



Westminster Presbyterian Church



October 22, 2023 | 8:30 a.m. / 11:00 a.m.

THE *Celebration* OF *Worship*

*Please rise in body or in spirit.

WE GATHER TOGETHER

Prelude

Psalm Nine

Carl Wiltse

The Heavens Are Telling
Westminster Ringers and Jim Burns, piano

arr. Martha Thompson

Welcome and Announcements

*Share the Peace of Christ

*Call to Worship

Leader: In this sacred hour of worship
when we name things for what they really are,

People: we give to God what is God's.

Leader: Between the demands of this last week
and the demands of the one ahead,

People: we give to God what is God's.

Leader: With open hearts and hands and minds,
every innate gift from our loving Creator,

People: we give to God what is God's.

*Opening Hymn No. 14

For the Beauty of the Earth
verses 1, 2, 4, and 5

DIX

*Prayer of Confession

Save us, O God, from the blindness, which is not even aware that it is sinning;
from the pride, which cannot admit that it is wrong;
from the self-will, which can see nothing but its own way;
from the self-righteousness, which can see no flaw within itself;
from the callousness, which has sinned so often that it has ceased to care;
from the heart so hardened that it cannot repent.
Grant us your forgiveness, so that we may find that your love is
great enough to cover all our sin.

(A time of silence for personal confession)

*Assurance of God's Love and Forgiveness

Leader: Friends, believe the good news.
People: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

*Sung Response (Hymn No. 300)

We Are One in the Spirit
verse 1

Prayer of the People

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Congregational Response

THREEFOLD AMEN

WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Lesson

Matthew 22:15-22

New Testament, pages 24-25

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

Sermon

The Strategy for Trick Questions

Asa Lee

WE OFFER OUR GRATITUDE

Offertory Anthem

Total Praise

Richard Smallwood

Lord, I will lift my eyes to the hills, knowing my help is coming from you.
Your peace you give in time of the storm.
You are the source of my strength. You are the strength of my life.
I lift my hands in total praise to you. Amen.

*Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

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

*Prayer of Dedication

WE GO OUT TO SERVE

*Closing Hymn No. 697

Take My Life
verses 1, 4, 5, and 6

HENDON

*Benediction

*Benediction Response

A Closing Prayer

Don Besig

The time has come, O Lord, for us to leave this place.
Guide us and protect us and lead us in thy grace.
Wherever life may take us as we go our separate ways,
help us share with others the things we've shared today.
May the peace of God, the Father, and the love of Christ, His Son,
Guide us in the days ahead and strengthen us each one.
May the blessings of the spirit fill us from within;
God bless us and return us to the fellowship once again. Amen.

Postlude

Canzonetta in G Major

Dietrich Buxtehude

Leading in worship: Asa Lee, Faith Kemmler, Jim Burns, Christine Hestwood, Jim Marshall, Westminster Ringers, the Quartet, and the Chancel Choir.

Guest Preacher: Reverend Dr. Asa Lee



Today we welcome the **Reverend Dr. Asa Lee** to the pulpit. Dr. Lee serves as president and professor of theological formation for ministry at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, a position he has held since 2021.

Before coming to Pittsburgh, he served for eight years at Wesley Theological Seminary as assistant director of programs for the church leadership center, associate dean for community life, director of African American Church Studies, and vice president for campus administration. During this same span, he served for 10 years as assistant pastor and minister of Christian education for Mt. Olive Baptist Church in Arlington, Va., and was previously the minister of worship and arts for St. John Baptist Church in Columbia, Md. Dr. Lee holds membership in the American Academy of Religion, the Religious Education

Association, and the Association of Leadership Educators, and he is the acting president of the FaithJustice Foundation. He holds degrees from Virginia Theological Seminary, Wesley Theological Seminary, and Hampton University. Dr. Lee is an ordained minister in the Progressive National Baptist Convention.

