



Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost

Preparation for **Worship**

O God, light of the minds that know you,
 life of the souls that love you,
 strength of the thoughts that seek you:
 Help us so to know you that we may truly love you,
 so to love you that we may fully serve you,
 whose service is perfect freedom;
 through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Gathering and Preparing for **God's Word**

Prelude Praise to the Lord, the Almighty Walther

Welcome and Announcements

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
People: And also with you.

Minute for Stewardship The Freedman Family

Call to Worship Psalm 117

Praise the Lord, all you nations!
 Extol him, all you peoples!
 For great is God's steadfast love toward us,
 and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever.
 Praise the Lord!

Hymn #610 *O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing* AZMON

Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Pardon

Gracious and holy God,
we confess that our hearts have been hardened
and our minds have been closed.
We have been quick to judge others,
and slow to amend our own ways.
We have made gods out of possessions, power,
status, and control.
We forget that all good gifts come from you.
Forgive us, and help us to repent.
Heal the wounded parts of our souls
so that we would be quick to forgive,
eager to be generous,
and courageous with your call.
We ask it all in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Hearing **God's Word**

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Lesson, *Deuteronomy 15:7-11*

Gospel Lesson, *Mark 12:41-44*

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon "Whose Shoes are You Wearing?"

Anthem Here I Am, Lord Schutte

Responding to **God's Word**

Affirmation of Faith, *from The Confession of 1967*

God's redeeming work in Jesus Christ embraces
the whole of human life: social and cultural,
economic and political, scientific and technological,
individual and corporate.

Already God's reign is present as a ferment in the world,
stirring hope in all people
and preparing the world to receive
its ultimate judgment and redemption.

With an urgency born of this hope,
the church applies itself to present tasks
and strives for a better world.

It does not identify limited progress
with the kingdom of God on earth,
nor does it despair in the face of disappointment and defeat.
In steadfast hope, the church looks beyond all partial
achievement to the final triumph of God.

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

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.

Hymn #749 *Come! Live in the Light!* WE ARE CALLED

Charge and Benediction

Postlude The Heavens Declare the Glory of God Marcello

Leading Worship **this Morning**

Ben Dorr, *preaching*

Mary Kathleen Duncan, *liturgist*

Amos Workman, *lay reader*

Nancy Smith, *organist*

Mary Ashmore, Kelly Kemp, Emily Swezey,

Hunter Ditsch, Mark Kemp, *vocalists*

We Remember in Prayer

Bryce Nelson on the death of his father, Tim Nelson, in Greenville, SC - 11/1/2020.

Charlie Williams • (4/13/1930 - 11/2/2020)

and The family of Charlie Williams

OPEN HEARTS • Gathering@WPC

OPEN SANCTUARY

Our sanctuary is open for individual prayer and reflection on Monday and Tuesday (9a-1p). WPC members will need to sign up ahead of time at <https://wpc-online.org/events-registration/prayer-in-the-sanctuary-at-wpc/>.

NOVEMBER NIGHTS:

DRIVE THRU DINNER & ONLINE WORSHIP, CRAFTS, AND EDUCATION

November Nights will wrap up this Sunday, November 8th. Pick up your pre-ordered meal between 4:00-5:00p followed by an online Vespers worship service at 5:30p. Education options (including a special guest for a craft class!) will begin at 6:15p for WPC Kids and adults. Youth will participate in Shepherd Groups (watch for more information from MK for the WPCYG schedule). Sign up now at <https://wpc-online.org/events-registration/november-nights/>.

TOGETHER:

INTRODUCING THE PLEDGE THRU FOR COMMITMENT SUNDAY

This Sunday, November 8, is Commitment Sunday and will feature donuts and coffee under Westminster's own "golden arches" – The Niven Memorial Bell Tower. For generations members of Westminster have brought their pledges forward on Commitment Sunday as a public act of faithfulness. When we pledge we commit the fruits of our labor to one another, making our faithfulness known to our families, children, friends, and the gathered congregation. We align ourselves with the vision and values of this congregation, and commit to the ways God is working through us.

This year the bringing of our pledges will look a bit different but carry the same significance. If you are joining us in person, you will have an opportunity to drop your pledge card in baskets as you retire. For those who can't join us or those who wish for another public act of faithfulness, you're invited to participate in our Pledge Thru. From 2-5p this Sunday, drive through our "golden arches" (the Niven Memorial Bell Tower), and greet a pastor with your pledge card.

When you Pledge Thru you will experience the benefits of communal giving and, as a token of our gratitude during this difficult time, a custom WPC mug and (*drum roll, please*) a donut (*COVID precautions honored!*).

