



# WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

16 October 2022 + 10:00 a.m.

## Welcome and Announcements

### Ministry Moment

Love in Truth and Action

Kate Morthland

### Voluntary

Andante

Ralph Vaughan Williams

### \*Ringing of the Bell

*The congregation rises at the ringing of the Tower Bell.*

### \*Call to Worship

from Psalm 119, Jeremiah 31

Leader:

How sweet are God's words to the taste.

God's commandments and teachings are always with us.

People:

**God's new covenant is written on our hearts  
so that we may all know God,**

Leader:

young and old, powerful and powerless alike.

People:

**In the Word we hear the good news of the gospel:  
salvation is ours through faith in Jesus Christ**

Leader:

Let us worship the God of Compassion.

### \*Processional Hymn 436

God of Compassion, In Mercy Befriend Us *O Quanta Qualia*

### \*Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, we confess we do not keep your word before us always and in all things. Too often, rather than be changed by your truth, we wander toward easier options. Forgive us, we pray, for growing weary in following you; for failing to pray and to work tirelessly for justice; for losing hope in the unseen. Hear now our silent prayers of confession.

**\*Sung Response** Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us Hymnal, Back Cover

**\*Declaration of Pardon**

Leader: Friends, believe the good news.  
People: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

**\*Passing of the Peace**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.  
People: **And also with you.**  
Leader: Let us greet one another with the sign of peace.

**\*Response of Praise** Gloria Patri Hymnal, Back Cover

**Children's Sermon**

**Congregational Response**

**God welcomes all, strangers and friends  
God's love is strong and it never ends.**

*Children in grades Pre-K-Grade 5 will go to Sunday school class following the Congregational Response.*

**First Scripture Reading** Jeremiah 31:27-34 Pew Bible, OT pages 735

**Second Scripture Reading** Luke 18:1-8 Pew Bible, NT page 81

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.  
People: **Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon** She Persisted The Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer

*Text: Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. Luke 18:1*

## Anthem

O Be Joyful in the Lord

Philip Stopford

O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands. Serve the Lord with gladness and come before his presence with a song.

Psalm 100 and Gloria

## \*Affirmation of Faith

*II Timothy 3:14-4:2,5*

As for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have known sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that the person of God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of Christ's appearing and Christ's kingdom, I solemnly urge you: proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage with the utmost patience in teaching...be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully. Amen.

## The Church at Prayer

Response:

Surely the presence of our God is in this place,  
I can feel God's mighty power and God's grace.  
I can hear the brush of angels' wings  
I see glory on each face;  
Surely the presence of our God is in this place.

Leader:

The Lord be with you.

People:

**And with your spirit.**

Leader:

Let us pray.

## The Lord's Prayer

## The Presentation of Our Gifts

*At this time all worshipers are invited to sign and pass the Ministry of Friendship folders found in the pew racks.*

**Offertory** Rhosymedre Ralph Vaughan Williams

**Offertory Response** Doxology Hymnal, 606

**\*Prayer of Dedication** God of generous providing, you have given us so many gifts that enrich our lives: the sacred writings which provide instruction; the gift of the church; covenantal love and faithfulness; your own dear Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior; the gift of the Spirit, our Advocate. We belong to you and all that we have belongs to you. Use these offerings, we pray, to shine the light, joy, and love of your kingdom in the world you created and love. Amen.

**\*Hymn 749** Come, Live in the Light *We Are Called*

**\*Charge and Benediction**

**\*Response** Forth in Thy Name *Orlando Gibbons*

**\*Voluntary** The Old Hundredth Psalm Tune Ralph Vaughan Williams

(\*) The congregation is invited to stand.

