



Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Preparation for **Worship**

Great God, we meet your mystery in the form of Jesus Christ. We believe you, God, and we believe Jesus to be the Messiah; but even when we do not believe, when we are distracted and unaware, we know that Christ calls us still. Help us to recognize your voice among us. May your Holy Spirit give us the strength to go where we are called, that we may learn, O God, what it means to follow with open hearts. In the name of Christ, we pray. Amen.

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.**

Prelude *Steal Away to Jesus* arr. Powell

\* Call to Worship

Leader: The boy Samuel heard God's voice in the night.  
**People: We come listening for God's voice.**  
 Leader: God knew us before we knew ourselves.  
**People: We come listening for God's voice.**  
 Leader: Our minds, bodies, and souls belong to God.  
**People: We come listening for God's voice.**  
 Leader: We come to this place to listen and follow.  
**All: Let us worship God!**

\* Hymn 805 "Come Sing to God" ELLACOMBE

\* Prayer of Confession

**Gracious God, you know us better than we know ourselves.  
 You know our sins even before we confess.  
 Your knowledge is wonderful, but also challenging.  
 We'd much rather avoid painful truths  
 and deny our role in wrongdoing.  
 Help us face our failings with the knowledge and trust  
 that your love is steadfast and more abundant  
 than we can imagine.  
 By your Holy Spirit,  
 work in us and in our lives  
 to lead us to be the community you call us to be.  
 Speaking the truth to one another in love,  
 let us build up one another, in every way,  
 to be ever more like your son, Jesus Christ,  
 in whose name we pray. Amen.**

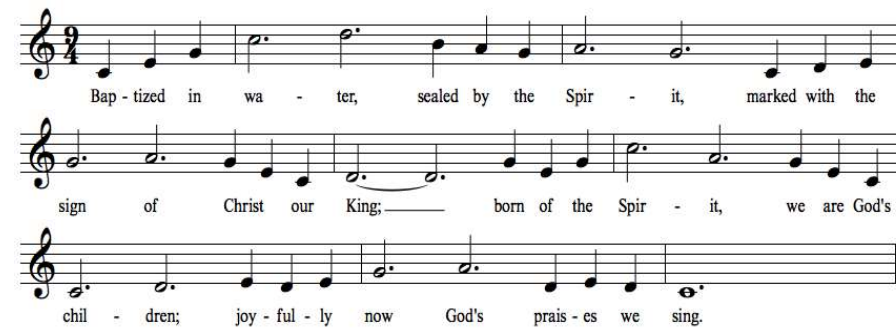
\* Assurance of Pardon

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

\* Gloria Patri, Hymn 581 GLORIA PATRI

**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 *Susanna Mayer Hyman*  
 Congregational Response "Baptized in Water" BUNESSAN



Hearing **God's Word**

Prayer for Illumination  
 Gospel Lesson, *Mark 2:23-3:6* p. 814  
 Old Testament Lesson, *1 Samuel 3:1-20* p. 215

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

Sermon "To Know As We Are Known"

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.****

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  
 Offertory Anthem *A Song of Trust* Schubert

\* Doxology Hymn 606 OLD HUNDREDETH

**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 451 "Open My Eyes, That I May See" OPEN MY EYES

\* Charge and Benediction  
*\*All who are able may stand*

Leading Worship **this Morning**

Lauren Slingerland, *preaching*  
 Leigh Stuckey, *liturgist*  
 Kathryn Freedman, *sponsor*  
 Pam Evans, *scripture reader*  
 Todd Monsell, *piano/organ*  
 Margaret Lowry-Brock, *soloist*  
 Jacob Barker, *head usher*  
 Carrie Marguet, Bill Holt, Claire Gilliland, George Howell, Sam White, *greeters*  
 Sawyer Rentz, *acolyte*

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. The Family Lounge, located down the stairs from the front office and straight down the hallway on the right, is available for any child caregiver and includes worship livestream, comfortable seating, and a changing table.

