

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THE CHURCH GATHERS ...

When the prelude begins let us quietly prepare for the Worship of God.

PRELUDE Liebster Jesu, wir sind hier, BWV 731 J. S. Bach

Dearest Lord Jesus, We Are Here

OPPORTUNITIES AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

INTROIT (11:00) Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word David Hogan

Lord, keep us steadfast in your Word; Curb those who by deceit or sword Would wrest the kingdom from your Son And bring to nought all he has done.

O Jesus Christ, your pow'r make known, for you are Lord of Lords alone; Defend your holy Church, that we May sing your praise triumphantly.

O Comforter of priceless worth, Send peace and unity on earth; Support us in our final strife And lead us out of death to life.

Martin Luther

Westminster Choristers

CALL TO WORSHIP Phil Barnette (9:00)

Leader: The work of God surrounds us.

People: **We respond with praise.**

Leader: The love of the Lord is real.

People: **We respond with joy!**

Leader: The wind of the Spirit is moving.

People: **We respond with hope.**

Leader: God's constant love reaches beyond all limits.

People: **God's faithfulness touches all creation.**

Leader: We will speak of God's wonders among the people.

People: **We will sing God's praises among the nations.**

TO PRAISE AND CONFESS ...

*HYMN NO. 481 (blue hymnal) Praise the Lord, God's Glories Show

Llanfair

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Gracious God, your ways and thoughts are not ours. What seems to us a lifetime is only a moment with you. In the face of eternity, help us to be patient. If we have prayed only for what seems possible or hoped only for what we can see, expand our spirit. If we have taken your grace for granted or offered only urgent requests expecting immediate answers, forgive our arrogance. If we have allowed waiting for your kingdom to become lethargy, or waiting on your Spirit to become apathy, make us humble. If we have wondered how long we must wait on you yet never pondered how you wait on us, forgive us.

*RESPONSE Take, O Take Me as I Am John L. Bell

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Friends, believe the Good News!

People: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

*RESPONSE Celtic Alleluia (*sing twice*) Fintan O'Carroll

TO EXPERIENCE GOD'S WORD AND RESPOND ...

EPISTLE READING I Peter 5:1-5

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN (11:00) Ellen Anderson

Children age 4 through 3rd grade are invited to go downstairs and participate in Children's Worship. A nursery is available during the entire service for infants through age 3.

SCRIPTURE READING Exodus 2:1-10;15:19-21

SERMON "Miriam: Shining in the Shadow" Rev. John Linton Muntz

"I sent before you Moses, Aaron and Miriam" – Micah 6:4

*HYMN NO. 179 (blue hymnal) God Is My Strong Salvation (Psalm 27) *Christus, der ist mein Leben*

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Unison)

God created the heavens and the earth and made human beings in God's image, charging them to care for all that lives. God made men and women to live in community, responding to their Creator with grateful obedience. God was incarnate in Jesus Christ, who announced good news to the poor, proclaimed release for prisoners and recovery of sight to the blind, let broken victims go free, and proclaimed the year of the Lord's favor. Jesus came to seek and save the lost; in his life and death for others, God's redeeming love for all was made visible, and in the resurrection of Jesus Christ there is assurance of God's victory over sin and death and the promise of God's continuing presence in the world.

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.)

THE OFFERING

Please sign and pass the Friendship Register found on the pew nearest the center aisle.

If you would like to receive our newsletter or more information about the church, include your address, phone number and email address. As many of us contribute electronically or by a check in the mail, 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) Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word David Hogan
(The text is found at the Introit.)

(11:00) Jubilate Deo in B-flat C. V. Stanford
O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands: serve the Lord with gladness, and come before His presence with a song. Be ye sure that the Lord He is God: it is He that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture. O go your way into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise: be thankful unto Him, and speak good of His Name. For the Lord is gracious, His mercy is everlasting and His truth endureth from generation to generation. 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.

Psalm 100

***AT THE PRESENTATION** Doxology *Lasst uns erfreuen*
Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures here below; alleluia; Praise him above, ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

TO GO FORTH AND SERVE ...

***HYMN NO. 332** (blue hymnal) (11:00) Live Into Hope *Truro*

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE NO. 586** (blue hymnal) Amen Danish melody

***POSTLUDE** Dies sind die heiligen zehn Gebot Johann Gottfried Walther
These Are the Holy Ten Commandments

*Indicates standing.

NOW THE SERVICE BEGINS

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR TODAY

WELCOME TO ALL WHO WORSHIP here today.

PASTORAL CARE ELDERS FOR THE WEEK are Judy Jorden and Michael Yates.

CARE TEAM COORDINATOR FOR SEPTEMBER: Janice Rawe

ACOLYTES (11:00): Laura Mjekiqi and Jason Frederick

GREETERS (11:00): Lennis McCartha and June Martin

CHILDREN’S WORSHIP:

(9:00) Nursery Staff

(11:00) Robert and Leslie James, Eva and Frances James

MINISTRY OF MUSIC:

(9:00) Westminster Choristers

(11:00) Chancel Choir and Westminster Choristers

SENIOR USHER: Dave Woehr

USHERS:

(9:00) Daniel Berry and Suzanne Graham

(11:00) Scott Brunger, Bill and Jane Beintema, Joanne and Ralph White

FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY are given by Wes, Sandra and Spencer Williams in celebration of the 50th wedding anniversary today of Sandra’s parents, Ronald and Margaret Dutton.