**IN MEMORIAM**

Elder Robert T. Lawley 03/08/1931– 10/07/2021  
United with Westminster 06/27/2004

## SERVING THIS SUNDAY AT WESTMINSTER

- **Sunday Liturgist:** Rev. Gerald W. Boutelle
- **Worship Leader:** Mia Marcy
- **Acolytes:** William and Charlotte Affrunti
- **Greeter:** Dr. Diane Rutledge
- **Ushers** Jim Parker (Head Usher) Braden Barton, Sophia Choi, Erin Ekstedt, Susan Shaw, Bob Stuart, Mia Marcy, Jess Weitzel
- **Music:** Westminster Choir, Dale Rogers, organist, Bernie Wiseman, conducting the anthem
- **Safety Team:** Julie James, Alan Schuermann
- **Videographers:** Bob Fox and Krista Steller

## EDUCATION AND FELLOWSHIP THIS SUNDAY

- **9:30 – 11:30 a.m. Spud Bake (West Narthex)** Place your order for the Youth Spud Bake Mission Fundraiser in the West Narthex and pick up following worship.
- **9:30 a.m. – 12 noon Infants, toddlers, preschoolers (Nursery)** gather for play. This week's Bible Story: "Jesus Feeds a Crowd." *Caregivers: Leigh Milward, Caroline Haynor, Lynn McMenamin*
- **10:00 – 11:00 a.m. Children Pre-K – Grade 2** will begin in worship with their families & go to Sunday school following the Congregational Response. The story is "Show Mercy" Luke 18:9-14 Teachers: *Chelsea and Adam Ekstedt*
- **11:00 a.m. Fair Trade Ministry** in West Narthex
- **11:15 a.m. – 12 noon Adult Education Forum** (Parish Hall) presents "Christian Devotional Traditions." Join us for an exploration of devotional traditions and their history. Today's lesson covers the Liturgy of the Hours. Led by Dr. Aaron Berkowitz.
- **11:15 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Church Officer Orientation (Second Floor Classroom)** Newly elected officers will meet for lunch, introductions, an overview of Presbyterian history and polity, and the responsibilities of church officers. Led by Dr. Kieffer.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**WE WELCOME VISITORS!** Information about who we are is in our Welcome Brochure located in the pew pockets and on our website at [www.wpcspi.org](http://www.wpcspi.org). Please complete the Ministry of Friendship folder located on the end of each pew. If you are interested in joining Westminster, please speak to one of the pastors. Our next New Member Classes will be Sundays, November 20 and 27.

**ANNUAL SPUD BAKE IS TODAY!** - Junior and senior high youth are preparing loaded baked potatoes to raise funds for the Contact Ministries Christmas gift distribution. Members are invited to buy a spud to help our youth share God's love. Order in the West Narthex before worship and pick up your spud following worship. **Minimum donation \$5.00 per potato.**



**FAIR TRADE MINISTRY** will be held today. Equal exchange items will be sold in West Narthex to support just, environmentally sound products and small producers. Thank you to Becky Martin and Jeanne VanGieson for this ministry.

**ADULT ED FORUM** begins the “Christian Devotional Traditions” course **today at 11:15 a.m.** in Parish Hall. Join us for an exploration of devotional traditions and their history including the Liturgy of the Hours, Lectio Divina and Presbyterian Heritage Led by Dr. Aaron Berkowitz (October 16), the Rev. Gerald Boutelle (October 23), Jay Kennerly and Lyle VanDeventer (November 6).

**CHURCH OFFICER ORIENTATION** is **today at 11:15 a.m.** in Second Floor Classroom Newly elected elders and deacons will meet with Dr. Kieffer for orientation and a Spud Bake lunch.

**LYDIA CIRCLE** meets **Tuesday, October 18 at 9:30 a.m.** in the library. Sharon Turner will lead Lesson 2 “Sabbath and Creation” and Betsy Ruklick will host. Call Nancy Canady (217-899-9890) for details.

**LIBRARY GUILD** meets **Tuesday, October 18 from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.** with Karen Sherrick.

**DMA** meets **Friday, October 21. 6:30 p.m.** for potluck and 7:15 p.m. for a program presented by Brenda Larson, Master Naturalist, called “Magic of Monarchs.” RSVP to the church office or at [www.wpcspi.org](http://www.wpcspi.org).

