



THE CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

*Please rise in body or in spirit.

WE GATHER TOGETHER

Prelude

Sonata in D Minor

Felix Mendelssohn

Welcome and Announcements

*Share the Peace of Christ

*Call to Worship

Leader: As Abraham welcomed the strangers,

People: **so God welcomes us here.**

Leader: God greets us with joy

People: **and says, "rest here for awhile."**

Leader: God brings out water to wash our dusty feet.

People: **God nourishes our weary spirits.**

**Let us rest in this holy place
where there is shade and water, food and laughter.**

*Opening Hymn No. 49

The God of Abraham Praise

LEONI

*Prayer of Confession

Dear God, you reached into Abraham and Sarah's lives
and asked them to dream the impossible dream—
that you would transform what appears to have been
barren and lifeless.

Forgive us for dismissing your presence
as an unwelcome interruption.

Forgive us for not trusting your promises
and instead turning to worn out lies.

Forgive us for not receiving you.

(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. 695**

Change My Heart, O God

Refrain:

Change my heart, O God, make it ever true.
Change my heart, O God, may I be like you.

Verse:

You are the potter, I am the clay.
Mold me and make me, this is what I pray.
(Refrain)

Prayers 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

Genesis 18:1-15

Old Testament, page 14

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

Sermon

The Story Behind the Story

Jo Forrest

WE OFFER OUR GRATITUDE

Offertory Anthem

Zion's Walls

arr. Glenn Koponen

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. 720**

Jesus Calls Us

GALILEE

Benediction**Benediction Response**

Go Ye Now in Peace

Joyce Eilers

Go ye now in peace and know that the love of God will guide you.
Feel his presence here beside you, showing you the way.
Know that the God who sent his son to die that we might live
will never leave you lost and alone in his beloved world.

PostludeSonata in D Minor – *Finale*

Mendelssohn

Leading in worship: Jo Forrest, Ted Kyle, Jim Burns, Christine Hestwood, the Quartet, and Chancel Choir.

About the Prelude and Postlude

Mendelssohn's Organ Sonata No. 6 is built around the Lutheran chorale "Vater unser im Himmelreich" ("Our Father, who art in heaven"), a hymn based on the Lord's Prayer. The work opens with a solemn setting of the chorale, followed by a series of variations that builds to a majestic conclusion. In this sonata, Mendelssohn creates not just a concert piece, but a musical meditation on one of Christianity's most central prayers.

STAFF PROGRAM/MINISTRY CONTACTS

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Giving to Westminster

ONLINE: <https://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.



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A PC(USA) Congregation



Sunday, September 14, 2025 | 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Prayers of Concern and Thanksgiving

The congregation extends condolences to Tracy, Morgan (Cian Malcolm) and Jack Null on the death of John R. Null Jr. on September 5, 2025.

We offer our prayers for those with recent illnesses, surgeries, or hospitalizations: Stan Over and Janis Davis.

Deacons' Blood Drive

TODAY | 8:00 a.m.-1:15 p.m. | Fellowship Hall

There will be snacks and goodies available for all donors!



Please preregister for your appointment by using sponsor code **UG0010171**, to secure a time slot. Registration is easily done by calling Vitalant at 877-258-4825 or online at www.vitalant.org.

Westminster Seminars

Living Faith: Everyday Ethics for Ordinary Christians

Order, Justice, Peace in a World at War

TODAY, September 21, and 28 | 9:45 a.m. | Galbreath Chapel

Next Week's Topic: Agency & Agony at the Beginning & End of Life

For more info and the Zoom link, go to westminster-church.org/event/westminster-seminars/.

Presented by Derek Woodard-Lehman,
Pittsburgh Theological Seminary.



One Hit Wonders: One Story at a Time

Wednesdays, September 17 & October 22 | 6:15-7:15 p.m. | Fellowship Hall



Stories about about how our lives connect with people from the distant past, those around us today, and can help us shape a more fulfilling story for our own lives. No preparation or commitment required. Each speaker will lead a discussion and facilitate interaction with you. How does this story inspire you and your faith?

September 17: Father Paul Abernathy, pastor of Saint Moses the Black Antiochian Orthodox Church and CEO of Neighborhood Resilience Project, will share how the stories of scripture have shaped his call to build up hope and resilience in people and communities impacted by trauma.

October 22: Rabbi Aaron Meyers of Temple Emanuel will lead us in an exploration of a lesser-known story from Judges 5 of Deborah and God's intervention.

