

WHITE CHRISTIAN NATIONALISM AND US

White Christian Nationalism and Us (Tuesdays at 12p, Sept. 24-Oct. 29): White Christian Nationalism is neither Christian nor patriotic, but in recent years, churches and religious leaders have utilized this distortion of the faith to promote violence in the name of Christ. In this class, we will discuss what White Christian Nationalism is, how mainline churches such as our own are involved in its promotion, and what we are called to do in response.

Our class will be reading *The Flag and the Cross: White Christian Nationalism and the Threat to American Democracy* by Philip Gorski and Samuel Perry, along with using other supplementary readings and videos, which Richard will supply.

Wednesday at Westminster

“OUR CARE OF GOD'S GOOD CREATION”

Hospitality time at 5:30 with attendees bringing appetizers and finger food to share. Program at 6:00. There will be a children's program downstairs

October 2: Rev. Rebecca Barnes, author of *50 Ways to Help Save the Earth*

WPC HIKE The next WPC hike will be the Angel Falls Overlook at Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area on Thursday, October 24. Total mileage is 6. The last mile to the overlook involves a bit of rock scrambling and a ladder but otherwise the hike is rated easy-moderate. Let's gather at Outback Steak located at 314 Merchants Drive at 8:30 AM. Park at bottom of the lot facing Merchants. Please register with Cindy Spangler if you're interested, spangler2@gmail.com

NORRIS LAKE BREAKFAST The Fellowship Ministry team is never shy about announcing a great, upcoming event, even when some might think it is a wee bit early to tell folks about it. Anyway, the team wants everyone, especially those who like to begin their day with a hearty, East Tennessee breakfast, to mark their calendars for Saturday, November 16. That is when many hungry Westminsterites will respond to the kind invitation of Jerry and Peggy Faerber and gather at their house on Norris Lake for this year's Breakfast at the Lake. More info will be forthcoming as we get closer to what has become a tradition at Westminster Church.



MEET KIDCHECK We are excited to introduce our new safety protocol: a digital check-in/check-out program called KidCheck. The purpose of this is to keep tabs on the comings/goings of your precious kids, and to add an extra

layer of security while you entrust them into our care downstairs. You will receive an email with a detailed description, but in the meantime, please do the following:

1. Download the KidCheck app (navy with white checkmark)
2. Search "Westminster Knoxville" as our organization
3. Create an account and set up your profile

Thanks for your participation!

SUPPORT PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS OFFERING to promote the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of conflict and injustice across the world. This offering draws Presbyterians together and provides exposure to active peacemakers as well as education and resources to empower congregations and individuals to become peacemakers, themselves. These collective efforts support resources in dealing with conflict, provide nurturing reconciliation, and stand in support of our global siblings, because the peace of Christ belongs to people everywhere.



"Where Faith and Life Connect"

