

The Order of Worship

**September 11, 2011
9:00 and 11:00 A.M.**

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THE CHURCH GATHERS ...

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

PRELUDE Canzona

Franz Tunder

OPPORTUNITIES AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 117

Leader: Praise the LORD, all you nations! Praise God, all you peoples!

People: For great is God’s steadfast love toward us, and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever.

ALL: Praise the LORD!

TO PRAISE AND CONFESS ...

***HYMN NO. 482** (blue hymnal) Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty

Lobe den Herren

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (Unison)

Gracious God, hear our confession as a community of faith. Forgive our lack of gratitude in times of calm and our lack of faithfulness in stormy times. Heal the brokenness that separates us one from another and from our own best selves. Rescue us from the fears that cause us to be less than you have created us to be. Turn us from quarrels that hurt and destroy. Grant us new depths of caring for others. Lead us to be more faithful stewards of your creation. This we pray in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***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 ...

SCRIPTURE READING

Exodus 14:19-31

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN (11:00)

Kristi Gordon

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

Romans 14:7-12; Matthew 18:21-35

SERMON

“A Way Out of No Way ”

Rev. Dr. Buran Phillips

***HYMN NO. 347** (blue hymnal) Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive

Detroit

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (Unison)

A Brief Statement of Faith PC(U.S.A.)

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit.

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God’s image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community.

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers.

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives.

With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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. 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

(9:00) Thanks Be to God

Andreas Hammerschmidt

Thanks be to God, O be joyful. God is faithful, O praise the Lord. God is good; God’s mercy lasts forever. Praise the Lord. O be joyful, O praise the Lord.

based on Psalm 136:1

(11:00) Peace I Leave with You

Walter L. Pelz

Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth give I unto you.

Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

John 14:27

***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. 437** (red hymnal) (11:00) My Country, 'Tis of Thee *America*
***CHARGE AND BEDICTION**
***BENEDICTION RESPONSE** (9:00) An Irish Blessing Paul Laubengayer
May the road rise up to meet you, may the wind be always at your back, may the sun shine warm upon your face and the rain fall softly on your fields. Until we meet again may God hold you in the palm of His hand.
Traditional
***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE NO. 586** (blue hymnal) (11:00) Amen Danish melody
***POSTLUDE** Praeambulium in d, WV 33 Heinrich Scheidemann

*Indicates standing.

NOW THE SERVICE BEGINS

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR TODAY

WELCOME TO ALL WHO WORSHIP here today.
PASTORAL CARE ELDERS FOR THE WEEK are Laura Dupper and Wes Williams.
CARE TEAM COORDINATORS FOR SEPTEMBER: Sue Byerly and Judy Jorden
LARGE PRINT HYMNALS are available from the ushers.

SERVING TODAY

ACOLYTE (11:00): Max Yates
GREETERS (11:00): Joe Ben and Robin Turner
CHILDREN'S WORSHIP:
(9:00) Childcare through age 5
(11:00) Cameron Sears and Nancy Duckles, Aidan and Delaney Sears
MINISTRY OF MUSIC:
(9:00) Westminster Choristers
(11:00) Chancel Choir

SENIOR USHER: Tom Byerley

USHERS:

(9:00) Daniel Berry and Suzanne Graham
(11:00) Jane Beintema, Bill Beintema, Ellen Anderson, Brian Bonnyman, Rex Battenberg

FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY are given by Marlene Browning in memory of Larry.

WELCOME TO OPEN HOUSE DAY!

Danish and coffee will be served beginning at 10:00 a.m. Tables are set up in the Schilling Gallery to showcase Westminster's ministries and activities. You will have the opportunity to volunteer with the group of your choice.

THIS MORNING'S ANTHEM by the Chancel Choir is sung in remembrance of the victims of the September 11 attacks. We continue to yearn and pray for peace, yet each day we are confronted with more violence. Despite our efforts for more security, stability, and justice for all God's people, the work is never-ending and we find we must rely on God's peace, a peace that transcends our traditional understanding of it.

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

MINISTRY TEAM NIGHT is Tuesday, September 13. The Human Resources and Stewardship teams will provide refreshments.

THE ABBEY DEADLINE is Wednesday. Please send your articles to unitedprinters@comcast.net.

THE DEADLINE IS TUESDAY, September 13 to sign up for the LeConte hike next July. The Fellowship team will be deciding whether to keep all of our spots based on interest from the congregation. The deposit is \$50 to reserve a space.

