WESTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost
30 August 2026 + 10:00 a.m.

Welcome and Announcements

Voluntary Intermezzo — Andrew Fletcher

***Ringing of the Bell**

***Call to Worship**

Leader: Praise the Lord!
People: With all our hearts, we will praise God's holy name!
Leader: Praise the Lord!
People: Never forget the good things God has done for us.
Leader: Praise the Lord, all the earth – everyone, everywhere!
People: We too will praise the Lord!

***Processional Hymn 694** Great God of Every Blessing — *Aurelia*

***Unison Prayer of Confession**

We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

***Silent Confession** *During this silence, worshipers are asked to offer individual 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.
Leader: Let us greet one another with the sign of peace.

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

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 Message *Following the response, children in Pre-Kindergarten–Grade 5 will go to their Sunday school classes.*

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

Listen, listen, God is calling, through the Word inviting,
offering forgiveness, comfort, and joy. (Repeat three times)

Prayer of Illumination

First Scripture Reading Luke 24:13-27 — Pew Bible, OT page 90

Second Scripture Reading John 16:1-15 — Pew Bible, NT page 110

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

Sermon The Spirit Leads to Truth — Rev. Dr. Anne Marshall

Solo Zion's Walls — Aaron Copland

Come fathers and mothers come,
Sisters and brothers come,
Join us in singing the praises of Zion,
O fathers don't you feel determined to
Meet within the walls of Zion,
We'll shout and go round, we'll shout and go round the walls of Zion.

***Affirmation of Faith** *Romans 8:1, 28, 38, 39*

**We believe there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus;
for we know that all things work together for good
for those who love God,
who are called according to God's purpose.
We are convinced that neither death, nor life,
nor angels, nor rulers,
nor things present, nor things to come,
nor powers, nor height, nor depth,
nor anything else in all creation,
will be able to separate us from the love of God
in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.**

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 Hymnal, page 35

The Presentation of Our Gifts *At this time all worshipers are asked to sign and pass the Ministry of Friendship folders at the end of each pew.*

Offertory Light of a Clear Blue Morning — Dolly Parton

***Offertory Response** Doxology — Hymnal, 606

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** **Loving God, we give because you gave. We love because you first loved us. Receive our gifts and our lives, and use them, we pray, for your reconciling work in the world you love. Amen.**

***Hymn 838** Standing on the Promises — *Promises*

***Charge and Benediction**

***Voluntary** Postlude in G — Noel Rawsthorne

(*) The congregation is invited to stand.

THOSE WHO WOULD LIKE TO DONATE TO WESTMINSTER MINISTRIES ARE WELCOME TO SCAN HERE

Westminster Presbyterian Church

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http://www.wpcspi.org

SERVING THIS SUNDAY AT WESTMINSTER

- **Flowers in the Chancel** are given in celebration of the 63rd anniversary of Carolyn and Keith Beatty by their children and grandchildren.
- **Sunday Liturgist:** Rev. Sarah A. Bishop
- **Worship Leader:** Braden Barton
- **Acolytes:** Diana Choi and Rose DeJong
- **Greeters:** Jonathan, Katie, and Everard Carlson-Eastvold
- **Safety Team:** Charlie King
- **Ushers:** Joyce King (Head Usher), Andrew Affrunti, Ben Arnold, Michella Arnold, Kyle Duffy, Chelsea Ekstedt, Pete Sherman, and Brad Steller
- **Music:** Genevieve Wages, Soprano and Dale Rogers, Organist
- **Videographers and Sound**: Bill Deemer, Krista Steller, William Affrunti

EDUCATION AND FELLOWSHIP THIS SUNDAY AT WESTMINSTER

- **9:45 a.m. – 12 noon Infants, toddlers, and two-year-olds (Nursery)** gather for play and Bible Story. *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. Summer Sunday School is in session! Our children will continue to learn in their respective classrooms with Frolic Preschool lessons and elementary students will have special lessons on baptism and communion.
  - **Preschool – Grade 2 (Third Floor Chapel)** *Teachers: Meleah Berkowitz & Kathryn Black*
  - **Grade 3 – Grade 5 (Third Floor Tower Room)** *Teacher: Aaron Berkowitz*
- **COME TO THE TABLE** – **After worship**, upper elementary children (grades 3-5) and their families will be participating in a **NEW** workshop, Come to the Table, an interactive program on Communion. In their time together, families will explore what communion means, why and how we celebrate this sacrament, and equip families to talk about the Lord's Supper together. Rev. Sarah will lead this time together in the Sanctuary.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE WELCOME VISITORS! Information about us 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 at the end of each pew. If you are interested in joining Westminster, speak with one of the pastors.