Organ Recital: Christopher Keenan

Recital celebrating the 10th anniversary of Westminster's beautiful Taylor and Boody organ. The program includes music of Bach, Vivaldi, Buxtehude, and Lübeck.

Sunday, September 21 | 2:30 p.m.
Galbreath Chapel

Westminster Book Group Wednesday, September 24 | 12:00 p.m. | Church Library

The next meeting of the WPC Book Group will be on September 24 at noon in the church library. We will discuss *The Frozen River* by Ariel Lawhon. All are welcome.

Haiti Gathering

Saturday, September 27 | 11:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m. | Fellowship Hall

All are invited to the Haiti Gathering. Lunch at noon; freewill offering and program describing the schools and churches of La Croix, Haiti. RSVP to conley1973@verizon.net so we know how much food to order.

Golf, Fun & Fellowship

REGISTER!



Friday, October 3 | Tee times start at 3:00 p.m. | 1781 Golf Club, 681 Church Hill Road

Play a "fun nine" holes of golf followed by dinner ordered from the menu. All level of golfers welcome! You can choose who you play with or we will put you in a foursome. Golf \$35.00. Full Golf Members of 1781 only pay for dinner. **Deadline to register - Thursday, September 25.**

Extended Communion

Sunday, October 5 | 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

The Deacons will be taking communion to anyone unable to attend Sunday worship. Contact Laura Bentley at bentley@westminster-church.org or call the church office if you would like to receive communion or if you are an ordained officer and would like to serve extended communion.

Blessing of the Pets

Sunday, October 5 | 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 as they 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.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER 14-20, 2025

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

8:00	Nursery (Birth-Preschool)*	Rm. 222
	Blood Drive	Fellowship Hall
8:30a	Traditional Worship	North Courtyard
	Wiggle Room***	Rm. 239
9:00a	Welcome Center	North Main Entry
9:30a	Bridge Contemporary Worship	WROC/Livestream
	Bridge Sunday School (4yrs-1st Grade)**	Rm. 176
	Bridge Sunday School (2nd-4th Grade)**	Rm. 284
	Wiggle Room - The Bridge***	WROC Fitness
9:45a	Westminster Seminars	Galbreath Chapel
11:00a	Traditional Worship	Sanctuary/Livestream
	Sunday School (4yrs-4th Grade)**	Rm. 233
	Wiggle Room***	Rm. 239

6:00	Kids' Connection (5yrs-2nd Grade)	Rm. 233
	Kids' Connection (3rd-4th Grade)	Rm. 176
	JAM - Youth Group (5th-6th Grades)	Rm. 257 JAM
	Veritas Youth Group (7th-12th Grade)	Youth Dept.
6:15	One Hit Wonder	Fellowship Hall
7:00	Westminster Ringers	Rm. 268

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

4:00	Farmers Market	South Parking Lot
7:00	Chancel Choir	Rm. 268
	LIFT (Ladies in Fellowship Together)	Memorial Parlor
7:30	NA (Door #14)	Rm. 107
	Nar Anon (Door #14)	Rm. 131

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

6:30a	Fishers of Men	Rm. 231
7:00	AA (Door #14)	Rm. 107
	Al Anon (Door #14)	Rm. 131

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

Please see an usher if you need help finding the following:

*Nursery - Staffed care for infants through preschool.

**Sunday School - 9:45 a.m., dismissed from worship after children's message; 11:00 a.m., report directly to Room 233.

***Wiggle Room - Available to families with children who would prefer a separate space to step away while listening to the worship service.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

12:00	AA/Door #20	Fellowship Hall
6:00	Pittsburgh Youth Chorus	Rm. 268
	Cub Scout Den Meeting	Rm. 107
7:00	Session Meeting	Galbreath Chapel

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

7:00a	Tuesday Morning Men's Group	Rm. 238
10:00	Staff Meeting	Rm. 238
7:15	Pastor Nominating Committee	Rm. 238
7:30	Boy Scout Troop 366	Rm. 107

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

9:00	Men's Bible Study	Rm. 231
12:00	Bible Study with the Preacher	Zoom
4:45	Little Ones and Loved Ones	Rm. 222 Nursery
	Cherub Choir	Rm. 176
	Junior Choir	Rm. 268
5:15	Wednesday Food & Fellowship	Fellowship Hall



Children's & Family Ministry



Food & Fellowship Menu



Music & Choirs