive us, O God, and make us a more generous people. Empower us to share the gift of our lives; enlighten us to see the miracles around us. For you are the giver of grace upon grace, the one who turns want into plenty. In your abundant mercy, hear our prayer...

Silent Confession

Kyrie - Unison

"Lord, Have Mercy"

Lee J. Afdahl

Assurance of God's Grace

One: Hear the good news: If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

**All: God has forgiven and reconciled us through Jesus Christ.
Thanks be to God.**

++Response Hymn 693 "Though I May Speak"

Gift of Love

Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control; our spirits long to be made whole.
Let inward love guide every deed; by this we worship, and are freed.

++Passing the Peace of Christ

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

All: And also with you.

Ministry of Music

"Romance"

Richard Purvis (1913-1994)

Blessings with Younger Disciples

Nancy Greidanus

Children three years through third 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

Ephesians 3:14-21

New Testament p. 193

John 6:1-14

New Testament p. 97

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“An Ethic of Abundance”

Rev. Lynette Sparks

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

++Hymn 188

"Jesus Loves Me!"

Jesus Loves Me

++Affirmation of Faith (from A Brief Statement of Faith)

Rev. Jessica Bratt Carle

One: In life and death we belong to God.

**All: Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit,
we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel,
whom alone we worship and serve.**

One: We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father.

**All: In sovereign love, God created the world good,
acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation,
and makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.**

One: We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God.

**All: Jesus proclaimed the reign of God, was crucified,
and raised from the dead,
delivering us from death to life eternal.**

One: We trust in God the Holy Spirit,
everywhere the giver and renewer of life.

**All: The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,
sets us free to accept ourselves
and to love God and neighbor,
and binds us together with all believers
in the one body of Christ, the church.**

One: In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,

**All: we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks
and to live holy and joyful lives,
even as we watch for God’s new heaven and new earth,
praying, Come, Lord Jesus!**

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

Please take a moment to sign and pass the red friendship pad located in the pew, and take note of those worshipping next to you. We invite you to fill out any of the pew cards and place them in the offering plate.

Offertory

"Petite Pièce"

Joseph Jongen (1873-1953)

++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.
We give you thanks and praise, O God, for your outpouring
of generosity. May these gifts be used as a witness to your
love, peace, and justice at work in the world. Amen.**

GOING OUT TO BE THE CHURCH

++Hymn 694

"Great God of Every Blessing"

Aurelia

Charge and Benediction

Closing Voluntary

"Rigaudon"

André Campra (1660-1744)

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.

Worship liturgies adapted from the Book of Common Worship, Presbyterian Outlook. Bulletin image from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of Vanderbilt Divinity Library. Kyrie Used by permission of the composer.

AHEAD IN WORSHIP

August 4
Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
Give Us a Sign
Rev. Lynette Sparks
John 6:24-35
Robert Ragoonanan, Minister of Music
Kathleen Veenstra Pool, Soprano

August 11
Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost
Rev. Randal Jelks
Janet Carter and Lily Fiore, Flute Duet

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

PreacherRev. Lynette Sparks, Senior Pastor
LiturgistsSam Walma, Elder for Membership Growth and Development
.....Nancy Greidanus, Minister with Children and their Families
..... Rev. Jessica Bratt Carle
Musicians..... Ronald Krebs, Organ
Ushers.....Mary Dirkse, Lou VanderHave, Bill Baguley
..... Todd Helle, Heather Lermont-Pape, Bob & Betty Jo Norby
AV Team Brad Sparks, Ian Dengerink-Van Til, Karsten Kotchenruther

Summer Books for Children's Worship

Summer Worship Center for children ages 3 - those finished with 3rd grade
During the summer months, we vary our curriculum to provide a time for children to apply biblical concepts to daily life situations by reading excellent children's illustrated books. Children will think and talk about how we should treat God's creation, each other, people who have lives that are unfamiliar to us; and what we can do to share God's love and beauty with others. We conclude our time together by lighting the Christ Candle and praying.

