



WESTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
31 July 2022 + 10:00 a.m.

Welcome and Announcements

Voluntary

Little Prelude and Fugue in A Minor

J.S. Bach

*Ringing of the Bell

The congregation rises at the ringing of the Tower Bell.

*Call to Worship

from Hosea 11

Leader: God says: "You are my children, and I love you."

People: **The Holy One is in our midst.**

Leader: God's Spirit gathers us in God's arms and leads us with cords of human kindness.

People: **The Holy One is in our midst.**

Leader: God's steadfast love is like those who lift infants to their cheeks, who bend down to them and feed them.

People: **The Holy One is in our midst.**

Leader: Come, let us worship God, the Holy One in our midst.

* Hymn 44

Like a Mother Who Has Born Us

Austin

*Prayer of Confession

O God, in your loving arms, you hold this astonishing earth, the mysterious heavens, and every day of our lives. Forgive us when we live without regard for others or reverence for you. Like children, sometimes we lose our way. Yet there you are, with open arms, seeking us out, bending down to lift us up, and welcoming us home. Remind us again and again of who you are and to whom we belong that we may lift one another with your generous spirit. 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.
Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.
People: And also with you.
All: Thanks be to God. Amen.

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

Children's Sermon

Congregational Response Listen, listen, God is calling, through the Word inviting,
offering forgiveness, comfort, and joy.

Children in grades Pre-K-2 will go to Summer Sunday School class following the Congregational Response.

First Scripture Reading Hosea 11:1-4 Pew Bible, OT pages 842

Second Scripture Reading Luke 11:1-13 Pew Bible, NT pages 72
Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon As One Who Lifts Infants The Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer
*Text: I was to them like those who lift infants to their cheeks.
I bent down to them and fed them. Hosea 11:4b*

Solo Gratitude Nichole Nordeman

Send some rain, would You send some rain?
'Cause the earth is dry and needs to drink again
And the sun is high and we are sinking in the shade
Would You send a cloud, thunder long and loud?
Let the sky grow black and send some mercy down
Surely You can see that we are thirsty and afraid

But maybe not, not today Maybe You'll provide in other ways
And if that's the case ...

Refrain: We'll give thanks to You with gratitude
For lessons learned in how to thirst for You
How to bless the very sun that warms our face
If You never send us rain

Daily bread, give us daily bread
Bless our bodies, keep our children fed
Fill our cups, then fill them up again tonight
Wrap us up and warm us through
Tucked away beneath our sturdy roofs
Let us slumber safe from danger's view this time
Or maybe not, not today. Maybe You'll provide in other ways
And if that's the case ... Refrain

So grant us peace, Jesus, grant us peace
Move our hearts to hear a single beat
Between alibis and enemies tonight
Or maybe not, not today. Peace might be another world away
And if that's the case ... Refrain

***Affirmation of Faith**

Isaiah 40

**Have you not known? Have you not heard?
The Lord is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.
God does not faint or grow weary;
God's understanding is unsearchable.
God gives power to the faint
and strengthens the powerless.
Even youths will faint and be weary,
and the young will fall exhausted;
But those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength,
they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run
and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint." Amen**

The Church at Prayer

Leader: The Lord be with you.
People: **And with your spirit.**
Leader: Let us pray.

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Hymnal, page 35

**The Presentation
of Our Gifts**

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

Offertory

Lamb of God

Twila Paris

Text for the duet is 518 in the Hymnal.

Offertory Response

Doxology

Hymnal, 606

***Prayer of Dedication**

**Holy One, we give you thanks for the richness of our
lives because of your dependable grace. May these gifts
lift up those who are in need, and may our lives express
your steadfast love in the compassion and tenderness
we show one another through Christ, our Risen Lord.
Amen.**

***Hymn 490**

Wash, O God, Your Sons and Daughters

Beach Spring

***Charge and Benediction**

***Voluntary**

Postlude in F Major

G. B. Martini

(*) The congregation is invited to stand.

