



“Where Faith and Life Connect”

The Order of Worship

July 30, 2017
10:00 A.M.

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

THE CHURCH GATHERS ...

Welcome to Westminster Church! We are a family of Christians gathered from many traditions and neighborhoods, worshiping here with the goal of connecting faith and life. If you are a visitor, we pray you will feel welcome and blessed by our worship. We invite you to consider making Westminster your church home. Please let us have your contact information so we may be in touch.

Children are welcome in worship here. A nursery is available during the entire service.

When the prelude begins let us quietly prepare for the worship of almighty God.

PRELUDE Fugue in G Major J. S. Bach

OPPORTUNITIES AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

INTROIT Let Us with a Gladsome Mind arr. John B. Wilkes, 1861

Let us with a gladsome mind praise the Lord who is so kind:
For God's mercies shall endure, ever faithful, ever sure.

John Milton, 1623

CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 105:1-3

Leader: O give thanks to the Lord, call on his name, make known his deeds among the peoples.

People: Sing to him, sing praises to him.

Leader: Tell of all his wonderful works.

People: Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

TO PRAISE AND CONFESS ...

*HYMN NO. 417 (blue hymnal) Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation Regent Square

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*LITANY OF CONFESSION from Matthew 5:3-10

Leader: Blessed are the poor in spirit for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

People: Forgive us our spiritual arrogance.

Leader: Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted,

People: Forgive us our false independence.

Leader: Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.,

People: Forgive us our misplaced aggression.

Leader: Blessed are those who hunger and thirst, for they shall be satisfied.

People: Forgive us our gluttony.

Leader: Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

People: Forgive us our hardened hearts.

Leader: Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

People: Forgive us our half-hearted commitment.

Leader: Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God.

People: Forgive us for supporting war and violence.

Leader: Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the realm of heaven.

People: Forgive us for not taking a stand for what is right.

*KYRIE ELEISON NO. 574 (blue hymnal) arr. David N. Johnson

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Friends, believe the Good News!

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

*RESPONSE Celtic Alleluia (sing twice) Fintan O'Carroll

TO EXPERIENCE GOD'S WORD AND RESPOND ...

EPISTLE LESSON Romans 8:26-39

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN Jean Bonnyman

Children age 4 through 2nd grade are invited to go downstairs and participate in Children's Worship.

GOSPEL Luke 15:1-10

SERMON Lost So Close to Home Rev. John Linton Muntz

“Who will separate us from the love of Christ?”

Romans 8:35

*HYMN NO. 294 (blue hymnal) Wherever I May Wander New England

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Unison)

We believe in God, Creator and Provider, infinite in wisdom, power and love, whose mercy is over all his works, and whose will is ever directed to his children's good. We believe in Jesus Christ, Son of God and Son of man, the gift of God's unfailing grace, the ground of our hope, and the promise of our deliverance from sin and death. We believe in the Holy Spirit as the divine Presence in our lives, by whom we are reminded of the truth of Christ, and find strength in time of need. We believe that this faith will manifest itself in the service of love as set forth in the example of our blessed Lord, to the end that the Kingdom of God will come upon the earth.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE ... The Lord's Prayer

During the Prayers of the People there will be a time of silence. You are invited to use this time for personal reflection, confession, thanksgiving, and prayer.

THE OFFERING

Please sign and pass the Friendship Register found on the pew nearest the center aisle.

Though many of us contribute electronically or by a check in the mail, your holding and passing the offering plate is an act of blessing and dedication to our life together in Jesus Christ.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM Be Thou Exalted John Goss
arr. Barbara Owen

Be thou exalted, Lord, in thine own strength, And will we sing and praise thy pow'r.

Psalm 21:13

*AT THE PRESENTATION Doxology No. 514 (red hymnal) Old Hundredth

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

TO GO FORTH AND SERVE ...

*HYMN NO. 285 (blue hymnal) God, You Spin the Whirling Planets Austrian Hymn

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE NO. 586 (blue hymnal) Amen

Danish melody

POSTLUDE Prelude in G Major

J. S. Bach

*Indicates standing.

NOW THE SERVICE BEGINS

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR TODAY

PASTORAL CARE ELDER FOR THE WEEK: Shawn Owens and Scott Brunger

CARE TEAM COORDINATORS: Lana Daverman and Susan McKeehan

LARGE PRINT HYMNALS AND HEARING DEVICES are available from the ushers.

PLEASE place your bulletin into a blue recycling bin located at the Narthex door if you do not care to take it home.

SERVING TODAY

GREETERS: Angela Shilling and Sam Smith

LEMONADE FELLOWSHIP: Don and Sue Byerly

SENIOR USHER: Jerry Carley

MINISTRY OF MUSIC: Summer Choir

USHERS: Jeff Bendy, John Romeiser, Tim Ryan, Joyce Ryan, Brenda Seip

FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY are given by Don and Connie Graham in honor of their family's summer birthdays - Marjo, Jennifer and Chris.

THE BIRTH CANDLE today represents the birth of Olive McConnell who was born on July 18th. Proud parents are Molly Roberson and Joe McConnell. She is welcomed by siblings Piper, Henly, and Mason. Congratulations!

