



Westminster Presbyterian Church



October 1, 2023 | 8:30 a.m. / 11:00 a.m.

THE *Celebration* OF *Worship*

*Please rise in body or in spirit.

WE GATHER TOGETHER

Prelude

A Song of Peace

Craig Phillips

Welcome and Announcements

***Share the Peace of Christ**

***Call to Worship**

Leader: Welcome to this place:
where heaven and earth embrace in peace,
where God has been, is, and always will be.

People: **Welcome to this place, as we gather with all of God's children:
where we find God's love, the tender voice of Jesus, and
where the Spirit teaches us new songs.**

Leader: Welcome to this place, where all is made ready by Jesus:
where we bring our hunger, and will be fed;
where we bring our very selves, and find acceptance.

***Opening Hymn No. 321**

The Church's One Foundation
verses 1,2,4, and 5

AURELIA

*Prayer of Confession

Gracious Lord, you created the whole world and called it good, but we look out at your world and see division and suffering. You call us to maintain the unity of spirit in the bond of peace, but we choose division over diversity, confrontation over civility, and conflict over peace born from justice. You call us to love the least of these among us, but we hear the cries of the oppressed and choose our own comfort. Forgive us. Grant us fresh vision to see one another as siblings in Christ.

(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

WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Lesson

John 15:1-5

New Testament, page 84

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Remain in the Lord

Vaugelas Pierre

WE OFFER OUR GRATITUDE

Offertory Anthem

Baba Yetu

Christopher Tin

Baba Yetu is the Swahili-language setting of the Lord's Prayer

*Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

Hymnal (page 35)

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 Sacrament of Communion

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer

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.

Institution of the Lord's Supper

Prayer of Dedication

WE GO OUT TO SERVE

*Closing Hymn No. 317

In Christ There Is No East or West

McKEE

*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

Postlude on McKee

Dale Wood

Leading in worship: Pastor Vaugelas Pierre, Jo Forrest, Jim Burns, the Quartet, and the Chancel Choir.

Welcome guest preacher—Pastor Vaugelas Pierre

Pastor Pierre, born and raised in Cap Haitien, northern Haiti, was orphaned as a teenager. He left the impoverished island, but God called him to return in 1975 to educate children and preach in La Croix, near Gonaives. Since then, the ministry has grown from 200 students to over 3,500 attending seven school campuses with PreK-13, including a vocational program. Pastor Pierre and his wife Ermithe oversee the schools, two medical clinics, pastors and congregations at seven churches, and they regularly distribute food to La Croix and beyond.

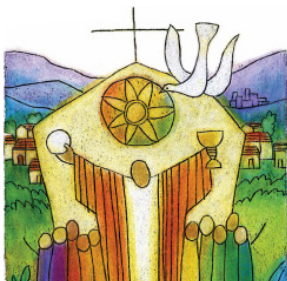
Prayers of Concern and Thanksgiving

The congregation extends condolences to the family and friends of Virginia (Ginger) Parmelee, who died September 21.

The congregation extends condolences to Ann Platt and Barbara Bacheson on the death of their mother, Flo Lawrence, on September 22.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Worthy Notes and Upcoming Events



Peace and Global Witness Special Offering

TODAY is Last Day! | [WPC Website](#)

This offering supports programs including the Summer Series and the letter writing campaign for hunger relief for food insecure families. It also enables the church to promote the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of injustice locally and globally. Please give using the designated pew envelopes or go to Give Online on the church homepage and select this offering on the dropdown menu.



Westminster Seminars

The History of Old Testament Israel: A View from the Bible and the Writing of Israel's Neighbors

Concludes TODAY

NEW SERIES: Sundays, October 8 - November 12

Everyday Saints: Keeping the Faith in Hard Times
John P. Burgess, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary

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



Inquirers' Gathering

Today | 2:00 p.m. | Yahweh Café/Room 283

Learn more about becoming a member at Westminster Church at an informal gathering of sharing, teaching, and exploring what it means to be a follower of Christ in the Presbyterian tradition and here at Westminster. No reservations needed. All are welcome.



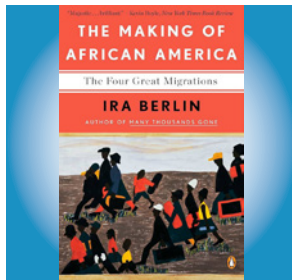
Rummage Sale Canceled!

Stay tuned for November 2, 2024. Consider recycling your treasures with City Mission this year.

WROC Talk – A Free Speaker Series *The Lighter Side of Upper St. Clair*

Monday, October 2 | 6:30–7:30 p.m. | Fellowship Hall | FREE | Registration recommended.