SERVING THIS SUNDAY AT WESTMINSTER

- **Sunday Liturgist:** The Rev. Christian K. Choi
- **Greeters:** Nancy and Rich Canady
- **Ushers** Jim Parker (Head Usher) Braden Barton, Sophia Choi, Jim Rigney, Susan Shaw, Bob Stuart, Mia Marcy, Jess Weitzel
- **Safety Team:** Brad Steller
- **Music:** Lyle VanDeventer, bass, Julie Blythe, mezzo soprano, Eleanor VanDeventer, soprano, Dr. Jamie Greenwald, organ
- **Videographers:** Bob Fox and Krista Steller

EDUCATION AND FELLOWSHIP THIS SUNDAY AT WESTMINSTER

- **9:30 a.m. – 12 noon** Infants, toddlers, 2- & 3-year-olds (Nursery) gather for play, songs, and Bible stories. The story this week is: “Thank You, God.” *Caregivers: Leigh Milward, Caroline Haynor*
- **10:00 – 11:00 a.m.** Children Pre-K – Grade 2 begin in worship with their families & go to Summer Sunday school in the Third Floor Chapel following the Children’s Sermon for Summer Sunday school. The story this week is: “The Pearl.” *Teacher: Karen Sherrick*
- **11:15 – 12:00 noon** Adult Education Forum (Parish Hall) Come, hear the story of how the 108-acre Sherrick Farm has been restored to a landscape that has all but disappeared in the Prairie State of Illinois. Learn about the prairie reconstruction which Dr. Andrew Sherrick has orchestrated over the last 20 years and plan to visit the Sherrick Farm next Sunday, August 7 to view the natural beauty of the flowers, grasses, and plants. *Leader: Dr. Andy Sherrick*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS. Information about who we are can be found on our website at www.wpcspi.org. Please complete the Ministry of Friendship folder located on the end of each pew. If you are interested in joining Westminster, speak to one of our pastors.

MEALS ON WHEELS Thank you to the following ministry partners who provided this community service the last two weeks of July: Sandy Bellatti, Bud Green, Anne and David Haaker, Mary Hibbert, Kathy Kenyon, Mary Caroline and David Mitchell, Sam Simonson, Alan Stutz, Julie & Mike Sundquist, Jennie Alt, and Mary Hibbert.

SERMON BOOKLETS for 2022 sermons are available in the bookshelf in the West Narthex near the office. Sermons in PDF format and videos may be viewed on the [church website](#).

DIRECTOR FOR CHILDREN’S MUSIC – A new position has been approved by the Personnel Committee. Westminster is seeking a gifted musician who will implement an effective music ministry for children (Kindergarten through Grade 5) by directing the Children’s Choir (K-Grade 2) and the Westminster Choristers (Grades 3-5). This is a part-time position September – June with varying weekly hours depending on the church schedule. The Director for Children’s Music shall work in collaboration under the supervision of Dale Rogers, Director of Music and the Arts. Applications are available on the church website.

ADULT ED FORUM PRESENTS: Prairie Reconstruction and The Sherrick Farm Following today’s presentation at 11:15 a.m. in Parish Hall about the Sherrick Farm prairie reconstruction, plan to join us next **Sunday, August 7** at 11:15 a.m. as we visit the Sherrick Farm to view the natural beauty of the flowers, grasses, and plants. **PLEASE SIGN UP TODAY** to reserve a box lunch for next Sunday on our picnic adventure together.



THE HISTORIC WESTSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION will host National Night Out for our neighborhood on **Tuesday, August 2, 2022** from 6:00 pm-7:30 pm at Westminster Presbyterian Church. There will be free food, and a drawing for several gift cards. Our Neighborhood Police Officer, Tamara Pflug will be there, so neighbors can meet her.

DR. KIEFFER'S BIBLE STUDY will gather for a potluck and communion Thursday, August 4, 6:00 p.m., at the Kieffer Home (26 Island Bay Lane, 62712). Please bring a salad, side or dessert. RSVP to Jennie Alt (jalt@wpcspi.org) and let her know what you will bring. We will also review and select our 2022-2023 curriculum as we begin the eighth year of our journey studying scripture together. Spouses are welcome! New members are always welcome.

ANNUAL MISSION TRIP REUNION SWIM PARTY AND POTLUCK - On Saturday, August 6, from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m., participants of the 2022 Mission Trip will gather at the Home of Susan and Scott Day (47 Fairview Lane 62711). Remember to bring a towel and a dish to share. Freshman and sophomores are invited to bring dessert, juniors and seniors to bring a salad or side dish, and adult leaders to bring chips and a drink. We will serve hot dogs and brats.

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION in August has been moved to the first Sunday, August 7.

CORN PICKING AT GRIGSBY FARMS is scheduled for **Wednesday, August 3, 4:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.** The annual sweet corn harvest for area food pantries and homeless shelters is ready! This corn is planted each year by Grigsby Farms (thanks to the Hale and Pound families), and we need your help to pick the corn. The picking begins at 5:15 (with people leaving the church at 4:30 p.m. to drive to the field). We will pick from 5:15 - 6:45 p.m. and return by 7:30 p.m. Please RSVP to Jennie Alt at jalt@wpcspi.org to let us know to expect you.



