



Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Preparation for **Worship**

“If you do not love God, what good are you? You are too caught up in the meanness of self-love and self-gratification. Your soul soars only with a spike in the Dow-Jones Industrial average; your heart leaps only at the prospect of a new tax break. The devil take you. He already has. Religion is for lovers, for men and women of passion, for real people with a passion for something other than taking profits, people who believe in something, who hope like mad in something, who love something with a love that surpasses understanding.”

John Caputo, *On Religion*

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

Welcome and Announcements

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

People: And also with you.

Minute for Stewardship

The Donlan Family

Prelude

Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service

Callahan

Choral Introit 11:15a

"Shalom, Shalom"

Farrell

* Call to Worship

Leader: With what shall we come before the Lord, and bow before God on high?

People: God has told us what is good and what is required: that we do justice, and love kindness, and walk humbly with our God.

Leader: Let us worship God.

Micah 6:6, 8

* Hymn #305

"Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!"

DARWALL'S 148TH

* Prayer of Confession

God of patience, have mercy on us.

You have called us to pour out ourselves in service to your creation.

Despite the clear call, we insist that our piety will save us.

Consumed by our own needs,

we fail to see those around us and fail to understand

that true devotion to you is made real in service

to neighbors and strangers.

When we wander off your path,

when we fail to follow through on our good intentions,

when we give our attention to trivial things,

call us back to you.

Empty our hearts of anger and pride.

Empty our souls of greed and selfishness.

Empty our minds of envy, doubt, and mistrust.

As you poured out your very self through your beloved Son,

pour your Spirit into our hearts today.

Forgive us our wrongdoing.

Reclaim us with your love. Amen.

* Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

* Gloria Patri

Hymnal, #581

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy

Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,

world without end. Amen, Amen.

The Sacrament of Baptism 9a

Joseph Landon Saari

Samuel Warren Saari

Congregational Response

"Baptized in Water"

BUNESSAN

Bap - tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, marked with the
 sign of Christ our King; — born of the Spir - it, we are God's
 chil - dren; joy - ful - ly now God's prais - es we sing.

Children in K5 - first grade are invited to leave for Children's Church.

Hearing **God's Word**

Prayer for Illumination

Gospel Lesson, *Matthew 6:1-3, 5-6, 16, 24*

p. 787

Lesson from the Prophets, *Isaiah 58:1-12*

p. 600

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"As If."

Responding to **God's Word**

* Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

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.

Choral Call to Prayer 11:15a

"Lord, Have Mercy"

arr. Proulx

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.

Offering

Anthem

God Has Work For Us to Do

Miller

see insert for anthem text

* Doxology

Hymnal, #606

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

* Prayer of Dedication

* Hymn #716

"God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending"

BEACH SPRING

* Charge and Benediction

* Choral Response 11:15a

"Here I Am, Lord"

Schutte

* Postlude

Divertissement

Young

**All who are able may stand*

Leading Worship **this Morning**

Leigh Stuckey, *preaching*

Mary Kathleen Duncan, *liturgist*

Meg McKnight, *sponsor*

Bill Donohue (9a), Will Edwards (11:15a), *lay readers*

Todd Monsell, *organist and pianist*

The Chancel Choir (9a)

The Sanctuary Choir (11:15a)

Jacob Barker (9a), Ben Edwards (11:15a), *head ushers*

Laura Cox, Hastings Blumer, Jay Culclasure,

Ross Glidewell, Jara Jones (9a), *greeters*

Russ Williams, Toni Paylor, Neil Shurley,

Keith Stevenson, Lesley Usher (11:15a), *greeters*

Mary Evans Howayeck, Mary Eliza Duncan, (9a),

James Knauer, Ellen Reynolds (11:15a), *acolytes*

Worship Notes

NURSERY

Childcare is available for infants through 4K. Our nurturing staff of experienced caregivers and parent volunteers offers a welcoming environment for children. The Nursery is located on the mezzanine level. The entrance is at Westminster Drive, at the columbarium or near the Westminster Weekday School offices.

WORSHIP BAGS

Each Sunday we offer worship bags in the atrium for children. The worship bags are designed to include reusable items that engage children in open ended play during worship. While children attend worship with their families, they can participate in worship and play to make foundational layers of meaning for faith. Please return the zipper bag and its contents each Sunday. This shift to reusable items demonstrates how we value hospitality and care for creation.

CONNECT WITH WESTMINSTER

Looking for ways to be involved? Please complete a Connection Card from the Ritual of Friendship pad and place it in the offering plate to express interest or sign up for an opportunity.

WELCOME TO WPC!

Please fill out a name tag and find more information about WPC at the Welcome Table in the Atrium. First time visitors are also invited to take home a WPC mug.

Join Us in Welcoming

BAPTISM

This morning we welcome into our fellowship Joseph Landon Saari and Samuel Warren Saari, sons of David & Erin Saari.

OPEN MINDS • Serving with WPC

ADVENT DEVOTIONALS

It's that time of year again when we are looking for volunteers to write short devotionals to be included in the 2022 Advent Devotions series. Please contact Josie Williams (jgwilliams1803@gmail.com) if you would be willing to help with this.