MUCH OF THIS MORNING’S MUSIC ties into the designation of this Sunday by the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) as “Theological Education/Seminary Sunday.” References to the Word and to the Ten Commandments are found in the prelude (the chorale text includes this in its first phrase) and postlude, and Martin Luther’s text, set in the introit, is a wonderful summation of our faith, trust, and hope. It is a delightful coincidence (perhaps providence) that the JoAnn Reafsnnyder Memorial Library was dedicated just this week! We have also just begun our Christian Education offerings for the fall.

DOCKETS are available for current session elders in the Narthex of the Sanctuary for the September 26 session meeting.

Tuesday’s “BLT”: If you plan to attend Dr. Phillips’ class this week, you may prepare by reading the first parable we will be discussing, found in **Mark 4:1-20 – The Parable of the Fourfold Soil**. Bring your brown bag lunch and join us this Tuesday at noon in the McKinnon Room for our first Bible...Lunch...Tuesdays.

CHURCH DIRECTORY NEWS

Online registration for church directory photos begins tomorrow afternoon. We will send the sign-up information by email when our account set-up has been completed. Online sign-ups will be available from September 20 through October 7. You can also sign up while at church on October 10, 17 and 24.

Our photography dates are November 1, 2, 22 and 23 from 2:00-9:20 p.m.; December 2 and 3 from 2:00-9:20 p.m.; and December 4 from 9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Each family that participates will receive one free 8X10 portrait and a church directory.

A new feature with this directory is OM Plus+, which allows us to have a password-protected directory online. Members will have access to the directory, and church staff will be able to make regular updates, such as phone number and address changes. Please make plans to participate so that we can create a complete, up-to-date and user friendly directory for our WPC family.

Wednesdays With Westminster (WWW or W³)

It is almost time to start a new season of WWW and we know you will want to come and enjoy the food, fun and fellowship. It is easy to participate, and no previous experience is required. All you have to do is show up and take part in the activities. Here is what we have planned for

Wednesday, September 22 for all ages:

5:45 p.m. – Dinner

You do not need to make reservations, and the dinner is free unless you want to make a donation at the door.

6:30-7:30 p.m. – Activities

A nursery is available for infants through age 4, and programs for ages 5 through 5th grade.

For all middle schoolers, high schoolers and adults we will have these choices:

Inside activity – Ginny Baker, our Director of Christian Formation and Lay Ministries, will speak to us about her background and vision, with time for questions and answers.

Outside activities – Choose from frisbee, bocce ball, corn hole, ladder ball, touch football or kickball. If it rains, we will have inside board games.

So, here is what you need to do. Mark your calendar for September 22 at 5:45 p.m. and come join your friends and Westminster family for WWW. You won't want to miss it!

MEN'S THURSDAY FELLOWSHIP: Start your day off right with breakfast, fellowship and a short study session. On Thursday, September 23 at 7:00 a.m., we will meet in the McKinnon Room for a meal prepared by Bud Cunningham and a short discussion-oriented lesson prepared by John Muntz. If you want to review the lesson ahead of time, you can have Renee email you the lesson or you can pick up a hard copy in the church office. Everyone is welcome. Come join us and bring a friend.

Adult Sunday School Classes

Contemporary Issues (Fellowship Hall)

Pat Chastain, a founding member of the Lindquist Environmental Appalachian Fellowship (LEAF), will show a brief video and lead a discussion about mountaintop removal in Appalachia and why Christians should be involved in the struggle against it.

Mountaintop Removal in Appalachia

Faith Topics (McKinnon Room)

We will discuss Chapter 1 of *Soul Feast*, entitled "The Spiritual Yearning of Our Time." In this book Marjorie Thompson offers guidance and help to those who wish to explore the riches of Christian spirituality.

Soul Feast, by Marjorie Thompson

Special Topics (Library)

Today we study Chapters 1-3, an overview of the importance of helping children learn to take responsibility. It describes what a maturing child with boundaries looks like, as well as how a parent with boundaries behaves and relates.

Boundaries With Kids, by Dr. Henry Cloud and Dr. John Thompson

Bible Experience (Prayer Room)

"The book of Psalms is the hymnbook and prayer book for the Bible. Composed by different authors over a long period of time, these hymns and prayers were collected and used by the people of Israel in their worship, and eventually this collection was included in their Scriptures. The Psalms were used by Jesus, quoted by the writers of the New Testament, and became the treasured book of worship of the Christian Church from its beginning." – *Good News Bible*

Psalms in Scripture and Song

FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST IN THE SMOKIES is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. October 2nd at the Metcalf Bottoms Picnic area. Sign-ups will be posted soon!

THE PEACEMAKING OFFERING will be collected on Sunday, October 3. Fifty percent of your gift goes to the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program, which offers many activities, including conferences and other educational events. Twenty-five percent is used by our congregation for local peace work, and the remaining twenty-five percent goes to presbyteries and synods. Please see the insert in today's bulletin for more information.

RACE FOR THE CURE: Westminster Tribe Alive will be participating in this year's Race for the Cure event to be held **Saturday, October 30** at World's Fair Park. Please join us for either the Family Fun 1 mile walk or the 5K run...or, if you prefer, "Sleep In" for the Cure! Meredith Mackay and Kathryn Oakes have volunteered to lead the team again and are happy to answer any questions anyone might have. You can sign up online at www.komenknoxville.com. Go to "Register Online" and under Team select "Westminster Tribe Alive." We look forward to seeing you all on Race Day!

THE DIAPER ROUND-UP is **today** from **3:00-5:00 p.m.** Please join us for an afternoon of fun and food as we collect diapers for the FISH pantry. We need diapers in size medium or large, or gift cards for major chain stores. Thank you for helping to provide for this need in our community.