FAMILIES WITH YOUNG CHILDREN are invited to a luncheon next Sunday, September 18 following the 11:00 a.m. worship service. We will have lunch in the Fellowship Hall, followed by games and the bounce house in the courtyard. Please bring a side dish or dessert, and we will provide the drinks and sandwiches. RSVP to Angela Grobe at angela_wpc@comcast.net.

WEDNESDAYS WITH WESTMINSTER returns on September 21st. Dinner will be provided by Team 1 of our new Loaves and Fishes ministry. The youth will share with us their experiences this past summer at Montreat and Operation Back Yard.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

September 18, 10:00 a.m.

Bible Experience

Prayer Room

This Bible Study class is led by Ellen Anderson and Scott Brunger.

Faith and Transformation Class

McKinnon Room

Searching for Spirituality

September 18-October 16

"Spirituality is concerned with how to live a full life... illuminated by a compelling search for wholeness," says Joan Chittister, Benedictine nun, teacher, author and sociologist. But amid life's daily routines and dramas (traffic, deadlines, shuttling the kids, emergencies), how does one live well? This DVD series offers direction for that search. Chittister, along with six other seekers, explores 10 attributes that form a Christian spiritual life. In each class we will view part of the DVD and have time for personal reflection and group sharing.

Parents' Spiritual Growth Group

Library

Members who are parenting children of any age will meet with one another to discuss a range of parenting issues as well as the joy and challenge of cultivating one's spirituality in the midst of chaos and busy-ness. The class will use both video series and book studies to stimulate discussion, create a culture of introspection, and foster bonds of friendship. Participants will have opportunities to facilitate discussion as well as choose topics of interest. This class will be ongoing, delving into new books and studies as well as revisiting popular studies from previous Sunday School years.

Current Topics

Fellowship Hall

Haiti's Pact with the Devil?

September 18

Guest speaker: Dr. Bertin Louis, Ph.D. Assistant Professor, Anthropology and Africana Studies, The University of Tennessee

This class will address the concept of *Bwa Kayiman*, or Haitian Protestant Views of Vodou and the future of post-Earthquake Haiti. It will also explore Pat Robertson's comments about Haiti being cursed, how Haitian Protestants in the Bahamas and Haiti hold a similar view, and the implications of this counter-hegemonic interpretation of Haitian history with regard to the future of post-Earthquake Haiti.

Did You Know?

This past June, 15 adults and youth from Westminster went on a week-long mission trip to the Dominican Republic. Of our group, 12 were first-timers for participating in an international mission trip. While in the Dominican, one team treated over 800 patients at multiple eyeglass clinics. In order to better meet the needs of patients, the eyeglass team set up the clinic in a different location each day. The team worked with optometrists from New York, Texas, and North Dakota. While the Eyeglass clinic was going on, the other team was installing a Reverse Osmosis water purification system at the farm co-op where we had installed a standard system a couple of years ago. Since then, the water quality of the well they were using declined to the point where an upgrade was needed. The new system is up and running. As part of the experience, the group stayed in homes of the Azua Lion's Club. The Dominican Republic mission trip is another example of Westminster members showing good stewardship of their time, talent, passion, enthusiasm, energy, and commitment. Thanks to our 15 volunteers in mission.

THE PEACEMAKING OFFERING will be received on World Communion Sunday, October 2, 2011. This offering was created in 1980 to support the efforts of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) to live out a deeper commitment to peacemaking as part of our faithfulness to God. Twenty-five percent of your gifts will be used for peacemaking within our own church and community. Another twenty-five percent is used by presbyteries and synods, with the remaining fifty percent used by the General Assembly ministries through the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program. More information can be found on the PC(U.S.A.) website at www.pcusa.org/peacemakingoffering.

MARK THE FOLLOWING FALL STEWARDSHIP ACTIVITIES ON YOUR CALENDAR

Neighborhood Group Meetings

From the middle of September to the middle of October, attend a get-together of your neighborhood group for good fellowship and a dialog on what stewardship means to you and to Westminster Church.

Congregation Lunch

On October 30th, join other Westminster members in Fellowship Hall after the 11:00 a.m. service for lunch, then move back to the Sanctuary to listen to a few testimonials about what it means to be a member of Westminster Church.

Dedication Sunday

On November 6th, bring your stewardship pledge to the 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. services, signifying your financial commitment to the work and mission of Westminster Church for 2012.

For more information, contact Buz Johnson.