OUR THANKS to Ibbie Muntz for leading the Summer Choir this morning and to John Brock for serving as organist while Peter Van Eenam is on sabbatical.

THE BIBLE STUDY class is meeting this summer at 11:00 a.m. in the Library, following the worship service. We are studying the book of Mark.



MOTHER'S MORNING OUT for infants through rising 5th graders is available each Wednesday from June 14 through August 2 from 9:00 to 11:30 am. Please call the church office to sign up.

SHARE THE BOUNTY: Our Share the Bounty table is back in the Schilling Gallery. Our table provides a space to share the bounty from our personal gardens and our very own Westminster organic garden. You are more than welcome to help yourself to what is provided on the table. And if you have a bit too much of something from your garden, bring it in to share. There is a donation basket with any contributions going to Family Promise of Knoxville.

THE LOST AND FOUND TABLE: Please stop by TODAY to see if anything on the Lost and Found Table is yours. All remaining items will be donated to Goodwill on Monday morning.

TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALLGAME!!!



Westminster Night at the Smokies is August 18th. Purchase tickets by sending in \$9 for each ticket to the church office. After the game, we can stick around for a huge fireworks display. How fun!!! Deadline to purchase the tickets is August 13.

THE SCHILLING GALLERY is hosting the work of two local artists. Leslie Eaton is showing her amazing paper collages. Look carefully at her work and see the teeny tiny pieces of handmade paper, cut precisely to produce the beautiful images you see. Marty McConnaughey presents her beautiful gourds showing her creatively and unusual use of materials. These artisans will be showing their work through August and are available for sale. Please contact the artists directly for purchasing.

HELP US BE SUPERHEROES



Our kids ages kindergarten through fifth grade are spending the summer being Super Mission Heroes. We're doing lots of activities to help people in need. We'll start each week in the 10:00 worship service, then head for the Fellowship Hall following the Time With Children. Westminster's Superheroes have started a new project. We are collecting school supplies for children in need for the next few weeks. You can donate backpacks, #2 pencils, wide-ruled composition books (not spiral-bound), glue sticks, children's scissors, and 24 count boxes of crayons to help us help others. Ask Mary Boyd if you have questions.

A CELEBRATION OF LIFE SERVICE for the Rev. Dr. Friedrich "Fritz" Schilling will be held at Westminster on Wednesday, August 2 at 1:00 pm. As you can imagine, we expect a huge attendance for this service. If there is any chance - please car pool with your friends.

There are several ways in which you can help:

Reception: Please call the church office if you would like to bring a finger food (sandwiches, cheese/crackers, fruit, veggies, cookies, brownies) for the reception.

Reception Clean Up Help Needed. Please call the church office if you can stay after the reception and help clean up.

Meals for the family: As you can imagine, eating out can be expensive while all the siblings and their loved ones are in town. You can help by dropping off gift certificates in an envelope marked "Schilling Family" to the church office. I think their favorites are Zoes Kitchen, Kroger, Buddys BBQ, or something like this. Or, you can prepare a meal for them and bring it to the church kitchen. We can notify them that it is here. The food can be used for breakfast, lunch, or dinner. Fritz took care of us for all those years and it is great that we can now take care of THEM!

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Rev. Dr. Buran Phillips, Pastor

Rev. John Linton Muntz, Parish Associate

Peter Van Eenam, Organist and Choirmaster

Barbara Adamcik, Director of Youth and Connectional Ministries

Mary Boyd, Education Coordinator

Renee Wiesehuegel, Office Manager/Bookkeeper

Debbie Bendy, *Abbey* Editor

TALKING WITH GOD: WHY I STAY

Because you are my Everlasting Almost-almost here, almost certain, almost always, almost irrefutable. You are the tenuous edge I will live and die on. Because of the almost of you-heart-breaking as it is-is sweeter than any guarantee I can find in this world.

Because you are not who I thought you were, so I must wait for revelation. Because the mystery of your strangeness is a lure that calls my name. Because I thought I needed to contain you, but a tiny deity won't bend my knee.

Because the path is winding and you are a God worthy of perilous journeys. Because I need to wrestle, and you meet me at the river. Because this is no ordinary hunger, and your manna alone will suffice. Because you know the loneliness of the heart, and so do I. Because I will drown unless you part this water. Because the world is dark, but it simmers at its edges.

Because I am wild inside, and you are not a tame lion. Because you suffered, and only a suffering God can help. Because you spoke of joy, and I need to learn how to laugh.

Because I am wired to seek you, and I will not let you go. Because my ache for you is the heart of my aliveness.

Because I am still your stubborn child, and I insist on resurrection.

--Debie Thomas, quoted from CHRISTIAN CENTURY, July 5, 2017.

THE SESSION

Class of 2018

Leigh Dunlap

JP Mackay

Linda Van Beke

Wes Williams

Michael Yates

Youth Elder: Clara Oakes

Clerk of Session: Georgann Byerley

Paul Jorden

Class of 2019

Debbie Babelay

Daniel Collins

Terry Crow

Cindy Pearman

Jay Schmid

TRUSTEES

Alice Mercer

Class of 2020

Scott Brunger

James Everett

Andrew Gordon

Susan McKeehan

Shawn Owens

Reed Ellis