Prayers of Concern and Thanksgiving

We celebrate with joy the birth of Troy Edward, son of Katie and Ben Fraudin, grandson of John and Betty McGuire, great-grandson of Hester Joseph.

The congregation extends condolences to John Steffick on the death of his wife, Jeanette; and to Barbara Cox, Carrie Golvash, and Jason Cox, on the passing of Carrie and Jason's father, Philip Cox.

Congregational Meeting - Sunday, October 29

The meeting will be immediately following each of the three worship services*, when the Nominating Committee will present the nominations for Session, Board of Deacons, Nominating Committee, and Endowment and Special Gifts Committees. Nominations currently include:

Elders Class of 2026

Tom Few
Carol Galbreath
Melanie Hallums
Bill Ludwig
Allison McGee
Tony Price
Denise Rost
Roberta Sarraf
Claire Thornburgh

*The congregational meeting will be convened at the end of each of the three worship services so that everyone can participate. A brief town hall will also be offered following each service to provide a financial update.

Endowment & Special Gifts Class of 2027

Don Baumann
Von Campanella

Deacons Class of 2026

Karen Beisner
Lynn Boucek
Ruth Colletti
Sue Davis
Nancy Nunley
James Roberts
Lindsay Senge
Flo Van Cara Sheap

Deacons Class of 2024 (Youth)

Ryan Ranalli
Danny Shanholtzer

Nominating Committee 2024 At-large Members

Megan Exley
Deborah Lee
Tammy Singleton-English
Carrie Kushner
Laura Rhoa
Marta McClintock-Comeaux

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Worthy Notes and Upcoming Events



Westminster Seminars

Everyday Saints: Keeping the Faith in Hard Times

Sundays, Today – November 12 | 9:45 a.m. | Galbreath Chapel

John P. Burgess, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary

The series explores the stories of ordinary Christians who have kept—and even deepened—their faith in resistance to earthly “powers and principalities” (such as communism, racism, bureaucratic indifference). How do their examples inspire us to live with integrity today in the face of the social and political ideologies that try to control us?

Read more and find the Zoom link on the church website.



Women Belonging Retreat

November 10–11 | 6:30 p.m. Friday to 3:00 p.m. Saturday (overnight)
Spiritan Center in Bethel Park | Register at bit.ly/WomenBelongingRetreat
Please register by **TODAY!**

Join an intentionally intergenerational group of women reigniting, reviving, and reimagining women's ministry at Westminster. Stay overnight for a retreat at the Spiritan Center in Bethel Park to pray over Acts 2:42-47. Come take your seat at the table as we pray, eat, walk, talk, and work to discern where God is calling us as the women of Westminster.



Veritas Catacombs

Friday, October 27 | 7:00 p.m. - midnight | Meet at Yahweh Café

Students in 7th-12th grade are invited to one of our most popular events, Catacombs! This churchwide game of hide and seek with a biblical history is a crowd favorite as we explore the depths of the building in the dark.

Register by the end of **TODAY** on the church website. Contact Becky Boyer at boyer@westminster-church.org with any questions.

RESCHEDULED: Inquirers' Gathering

Sunday, November 5 | 2:00 p.m. | Room 283 | For more info, contact Jan Baumann

THS TOWN HALL
SOUTH
SPEAKER SERIES



2023 | 2024 DAYTIME
SPEAKER SERIES



Lynsey Addario
November 7, 2023



Ruth Reichl
December 5, 2023



Kobie Boykins
February 6, 2024



Henry Winkler
March 19, 2024



Douglas Brinkley
April 9, 2024

The 2023-2024 season of the Town Hall Speaker Series begins Tuesday, November 7, 2023, with Pulitzer Prize-Winning Photojournalist Lynsey Addario.

Additional speakers include: Ruth Reichl (James Beard Award-Winning Writer and Culinary Icon); Kobie Boykins (NASA Lead Principal Engineer); Henry Winkler (Actor, Producer, Director, Best Selling Author); Douglas Brinkley (American Historian, Best Selling Author, CNN Presidential Historian).