ALL CHURCH BOOK READ – Our new shipment of Love Your Neighbor books have arrived and can be picked up in the West Narthex. Suggested donation is $12. You can donate online or by a check made out to Westminster Presbyterian Church with Book Read in the memo line. However, if cost is a barrier, please take a copy with our blessing. We want everyone to participate.

Small Group Sign-Ups- Use the QR code to sign up for a small group or stop by the book table for assistance with signing up. Groups will meet starting September 27th and run through October 18th; We encourage people to sign up for a group even if you can't attend all sessions.

Question of the week- Will I have to talk?
We believe everyone will have valuable ideas and experiences to contribute to the group. You don't need to be a Bible scholar or faith expert to engage in the conversation. However, you can also choose how much you want to talk and listen and can always pass if you don't want to answer a discussion question.

COMPASS FOR KIDS WELCOMES MINISTRY PARTNERS – Compass for Kids is looking for ministry partners on **Tuesdays from 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.** Westminster hosts this weekly tutoring after school program, Club Compass, for the Graham Elementary students. This community-based program helps develop social-emotional/leadership skills while also giving kids the opportunity to participate in interactive life-skills and enrichment activities. If you would like to be a part of this meaningful outreach, please contact Shelly Kinner by phone at 217-414-7940 or by email at shelly@compassforkids.org.

KNIT 2 PURL 4 MISSION AND FELLOWSHIP gathers **every Tuesday at 1:00 p.m**. in the Second Floor Classroom. Summer is a good time to begin knitting colder weather items for children and adults. We will collect knitted hats, scarves and mittens in late fall and for the Mitten Tree. If there are extreme heat warnings, we encourage people to knit from home out of an abundance of caution. Watch for emails from Mary Jo for any cancellations or contact her at 217-622-8657 with questions. Knitters of any skill level are welcome.

DUNGEONS & DRAGONS A group of intrepid adventurers have been meeting with Dungeon Master Aaron Berkowitz. On the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of **September 2 & 16 at 6:30 p.m.** in the Ziegler Library they'll explore Alexandria, Egypt and prepare for a cruise on a pleasure ship (where nothing bad will happen, I'm sure). They recently completed a quest for the Queen of Sheba and rescued one of the Three Magi in the 1st century AD ancient Near East. If you are interested in joining in, contact Aaron Berkowitz at berkowitz@wpcspi.org.

WESTMINSTER CHOIR resumes regular rehearsals on **Thursday, September 10th at 7:00 p.m.** in the Music Room.

THE ANNUAL CHOIR RETREAT will be on **Saturday, September 12 from 1:30 p.m. until 5:00 p.m.** at the picturesque Indian Point Presbyterian Church, north of Athens. At the retreat we will read through the music for the fall and even into the Advent and Christmas seasons. Following Evensong at the retreat, the choir will share a potluck dinner at the home of Meg and Jim Kontio.

MEN'S BREAKFAST resumes for the fall **on the second Thursday, September 10.** This month will be offsite. Details to come in an email closer to the date.

RUTH AND NAOMI CIRCLE will resume on **Wednesday, September 9 at 7:00 p.m.** at the home of Judy Knox (2004 Maryknoll Pl, 62704). Judy will also lead the discussion of Intro and Chapter 1 in An Alter in the World: A Geography of Faith by Barbara Brown Taylor. RSVP directly to Judy Knox at 217-691-1057.

