

The Order of Worship

June 23, 2024
10:00AM

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

PRELUDE Grazioso Georg Philipp Telemann
arr. Dan Miller
Four-in-Hand Ringers

INTROIT The Eyes of All Richard Proulx
The eyes of all look hopefully to you, O Lord, and you give them their food in due season, you open wide your hand, and satisfy the desire of ev'ry living thing. For the Lord is faithful. The Lord is faithful in all his words, and merciful in all his deeds. The Lord upholds those who fall; he lifts up all those who are are bowed down. Bless the Lord!

paraphrase of Psalm 145:14-17

Meredith Mackay and Ruth Ann Bendy, Sopranos

OPPORTUNITIES AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

CALL TO WORSHIP (inspired by James 5)** Rev. Gradye Parsons

One: We will walk this day with you, O God, and you will walk with us,
All: gathering us into a community to pray for one another in all things.
One: We will walk this day with you, O Christ, and you will walk with us,
All: calling us to follow you, helping us to set aside all which holds us back.
One: We will walk this day with you, O Spirit, and you will walk with us,
All: sending us out, side by side, to serve those cast aside by the world.

TO PRAISE AND CONFESS ...

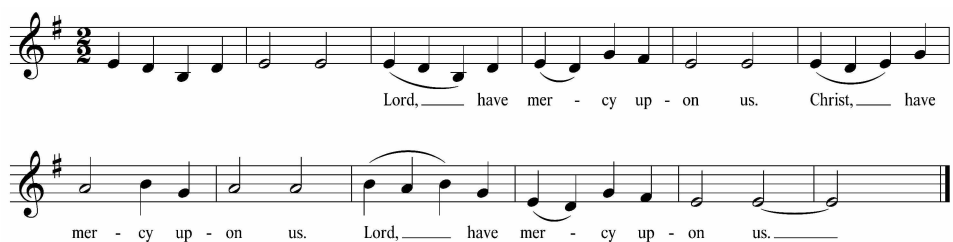
*HYMN NO. 612 (*Glory to God* hymnal) We Praise You, O God Kremser

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)**

Holy God, we doubt you and are people of little faith. When the circumstances of our lives overwhelm and the tragedy of the news leaves us lamenting the state of our world, we wonder where you are or if you even exist. Does the universe really bend toward justice? Does this justice include us and those we love? Does this justice include the innocent caught in the crosshairs of war? Forgive us, God, for the evils we perpetuate, the unjust systems from which we cannot see our way clear. Claim us and guide us in working toward the Beloved Community you so desire for us, where all your children live in peace. Amen.

*KYRIE ELEISON arr. David N. Johnson



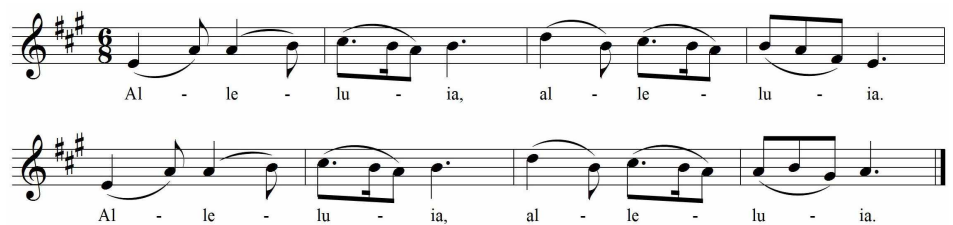
*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Friends, believe the Good News!

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

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



TO EXPERIENCE GOD'S WORD AND RESPOND ...

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

ANTHEM Jubilate Deo Benjamin Britten

O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands: Serve the Lord with gladness and come before his presence with a song. Be ye sure that the Lord he is God: it is he that hath made us and not we ourselves; We are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise; be thankful unto him, and speak good of his name. For the Lord is gracious, his mercy is everlasting: and his truth endureth from generation to generation. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be: World without end. Amen.

Chancel Choir

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN Jaclyn Beeler

Children age 4 through 5th grade are invited to go downstairs for Children's Church.

SCRIPTURE READING James 1:17-27

SERMON "The Doer - Where Faith and Life Connect" Michael Yates

*HYMN NO. 463 (*Glory to God* hymnal) How Firm a Foundation Foundation

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Unison) (From A Brief Statement of Faith)**

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.
But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator.
Ignoring God's commandments,
we violate the image of God in others and ourselves,
accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature,
and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care.
We deserve God's condemnation.
Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation.
In everlasting love,
the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people
to bless all families of the earth.
Hearing their cry,
God delivered the children of Israel
from the house of bondage.
Loving us still,
God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.
Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child,
like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home,
God is faithful still.

THE OFFERING

Please sign and pass the Friendship Register found on the pew nearest the center aisle. Your holding and passing the offering plate is an act of blessing and dedication to our life together in Jesus Christ.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM Save the People (from *Godspell*) Stephen Schwartz

When wilt thou save the people Oh, God of mercy when? Not kings and lords but nations, Not thrones and crowns, but men? Flowers of thy heart, Oh, God, are they, let them not pass like weeds away, their heritage a sunless day. God save the people.

