

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THE CHURCH GATHERS ...

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

PRELUDE Préambule (from *24 Pieces in Free Style*)

Louis Vierne

OPPORTUNITIES AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth. Worship the LORD with gladness; come into God’s presence with singing.

People: **For the LORD is good; God’s steadfast love endures forever, and God’s faithfulness to all generations.**

TO PRAISE AND CONFESS ...

***HYMN NO. 478** (blue hymnal) Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

Lauda anima

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (Unison)

Merciful God, we confess that 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 and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

***KYRIE ELEISON NO. 574** (blue hymnal)

arr. David N. Johnson

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Leader: Friends, believe the Good News!

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

***RESPONSE** Gloria Patri No. 579 (blue hymnal)

Henry W. Greatorex

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.

TO EXPERIENCE GOD’S WORD AND RESPOND ...

SCRIPTURE READING

Romans 13:8-14

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

Ginny Baker

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 12:1-14; Matthew 18:15-20

SERMON

“I am there among them...”

Rev. Dr. Buran Phillips

***HYMN NO. 501** (blue hymnal) Bread of Heaven, on Thee We Feed

Arfon

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (Unison)

The Apostles’ Creed (Traditional)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his 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.

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. Though 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 Laetabitur justus in Domino

Gerald Near

(from *Three Eucharistic Motets*)

Laetabitur justus in Domino, et sperabit in eo: alleluia.

The righteous shall be glad in the Lord, and shall trust in him; and all the upright in heart shall glory. Alleluia.

Psalm 64:10

***AT THE PRESENTATION** Doxology No. 591 (blue hymnal)

Tallis’ Canon

(Sung to the tune of Hymn No. 542 (blue hymnal))

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all people here below; Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

THE THANKSGIVING

Minister: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE ... The Lord's Prayer

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING THE SACRAMENT

Beginning from the front of the sanctuary, we will come forward by the center aisle, take or tear a morsel of bread and dip it into the chalice before partaking. We return to the pew by the side aisle.

MUSIC FOR COMMUNION O Lamm Gottes unschuldig Georg Philipp Telemann

O Lamb of God, Pure and Holy

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (Unison)

Gracious God, you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. You have fed us with the bread of life, and renewed us for your service. Help us who have shared Christ's body and received his cup, to be his faithful disciples so that our daily living may be part of the life of your kingdom, and our love be your love reaching out into the life of the world; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

TO GO FORTH AND SERVE ...

***HYMN NO. 228** (red hymnal) Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Beecher

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

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

Danish melody

***POSTLUDE** Ricercare

Floriano Arresti

*Indicates standing.

NOW THE SERVICE BEGINS

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR TODAY

WELCOME TO ALL WHO WORSHIP here today.

PASTORAL CARE ELDERS FOR THE WEEK are Anne Millett and Don Byerly.

CARE TEAM COORDINATORS FOR SEPTEMBER: Sue Byerly and Judy Jorden

LARGE PRINT HYMNALS are available from the ushers.

SERVING TODAY

ACOLYTE: Joseph Hutzenbiler

GREETERS: Lucy and Buz Johnson

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP: Nursery Staff, Emma Adamcik

MINISTRY OF MUSIC: Summer Choir

LEMONADE FELLOWSHIP: The Bendy Family

SENIOR USHER: Tom Byerley

USHERS: Tim Ryan, Joanne White, Ralph White, Rob McKeehan, Joe Ben Turner

FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY are given by Rick and Janice Rawe in celebration of their 49th wedding anniversary.

TWO-CENTS-A-MEAL collection is **today**. We bring this offering each "First Sunday," as our share in maintaining the Volunteer Ministry Center of Knoxville. The average monthly cost to serve breakfast and lunch is \$200. Your support is greatly appreciated!

NAME TAG SUNDAY is today. Please fill out a name tag in the Narthex.

THIS MORNING'S MUSIC FOR COMMUNION is an expressive setting of the German chorale by Nikolaus Decius, who wrote both the text and melody in 1541. Telemann's textures pull the listener into the depth of the organ tone (played this morning on the 8' Principal) and the text: "O Lamb of God most holy! Who on the cross didst suffer, And patient still and lowly, Thyself to scorn didst offer; Our sins by Thee were taken, Or hope had us forsaken: Have mercy on us, Jesus."