Lectures begin at 10:00 a.m. at the USCHS Theater. Please visit townhallsouth.org to purchase tickets.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (continued)



Register NOW for the next session of Fall fitness programs!

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us" - Hebrews 12:1

Join us at the WROC for physical and spiritual strength!

- Barre Sculpt
- Burn and Sculpt
- Cardio Strength Fusion
- Flow (Vinyasa) Yoga
- Parkinson's Fitness – Keep Moving with Boxing
- Stronger Bones/Better Balance
- Yoga4Cancer
- Zumba



Refugee Resettlement 2024

Sunday, November 5 | Following 11:00 worship | Room 231

Westminster is planning to sponsor another refugee family in early 2024. The new team is forming! Learn details about the project at a meeting after the 11:00 service on November 5 in Room 231. A second meeting will be held online at 7:00 p.m. on November 5. Find the Zoom link at: <https://www.westminster-church.org/events/event-list/refugee-resettlement-project>. If you are unable to attend either meeting or if you have questions, contact Sandy and Paul Conley, or Susan and John Van Cleve.



Veritas' Annual Thanksgiving Food Drive

Wednesday, November 8 | 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. | North Entry

Help us to serve the community - It's time for Veritas' Annual Thanksgiving Food Drive! Bring your donations of non-perishable food items or monetary donations in cash or check on Wednesday, November 8, between 6:00 and 7:30 p.m. to meet our students and support our neighbors along the way. Please contact Ed Sutter for any questions.



John Rutter's Requiem

Sunday, November 12 | 11:00 a.m. worship | Sanctuary

Featuring the Chancel Choir and flute, oboe, cello, percussion, harp and organ, Rutter wrote his requiem in 1985 to be "intimate rather than grandiose, contemplative and lyric rather than dramatic, and ultimately moving towards light rather than darkness - the 'lux aeterna' of the closing text." John Rutter's Requiem is not strictly a setting of the Requiem Mass. His Requiem is a musical setting of sections of the Requiem Mass, the Book of Common Prayer, and the Psalms. Mark your calendars and join us for this special worship service.

THIS WEEK @ WESTMINSTER

OCT 22-29, 2023



Scan here for complete church calendar



Scan here for a full WROC schedule & information

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22

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|-------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 8:30 | Traditional Worship | North Courtyard |
| 9:00 | Welcome Center | North Main Entry |
| 9:45 | Bridge Contemporary Worship | WROC/Lvstrm. |
| | Bridge Sunday School (PreK-4th Grd.) | Rm. 176 |
| | Wiggle Room - The Bridge** | WROC Fitness |
| | Westminster Seminars | Galbreath Chapel |
| 11:00 | Traditional Worship | Sanctuary/Lvstrm. |
| | Wiggle Room** | Rm. 239 |
| | Sunday School (PreK-4th Grade) | Rm. 233 |
| | Bring Your Own Bible (BYOB) | Yahweh Café |
| | Confirmation Class 2023-2024 | Rm. 283 |
| 7:00 | Youth Choir (Grades 7 - 12) | Rm. 268 |

***Sunday School** – 9:45 a.m., dismissed from worship after children’s message; 11:00 a.m., report directly to Room 233. A time for children in PreK through 4th grade to explore the Bible, enjoy fellowship together, and grow in their faith.

****Wiggle Room** – 9:45 - Upstairs WROC Fitness Room; 8:30/11:00 - Room 239. Available to **families with children from birth through age 3** who would prefer a separate space to step away while listening to the worship service. Please see an usher if you need help finding the Wiggle Room.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 23

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|-------|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| 12:00 | AA | Fellowship Hall |
| 6:00 | Cub Scout Den Meeting | Rm. 107 |
| 7:00 | Deacon Meeting | Rm. 290 |
| | Grace Westminster Book Club | Zoom |

