WESTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Second Sunday after Pentecost
22 June 2025 + 10:00 a.m.

Welcome and Announcements

Ministry Moment Steadfast Neighbor Mission Team Commissioning

Voluntary Pavane — Gabriel Fauré

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

Call to Worship

Leader: When shall we behold the face of God?
People: Through earthquake, wind, and fire,
we listen for God's voice.
Leader: By day, God offers steadfast love.
People: By night, God's song is with us.
Leader: Let us worship the One who speaks in a still, small voice.

***Processional Hymn 12** Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise — *St. Denio*

***Prayer of Confession**

God of the prophets, we confess that we have failed to heed your word. You break down barriers among people, but we separate ourselves from others. You are ever faithful in your promise; but we turn away from others in fear. Forgive us, God of grace. Stir up that still, small voice within and speak to us through the silence with a message of hope and welcome. Hear now our silent prayers of confession.

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

***Declaration of Pardon and Passing of the Peace**

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.
Leader: Let us greet one another with the sign of peace.

***Response of Praise** Gloria Patri

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, Amen.

Children's Sermon

Congregational Response Listen, Listen, God is Calling — Neno Lake Mungu

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

Students in preschool – Grade 5 will go to their Sunday school class following the Congregational Response.

First Scripture Reading I Kings 19:1-4, 8-15 — Pew Bible, OT pages 326

Second Scripture Reading Luke 8:26-39 — Pew Bible, NT page 68

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

Sermon A Still, Small Voice — Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer

Text: "Then there came a voice to him that said, 'What are you doing here, Elijah?'" I Kings 19:13b

Solo Prayer — Gabriel Fauré

Almighty God, before thee we come, lowly kneeling.
Wilt thou open our eyes, all thy mercy and love revealing?
If we have wandered far, along the path of night darkly going, lead us back with thy hand, bring us to the light ever glowing. We will follow thy voice as on the upward road. Where living waters flow, with everlasting bread thou will feed us. Almighty God, before thee we come, lowly kneeling. Open our waiting hearts, thy mercy and love revealing. May we forgiving be, as we, by thee are forgiven. O may thy kingdom come, and on earth thy will be done, as in heaven.

Recognition of New Members and Sacrament of Baptism

***Prayer of Welcome**

We, as a church of Jesus Christ, lovingly receive you to our communion. We welcome you to this fellowship with us, in the blessings of the gospel, and we promise to treat you with Christian affection, to watch over you with tenderness, and to offer our prayers on your behalf.

***Affirmation of Faith**

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ God's only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

***Hymn**

We All Are One in Mission *Es flog ein kleins Waldvögelein*

We are all one in mission; we all are one in call,
our varied gifts united by Christ, the Lord of all.
A single, great commission compels us from above
to plan and work together that all may know Christ's love.

The Church at Prayer

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

Prayers of the People and 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 in the pew racks.

Offertory All Good Gifts — Stephen Schwartz

We plow the fields and scatter the good seed on the land,
But it is fed and watered by God's almighty hand.
God sends the snow in winter, the warmth to swell the grain,
The breezes and the sunshine and soft refreshing rain.
All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above.
So thank the Lord, thank you for all of your love.

***Offertory Response** Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise God, all creatures here below
Praise God above, ye heavenly host
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication**

Sovereign God, you sent Jesus to deliver us from evil powers. Drive out those things which torment us. Give us the power to let go our fears and misconceptions. Set us free to worship and to serve you. Accept these offerings as a token of our thanks and praise for all that you have done for us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***Hymn 410** God is Calling through the Whisper — *W Zlobie Lezy*

***Charge and Benediction**

***Voluntary** Sortie — Henri Mulet

(*) The congregation is invited to stand.

