

Westminster Presbyterian Church

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

Disciples – Everyone here!

November 24, 2024

27th Sunday after Pentecost

Christ the King Sunday

As we prepare to worship – “Then the end will come, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father after he has destroyed all dominion, authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death.” (I Corinthians 15:24-25)

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Ringing the church bell calls us to worship

Welcome & Prayer Cards

Announcements

Introduction to Christ the King Sunday

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. He wrote "When once men recognize, both in private and in public life, that Christ is King, society will at last receive the great blessings of real liberty, well-ordered discipline, peace and harmony."... King Jesus does not coerce or intimidate, nor does he use violence or bribery to get his way.

Prelude

***Call to Worship**

Liturgist Karen Flowers

We gather to worship Jesus Christ as prophet, priest and king. Jesus is our prophet.

“Moses said, ‘The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you must listen to everything he tells you. Anyone who does not listen to him will be completely cut off from their people.’” (Acts 3:22-23).

We gather to worship Jesus Christ as our priest.

“Therefore, holy brothers and sisters, who share in the heavenly calling, fix your thoughts on Jesus, whom we acknowledge as our apostle and high priest.” (Hebrews 3:1)

We gather to worship Jesus Christ as our king.

“They will wage war against the Lamb, but the Lamb will triumph over them because he is Lord of lords and King of kings-- and with him will be his called, chosen and faithful followers.”

(Revelation 17:14). "The Lord will extend your mighty scepter from Zion, saying, 'Rule in the midst of your enemies!'" (Psalm 1:2)

Let us worship Jesus Christ – prophet, priest and king.

***Hymn** "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come" # 367

Call to Confession (Please be seated) from Very Rev. Randy Holerith

In Luke 15:1-10, Jesus called us to seek the one lost sheep and leave the 99, reminding us that whenever law and grace are in conflict with one another, God always chooses grace.

Unison Prayer of Confession

We confess together, Lord. Keep us from following the gods of pride, stubbornness, vanity, sloth, greed, and comfort that beckon for our allegiance every day. You brought us through the night watches, you who neither slumber nor sleep. We pray to follow you along the path of generosity, humility and love throughout this day. In Jesus' name. Amen.

...a time of silent prayer...

Declaration of Forgiveness

As water is poured in the baptismal font, let us remember our Baptisms and God's words "I will pour out water upon thirsty ground and streams upon dry land. I will pour out my spirit upon your descendants and my blessing upon your offspring" (Is 44:3).

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.**

Prayer for Illumination

Let us pray. Lord, may the meditations of my heart be found acceptable to you, our rock and our redeemer. Amen.

Old Testament Lesson Isaiah 41:1-6

Scripture – "The Bible vindicates itself because it is such excellent medicine. It has never failed to cure a single patient if only he took his prescription honestly," (Dr. Howard Atwood Kelly, a surgeon).

The Word of God for the People of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Reading from the Psalms - Psalm 73:12-18

This Psalm celebrates the sovereignty of God and God's faithfulness.
Dispel our illusions, Jesus, that we might see the wisdom of your ways.

So then, there are the wicked:

always at ease, they increase their wealth.

In vain have I kept my heart clean

and washed my hands in innocence.

I have been afflicted all day long

and punished every morning.

Had I gone on speaking this way

I should have betrayed the generation of your children.

When I tried to understand these things

it was too hard for me.

Until I entered the sanctuary of God

and discerned the end of the wicked.

Surely you set them in slippery places.

You cast them down in ruin.

ALL: **Dispel our illusions, Jesus, that we might see the wisdom of your way.**

Gospel Lesson John 18:33-38

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Reading from Revelation Revelation 1:4-8

Sermon "I Am the Alpha and the Omega"

"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty." (Revelation 1:8)

Jesus is our prophet, priest and king and we are to follow in those roles.

Rev. Jonathan T. Carlisle, Gap Pastor

***Hymn** "O Worship the King, All Glorious Above!" # 41

Invitation to Our Joyful and Generous Stewardship Together

Fifth century monk Milus of Turkey wrote "We should remain within the limits imposed by our basic needs and strive with all our power not to exceed them. For once we are carried a little beyond these limits in our desire for the pleasures of life, there is then no criterion by which to check our onward movement, since no bounds can be set to that which exceeds the necessary."

Offertory

***Doxology** "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" # 606

***Prayer of Dedication** written by Frances Ridley Havergal, 1874

Lord, take my silver and my gold; not a mite would I withhold. Take my intellect and use every power as thou shalt choose, every power as thou shalt choose. 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** "When Peace Like a River" ("It Is Well with My Soul") # 840

***Unison Prayer** – Teresa of Avila (1515-1582) Spanish nun and mystic

"Lord Jesus, I believe that You are able and willing to deliver me from all the care and unrest and bondage of my life. I believe that You died to set me free, not only in the future, but here and now. I believe You are stronger than my sin, and can keep me, even me, in my weakness, from falling...."

"Lord, I am going to trust You to keep me. I have tried keeping myself and I have failed. So now I will trust You. I give myself to You... Body, soul and spirit, I present myself to You...."

"And I believe You accept that which I present to You... So I trust You completely, O God, and I trust You now." In Jesus' name. Amen.

***Benediction**

from Rev. Katy Shevel, a Presbyterian pastor near Philadelphia

***Postlude**



Westminster Presbyterian Church was founded April 8, 1956
We are one of eighty-four member congregations
of the Presbytery of Scioto Valley; and the
Synod of the Covenant – 11 presbyteries and nearly 700 congregations
mainly in Ohio and Michigan

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

For the first Sunday of Advent next Sunday, the sanctuary will be prepared with the "Hanging of the Greens. Thank you to our volunteers. Beginning next week candles of Hope, Peace, Joy and Love will be lit on our Advent wreath, adding more and more light until the Christ candle is lit on Christmas Eve. Our Christmas Eve service will be held from 3:00-3:45 on Tuesday afternoon during the daylight. The service will include a Christmas story and the Christmas Eve candlelighting.

Book Discussion, Tuesday, Nov 26th – 1pm, Jean Wills house.

Live Nativity, Friday, Dec 6th – live nativity. We still need some assistants, sign up sheet in the narthex.

Harp Concert, Tuesday, Dec 10th – 7pm, all welcome.

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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 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

Flu shots for homebound individuals living in Franklin County - If you or a friend are need of a flu shot, but are homebound, you can call the health dept to schedule a home visit to receive one. The number is 614-645-6881.