KNIT 2 PURL 4 MISSION AND FELLOWSHIP Knitters are invited to Sue Cull's home for lunch and fellowship at noon on **Tuesday, August 9**. Knitters are encouraged to carpool to 111 Linden Lane and bring your knitting. RSVP to Sue Cull or Mary Jo Mattern-Jenkins by Aug. 5.

WESTMINSTER SUMMER CHOIR In August, the Westminster Summer Choir will meet on Thursday, August 11 at 7:30 p.m. to prepare for Sunday, August 14. If you have contemplated joining the choir, this is a great time to give it a try. The regular season of the choir will begin on Thursday, September 8 at 7:30 p.m. and hold its annual retreat at Indian Point Presbyterian Church on Saturday, September 10. Mark your calendars for these upcoming dates for the choir.

CONTACT MINISTRY BACKPACK COLLECTION - We will collect backpacks through **Sunday, August 14** to be distributed at Contact Ministries' "Ready for Success Back to School Event" on Wednesday, August 17, 2:00 – 5:00 p.m. Please avoid mesh or clear plastic backpacks. Last year, we collected 195 backpacks! Please drop your donated backpacks in the basket located in the West Narthex. **Contact Jennie Alt if you have ordered online with delivery to the church office.**
AS OF FRIDAY, WE RECEIVED 75 BACKPACKS.



BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS - GOD'S GOT YOUR BACK! On **Sunday, August 21**, the children and youth of Westminster are invited to bring their backpack to the 10:00 a.m. worship service for the blessing of backpacks as our children and youth begin a new school year. Along with a blessing, each will receive a monogrammed carabiner with a Bible verse for their backpack as a reminder of God's loving presence on their journey throughout this school year.

SPLASH INTO THE NEW YEAR! On **Sunday, August 21, from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.**, families (parents and children ages birth through grade twelve) are invited to a swim party at the Kieffer home (26 Island Bay Lane) as we splash into a new year together. Please bring a towel and snack to share! Friends are always welcome and encouraged.

NOMINATIONS WELCOME

THE 2022 NOMINATING COMMITTEE is now receiving nominations for the following positions of leadership at Westminster.

DEACON (CLASS OF 2025)

ELDER (CLASS OF 2025)

NOMINATING COMMITTEE (CLASS OF 2023)

STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE (CLASS OF 2025)

Nominations may be placed in the offering plate, emailed to the committee chair, Eleanor VanDeventer, at ehuitt@yahoo.com or placed in the Nominating Committee's mailbox on the wall in the West Narthex by the Edwards Street doors. Please complete by August 14, 2022. Nominees will be presented for election at a Congregational Meeting on Sunday, October 9, 2022.

2022 Nominating Committee members: *Eleanor VanDeventer (Chair), Carolyn Swanson, Mary King, Bill Deemer, Deb Coontz, Alan Stutz, and Julie Sundquist*

Name of Nominee _____

Recommended for (check choice)

Deacon Elder Nominating Strategic Planning

1. Qualities that would make this person a good church officer

2. Past experience/current interests and activities in the church

3. Helpful information: special skills, training, employment, community involvement, etc.

Your Name (optional) _____

THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

Monday, August 1

Tuesday, August 2

- 10:30 AM Staff Meeting (Pastor's Study)
- 1:00 PM Knit 2, Purl 4 Mission (Conference Room)
- 6:00 PM Neighborhood Night Out Historic West Side (Parking Lot)

Wednesday, August 3

- 10:30 AM Worship Planning (Pastor's Study)
- 12:30 PM Reporter
- 4:30 PM Grigsby Farm Corn Picking (Meet in Parking Lot)

Thursday, August 4

- 6:00 PM Dr. Kieffer's Bible Study Pot Luck (Off-site)

Friday, August 5

Saturday, August 6

Sunday, August 7

- 10:00 AM Worship Service – Holy Communion
- 10:15 AM Summer Sunday School (Pre K-2)
- 11:00 AM Parish Nurse Ministries (Church Office)
- 11:15 AM Carpool to the Sherrick Farm (Off-site)

Westminster Presbyterian Church
533 S. Walnut Street
Springfield, IL 62704
Phone (217) 522-4415 Fax (217) 522-4465
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

Deb Watts Elliott
*Saturday Worship Pianist and
Music Coordinator*

Karen Sherrick
Director for Children's Ministry

Leigh Milward
Nursery Coordinator

Caroline Hayner
Nursery Worker

Ellen Carpenter
Parish Nurse

Pat Hymans
Hospitality Coordinator

Emily Rowley
Cooperative Preschool Teachers

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, Steve Stapleton**
Part-time Custodians