SERVING THIS SUNDAY AT WESTMINSTER

- **Sunday Liturgist:** Rev. Sarah A. Bishop
- **Worship Leader:** Aerwyna Eastvold
- **Acolytes:** Charlotte Affrunti and Taryn Barnett
- **Greeters**: Linda and Ed Caupert
- **Music:** Donald Tallman, Tenor, Dale Rogers, Organist
- **Ushers:** George Botanga (Head Usher), Dorothy Hutchinson-Gross, Claudia Nash, Bill Schlosser, Bernie Wiseman, Randy Wiseman, Cathy Yokley
- **Safety Team:** Brad Steller
- **Videographers and Sound:** Bob Fox, Bill Deemer, Krista Steller

EDUCATION AND FELLOWSHIP THIS SUNDAY AT WESTMINSTER

- **9:15 a.m. –Session Meeting (Parish Hall)** to receive New Members and hear the PNC Final Report.
- **9:45 a.m. – 12 noon Infants, toddlers, and two-year-olds (Nursery)** gather for play and Bible Story. This week's story: "We Have Faith in Jesus, Too" (Jesus Teaches and Heals) *Caregiver: Kara Milward*
- **10:00 – 11:00 a.m. Children in Pre-K – Grade 5 begin in worship & go to Sunday school following the Congregational Response.**
  - **Preschool - Ages 3-5 (Preschool Classroom lower level)** Story: "God Does Amazing Things" (The Red Sea I) Teacher: Dee Dee Duffy
  - **Kindergarten - Grade 5 (Third Floor Chapel)** This week's story: "Clothed with Christ" (Galatians 3:23-29) Teachers: Meleah Berkowitz, Cathy Brower, Julie Robbs
- **11:15 a.m. – 12 noon (Parish Hall) Summer Adult Ed Forum** presents: "China, the U.S., and World Trade Today." Join Roy in a discussion on the likely outcomes of the US/China Trade War and rivalry, and probable impacts on the world economy and nations.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE WELCOME VISITORS! Information about who we are is in our Welcome Brochure located in the pew pockets and on our website www.wpcspi.org. Please complete the Ministry of Friendship folder located on the end of each pew. If you are interested in joining, please speak to a pastor.

NEW MEMBERS were received this morning at a Special Session meeting. We welcome:

Cameron Hudgins *joins us by Profession of Faith and Sacrament of Baptism. His sponsor is Dr. Aaron Berkowitz.*

Andrew Affrunti *joins us by Reaffirmation of Faith. His sponsor is Dana Affrunti.*

THANK YOU - Westminster members generously supported our youth at their Car Wash/Bake Sale Fundraisers last Sunday. This year the youth raised $3,440 during the Car Wash/Bake Sale. In addition, the youth received $845.20 which is 40% of the $2,113 Pentecost Offering.

KNIT 2 PURL 4 Knitters meet **Tuesday afternoons** from 1:00 - 2:30 pm in the Second Floor Classroom. Knitters are encouraged to knit cold weather items (warm hats, mittens or scarves) for our fall and winter donations.

APOSTLES' READ LIBRARY BOOK GROUP meets **Tuesday, June 24** from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. in the Ziegler Library to discuss *Caste* by Isable Wilkerson (Young Adult version recommended). New members are welcome. Led by Dr. Aaron Berkowitz

WESTMINSTER'S YOUTH MISSION TEAM will be commissioned **Sunday, July 6.** They depart on Saturday, July 12 for their mission adventure in Ashville, NC and will lead worship and report to the congregation on Sunday, July 20.

WESTMINSTER SUMMER CHOIR will meet on **Thursday, July 10 at 7:00 p.m.** to prepare for Sunday, July 13 and Thursday, August 21 for Sunday August 24. *Please note date change.* If you have contemplated joining the choir, this is a great time to give it a try.

SIXTH ANNUAL STEADFAST NEIGHBOR OUTREACH

The steadfast team of ministry partners will be commissioned today and begin their service week tomorrow. During the work week, the team gathers each morning at 8:00 a.m. for a devotion to begin the day before arriving at our neighborhood sites. Projects included power washing, construction, painting, and landscaping. Join us next Sunday for their report to the congregation during worship. Participating members are listed below.

MINISTRY PARTNERS

Linda Andrews
Brownie Anderson
Braden Barton
Julie Barton
Linda Cox
Scott Day
Barry Denham
Adam Ekstedt
Erin Ekstedt
Bud Green
Noah Green
Peter Hancock
Vonnie Hinesley
Elliot Huston
Nancy Huston
Jay Kennerly
Peter Kieffer
Tim Kluge
Judy Knox
Todd Knox
Richard Leary
Tom Massey
Lynn McMenamin
Mary Caroline Mitchell
Claudia Nash
Doug Nelson
Trudy Nelson
Tom Owen
Jim Parker
Debbie Parker
Lauren Pierce
Julie Robbs
Diane Rutledge
Andy Sherrick
John Stafford
Brad Steller
Mike Sundquist
Brad Swanson
Carolyn Swanson
Jeanne VanGieson
Pete VanGieson
Jess Weitzel
Brinton Wilkey
Steve Vollmer
Cathy Yokley