Shall crime bring crime forever Strength aiding still the strong? Is it thy will, oh Father, that man shall toil for wrong? No, say thy mountains, No, say thy skies, man's clouded sun shall brightly rise, and songs be heard instead of sighs. God save the people.

When wilt thou save the people Oh, God of mercy when? The people, Lord, the people Not thrones and crowns, but men? God save the people For thine they are, thy children, as thy angels fair, Oh, save the people from despair. God save the people.

Stephen Schwartz

Westminster Choristers

*AT THE PRESENTATION Doxology Old Hundredth
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all people here below; praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION
INSTALLATION AND ORDINATION OF RULING ELDERS

PRAYER OF ORDINATION

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

TO GO FORTH AND SERVE ...

***HYMN NO. 720** (*Glory to God* hymnal) Jesus Calls Us *Galilee*

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE** An Irish Blessing Paul Laubengayer

May the road rise up to meet you, may the wind be always at your back,
may the sun shine warm upon your face and the rain fall softly on your
fields. Until we meet again may God hold you in the palm of His hand.

Traditional

Westminster Choristers

***POSTLUDE** Final (from *Symphony No. 1*) Louis Vierne

*Please stand in Body or Spirit

**Call to Worship from Thom Shuman, <http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.ca/>

Prayer of Confession and Affirmation by Teri Ott and The Presbyterian Outlook

NOW THE SERVICE BEGINS

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR TODAY

PASTORAL CARE ELDERS FOR THE WEEK: Wendy Collins and Richard Ward

CARE TEAM COORDINATOR FOR JUNE: Deb McGaugh

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

SERVING TODAY

GREETERS: Rick and Janice Rawe

LITURGIST: Rev. Gradye Parsons

MINISTRY OF MUSIC: Chancel Choir; Four-in-Hand Ringers;
and Westminster Choristers

SHEPHERD’S TEAM: Bryan and Rachel Powell

SENIOR USHER: Linda Van Beke

USHERS: Casey Page, Ken Hughes, Suzanne Graham, Donnie and Connie Graham

FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY are given by Josh and Elizabeth Birdwell in
celebration of their son Jason’s 11th birthday on June 20th.

PRAYER LIST (Please keep the following names in your prayers this week)
Juanita Campbell, Sonja Jones, Judy and Joseph Moon, Lalla Phillips, Kitty Rasa,
Doris Solomon, Sara Cantrell, Vicki Chapman, Randi Ray

A VERY SPECIAL THANKS to Michael Yates for his presence in the pulpit today.
We are thankful for his leadership, especially upon short notice as Richard is
recovering from Covid this week.

NOTES ON THIS MORNING’S MUSIC are more personal reflections than something musically enlightening. I was first exposed to the music of Benjamin Britten upon my joining the Boys’ Choir in my home church in the fourth grade and my intense love for it has continued to grow ever since. I am fascinated by its complexity and beauty—it engages me deeply and it is a privilege and joy to work with our choirs on any of his music. I first sang the music of *Godspell* in my early high school years and the thrill of it has never left me. Music like Britten’s and productions of *Godspell* (we also did *Joseph and His Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*) ignited within me a deep passion for church music! This continued to be nurtured through the remainder of high school by Paul Laubengayer, my teacher and mentor, who provided the critical guidance to enable me to be accepted into music school. In those years, he hadn’t yet composed work that would be published, but within a couple years of my arrival at Westminster, I was delighted to start seeing a number of his wonderful anthems in print. The Westminster choirs have enjoyed his works immensely. The work of the Four-in-Hand Ringers continues to amaze me and the skill and intellect needed to play this kind of repertoire is truly on a different plane and I so appreciate their love of playing. Many thanks to Meredith and Ruth Ann for blessing this church with such beautiful singing and musicmaking. Richard Proulx’s work places him among this country’s finest choral composers and this morning’s lush introit, with its French-inspired harmonies and colors, peacefully and assuredly conveys the psalm verses. Finally, the French toccata, and those of Louis Vierne and Charles-Marie Widor, in all its stirring and inspiring grandeur, fills me with wonder and a palpable feeling of the Holy Spirit moving among us.

Peter Van Eenam

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:00 am

Adult Bible Study: is reading the Old Testament Book of Micah. Micah is famous as the prophet in Judah who proclaimed, “What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?” (6:8) We will see that those requirements are both individual and societal.

CHILDREN’S OFFERINGS AT WESTMINSTER

During 10:00 Hour - Nursery available for children ages 0-3 years old

Children up to 5th grade will be walked to Children’s Church classes following the Time with Children during the 10:00 worship service.

BEARDEN NEIGHBORHOOD GROUP TO BE RESCHEDULED Due to Richard's unfortunate COVID diagnosis, the Bearden Neighborhood Gathering scheduled for today has been postponed. Stay tuned for updates!

WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP has changed the book for the July 16th meeting to Such a Fun Age by Riley Reid. We have also been invited to lunch at Janice Rawe's home after our meeting.

