

# *Westminster Presbyterian Church*

222 Schoolhouse Lane ~ Columbus, OH 43228 ~ 614-878-4623 ~ westminstercolumbus.org

Disciples – Everyone here!

November 17, 2024

26<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

**As we prepare to worship** - "My ego is no longer central... I am no longer driven to impress God. Christ lives in me." (Galatians 2:20)

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**Ringing the church bell calls us to worship**

**Welcome & Prayer Cards**

An "Ask It Basket" will be passed - for your questions for Pastor Jon during the sermon

**Announcements**

**Prelude**

**\*Call to Worship** - Rachel Hackenburg devotional and Psalm 65:7-11a

Tumultuous waves are too jarring and too loud.

**They pop like gunfire, they scream like missiles,**

they weep like hunger, they groan like grief.

**With every crash of another wave, boats capsize**

and children's cries are lost in the vast turmoil.

**When the waves are unrelenting,**

we pray to God to calm the storms...

**When the days are overwhelming,**

we pray to God for the gift of grace,

**We pray for the dignity of a deep breath,**

for the beauty of holy timeliness.

**"God silences the roaring of the seas;**

God silences the tumult of the peoples.

**God visits the earth ... and waters its furrows abundantly,**

settling its ridges, softening it with showers, and blessing its growth.

**God crowns the year with God's bounty.**

Let us worship God with joy and thanksgiving.

**\*Hymn** "Called as Partners in Christ's Service" # 761

We begin worship with a hymn of praise. Why praise? St. Francis praised God in his frailty and pain for the same reasons he praised God when he was stronger and well: because God is good, the world is beautiful, life is a relentless gift and love never ends. He praised God because he still had breath in his body, and what is breath for if not praise?

## **Call to Confession** (Please be seated)

Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my help and my God. (42:5–6) The “why” of this refrain—addressed to his own soul—is mirrored by another even more disturbing “why” question, addressed to God: “Why have you forgotten me?” (42:9). L. R. Knost has written “It’s not our job to toughen our children up to face a cruel and heartless world. It’s our job to raise children who will make the world a little less cruel and heartless.”

## **Unison Prayer of Confession**

We need to confess our confusion about God as the constant source of love in our hurting world as we each yearn for companionship.

**God, lover of life, lover of these lives, lover of our souls, lover of our bodies, lover of all that exists: It is your love that keeps it all alive.... May we live in this love. May we never doubt this love. May we know that we are love, that we were created for love, that we are a reflection of you, that you love yourself in us and therefore we are perfectly lovable. May we never doubt this deep and abiding and perfect goodness. We are because you are.**

...a time of silent prayer...

## **Declaration of Forgiveness** - Quinn C. Caldwell devotional

As water is poured in the baptismal font, remember. “God has your name written on the palm of God’s hand! Right next to everybody else’s. You truly are wonderful. Truly, so is everyone else.”

Because of Jesus Christ and his grace,  
**we are all forgiven. Thank you, God!**

**\*Joyful Response** “You Are the Lord, Giver of Mercy” # 437

## **\*Pass the Peace of Christ**

The Peace of the Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

## **Service of Installation**

There are different gifts,  
**but it is the same Spirit who gives them.**

There are different ways of serving God,  
**but it is the same Lord who is served.**

God works through different people in different ways,

**but it is the same God who achieves His purposes through them all.**

Each person here is given a gift by the Spirit to use it for the common good.

**Together we are the body of Christ and individually members of Him.**

The Invitation – Elder Karen Flowers

Questions for Linda Crumley, serving again as an elder and Marsha Ross, serving again as a deacon.

Questions for the congregation.

### **Prayer for Illumination**

God's first act of divine revelation is creation itself, the Bible of nature. It was written at least 13.8 billion years ago, at the moment that we call the Big Bang, long before the Bible of words... Don't dare put the second Bible in the hands of people who have not sat lovingly at the feet of the first Bible. They will invariably manipulate, mangle, and murder the written text... Holy people will find God in nature and everywhere else too.

Chew on those words for a while!

Let us pray. God, thank you for the first Bible of nature and for your second Bible we read today. Come, Holy Spirit. Amen.