THE CHURCH OFFICE will be closed Monday, September 5th for the Labor Day holiday. We will reopen at 9:00 a.m. on September 6th.

REMEMBER HOW MUCH YOU ENJOYED STORY TIME AT THE LIBRARY? Esther Htang and her children need a ride to story time at the main branch of the public library on Wednesday or Thursday mornings until September 29. Story time begins at 10:20 a.m. This is a great English language opportunity for the family, and a room full of happy toddlers will put a smile on your face, too. Please contact Sue Murrian if you can help.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST: Start your day off right with breakfast, fellowship and a short study session. On Thursday, September 8 at 7:00 a.m. we will meet in the McKinnon Room for a breakfast prepared by Don Byerly and a discussion-oriented lesson prepared by Tim Crais. If you have not been to the Thursday fellowship breakfast, come join us. We would love to have you. If you want to review the lesson ahead of time, just pick up a hard copy in the church office or ask the office to email the lesson to you. Everyone is welcome.

FISH delivery is Thursday, September 8. If you are able to help make deliveries, please contact Nancy Cundall (405-3828). The number of families receiving bags of groceries is **totally** dependent on the number of Westminster volunteers. **YOU are needed!**

OUR REGULAR WORSHIP SCHEDULE resumes next Sunday, September 11. Worship services are at 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. The Sunday School hour is at 10:00 a.m.

CAP (Caring for Aging Parents): The CAP support group will meet in the Library immediately after the 11:00 a.m. worship service on Sunday, September 11.

OPEN HOUSE **Sunday, September 11**

10:00 a.m.

On Sunday, September 11 during the Sunday School hour, we will have Open House here at WPC. Danish and coffee will be served in the McKinnon room beginning at 10:00 a.m. We will also be returning to our regular worship schedule, with services at 9:00 and 11:00 a.m.

Open House (formerly Rally Day) will be a showcase of all the wonderful ministries that our church is involved with, from our Ministry Teams to book clubs, art groups, FISH volunteers, Habitat House, and more. Please visit the tables in the Schilling Gallery, where representatives of varied groups will demonstrate the scope of their activities. You will have the opportunity to volunteer with the group of your choice.

Children in Preschool through High School will go to their classrooms for the first 20 minutes to meet their teachers and share juice and donuts.

We are looking forward to an exciting year with Sunday School, Wednesdays with Westminster, choirs, small groups and book studies. Come join us as we celebrate and learn how to connect faith and life.

SPIRITUAL GIFTS: Have you thought about the term "spiritual gifts"? Have you considered what gifts you have been given? Do you think consciously about the gifts others seem to have been given? If you have experienced any of these questions, you may be interested in a class to be held on Wednesday evenings, beginning September 21st, from 6:30-8:00 p.m. in the Prayer Room. The class is sponsored by our Companions in Christ class, and all are welcome. It is an eight week commitment designed for an in-depth study of spiritual gifts, guided by a curriculum developed by the Stephen Ministries program in St. Louis, Missouri. Materials will include a participant's manual and two small workbooks for a cost of \$16. Please let the church office know by September 5th if you plan to attend, so we can have your materials shipped in time for the class. Come join the group and be a part of a dynamic exploration having significant benefit for all participants.

WOMEN OF WESTMINSTER **Dinner and Fellowship** **Tuesday, September 6 – 6:00 p.m.**

Women of Westminster are invited to enjoy dinner and fellowship at Bravo's Italian Restaurant, 106 Major Reynolds Place (Kingston Pike at Bearden Hill). In order to allow the restaurant to set up for us, please contact Carlene Robinson if you plan to attend.

DID YOU KNOW?

Twenty-two of our youth worked for a week this summer (8 hour days, in sweltering heat!) repairing, repainting and refreshing a large home in Mechanicsville. With the help of our generous, patient and skillful Westminster mentors, our youth transformed Ms. Ruby's home and inspired the entire neighborhood. They got to know neighbors, too. While the finishing touches were being put on the job (planting a garden, hanging a new screen door and artistically painting a birdbath), two of the boys decided they wanted to do more. After locating a mower and an industrial weed-eater, they took care of Ms. Ruby's lawn and the overgrown lawn of her next-door neighbor, Ms. Loretta. Our youth showed us once again how to make the world a better place by wisely using their time and talents in service to others.