Spend an evening with Upper St. Clair resident, Jay Lynch, the author of *The Lighter Side of Upper St. Clair*, a compilation of humorous short stories that have appeared in USC Today magazine over the past 10 years. Jay will share stories and photos from his “Wonder Years” style childhood in USC in the ‘60s and ‘70s. The session will be hosted by Cathy Kramer, Jay’s high school classmate. Even if you didn’t grow up in Upper St. Clair, you’re sure to get a giggle or two.



Grace-Westminster Book Club

Mondays, beginning October 2 | 7:00 p.m. | Zoom

The Grace-Westminster Book Club is starting a new book this coming Monday, *The Making of African America: The Four Great Migrations* by Ira Berlin. In this masterful account, Ira Berlin, one of the nation's most distinguished historians, offers a revolutionary view of African American history. Contact Bobbie Hartman for Zoom connection at hartman1967@verizon.net.

3rd Grade Bible Presentation & Workshops

Bible Sunday, October 8, all three worship services

Kids' Connection Workshops, Wednesdays, October 4-25 | 6:00–7:30 p.m. | Room 176

On October 8, children in 3rd grade and those who have not yet received Bibles will be presented with their very own Bible during worship. In addition, children are also invited to attend Kids' Connection on Wednesday evenings to learn all about their new Bible. If you wish for your child to receive a Bible, contact Faith Kemmler.



SEEK JUSTICE, WITHOUT EXCEPTION

Westminster's work in mission and outreach is motivated by the desire to salve the wounds where people hurt and driven to courageously seek the change that will make our community stronger.

Dear Westminster Presbyterian Church and Outreach Committee,

How blessed Living Stones is to have Westminster as a partner! Not only are we grateful for the generous contribution, but also for your prayers, and the many volunteers from Westminster who serve alongside us, sharing Christ's love as His hands and feet. Lives are being transformed, prayers are being answered, Christ is being shared. We are grateful to God and to our Westminster brothers and sisters for the partnership that is helping to make that happen. I am profoundly grateful to God and to you and the many others who make His ministry possible. God bless you real good!

Julie Livingston, Executive Director

ANNOUNCEMENTS (continued)



Faith Transitions Small Group

Wednesdays, October 4, 11, 18, 25 | 7:00 p.m. | Room 238

Are you a former Catholic, or were you of another faith, and now come to Westminster? If you would like to share your experiences with others who have also made that transition, we would love to have you join our four-week discussion group. Contact John Hayes at jhayesesq@outlook.com.



Parent & Caregiver Group

Wednesdays, October 4, 11, 18, 25 | 6:00–7:30 p.m. | Room 284

What does it look like to nurture your child's faith at home? How can your family participate in spiritual practices together? This group is for parents of children of all ages to gather, learn, connect, and explore what faith formation can look like for their family. Contact Faith Kemmler for questions.



Blessing of the Pets

Sunday, October 8 | 2:00 p.m. | North Parking Lot

All people-friendly pets and their owners are invited to a designated celebration that both acknowledges and pays tribute to the loyal animal companions that love us unconditionally. Join us as we give thanks for these special family members, and we bless the people who love and care for them deeply. Please be sure your pets are on non-retractable leashes or in carriers, and have proof of up-to-date vaccinations.



Fall Festival

Sunday, October 15 | 11:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m. | Gilfillan Farm

Join us for an afternoon of fall fun featuring pumpkins, crafts, games, and more! Enjoy the grounds at Gilfillan Farm as you decorate pumpkins, play fall games, adventure through a scavenger hunt, and delight in the fall season with family and friends.



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

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.

THIS WEEK @ WESTMINSTER

OCT 1-7, 2023



Scan here for complete church calendar



Scan here for a full WROC schedule & information

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1

8:30	Traditional Worship	North Courtyard (weather permitting)
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
2:00	Inquirers' Gathering	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 2

12:00	AA	Fellowship Hall
6:00	Cub Scout Den Meeting	Rm. 107
6:30	WROC Talk - The Lighter Side of Upper St. Clair	Fellowship Hall
7:00	Children's & Family Ministry Commission	Zoom
	Grace Westminster Book Club	Zoom
7:30	Scout Pack 366 Adult Committee Meeting	Rm. 107

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3

7:00	Tuesday Morning Men's Group	Rm. 238
10:00	Staff Meeting	Rm. 238
6:00	Pittsburgh Youth Chorus	Rm. 268
7:30	Scout Troop 366	Rm. 107

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4

4:30	Poetry and Prayer of the Psalms	Rm. 231
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	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 5

10:00	Women to Women	Rm. 238
7:00	Chancel Choir	Rm. 268
	Ladies' Night Small Group	Rm. 283
7:30	NA	Rm. 107
	Nar Anon	Rm. 131

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6

6:30a	Fishers of Men	Rm. 231
7:00	AA	Rm. 107
	AI Anon	Rm. 231

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7

11:00	Callie Christner Memorial Service	Sanctuary
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Children's & Family Ministry



Food & Fellowship Menu



Music & Choirs

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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