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

Rev. Gradye Parsons, Parish Associate

Rev. John Linton Muntz, Parish Associate Emeritus

Barbara Adamcik, Director of Youth and Connectional Ministries, CLP

Ibbie Muntz, Interim Director of Music

Allie Brewington, Interim Director of Children's Ministries

Renee Wiesehuegel, Office Manager/Bookkeeper

Joanna Warren, Administrative Assistant

Linda Judge McRae, Parish Nurse

Debbie Bendy, Abbey Editor

Sawyer Warren, Worship Tech

OUR WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, September 29

12:15pm - Youth Drama Casting

5:00pm - Oktoberfest

5:00pm - Wombats softball game

Monday, September 30

4:30pm - Make up date for youth casting for Christmas drama

Tuesday, October 1

10:00am - Staff meeting

12:00pm - Class: Christian Nationalism

Wednesday, October 2

4:30pm - Companions

5:30pm - Wednesday's at Westminster

7:00pm - Chancel Choir

Thursday, October 3

10:30am - Women's Bible Study

4:30pm - Brass Choir

7:00pm - Handbell Choir

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

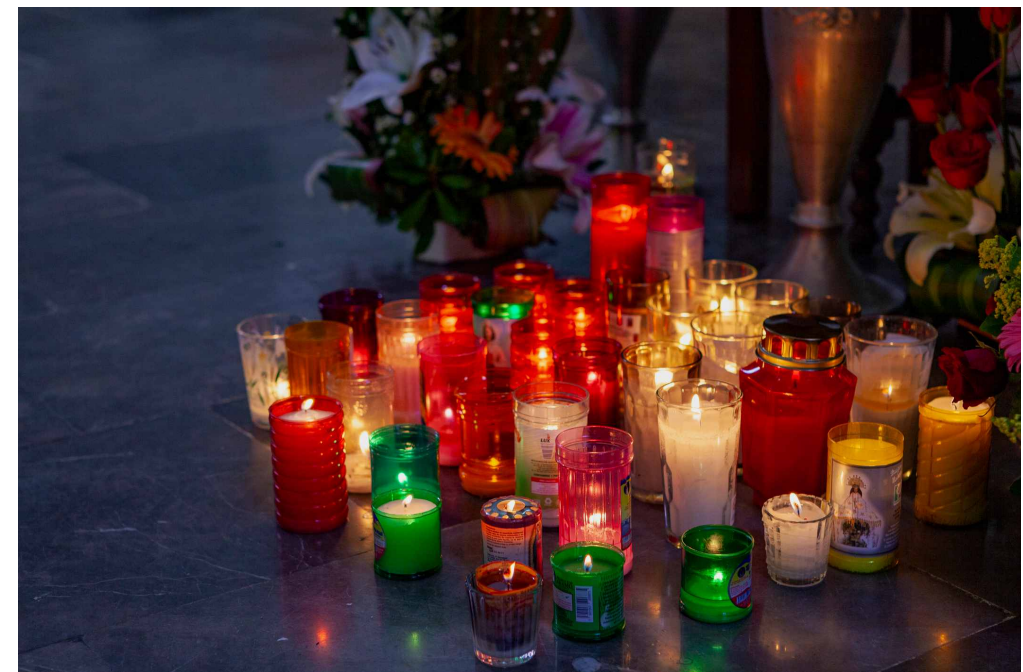
Clerk of Session: Bitsy Ingram

TRUSTEES

Alice Mercer

John Smartt

Larry Tragesser



The Order of Worship

September 29, 2024

9:00 & 11:00 A.M.

NINETEENTH 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.

OPPORTUNITIES AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

PRELUDE

(9:00) There is a Balm in Gilead

arr. Melody Bober

(11:00) Wer nur den lieben Gott lässt walten BWV 642

J. S. Bach

Whoever will suffer God to guide them

CALL TO WORSHIP (adapted from Psalm 124:8)**

Rev. Ann Owens Brunger

One: Our help is in the name of the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.

All: **In speaking, in silence,
in movement, in stillness,
God is with us.**

One: God alone saves us.

God alone helps us.

All: **God alone sets us on the path of peace.**

One: Let us worship our Savior!

TO PRAISE AND CONFESS ...

***HYMN NO. 12** (*Glory to God* hymnal) Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

St. Denio

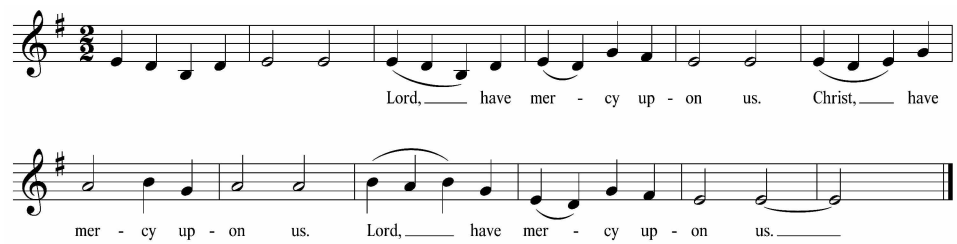
***CALL TO CONFESSION**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (Unison)

God of grace, teach us how to pray. For so often, we confuse prayer with magical thinking, or wishful thinking, or desperate thinking. We assume prayer is something we do in a futile attempt to change your mind; or to draw your attention to our plight, as if you could ever abandon us.

Lord, you are as close to us as the air in our lungs. May the prayer we pray today, heal us as it draws our attention back you, the one in whom we live, and move, and have our being. Teach us to pray, so that we can pace our lives to your cadence, so that we might tune our hearts to the Spirit in and around us. And in doing so, may our lives be changed, may our souls be healed, may our world come one step closer to you, our redeemer, in whose name we pray. Amen.