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 meaning in faith. Please return the zipper bag and its contents each Sunday.

A MESSAGE FROM BEN

Thank you so much for all the texts, cards, messages, and prayers during these past two weeks. My hip replacement surgery went smoothly, and the recovery is going very well. Being on the receiving end of your love and support has been a wonderful source of strength and encouragement for me during this time. I have enjoyed being with you via Livestream each Sunday morning, and look forward to being back with you in person at the beginning of August! In Christ, Ben



Texts for vocal solos and choral music may be found online by scanning this QR code.

Join Us in Welcoming

BAPTISM

This morning we welcome into our fellowship *Susanna Mayer Hyman*, daughter of Ted & McKinley Hyman.

With Thanksgiving We Celebrate BIRTH

The birth of a daughter, *Sutton Wilds Propp*, to McCallum & Heather Propp on Tuesday, June 25, 2024.

With Thanksgiving We Celebrate BIRTHS

The birth of twins, *Sutton LaRue Orren* and *Bodie John Orren*, to John & Olivia Orren on Thursday, June 27, 2024.

With Thanksgiving We Celebrate BIRTH

The birth of a son, *John Robert Riner*, to Michael & Mary-Catherine Riner on Friday, June 28, 2024.

We Remember in Prayer

Jo Walkup on the death of her husband, Dave Walkup, on Monday, July 1, 2024.

CALLED CONGREGATIONAL MEETING:

The Session has called a congregational meeting this Sunday, July 7, immediately following worship. The meeting will be held in the sanctuary. The purpose of the meeting is to hear the report of the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee and to vote on the APNC's recommendation for our next Associate Pastor for Outreach and Congregational Life.

LIGHTLY SEASONED

Lightly Seasoned is a Westminster fellowship group for those in (or near) their fifties and sixties. Our next gathering will be Saturday, July 13, at 6:30p at the home of Mary Jo & Wade Franks (1707 North Main St). Street parking is available on W. Avondale Ave; walk on North Main or up the alley from the rear. Watch your e-mail for more information or check the church's web site ("Connect" then "Events Registration" tabs) or contact Susan Grier (susan@grierfamily.org) for details. We hope to see you there!

YOUNG ADULTS

Join the young adults at the home of David & Anna Hanor (4 Parkins Lake Rd) on July 14, from 4-6p, for a backyard BBQ and pool party. \$10 per adult and \$5 per child, with a family maximum of \$30. Bring a beverage of your choice (no glass). To RSVP, venmo Anna Hanor (@anna\_hanor) with the subject line "WPC BBQ" by Wednesday, July 10. Questions? Email Abbie Coleman (abbie.garrison3@gmail.com).

A GENTLE REMINDER

Summer is an opportunity for vacations, the beach, and time with family and friends. But even when we are away, the church remains active, with our children and youth ministries going strong, the weekday school running throughout the summer, and numerous outside groups using our facilities. In addition, our mission partners depend on us all year long. If possible, we ask you to consider keeping your giving up to date. Thank you for your generosity and faithfulness to God's work at Westminster.

PILGRIMAGE OPPORTUNITIES:

2024 CIVIL RIGHTS PILGRIMAGE  
OCTOBER 11-14

Travel to Charleston to learn more about the Gullah-Geechee community of South Carolina, visit Mother Emmanuel AMC, worship with a historically Black PCUSA congregation organized during Reconstruction, and visit the newly opened International African American Museum in Charleston.

2025 A PILGRIMAGE TO SCOTLAND  
MARCH 12-23

Join us on our inaugural international pilgrimage! The 12-day journey provides a deep dive into the Scottish roots of the Presbyterian Church.

Contact Leigh Stuckey with questions or for more information regarding either, or both, of these pilgrimages.