As always, you are also welcome to pledge online.

OPEN HEARTS • Gathering@WPC

PARTICIPATING IN WORSHIP FROM HOME ON SUNDAY MORNING?

Our pre-recorded service will continue to air on our website at 9am, and on our social media platforms. Our in-person worship service will air on our website via livestream at 11:15a. The Harbinger that you receive in the mail will be for our pre-recorded worship. If you would like the Harbinger for our 11:15am livestream worship, you may download it from our website at <https://wpc-online.org/sermon-archive>.

BASKETBALL REGISTRATION

The Session will decide at its stated meeting in November whether or not Westminster will participate in church basketball this year. If you would like to register your child, in the event that WPC does participate, you may do so at our website at <https://wpc-online.org/events-registration/youth-basketball/>. If the Session decides that Westminster will not participate, all fees will be refunded.

OPEN MINDS • Education@WPC

ZOOM BIBLE STUDY ON SUNDAY MORNINGS THIS FALL!

You are invited to participate in a Zoom Bible study at 10am on Sunday mornings led by Ben and other members of the pastoral staff! The Zoom information will be sent the preceding Thursday in the weekly newsletter and each Friday with the weekly emailed Harbinger. We will take a look at the texts that are being used in that particular Sunday's worship service. Please join us!

JUSTFAITH: FAITH AND RACIAL EQUITY

Just Faith meets Mondays at 6p on ZOOM. For information, previously registered class members may call Susan McLeod (787-6262) or Bill Holt (982-3368).

THE HARBINGER
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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November 8-14, 2020

SUNDAY

Commitment Sunday

- 8:45 a.m. Zoom Witness & Service
Committee Meeting
- 9:00 a.m. In-Person Worship Service
- 10:00 a.m. Zoom Bible Study
- 11:15 a.m. In-Person Worship Service
- 2:00 p.m. Zoom Nominating
Committee Meeting
- 6:15 p.m. WPCYG Shepherd Groups

MONDAY

- 9:00 a.m. Prayer in the Sanctuary
(thru 1pm)

TUESDAY

- 9:00 a.m. Prayer in the Sanctuary
(thru 1pm)
- 4:00 p.m. Middler's Bible Study
in Green Lot
- 4:30 p.m. Zoom PW Circle #3

WEDNESDAY

- 3:00 p.m. It's Elementary Pop-Up
in the Green Lot
- 8:00 p.m. Zoom Music Gathering

the
HARBINGER
open minds open hearts

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From the Pews, Scott Broderick:

After meeting, dating, and becoming engaged, Denise and I began the search for a church that we could call home. Obviously, we chose Westminster Presbyterian. In retrospect, this was one of the defining moments of our life together and one of the best decisions we have ever made. Many aspects about the congregation and pastoral staff were behind our choice. Why? It was based on a multitude of reasons. However, the overarching theme behind our selection was the ability of this friendly, diverse congregation and pastorate to work TOGETHER to make the world a better place.

We as a congregation have been involved in innumerable activities. We have watched the nursery (sometimes even if we didn't have infants), taught all kinds of Sunday school classes, worked with the weekday school, participated on the Session, mentored our children, cared for our fellow members in need, and taken part in any number of mission activities. Sorry for the run-on sentence, but you get the message. Our family, as were many of yours, were involved in two different capital campaigns above and beyond our annual Stewardship contributions. At the time, some said the campaign goals were unattainable. Yet both were enthusiastically embraced and have led to the facilities, people and activities that are now Westminster Presbyterian. All these things exist because of our ability to work TOGETHER as a congregation. This is what Denise and I saw almost thirty years ago and what we have grown to love about our church and its congregation.

For all of Westminster's accomplishments over the years, the one that stands out the most to me is the breadth, quality, and success of our mission work. The history of our church and its congregation's engagement to missions is so vast that mention of any individual piece will not do it justice. From Meals on Wheels, Habitat, and IHN to Florida, Malawi and the DR our membership has joyfully and enthusiastically participated in making our world better. One of my mentors during my college years, who was also a member of my childhood church, stressed to me that no matter how beautiful a church might appear, its true essence is found in its people and their actions. Over the years, there is no better evidence of that statement than our congregation and the myriad of activities in which we participate.

As I watch the effect of the current events on the people in our community, nation, and world, I cannot think of a point in my life that the need for our commitment has been more evident. With all that each of us has experienced individually throughout the last year, it is time for us to consider those that are currently less fortunate. God is asking us to answer the call as a congregation. I have no doubt we can and will....TOGETHER.