This Week: *BIG* by Vashti Harrison
Next Week: *We Are Going to be Pals!* by Mark Teague

The first picture book written and illustrated by award-winning creator Vashti Harrison traces a child's journey to self-love and shows the power of words to both hurt and heal. With spare text and exquisite illustrations, this emotional exploration of being big in a world that prizes small is a tender portrayal of how you can stand out and feel invisible at the same time.

Activity: Make alphabet bracelets for a friend or family member using a word to describe them.



Matthew 25:31-46 calls all of us to actively engage in the world around us, so our faith comes alive and we wake up to new possibilities. Convicted by this passage, the Presbyterian Church (USA) decided to act boldly and compassionately to see our neighbors through Jesus' eyes and serve those who are marginalized or in need, by building congregational vitality, dismantling structural racism, and eradicating systemic poverty.

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. More information about worship and updates from the church can be found at westminstergr.org. You are welcome and celebrated here!

ACCESSIBILITY

If you'd like a large-print bulletin please ask one of the ushers at a Sanctuary entrance. For T-loop hearing assistance, set your hearing aid to T.
We have accessible, all-gender, companion bathrooms available off of the Dining Room.

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 Minister with Youth and Young Adults Kat Hand at kath@wpcgr.org.

EXTENDING THE WESTMINSTER WELCOME!

As we welcome guests and visitors each week, we encourage everyone to personally extend the "Westminster Welcome" to those you have not met. Yours may be the welcome that truly helps all feel included.



Potluck Mural, David Fichter

An Ethic of Abundance

**TENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST**

JULY 28, 2024

10:00 A.M.

This Week's Calendar

SUN. JULY 28

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

MON. JULY 29

- 2:00 p.m. Let's Hang Out!Tippy Cow Ice Cream
- 6:30 p.m. Justice Committee MeetingOnline

WED. JULY 31

- 7:00 p.m. Youth Gathering..... Manhattan Park

THURS. AUGUST 1

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

SUN. AUGUST 4

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

Announcements

TODAY IS THE LAST DAY TO REGISTER FOR WESTMINSTER CAMP 2024!

August 29-September 1 We are looking forward to time of fellowship and fun together at Camp Henry, and would love to see you there! Visit our website today to register!

LET'S HANG OUT! Thank you to those who have already joined us for one of our casual meetups! We'll have more chances to get together outside of church for fellowship this summer. All are welcome to join us!

Our next two locations are listed below.

Tippy Cow Ice Cream: Monday, July 29, 2:00 p.m.

Morning Ritual Coffee: Thursday, August 8, 9:30 a.m.

Contact Deanna at deannac@wpcgr.org with any questions!

YOUTH UPDATE: July 31, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m., Manhattan Park All youth (MS & HS) are invited to gather at Manhattan Park on Wednesday, July 31. There will be snacks! We will meet in the parking lot near Manhattan Pavilion.

TEA FOR TWO: Have you registered for Tea for Two yet? Sign up to be paired with someone else for an in-person or online meetup! Make a new friend or reconnect with someone you already know for an hour or two of fellowship. Visit our website to sign up. Have you already met with someone as part of this program? Share your story or a photo with us at deannac@wpcgr.org, and feel free to register again!

A MESSAGE FROM REV. RILEY JENSEN: Westminster friends: Thank you so much for the many expressions of love and support you have shared with me and our family upon Pam's death. We felt your support not only through the many cards and letters, but also by the presence of many of you at Pam's Service. Beyond that you were represented well by Lynette's leadership of the service and by her wonderful pastoral care over the months of Pam's illness. Thank you. Pam loved Westminster as do I.
Gratefully, Riley Jensen



DONATIONS: Donations can be made by scanning the QR code, through our secure online giving site, or by check sent to the church office. Email angiek@wpcgr.org or call (616) 717-5533 with questions.