***KYRIE ELEISON** arr. David N. Johnson



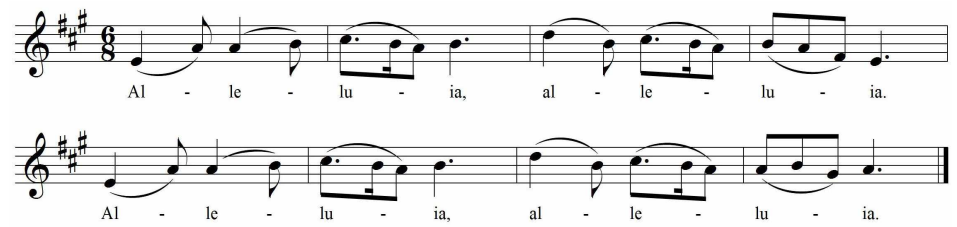
***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

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

"God Be In My Head" Andrea Ramsey

Text dated from the Book of Hours, a 1514 Service Book

God be in my head and in my understanding.
God be in my eyes and in my looking.
God be in my mouth and in my speaking. God be in my heart.
God be at my end and my beginning and all days in between.

SCRIPTURE READING

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN (11:00) Mark 9:38-50 Allie Brewington

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

SCRIPTURE READING

James 5:13-20

SERMON

"A Prayerful Imagination" Rev. Dr. Richard Coble

***HYMN NO. 432** (*Glory to God* hymnal) (11:00) How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord Repton

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

In a broken and fearful world
the Spirit gives us courage
to pray without ceasing,
to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,
to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

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!"

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

(9:00) The King of Love My Shepherd Is Charles Gounod
Mary Sophia Hawks, Solo

(11:00) Prayer of St. Paul Charles Callahan
Based on Thessalonians 5:23

I pray that God, who gives peace, will make you completely holy.
And may your spirit, soul, and body be kept healthy and faultless
until our Lord Jesus Christ returns. Amen.

***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**

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.

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. 643** (*Glory to God* hymnal) Now Thank We All Our God

Nun danket

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

(9:00) Thanks be to God Handel
(11:00) Now Thank We All Our God J. S. Bach
Arranged for Organ by Virgil Fox from Cantata No. 79

*Please stand in Body or Spirit

**Call to Worship adapted from the Rev. Dr. Whitney Wilkinson Arreche and *The Presbyterian Outlook*.

NOW THE SERVICE BEGINS

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR TODAY

PASTORAL CARE ELDERS FOR THE WEEK: Mary Boyd and Ken Hughes
CARE TEAM COORDINATOR FOR SEPTEMBER: Janet Tortorelli
LARGE PRINT HYMNALS/ HEARING DEVICES are available from the ushers.

SERVING TODAY

ACOLYTES: (11:00) Sirah Smith and Jewel Jennings

GREETERS: (11:00) James Everett and Debbie Cruze

LITURGIST: Rev. Ann Owens Brunger

MINISTRY OF MUSIC: (9:00) Pianist, Mary Lou Holt
(11:00) Organist, Theresa Pepin

SHEPHERD'S TEAM: Larry Tragesser

SENIOR USHER: Melissa Everett

USHERS: (9:00) Bonny and Doug Naugher

(11:00) Ken Hughes, Deborah Phillips, Janet Drumm, Tom Byerley, Kathy Shilling

FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY are given by Laura Stockdale, to the glory of God, in memory of her twin sister, Mary Stockdale.

A MUSIC NOTE Wer nur den lieben by Bach combines two kinds of symbolism at the master's hand: dactyl, anapest and syncopated patterns in the inner rhythmic figure of the hands expressing joy, together with a bass step motive in the pedal expressing faith.

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, Vicki Chapman, Kenny Baker, Jonah McCollum, Karen and her son Brian, Anne Hector (Mary Jo Mann's niece), Janice Jennings, Salma Alami, Melinda Foster, Chip and Pat Herzog and their daughter Claudia.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 am

Adult Bible Study: Chooses a book of the Bible to unpack (McKinnon Hall)

Feasting on the Word: Studies scriptures used in Worship (Lisa Kaufman Hall)

The Wired Word: Discusses current events with a theological eye (Library)

CHILDREN'S OFFERINGS

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

Sunday School for Preschool through 5th grade

During 11:00 Hour - Nursery available for children 0-3 years old

Children's Church for children preschool through 5th grade

Children will be walked to Children's Church classes following the Time with Children during the 11:00 worship service.

YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL OPPORTUNITIES 10:00am

WAMS (Westminsters Awesome Middle Schoolers) - 6th Grade - WAMS room.

Confirmation Class - 7th & 8th Grades in the downstairs Fellowship Hall.

SHOW (Senior Highs of Westminster) - 9th-12th Grades - SHOW room.