FISH ONE MORE TIME It’s the last FISH Bagging, tomorrow, Monday, June 24, 5:30pm. Come for the Mission and stay for the camaraderie. Address: Church of the Savior 934 Weisgarber Road. Questions? Please call Linda Van Beke (865-804-4904) or Janet Drumm (865-310-3739)

CELEBRATE PETER Please mark your calendars for June 28 from 7:00-8:30pm. We will be holding a celebratory listening party, where Peter will showcase meaningful works from his many choirs through the years at Westminster.

Also, please be sure to mark down worship on June 30 at 10:00am. This will be Peter’s last service at Westminster, and it is sure to be one for the history books. A potluck meal* and celebration in the courtyard will follow worship. Spread the word! We are compiling photos and videos for Peter. Please send us memories you would like to share of Peter’s 42 years at Westminster. Likewise, if you are not able to be present on June 30 or would otherwise like to record a special ‘good-bye’ to Peter, please email us a video. All videos and photos will be compiled by Arthur Collins. Arthur’s email is 1016fimaco@gmail.com.

* We are looking for people willing to help prepare the food for June 30.

If interested, please contact the church office or text Connie Graham (865-789-9502) or Janna de Vente (865-771-0567). One of them will be in touch to discuss what to bring. Thank you to all who can participate.

SUMMER CHOIR will return July 14. We invite you to come sit in with the choir and enjoy the music, fellowship, and camaraderie! Please contact the church office at your earliest convenience if you'd like to participate, so that a choir folder can be made up for you. If you prefer to sing a certain part, please let us know that as well. Come join us this summer!

SUMMER LECTIONARY BIBLE STUDY ON WEDNESDAYS AT NOON
Continuing each Wednesday, May through July, we will hold a lectionary Bible study on the coming Sunday’s sermon passage. These meetings will take place Wednesdays at 12:00pm in the McKinnon Room. The preacher of the following Sunday will be leading and organizing the Bible study. We will be studying some of the context and history of the passage, but will also be asking how it is speaking directly to us in our lives and faith.

OPERATION BACKYARD We will be working for James and Patricia in the Lonsdale area. We’ll be replacing decking board, building a ramp access, and also painting and landscaping. The Thompson’s need our help to make their home more accessible. (They are both on dialysis.) If you would like to drive by and see the progress their address is 3315 Thomas St, 37921. Please keep the family and volunteers in your prayers this week. The team will be working on site Monday 6/24 to Thursday 6/27 from 9 am to 3 pm. On Friday 6/28 they will all be going to Dollywood! Barbara will be purchasing group tickets for all those who registered. Please let her know ASAP if your youth is not planning to go to Dollywood, or if you have a season pass. We will need parent drivers for Friday- (drivers will get free admission to Dollywood!) Please tell Barbara if you can help drive. 865-207-2574.

CHECK OUT THE ENVIRONMENTAL TABLE The theme is Pick TN and there is a plethora of information on farmers markets, honey farms and pick your own farms for congregation. Plenty of handouts; many donated by Nourish Knoxville. Check it out and get some great food while supporting local farmers.

SHARE THE BOUNTY Stop by the Share the Bounty table that is back in the Schilling Gallery for the summer. The table provides a space to share the bounty from our personal gardens as well as our very own Westminster organic garden. You are more than welcome to help yourself to what is provided on the table.All proceeds placed in the donation basket will be going to help support a ministry that the Environmental Concerns team chooses.

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

“Where Faith and Life Connect”

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www.wpcknox.org

Rev. Dr. Richard Coble, Pastor/Head of Staff

Rev. Gradye Parsons, Parish Associate

Rev. John Linton Muntz, Parish Associate Emeritus

Peter Van Eenam, Organist and Choirmaster

Barbara Adamcik, Director of Youth and Connectional Ministries, CLP

Sophia Manrod, Director of Children's Ministries

Renee Wiesehuegel, Office Manager/Bookkeeper

Joanna Warren, Administrative Assistant

Linda Judge McRae, Parish Nurse

Debbie Bendy, Abbey Editor

Arthur Collins, Worship Tech

OUR WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, June 23

9:00am - Bible Study Class

10:00am - Sanctuary Worship

Monday, June 24

9:00am - Noon - Parents Morning Out

Tuesday, June 25

10:00am - Staff meeting

Wednesday, June 26

9:00am - Noon - Parent's Morning Out

12:00pm - Summer Bible study

4:30pm - Companions

Thursday, June 27

4:30pm - Brass Choir

Friday, June 28

7:00pm - Listening Party - Sanctuary

THE SESSION

Class of 2025

Ed Babelay

Wendy Collins

Janet Drumm

Stephen Fortney

Barbara Froula

Youth Elder: Lucy Gilbert

Class of 2026

Bill Farnham

Lee Ingram

Lucy Johnson

Kathryn Oakes

Richard Ward

Class of 2027

George Barber

Mary Boyd

Allie Brewington

Emily Gustafson

Ken Hughes

Clerk of Session: Bitsy Ingram

TRUSTEES

Alice Mercer

John Smartt

Larry Tragesser