**FELLOWSHIP AT SHEEDY SHORES WINEGARDEN** – Next **Sunday, October 23 from 2-5 p.m.**, Members and friends are invited to a time of fellowship at Sheedy Shores Winegarden. Bring a snack to share and enjoy the fall scenery. This event is hosted by the Board of Deacons Congregational Fellowship Committee. Please RSVP by online <https://bit.ly/3yeRCnm> or by calling the church.

**APOSTLES READ LIBRARY BOOK GROUP** will meet **Tuesday, October 25 from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.** in the Ziegler Library to discuss Invisible Child by Andrea Elliott. New members are always welcome! Led by Dr. Aaron Berkowitz.

**SYMPOSIUM ON CURRENT ISSUES** is **Thursdays, October 27 and November 3, 6:00 – 7:15 p.m.** Join Dr. Roy Wehrle for a two-week symposium “U.S. Policy on China and Taiwan” Thursday, October 27 and November 3, 6:00 - 7:15 p.m. in Parish Hall.

### **REFORMATION AND HARVEST SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30**

Westminster will continue the tradition we began in 2021 when Reformation Sunday fell on Halloween. We will celebrate the Harvest Festival in the morning. Members are invited to **wear costumes to worship** and join Westminster families in Parish Hall following the service (11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.) for a festive gathering. Highlights and activities will include:



**A DELICIOUS LUNCH** will be provided and treat bags sent home with the children.

**PUMPKIN CRAFTS AND TREATS, STORYTELLING AND FACE PAINTING** in the Parish Hall.

**A HARVEST MAZE** in the Youth Room.

This provides an opportunity to highlight the origins of Hallowed Eve in our faith tradition. Don't miss this time of creative and meaningful worship.

**CESAR FRANCK 200<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CONCERT** by Dale Rogers on **Sunday, November 6** at 4:00 p.m. Franck was a pivotal figure in French music as a symphonist, composer of chamber music and of a symphonic style of composition for the organ.

**PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE (PDA)** welcomes your support. In the wake of catastrophic impacts from Hurricane Ian, recovery is ongoing in places hit by Hurricane Fiona, including Puerto Rico, the Dominican Republic and Cuba. Designate PDA on your check or give online at [www.wpcspi.org](http://www.wpcspi.org).

## 2023 STEWARDSHIP CAMP/IAN REFLECTION

You will not read in this reflection any profound quotes or inspirations. However, you will find a story of how a little girl felt safe and the impact of a church family who gave their time, talent, and treasure.

When this girl was young, she grew up in a household plagued with physical and verbal abuse. The house did not brim with laughter. Rather, the walls held screaming matches while she hid behind a pile of toys counting the seconds until it ended. Silent periods in the house were not peaceful, but uneasy; a ticking time bomb until something else erupted. This happened in an unending cycle day-after-day, but Wednesdays were different.

On Wednesdays after school, she and a couple neighborhood kids attended a local church to eat dinner and play games. On these nights, church volunteers enveloped the little girl with love as they listened to her, played with her, and made her feel welcome. She felt comfortable to speak up, answer questions in Bible Trivia, laugh without worry, and simply be a kid. After games, women from the congregation often made a hot meal for the children to enjoy. The girl loved Wednesday nights so much that her stomach turned when the 90 minutes ended because she yearned for the peace she felt at church.

To the volunteers, cooks, youth teachers, and pastor, it was just another night. Wednesdays were another routine day filled partially with volunteer work. To that little girl, that night was often the only night where, for those 90 minutes, she was safe to be a kid.

That girl never forgot the impact of the church family. That girl is me.

The time, talent, and treasure that you can give often reaches far beyond your comprehension. For you, it could be time, financial means, cooking, teaching, or cleaning. But to others, it means love, safety, home, and peace. I implore you to move forward and exercise your time, talent, and treasure with your church family. You will never know the profound impact you have on others - a true reflection of God's love.

*- Kate Morthland*

**As of Thursday, October 13 we received 86 pledges totaling \$361,467 which is 43% of the \$848,800 goal.** Please complete the pledge card and return it to the church office or place it in the offering plate by Stewardship Dedication Sunday, October 30, 2022. Pledges can also be made online at [www.wpcspi.org](http://www.wpcspi.org).