NEIGHBOR PARTNER

Carol Brosam
Bill Steele

HOSPITALITY TEAM

Lucy Bassett
Judy Boutelle
Melanie Green
Al Hymans
Pat Hymans
Marci Irvine
Kathy Kenyon
Trudy Nelson
Kelly Robertson

STAFF PARTNERS

Jennie Alt
Rev. Sarah Bishop
Rev. Jerry Boutelle
James Capler
Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer
Mary Ray
Dale Rogers
Krista Steller
Gary Warnick

Let's Celebrate Dr. Kieffer's Ministry!

Friday, August 22, 6:30 – 10:00 p.m.

Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum
212 North Sixth Street, Springfield, Illinois

Dinner, Drinks, Toasts, Dancing

$35 per person

Make checks payable to Westminster with Retirement Party in the memo line

RSVP to Jennie Alt by August 1, 2025

Gifts to the Westminster Endowment in honor of Blythe's ministry are welcome.

NOMINATIONS WELCOME

THE 2025 NOMINATING COMMITTEE is now receiving nominations for the following positions of leadership at Westminster.

DEACON (CLASS OF 2028)
ELDER (CLASS OF 2028)
NOMINATING COMMITTEE (CLASS OF 2026)
STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE (CLASS OF 2028)

Nominations may be placed in the offering plate, emailed to the committee chair, Dr. Michael Nenaber, at m.nenaber@comcast.net or placed in the Nominating Committee's mailbox on the wall in the West Narthex by the Edwards Street doors. Please complete it by August 10, 2025. Nominees will be presented for election at a Congregational Meeting on Sunday, October 12, 2025.

2025 Nominating Committee members: *Dr. Michael Nenaber (Chair), Sam Batterman, Mal Hildebrand, Brad Steller, Carolyn Swanson, Julie Sundquist, and Bernie Wiseman*

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) _____

WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

Monday, June 23
8:00 AM Steadfast Neighbor Service Week

Tuesday, June 24
8:00 AM Steadfast Neighbor Service Week
1:00 PM Knit 2 Purl 4 (2nd Floor Classroom)
2:00 PM Staff Meeting (Pastor's Study)
6:00 PM Apostles Read Book Club (Library)

Wednesday, June 25
8:00 AM Steadfast Neighbor Service Week
3:30 PM Depression and Bi-Polar Support Group (Youth Room)
5:00 PM Deliver meal to Helping Hands

Thursday, June 26
8:00 AM Steadfast Neighbor Service Week

Friday, June 27
8:00 AM Steadfast Neighbor Service Week
12:00 PM Steadfast Neighbor Celebratory Lunch

Saturday, June 28

Sunday, June 29
Steadfast Neighbor Service Week Presentation
10:00 AM Worship Service (Sanctuary)
10:15 AM Summer Sunday School PreK-5 (Third Floor Chapel)

THOSE WHO WOULD LIKE TO DONATE TO THE MINISTRIES OF WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH ARE WELCOME TO SCAN HERE.

Westminster Presbyterian Church
533 S. Walnut St.
Springfield, Illinois 62704
Phone (217) 522-4415 Fax (217) 522-4465
http://www.wpcspi.org

WESTMINSTER STAFF

The Reverend Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer
Pastor and Head of Staff

The Reverend Sarah A. Bishop
Associate Pastor for Family Ministry

The Reverend Gerald W. Boutelle
Parish Associate

Dale T. Rogers
Director of Music and the Arts

Mary Ray
Director for Youth

Meleah and Aaron Berkowitz
Co-Directors for Children's Ministry

Kara Milward, Erin Winn
Nursery Coordinators

Rebecca Nika, Keri Tate
Cooperative Preschool Staff

Ellen Carpenter
Parish Nurse

Pat Hymans
Hospitality Coordinator

Lisa Runkle
Financial Administrator

Jennie Alt
Church Administrative Assistant

Krista Steller
Communications Coordinator

Gary Warnick
Building and Property Manager

Braden Barton, James Capler, Terry Gietl, Javier Velásquez
Part-time Custodians