



“Where Faith and Life Connect”

The Order of Worship

**August 20, 2017
10:00 A.M.**

ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

THE CHURCH GATHERS ...

“Grace is something you can never get but only be given. The grace of God means something like: here is your life. You might never have been, but you are because the party wouldn’t have been complete without you. Here is the world. Beautiful and terrible things will happen. Don’t be afraid. I am with you. Nothing can ever separate us. It’s for you I created the universe. I love you. There’s only one catch. Like any other gift, the gift of grace can be yours only if you reach out and take it. Maybe being able to reach and take it is a gift too.”

Frederick Buechner

Childcare 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 Benedictus Max Reger

OPPORTUNITIES AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Whoever people are, whether friends or adversaries, nearby neighbors or distant folks we will never meet,

People: God’s love embraces us and them and everyone upon this Earth.

Leader: Whenever people live, whether in days of long ago or times within our remembrance, in this very moment or some unknown tomorrow,

People: God’s love extends from the past to the present and throughout the future.

Leader: Wherever people dwell, whether in farming community or teeming city, in hut or hovel or high-rise or split-level,

People: God’s love reaches here and there and everywhere.

ALL: As we gather to worship, we give thanks for the inclusiveness, steadfastness and breadth of our Creator’s love for humankind.

TO PRAISE AND CONFESS ...

***HYMN NO. 229** (blue hymnal) From All That Dwell Below the Skies
Lasst uns erfreuen

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (Unison)

Gracious God, we come before you seeking forgiveness. We confess that at times we more often speak about justice rather than do justice, that we sometimes cling to self-interest and small-mindedness, rather than to love, kindness and compassion; we confess that we are not always as we seem to others, nor even as we pretend to be to ourselves. We come to you knowing that our lives are far more comfortable than others in the world and that we still complain. But we also come knowing that you are full of forgiveness when we are not, that you show us love even when we neglect to show love to others or even to ourselves. May this confession free us to become more loving, more aware, more like him in whose name we pray, Jesus the Christ. Amen.

***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 ...

SCRIPTURE READING Genesis 45:1-15, 50:14-21

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN Ellen Anderson
Children age 4 through 2nd grade are invited to go in the McKinnon Room and participate in Children’s Worship.

SCRIPTURE READING Romans 11:1-2, 29-32, Matthew 15:21-28

SERMON Rev. Dr. Buran Phillips
“The day you can no longer change is the day you cease to be a human being ...
Anonymous Quote

***HYMN NO. 358** (blue hymnal) Help Us Accept Each Other Baronita

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (Unison)
Adapted from *A Brief Statement of Faith*, PC(USA)

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God’s image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community.

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign

of God: forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power fo sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. 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. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, 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!” With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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 Fairest Lord Jesus *Schönster Herr Jesu*
arr. Peter Van Eenam and the *Pilgrim Hymnal*

Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nature, O thou of God and man the Son;
Thee will I cherish, Thee will I honor, Thou, my soul’s glory, joy, and crown.

Fair are the meadows, Fairer still the woodlands, Robed in the blooming garb of spring: Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, Who makes the woeful heart to sing.

Fair is the sunshine, Fairer still the moonlight, And all the twinkling, starry host: Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer, Than all the angels heaven can boast.

Münster Gesangbuch, 1677

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

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

TO GO FORTH AND SERVE ...

***HYMN NO. 439** (blue hymnal) In Christ There Is No East or West *St. Peter*
***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE NO. 586** (blue hymnal) Amen

Danish melody

POSTLUDE A Mighty Fortress is Our God Jan Bender

*Indicates standing.

NOW THE SERVICE BEGINS

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR TODAY

PASTORAL CARE ELDER FOR WEEK ARE: Leigh Dunlap and James Everett
CARE TEAM COORDINATORS AUGUST 16-31: Bill and Bonnie Rogers
LARGE PRINT HYMNALS AND HEARING DEVICES are available from the ushers.

SERVING TODAY

GREETERS: Bitsy Ingram and Renee Wiesehuegel

LEMONADE FELLOWSHIP: Susan Baughman

MINISTRY OF MUSIC: Summer Choir

SENIOR USHER: Don Byerly

USHERS: Bob and Lucinda Albiston, Joanne White, Bill Wiesehuegel, David Woodall

FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY are given by Charlie and Alice Mercer in honor of our new staff, Allie Brewington and Melissa Everett.

A SPECIAL WORD OF THANKS to John Brock for leading the Summer Choir and serving as organist not only this morning, but often this summer while I've been on sabbatical. He has graciously and ably served this congregation many times over the years and I'm most indebted to him as a colleague and friend.

Peter Van Eenam

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 start each week in the 10:00 worship service, then head for the McKinnon Room following the Time With Children. Ask Allie Brewington if you have questions (allie_wpc@comcast.net or 584-3957 ext 103).

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.

SHARE THE BOUNTY: 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.

ERIC ADAMCIK, son of Bob and Barbara plus brother of Emma, will be speaking after church in the McKinnon Room about his experience at the International Institute for Islamic Thought (IIIT). The IIIT is an international think tank near Dulles Airport that has held seminars for thirty years on the theology of Islam and its application to government. Eric presented a paper there comparing two Muslim theologians. He is a student at Union Theological Seminary in New York studying Christian theology.