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24

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|-------|-----------------------------|---------|
| 7:00 | Tuesday Morning Men’s Group | Rm. 238 |
| 8:45 | THS Board Meeting | Rm. 231 |
| 10:00 | Staff Meeting | Rm. 238 |
| 6:00 | Pittsburgh Youth Chorus | Rm. 268 |
| 7:30 | Scout Troop 366 | Rm. 107 |

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25

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|-------|--|------------------|
| 12:00 | Westminster Book Group | Library |
| 4:30 | Haiti Pen Pal Project Meeting | Rm. 238 |
| 4:45 | Little Ones & Loved Ones | Rm. 194 |
| | Cherub Choir (Grades K-2) | Rm. 176 |
| | Junior Choir (Grades 3 - 6) | Rm. 268 |
| 5:30 | Wednesday Food & Fellowship | Fellowship Hall |
| 6:00 | Kids' Connection (PreK-2nd Grd) | Rm. 233 |
| | Kids' Connection (3rd/4th Grds) | Rm. 176 |
| | JAM - Youth Group (Grds 5-6) | North Main Entry |
| | Veritas Youth Group (Grds 7-12) | Youth Dept. |
| | Parent & Caregiver Group | Rm. 284 |
| 6:30 | The Teen and Parent Mental Health Series | Fellowship Hall |
| 6:45 | Grief Care | Rm. 290 |
| 7:00 | Faith Transitions Small Group | Rm. 238 |
| 7:30 | Westminster Ringers | Rm. 268 |

Wednesdays @ Westminster have something for everyone! From children’s choirs to Children’s & Family Ministry programs, Food & Fellowship, Veritas Youth Group, Bible studies, and more, make plans to be here. Visit our website or scan the QR codes below for details.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26

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|------|---------------|-----------|
| 7:00 | Chancel Choir | Sanctuary |
| 7:30 | NA | Rm. 107 |
| | Nar Anon | Rm. 131 |

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27

- | | | |
|------|-------------------|-------------|
| 7:00 | AA | Rm. 107 |
| | Al Anon | Rm. 231 |
| 9:00 | Veritas Catacombs | Yahweh Café |

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28

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|-------|----------------------|------------------------|
| 11:00 | WECEP Trunk or Treat | Playground Parking Lot |
|-------|----------------------|------------------------|

STAFF PROGRAM/MINISTRY CONTACTS

Jo Forrest, Senior Pastor, Head of Staff, forrest@westminster-church.org

Ann Morris, Parish Associate, morris@westminster-church.org

Jack Kelly, Director of Finance and Operations, kelly@westminster-church.org

Jan Baumann, Volunteer Coordinator, baumann@westminster-church.org

Becky Boyer, Director of Youth Ministry, boyer@westminster-church.org

Christine Hestwood, Director of Music, Interim Director of Communications, hestwood@westminster-church.org

Faith Kemmler, Director of Children's & Family Ministry, kemmler@westminster-church.org

Kathy Long, Director, Westminster Recreation & Outreach Center, long@westminster-church.org

Ed Sutter, Senior Director of Christian Education, sutter@westminster-church.org



Giving to Westminster

ONLINE: <https://www.westminster-church.org/give>

TEXT-TO-GIVE: Text WPCUSC to 73256. Standard text messaging rates may apply.



Westminster Staff Contact Information

We would love to hear from you. Give us a call, drop us an email, or stop by the church office.

GET CONNECTED!



Westminster.Pittsburgh



wpc_pgh



WestminsterUSC

Westminster on Social Media

Watch worship videos, listen to the Veritas podcast, share Westminster events, find prayers, scripture, and more to like and share!

Photos/Videos at Westminster: We would like to make you aware that by participating in Westminster Presbyterian Church worship and activities, you may be photographed and/or videotaped and therefore assign and authorize the producer, Westminster Presbyterian Church, all rights to reproduce, copy, exhibit/publish, and distribute any such videotape and photography. If you have any concerns, please contact Anna Hiner, Communications & Database Manager, at hiner@westminster-church.org or 412-835-6630x207.



WESTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

A PC(USA) Congregation

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