

Westminster Presbyterian Church

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

Disciples – Everyone here!

February 2, 2025

10:30 A.M.

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

As we prepare to worship - O God, we thank you for giving us wisdom when we don't know the best way forward for Westminster Presbyterian. Help us to set the sails of our worship and fellowship today to catch the wind of your Holy Spirit. Amen.

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Ringing the church bell calls us to worship

Welcome & Announcements

Prayer requests – joys and concerns

Prelude

***Call to Worship** Psalm 46 paraphrase by Leslie F. Brandt

Pam Johnston, Liturgist

Our God is still our refuge and strength.

God knows our problems and our fears.

Therefore we have no business doubting God

even though the earth is convulsed in tragedy.

God's eternal plan is not canceled by the whims of human leaders

or the freakish accidents of nature.

God is here among us. God continues to be our refuge and our strength. Therefore we can worship with joy and gladness.

***Hymn** "To God Be the Glory" # 634

Call to Confession (Please be seated)

Do you believe "While we were yet sinners Christ died for our sins?" (Romans 5:6) Why did Jesus die before we even sinned? To show us nothing could separate us from his love for each and every one of us.

Unison Prayer of Confession

Good Shepherd, save me from trying to fix other people. Repair me with your love and grace. As you love me without strings, show me how to love my unlovable neighbors. Put into my mind the words to keep dialogue happening even when I am upset inside. Because you have listened to me, inspire me to listen to others with the same care and patience. Holy Spirit, hear our silent prayers of confession...

Declaration of Forgiveness

When you put your trust in Christ as your Savior, God sees you "in Christ." The words "in Christ" appear 78 times in the New Testament. When God looks at you, He doesn't see you with all your flaws and imperfections; He sees you "in Christ". You are accepted by God for who you are... and who you can become.

Because of Jesus Christ, and by his grace, we are all forgiven.

Thank you, God!

***Joyful Response** stanza 5 "Blest Be the Tie That Binds" # 306
**From sorrow, toil, and pain, and sin we shall be free;
And perfect love and friendship reign through all eternity.**

***Pass the Peace of Christ**

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

Prayer for Illumination

"By your words I can see where I'm going; they throw a beam of light on my dark path... Everything's falling apart on me, God. Put me together again with your Word". Amen.

Scripture Lessons - Jeremiah 1:4-10 and I Corinthians 13:1-13

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

Gospel Lesson Luke 4:20-30

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

Sermon "With Our Eyes Fixed on Jesus"

"And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him."... Luke 4:20
Rev. Jonathan T. Carlisle, Pastor

***Statement of Faith** From "A Brief Statement of Faith" written after the merger in 1983 of the two largest groups of Presbyterians in the US

What do we believe?

In life and in death we belong to God.

**Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit,
we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel,
whom alone we worship and serve...**

We trust in God the Holy Spirit,

**everywhere the giver and renewer of life.
The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,
sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor,
and binds us together with all believers
in the one body of Christ, the Church.
The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles
rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,
engages us through the Word proclaimed,
claims us in the waters of baptism,
feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,
and calls women and men to all ministries of the church.
In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray
without ceasing,
to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,
to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.
In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,
we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks
and to live holy and joyful lives,
even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth,
praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"**

**With believers in every time and place,
we rejoice that nothing in life or in death
can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

**Focus on Mission – Souper Bowl offering next Sunday for the
Westland Area Food Pantry.**

Invitation to Our Joyful and Generous Stewardship Together –

John Wesley said. Do all the good you can, by all the means you can,
in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can,
to all the people you can, as long as ever you can.

Offertory

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

***Prayer of Dedication**

My open hands **for Jesus to receive;**
My open mind **for Jesus to teach;**
My willful spirit **for Jesus to forgive;**
My best and greatest effort **for Jesus alone;**
My surrender **for Jesus to be Lord;**
My humility **for Jesus' sovereignty;**
My emptiness **for Jesus to fill;**
My open heart **for Jesus to love. Amen.**

***Hymn** "Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak" # 722

The Invitation to the Lord's Supper

All who believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and confess their sins are invited by him to come to his table.

"Our deepest hungers God will satisfy for God is life and peace and rest and drink and food...and joins us here... No one is a stranger here, everyone belongs. Finding our forgiveness here, we in turn forgive all wrongs. We are the family of which the Lord is head." God meets us here. Come take the bread; come drink the wine, Come share the Lord.

(Words by Brian Jefferey Leech "Come Share the Lord" *Glory to God* #510)

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God our thanks and praise.

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving, Prayers of the People and 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.**

Acclamation of Faith

According to Christ's commandment:

#553 "Christ Has Died; Christ Is Risen; Christ Will Come Again"

The Words of Institution and Celebration of the Feast

Please hold on to the bread until all have been served. Hold onto the juice until all have been served. We will eat the bread together and drink the juice together as the Body of Christ.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

***Hymn** "Now Thank We All Our God" #643

***Benediction**

***Postlude**



Westminster Presbyterian Church was founded December 4, 1955. We are one of eighty-three 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, Pam Johnston, Carol Jones & Joyce Sizemore

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

Announcements

Join us next Sunday at 10:00 for a time of **fellowship** with coffee and a treat! **Worship Committee** will meet at 11:45.

Anyone with ideas for our **70th Anniversary** celebration in 2025 is welcome to share thoughts or serve on a planning committee. We had a number of volunteers sign up last Sunday to serve on a planning committee.

Copies of our **Annual Report, Westminster Contact List** and our **Pictorial Directory** are available at the back of the sanctuary.

During last week's sermon Pastor Jon mentioned a **neighborhood gathering** for a movie night with refreshments. If you are interested in helping out in some way, please see Michael Yalley.

In preparation for next Sunday's worship, please read Luke 5:1-10 for Pastor Jon's sermon **Get Into the Boat!** "When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, 'Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch.'"