Children's Music@WPC

FIRST STEPS IN MUSIC

Music is an important way to communicate with young children even before they are able to sing along. First Steps in Music is an opportunity at Westminster that provides important time for parents or grandparents to enjoy music with their child/grandchild. Led by WPC member, Diana Dailey, the First Steps classes teach simple songs, games, and prayers for 2 and 3 year olds and adults to experience together. The next class will be offered from 4:30- 5p on Sundays, October 9 - November 20. Registration is located on the church's website. For more information, contact Interim Music Director, Rosemary Hughes (rhughes@wpc-online.org).

WOMEN OF WESTMINSTER CIRCLES

- Tuesday, October 11
- **Circle 3**, at the home of Julia Bellew (146 Sunset Dr, 29605) at 2p. Circle Chair: Dee Malone (dee05m@gmail.com).
- Wednesday, October 12
- **Circle 6**, at the home of Liz Einstein at 9a. Sherry Tate (sherrytate63@gmail.com) and Liz Einstein (liz.ard.einstein@gmail.com) co-chairs.

LIGHTLY SEASONED

Lightly Seasoned, a Westminster fellowship group for those in their fifties and sixties - will meet on Friday, October 21, at 7p at the home of Susan & Bill Ferrell (102 Brookside Way). Watch your e-mail for more information or check the church's website ("Connect" then "Events Registration" tabs) or contact Susan Grier (susan@grierfamily.org) for details.

MEN OF WESTMINSTER

The Men of Westminster will be helping with general maintenance at The Thornwell Camp for Boys at Lake Jocassee on November 2-6 and would appreciate any help from other gentlemen in the church. There will be spots available for overnight or just for the day. Call Tyler Fairey (803-237-6009) with questions about logistics and participation.

Opportunities@WPC

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY COORDINATOR

Our Children's Ministry continues to grow as God is bringing families back to connect in deeper ways. This is great news and we know we need adequate staff to support the over 500 children at Westminster. As such, the session recently approved the hiring of a Children's Ministry Coordinator who can help with volunteer and resource management, support the logistics of programming, and provide staff support to our robust programs. A search committee has been formed to thoughtfully and prayerfully find and field candidates for this position. If you may be interested, would like to see the full job description, or perhaps know someone who may be the dynamic candidate we're seeking, please contact Rance Bryan (rance_bryan@yahoo.com) or Jill Fairey (jill@palmettotrans.com).

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

WPC is participating in a Habitat for Humanity build alongside other Christian, Jewish, and Muslim congregations. AM and PM shifts will continue through the end of the year, with the following opportunities in October: 10/13, 10/14, and 10/15. Contact Tony Atkins (tony@indconinc.com) to volunteer.

INTERFAITH JUSTICE MINISTRY

WPC is joining 18+ other local congregations to form GOAL, a new justice ministry that will work to solve systemic problems in our community. Those interested are invited to attend a house meeting, where small groups will discuss concerns for the community and how we can work together to solve them. Contact Julia Watkins if interested in attending the next meeting this Sunday, October 9, 12:30-2:30p at WPC, hosted by Julia Bellew.

US-MEXICO BORDER TRIP

WPC is planning a trip in partnership with Frontera de Cristo, a Presbyterian ministry based in the sister cities of Douglas, Arizona, and Agua Prieta, Sonora. Participants will learn, serve, and build relationships on the US-Mexico border. Trip dates are February 11-17, 2023. Interested individuals are invited to attend an information session in Room 210 this Sunday, October 9, at 12:30p or contact Julia Watkins to learn more.

THE HARBINGER
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www.wpc-online.org

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS
October 9 - 16, 2022

- Sunday, October 9**
Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
- 9:00a Worship Service
Witness & Service Committee Meeting
 - 10:00 Sunday School
 - 10:55 Sunday Session Meeting
 - 11:15 Worship Service
 - 12:30p GOAL Meeting
US-Mexico Border Trip Meeting
 - 5:00 Middler Youth Group
WoW Board Meeting
 - 5:15 Senior High Choir Rehearsal
 - 6:00 Youth Dinner
 - 6:30 Middler Choir Rehearsal
Senior High Youth Group

- Monday, October 10**
- 8:00p Narcotics Anonymous

- Tuesday, October 11**
- 12:00p Al-Anon Group Meeting
 - 2:00 Circle #3

- Wednesday, October 12**
- 9:00a Circle #6
 - 2:30p It's Elementary
 - 3:30 Cherub Choir
 - 4:30 Junior & Senior Choristers
 - 7:00 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

- Thursday, October 13**
- 9:30a Weekday School Chapel (3K)
 - 9:45 Weekday School Chapel (5K)
 - 10:00 Weekday School Chapel (4K)
Thursday Bible Study
 - 12:00p Finance Committee Meeting
 - 8:00 Narcotics Anonymous