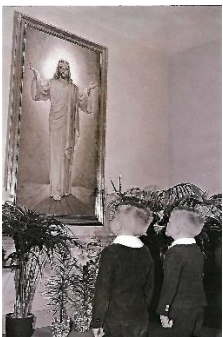
**Old Testament Lesson** Isaiah 6:1-8 – God commissions Isaiah  
The Word of God for the People of God. **Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Lesson** Mark 3:13-19 Jesus calls disciples  
The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon** "They Climbed Together" (Ask-It Basket)

"He climbed a mountain and invited those he wanted with him.  
They climbed together." (Mark 3:13)

Rev. Jonathan T. Carlisle, Gap Pastor



**\*Hymn** "Love the Lord Your God" (Matthew 22:37) # 62

### **Invitation to Our Joyful and Generous Stewardship Together**

We're all in this together. As Jesus preached and taught and lived, we are all neighbors to one another, responsible to care for each other. We are to be Good Samaritans for any person wounded and left on the side of the road.

### **Offertory**

**\*Doxology** "Take My Life" # 697 **Stanza 4**

**\*Prayer of Dedication** Mechthild was a 13<sup>th</sup> century German Christian mystic. Her prayer expresses her gratitude to God for her powerlessness, speaking as a beggar woman to God:

**Lord, I thank You. When in Your love you have taken from me all earthly riches, You now clothe and feed me through the goodness of others, so that I no longer know those things that might clothe my heart in pride of possession. Lord, I thank You that since You have taken my sight from me, You serve me through the eyes of others. Lord, I thank You that since You have taken from me the strength of my hands and the strength of my heart, You now serve me with the hands and hearts of others. Then I shall no longer complain when what You do does not suit my wishes... In gratitude I ask you to bless my offerings of time and treasure this morning. In Jesus' name. Amen.**

### **Sharing of Joys and Concerns**

**Prayer Chorus** "Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying" # 469

Lord, listen to your children praying. Lord, send your Spirit in this place.

Lord, listen to your children praying. Send us love; send us power; send us grace.

### **Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer**

**\*Hymn** "Take My Life" # 697 **Stanzas 1-3**

**\*Benediction** - II Thessalonians 2:16-17

**\*Postlude**



### Our Mission - our purpose

To bring God's word to everyone, that God loves **everyone**, including you. The Gospel calls us not to just preach, but also to practice Christ's compassion for all by serving others and leaving no one out.

### Vision – our roadmap

The vision of Westminster Presbyterian Church is to build our community of Christ with love and care. We are committed to reaching across the street, and around the world to proclaim the Gospel.

### **Serving Westminster Presbyterian Church**

Our Session - Elders – Linda Crumley, Trent Rowe, Karen Flowers & Lynne Kelly (Clerk)

Our Deacons - Jim Benney, Carol Jones, Marsha Ross & Joyce Sizemore

Church staff – Karen Flowers, Sexton      Rene Miller, Treasurer  
Rev. Jonathan T. Carlisle, Gap Pastor      Olivia Mitchem, Pianist

### **Announcements**

Next Sunday is Christ the King Sunday (the last Sunday before Advent). Christ the King Sunday began being observed in the mid 1920s, a practice instituted by Pope Pius XI out of a concern for the growing secularism and the rise of fascism in Europe following WWI. Read Revelation 1:4-8. Jesus is our prophet, priest and king and we are to follow him in those roles.

Nothing that is worth doing can be achieved in our lifetime; therefore we must be saved by hope. Nothing which is true or beautiful or good makes complete sense in any immediate context of history; therefore we must be saved by faith. Nothing we do, however virtuous, can be accomplished alone; therefore we are saved by love. No virtuous act is quite as virtuous from the standpoint of our friend or foe as it is from our standpoint. Therefore we must be saved by the final form of love which is forgiveness.

—Reinhold Niebuhr, *The Irony of American History*

Continued on p. 6

**Lunch Bunch - Tuesday, November 19<sup>th</sup> 11:30am - Meeting at Tres Portillos on Galloway Road**

**Bible Study**

There has been some interest in a Bible Study being offered for folks from Westminster and Galloway churches. It would be during the week, and probably run for 45 minutes.

Advent seems like a good time to try this. So, here are some suggested days and times:

Tuesday 11:00 - 12:00

Wednesday 10:30-11:30

Thursday 11-12, or 3-4

If you are interested, please email me ([thomshuman79@gmail.com](mailto:thomshuman79@gmail.com)) and indicate the best days and times for you. If you don't have email, you can call the church and leave a message at 614-878-5015.

Thanks,

Pastor Thom  
Galloway Presbyterian Church