## THE 2022 BAY WEEKEND, NOVEMBER 12-13

**DR. ROGERS SMITH Presents:**

### **Race and Religion in America: The 1960s and Today**

#### **Saturday, November 12**

**Welcome Reception** 5:30 – 8:00 p.m. Members are invited to the home of Drs. Todd and Judy Knox for a gathering hosted by the Adult Education Committee.

#### **Sunday, November 13**

**Worship Service** 10:00 a.m. Dr. Smith will introduce topic.

**Education Forum** 11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Presentation

**All Church Lunch** 12:30 p.m. We will share a community meal.

**Biography:** Dr. Rogers Smith, a child of Westminster, is the Christopher H. Browne Distinguished Professor of Political Science at the University of Pennsylvania. He is an author noted for his research and writing on American constitutional and political development and political thought, with a focus on issues of citizenship and racial, gender, and class inequalities. He earned degrees from James Madison College, Michigan State University and Harvard University. Dr. Smith was the president of the American Political Science Association (APSA) from 2018–2019.

## THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

### Monday, October 17

### Tuesday, October 18

- 9:30 AM Lydia Circle (Library)
- 10:30 AM Staff Meeting (Pastor's Study)
- 1:00 PM Knit 2 Purl 4 (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Classroom)
- 1:00 PM Library Guild (Children's Library)
- 3:00 PM Compass for Kids
- 4:30 PM Support and Endowment (Pastor's Study)
- 4:45 PM I.T. Committee (Conference Room)
- 5:15 PM Hunger Action Team (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Classroom)
- 7:30 PM St. Andrew's Sisters (Music Room)

### Wednesday, October 19

- 10:00 AM Pastors Pray in the Chancel (Sanctuary)
- 10:30 AM Worship Planning (Pastor's Study)
- 4:00 PM Bridges grades 3-5(Kitchen)
- 4:15 PM Children's Choir (Music Room)
- 5:00 PM Choristers (Music Room)
- 5:30 PM Session (Parish Hall)

### Thursday, October 20

- 2:00 PM Early Stage Memory Loss (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Classroom)
- 6:00 PM Dr. Kieffer's Bible Study (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Classroom)
- 7:30 PM Westminster Choir (Music Room)

### Friday, October 21

- 6:30 PM DMA Potluck (Parish Hall)
- 7:15 PM DMA Program (Parish Hall)

### Saturday, October 22

- 11:00 AM Church Mice (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Classroom)

### Sunday, October 23

- 10:00 AM Worship Service
- 10:15 AM Sunday School Pre-K to Grade 5 (Chapel)
- 11:15 AM Adult Ed Forum (Parish Hall)
- 11:15 AM Confirmation Class (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Classroom)
- 5:00 PM Sr. High Youth Group (Parish Hall)

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[www.wpcspi.org](http://www.wpcspi.org)

### WESTMINSTER STAFF

**The Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer**  
*Pastor and Head of Staff*

**The Reverend Christian K. Choi**  
*Associate Pastor for Parish Life*

**The Reverend Gerald W. Boutelle**  
*Parish Associate*

**Dale T. Rogers**  
*Director of Music and the Arts*

**Katie Moore**  
*Director for Children's Music*

**Karen Sherrick**  
*Director for Children's Ministry*

**Leigh Milward**  
*Nursery Coordinator*

**Caroline Haynor**  
*Nursery Worker*

**Ellen Carpenter**  
*Parish Nurse*

**Pat Hymans**  
*Hospitality Coordinator*

**Emily Rowley, Keri Tate**  
*Cooperative Preschool Director*

**Lisa Runkle**  
*Financial Administrator*

**Jennie Alt**  
*Church Administrative Assistant*

**Krista Steller**  
*Communications Coordinator*

**Gary Warnick**  
*Building and Property Manager*

**Terry Gietl,  
Bill Hibbert,  
Eddie Hubbard**  
*Part-time Custodians*