NEW SAFETY TEAM: (from Georgann Byerley) Westminster has had a Safety Task Force at work for several months. At the June 25, 2017 session meeting the elders agreed that the children should be our first priority and approved forming a new group, the Safety Team, to roam during the 11 AM Sunday worship service to supervise the parking lot, hallways, and children's areas. A check-in/check-out system is being formulated for the nursery and children's area downstairs. Three two-way radios have been purchased so that the Senior Usher, the on-duty Safety Team member, and Nursery Attendants downstairs can be in contact if the need arises. We have recruited 17 people so far and are looking for a few more so that each team member will serve in this capacity only twice a year. Scott Porter has agreed to hold a training session for all members of the Safety Team. If you have any questions, please call me at 865-679-9618. If this is something that you feel you can help with, please let me know as soon as possible. We would like to have the Safety Team in place and trained by September 10th when we start up our fall schedule. Thank you so much for your consideration of this important team!

FAMILY PROMISE OF KNOXVILLE is a non profit organization whose mission is "to help homeless and low income families achieve sustainable independence". The Pasta and Bluegrass Festival is their biggest fundraiser of the year. It is a great night of fun for the whole family. There will be live music from two bluegrass bands "The Y'uns" and the "Trinity Boys". The evening includes an Italian Market with artisan wares for sale as well as homemade cakes and cookies. There will also be a Children's Festival. The night begins at 5:00 on Aug. 26th at Central Baptist Church of Bearden with fifteen tastings of competition level pasta . The doors close at 7:00 . The word is that you better be there by 6:00 because this event is well attended. Tickets are \$ 10.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children. Please join us for a worthy cause and terrific food!! Tickets will be available before and after the service today.

MOVIE PREVIEW: We'll gather together following the worship service on August 27 to watch the recently-released movie, *The Shack* in the Fellowship Hall. Based on a book by William P. Young, it tells the story of a man whose family suffers an unspeakable tragedy which sends him into a crisis of faith. It follows his transformative spiritual journey as God is revealed to him. The film is rated PG-13. It contains some adult themes and a few depictions of violence. We welcome any youth if parents think it is appropriate. Kids 0-5th grade are invited downstairs during the viewing of *The Shack*. We will have nursery care and pizza and a movie for older children. We'll start the event with a pizza lunch for those in attendance. There could also be popcorn involved - after all, what's a movie without at least the aroma of popcorn in the air? It would be helpful to know if you plan to attend so we can order enough lunch, and also so we can arrange for adequate supervision for children. Please RSVP to Mary or Allie if you plan to attend. After we've had a chance to see the movie, we'll let it percolate a bit, then discuss it during Sunday school on September 17.

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Rev. John Linton Muntz, Parish Associate

Peter Van Eenam, Organist and Choirmaster

Barbara Adamcik, Director of Youth and Connectional Ministries

Mary Boyd, Education Coordinator

Allie Brewington, Director of Children's Ministries

Renee Wiesehuegel, Office Manager/Bookkeeper

Melissa Everett, Administrative Assistant

Debbie Bendy, *Abbey* Editor

DISCOVER WESTMINSTER!: There are lots of interesting things to look forward to! We reenergize our Sunday morning programs beginning with Discover Westminster/ Progressive Breakfast on September 10. This is a great chance to see folks who might have been traveling or at the lake this summer, and to find ways to plug in at Westminster. It's always a fun event, and there are some new and exciting things happening around here! That morning we go back to our regular schedule of two worship services at 9:00 and 11:00, with the education hour at 10:00. During the education time that day, you'll get a chance to discover all Westminster has to offer, not only educationally, but in fellowship, service, congregational care, worship, music and the arts, property and care of the environment, and much more! We'll give you a glimpse of upcoming events and a chance to get involved in so many ways. There will be special activities for everyone during this time, and you'll get an opportunity to see parts of our building you might not have visited before. Our ministry teams will be on hand to tell you what makes Westminster so special.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY: Our Bible study groups for women are starting soon. We use the Presbyterian Women's *Horizons Bible Study* curriculum each year. This year, the study is on the book of Hebrews, and is entitled Cloud of Witnesses: The Community of Christ in Hebrews. There are two groups that meet, both using exactly the same lesson. There is an evening study that meets on the fourth Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the church library. The first meeting will be August 28. The morning group meets on the first Thursday of each month at 10:00 a.m. in the SHOW room. The first meeting will be September 7. If you would like a study guide in advance, speak to Mary Boyd. You can wait until the first meeting if you'd like. The books are \$10 each.

THE SESSION AND TRUSTEES

Class of 2018: Leigh Dunlap, JP Mackay, Linda VanBeke, Wes Williams, Michael Yates, and Youth Elder Clara Oakes

Class of 2019: Debbie Babelay, Daniel Collins, Terry Crow, Cindy Pearman, Jay Schmid

Class of 2020: Scott Brunger, James Everett, Andrew Gordon, Susan McKeegan, Shawn Owens

Trustees: Paul Jorden, Alice Mercer, Reed Ellis