- Friday, October 14**
- 8:30a Hiking Group

- Saturday, October 15**
- 8:30a Habitat for Humanity

- Sunday, October 16**
Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
- 9:00a Worship Service
Creation Stewardship Meeting
 - 10:00 Sunday School
 - 10:55 Sunday Session Meeting
 - 11:15 Worship Service
 - 12:30p Stated Session Meeting
Connections Group
 - 5:00 Middler Youth Group
 - 5:15 Senior High Choir Rehearsal
 - 6:00 Youth Dinner
 - 6:30 Middler Choir Rehearsal
Senior High Youth Group

the
HARBINGER
open minds open hearts

VOLUME LXXV | October 9, 2022 | No. 23

From the Pews, Nancy Giguere

In 1990, the Giguere Six moved to Greenville. After five moves in ten years, we were ready to settle down. We found a house close to the hospital, a school close to our house, and a church and weekday school – Westminster Presbyterian Church and Weekday School - close to both. From the start, we felt welcomed and nurtured in our faith journey. Lud Weaver was Kentucky and we were Duke, but we put aside our differences and celebrated our new HOME. We embraced the community, Sunday School, and church basketball (as unholy as that was sometimes!). While our decision to join Westminster was based on proximity, our ongoing commitment is based on gratitude.

Our Stewardship Campaign theme is Grateful and Growing. Westminster's mission and ministry are, of course, inspired by Scripture. As our texts from Matthew suggest, we are called to worship, to pray, to give, and to serve. And we are called to do that in a gracious, humble way, with gratitude, not recognition or reward, as our motivation. "Your Father who sees in secret will reward you." We should not do these things for the recognition, "for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven."

I love to explore the Greek and Hebrew words which sometimes seem to be more expressive than our English translations. In Greek, translations of gratitude are "remaining obliged," and "readiness to show appreciation." A Hebrew term for gratitude literally translates to "recognizing the good." Avital Snow, a Messianic Jewish Studies scholar says, "As we recognize the good, gratitude has a way of multiplying and can uplift the soul."

Blending these definitions and philosophies, we can see the mighty power of gratitude and the blessings we are given to be able to say, "I remain obliged to you," and "You uplift my soul." This ethos, so evident in the mission and ministry of WPC, is what allows Westminster to continue to grow.

Our own Giguere Six is now Giguere/Morris/Kester 21(!) and our Westminster representation is at 12. It is so encouraging to see the new member classes at Westminster which confirm the "Growing" element of this campaign. We are welcoming young families, as well as adults who are relocating or seeking a new church home that matches their belief system.

As we enter this Stewardship season, may we remember the many things for which we are grateful, and the ways our family, our faith, and our mission have grown. What will our next season look like if we, too, can say, "I want to give to you, to serve you, and it gives me joy to do so?"

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Gathering@WPC

HIKING GROUP

Friday, October 14

The John Rock Trail Loop

Contact Hike Leader, Durden Collins (durdencollins@gmail.com), if interested.

CONNECTIONS

The Connections Luncheon group will meet at The Lazy Goat (170 River Place) on October 16 at 12:45p after the 11:15a worship service. Please RSVP with Ruth Johnston (ruthjohnst51@gmail.com) by Friday, October 14. Newcomers are welcome!

THEOLOGY READING GROUP

The Theology Reading Group will meet Monday, October 17 at 7p in the Charter Room. Ann Hicks and Bill Holt will lead the discussion of *Saving Us: A Climate Scientist's Case for Hope and Healing in a Divided World* by Katharine Hayhoe. Read the book and join us for an interesting and informative evening. All are welcome.

TRICK OR TREAT

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

On Thursday, October 27, our children will bring joy to residents at the Terra Bella Retirement Home as they go trick-or-treating in their Halloween costumes. Arrive at the church at 5:30p to walk over together to trick or treat with residents. We'll return to the Fellowship Hall for a pizza dinner afterwards! There is no cost, but we ask that you please sign up on the church website under the event registration so that we know how much pizza to buy. Contact Associate Pastor Lauren Slingerland (lslingerland@wpc-online.org) for more information.

Today's Anthem Text:

God Has Work For Us to Do

*'Til all the jails are empty and all the bellies filled;
'til no one hurts or steals or lies, and no more blood is spilled:
God has work for us to do,
'til God's will is done and all things are made new,
God has work for us to do.*

*'Til age and race and gender no longer separate,
politics are free of greed and hate: God has work for us to do,
'til God's will is done and all things are made new,
God has work for us ...*

*In tenement and mansion, in factory, farm, and mill,
in board room and in billiard hall, in wards where time stands still,
in classroom, church, and office, in shops or on the street,
in every place where people thrive, or starve, or hide, or meet,
God has work for us ...*

*By sitting at a bedside to hold pale, trembling hands,
by speaking for the powerless against unjust demands,
by praying through our doing, and singing though we fear,
by trusting that the seed we sow will bring God's harvest near:
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Our Vision:

Open Minds Open Hearts

Our Pillars:

Hospitality

Generosity

Justice

Imagination

Joy

Our Goals:

Connect

Serve

Grow

Our Vision:

Open Minds Open Hearts

Our Pillars:

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