COMMUNITY EVENT – Join the Sound Celebration Chorus on **Saturday, September 12 from 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.,** at the Hoogland Center for the Arts. Join the chorus for an afternoon of adventure for their program "Radio Hits on Route 66." Tickets can be purchased at www.hcfta.org/tickets

CONFIRMATION PARENT MEETING HOMECOMING SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 13 – Parents and youth are invited to a brief organizational meeting on Homecoming Sunday, **September 13 at 9:30 a.m.** in the Second Floor Classroom with Rev. Sarah Bishop. The purpose of the meeting is to meet one another, to meet the Confirmation Teaching Teams, and to review the 2026-2027 schedule and expectations.

FLU SHOT CLINIC on Sunday, September 13th from 11am - 12pm at WPC in the church office.

- For Ages 3 & Up
- Bring Insurance Card
- High Dose Flu shots for anyone over age 65
- Egg-free shot available for those with allergies
- If you can fill out the form and print ahead of time, please feel free
- Forms will be available for those who are unable to print them out.
- Everyone who receives a vaccine will also be given 20 cents Hy-Vee Fuel Saver

Note: Hy-Vee is only able to administer vaccinations for Shingles, Tdap, Pneumonia and RSV at the store. COVID vaccines have not been approved by the CDC/ACIP yet and no release date has been established.

ALL-CHURCH PICNIC Mark your calendars now! On **Sunday September 13**, we will gather after worship for an All-Church Picnic. Rather than beginning the year with sign-up sheets and displays, we're trying something a little different. We hope the picnic will be a chance to slow down, enjoy one another's company, and have conversations about the many ways God is at work through our shared ministry. Whether you have been here most Sundays or you've been away for a while, we hope you will join us for a relaxed morning together. Wear casual clothes to worship and plan to stay afterwards for food, fellowship, and fun. The picnic will be held in the Parish Hall and, weather permitting, will extend onto the terrace and green spaces. By gathering right after worship, we hope it will be easy for everyone to stay for a little while or spend the whole morning together. ***Would you like to help set-up for the picnic? Click the QR code to sign up!***

SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP – Senior High youth will meet two Sunday evenings each month, beginning **Sunday, September 13 from 5:00 to 6:30 P.M.** in Parish Hall. High School youth will gather in Parish Hall for fellowship/games and dinner followed by Bible Study. Parents are asked to prepare the meal on a rotating basis. Mary Ray will reach out to schedule the meals. Mentors: Rev. Sarah Bishop, Cathy Brower, Susan Day, Kyle Duffy, Mary Ray.

THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

Monday, August 31

Tuesday, September 1

10:30 AM Staff Meeting (2nd Floor Classroom)
1:00 PM Knit 2 Purl 4 (2nd Floor Classroom)
4:00 PM Compass Site Volunteer Training (Parish Hall)
6:00 PM Parent Assistant Orientation (Parish Hall)

Wednesday, September 2

10:30 AM Worship Planning (Pastor's Study)
3:30 PM DBSA Group (3rd Floor Classroom)
5:15 PM Family Ministry (Conference Room)
5:30 PM Mission and Community Service Committee (2nd Floor Classroom)
6:30 PM D & D Group (Library)

Thursday, September 3

12:00 PM WCP Staff Luncheon (Parish Hall)
4:00 PM WPC Pastor at IL Presb Home (Off-site)

Friday, September 4

Saturday, September 5

Sunday, September 6

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Sacrament of Baptism
10:00 AM Worship Service
10:15 AM Summer Sunday School Pre K-5 (Chapel)

WESTMINSTER STAFF

The Reverend Dr. Anne Marshall
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

Sue Sawers, CRE
Interim Care Coordinator

Dr. Aaron Berkowitz
Education Coordinator

Mary A. Ray
Director for Youth

Meleah Berkowitz
Director for Children's Ministry, Westminster Cooperative Preschool, and Music Assistant

Keri Tate, Becky Nika
Cooperative Preschool Teachers

Kara Milward, Erin Winn
Nursery Coordinators

Pat Hymans
Hospitality Coordinator

Lisa Runkle
Financial Administrator

Jennie Alt
Church Administrative Assistant

Gary Warnick
Building and Property Manager

Braden Barton, Terry Gietl, Lamonte Gross, Jerry McCullum
Part-time Custodians