PLEASANT VALLEY  
COMMUNITY CENTER

Our connection with the Pleasant Valley Community Center continues year round! We invite you to share your hobbies and passions with the children at PVC Summer Camp. There are opportunities for Wednesday and Thursday afternoons all summer. Ideas include sewing, gardening, writing, drawing, playing music, and playing games. Contact Anna Hanor (ahanor@wpc-online.org) to volunteer and for more information.

CAFE JUSTO COFFEE

Today following worship, you will be able to purchase coffee from Cafe Justo. Diane Hughs will be near the coffee station in the Atrium. She will be glad to share more about Cafe Justo's mission.

SUMMER CHOIR

The Summer Choir is off for the month of July and will resume in August with a rehearsal on Wednesday, July 31, at 7p.

SUMMER SERMON SERIES:  
HEARING GOD'S CALL

Ever wonder how we can hear God amidst the noise of our lives? Or perhaps what kind of things God is saying? Throughout the summer we will be exploring call stories in the Old Testament. You'll hear still small voices and booming theophanies with messages ranging from good news to fallen kingships. Join us as we turn our ears to some of Scripture's oldest, most colorful stories and learn to listen for the God who still calls us today.

**THE HARBINGER**  
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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July 7-14, 2024

Sunday, July 7

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost  
9:40a Sunday Session Meeting  
10:00 Worship Service  
11:00 Donut Fellowship

Monday, July 8

8:00p Narcotics Anonymous

Tuesday, July 9

9:15a Weekday Chapel  
12:00p AI-Anon Meeting

Thursday, July 11

8:00p Narcotics Anonymous

Saturday, July 13

6:30p Lightly Seasoned Gathering  
7:00 All Youth to Triumph Game

Sunday, July 14

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost  
9:40a Sunday Session Meeting  
10:00 Worship Service  
11:00 Donut Fellowship  
4:00p Young Adults BBQ

Our Vision:

Open Minds  
Open Hearts

Our Pillars:

Hospitality  
Generosity  
Justice  
Imagination  
Joy

Our Goals:

Connect  
Serve  
Grow

the  
**HARBINGER**  
open minds open hearts

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From the Pews, John MacCarthy

1 Samuel 3:1-21

Have we ever had the difficult task of speaking truth to power? This was Samuel's first calling. Have we ever been punished for a failure in leadership? How have we responded? This was Eli's task.

Samuel is a pivotal person in Hebrew scriptures, and I believe this reading requires some background. Samuel (a Hebrew contraction for "I have asked him from God") was the son of Hannah. The first chapter of this book tells the story of how Hananah, who was barren, was able to conceive with God's help and how she gave Samuel to Eli, the priest at Shiloh, to be brought up as a servant of God. Eli is generally recognized as the last of the Judges and Samuel as one of the first of the Prophets. The second chapter of the book addresses the sins of the house of Eli that are the topic of today's reading.

As a young man, Samuel leads the Israelite army to victory against the Philistines and serves a priest and a judge for Israel. He is later responsible for selecting Saul as the first king of Israel and eventually, in his old age, anointing David as king to replace Saul. The book of 2nd Samuel describes the reign of King David.

In our reading for today, Samuel, a boy of about 12, is being trained for the priesthood by Eli. The Lord wakens Samuel three times by calling his name. He believes it is Eli calling him. The third time Eli tells him it is the Lord. When Samuel answers the fourth calling, as instructed by Eli, the Lord tells Samuel that He will punish the house of Eli because Eli's sons blasphemed God and Eli failed to restrain them. When Eli asks Samuel what the Lord has shared, Samuel tells him. Eli responds with "It is the Lord; let him do what seems good to him."

So, what do we learn from our reading? Samuel makes the difficult choice to speak truth to power "And all Israel from Dan to Beer-Sheba knew that Samuel was a trustworthy prophet of the Lord." Eli's task is more difficult. He has the personal integrity to recognize the truth of what Samuel has told him and the wisdom to reply to this with "It is the Lord; let him do what seems good to him." I hope I have Eli's strength should I ever find myself severely judged.