

Westminster Presbyterian Church

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

Disciples – Everyone here!

Gap Pastor – Rev. Jonathan T. Carlisle

Pianist – Olivia Mitchem

September 22, 2024

17th Sunday after Pentecost

As we prepare to worship - The most powerful way to resist evil is to sit with good friends who have turned their faces to God." (Rumi, a 13th century Muslim poet)

+ + +

Ringing the church bell calls us to worship

Welcome & Prayer Cards

Announcements

Prelude



Johann Sebastian Bach (born 1685) once said, "I play the notes as they are written, but it is God who makes the music."

***Call to Worship** Psalm 138:4-6 Liturgist Carol Jones

All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O Lord,

for they have heard the words of your mouth.

They shall sing of the ways of the Lord,

for great is the glory of the Lord.

For though the Lord is high, he regards the lowly,

but the haughty he perceives from far away.

Let us sing together because God has called us to be together today!

***Hymn** "When Morning Gilds the Skies" # 667

It was pleasant being in their midst, especially when I got them to sing. I told them, "This is an ugly election year when half of the people believe the other half is crazy, so let's stand and sing together in the dark, no matter what you think." (Garrison Keillor)

Call to Confession (Please be seated)

Don't befriend angry people or associate with hot-tempered people, or you will learn to be like them and endanger your soul.

Unison Prayer of Confession words by L.R. Knost

Show us how not to be hardened by the pain and cruelty of this world. Show us how to be strong enough to be gentle, to be soft and supple like running water, gracefully bending around sudden turns, lithely waving in strong winds, freely flowing over sharp rocks, all the while quietly sculpting this hard world into ever deeper beauty, gently eroding rigid rock into silken sand, tenderly transforming our human cruelty into humankindness. Let us be the true strength not found in the stone, but in the water that shapes the stone. Hear our silent prayers...

...a time of silent prayer...

Declaration of Forgiveness from Isaiah 44:3

As water is poured into the baptismal font, God speaks to Isaiah. "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 children." The Holy Spirit is like flowing water and pouring rain.

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

***Joyful Response** "You Belong to Christ" # 492

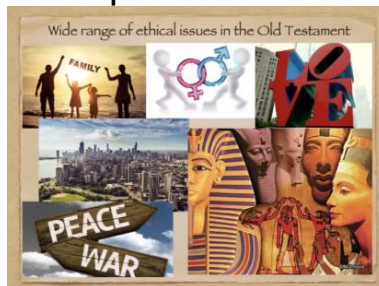
***Pass the Peace of Christ**

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

Prayer for Illumination

Let us pray. Lord, help me to see myself more clearly today. Let your Word illumine my path, illumine my heart and illumine my mind. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Old Testament Lesson Isaiah 59:15-20 God Will Intervene
The Word of God for the People of God. **Thanks be to God.**

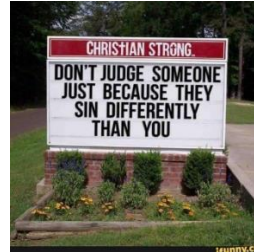


Gospel Lesson Luke 6:27-38 Behaving As God's Children
The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon "Who Are You Voting For?"

"If someone slaps you in the face, stand there and take it... Our Father is kind; you be kind." (Luke 6:29, 36)

Rev. Jonathan T. Carlisle, Gap Pastor



A Time of Silence

David learned to wait on God and "meditate, consider, and inquire in His temple" (Ps 27:4). Waiting and listening takes the focus off us and places it on God, who is the answer to all our needs.

*Confession of Faith Heidelberg Catechism

Question 1 What is your only comfort in life and in death?

Answer: **That I am not my own, but belong – body and soul, in life and in death – to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven; in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to him, Christ by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.**

*Hymn "Help Us Accept Each Other" # 754

Invitation to Our Joyful and Generous Stewardship Together

Where did you put your sticky note last Sunday? "Remember to be grateful today."

Offertory

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

*Prayer of Dedication - from *Common Prayer*

Lord, turn our praises into hands that clothe the naked, arms that comfort the afflicted, tables that host the stranger, and shoulders that support the weary so that your name may be praised by those who live and die with their backs against the wall. 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** "Christ Be Beside Me" # 702

***Benediction** – Ephesians 3:17-19

***Postlude**



Westminster Presbyterian Church is one of eighty-four member congregations of the Presbytery of Scioto Valley.
Founded April 8, 1956

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 - Trent Rowe, Karen Flowers & Lynne Kelly (Clerk)

Our Deacons - Jim Benney, Pam Johnston, Carol Jones & Joyce Sizemore

Announcements

We continue to pray for all of our members and friends in our "Contact List." You may pray for that person's health or joy or healing. You may write them a note or email or call. You may ask them if they have a special request for prayer. "Be cheerful no matter what; pray all the time; thank God no matter what happens. This is the way God wants you who belong to Christ Jesus to live," (I Thessalonians 5:26-28 *The Message*). Begin today with the family of Darlene Pershing who died July 7th and pray for a new person each day... Jerry Ridenour on Monday; Lloyd Ross on Tuesday; Marsha Ross on Wednesday; Lucas Rowe on Thursday; Bekah Rowe on Friday; and Trent Rowe on Saturday.

There will be no **Sunday School** on Sunday mornings until further notice. We are considering a weekday afternoon. Please see Lynne Kelly if you are considering attending.

We will receive the annual **Peacemaking and Global Witness Offering** a week later this year, on October 13th. There will a Moment for Mission on October 13th and information on the bulletin board. If you would like to download a free copy of a daily devotional, google "2024 Devotional Guide for a Season of Peace." It features 29 Presbyterians who have displayed uncommon dedication to making a difference in the world around them.

Book discussion group, Tue Sept 24th – 1 PM meeting at Jean Wills, 239 Deerfield Rd, Columbus, OH 43228

October newsletter coming! September's newsletter was GREAT! We had a lot of information to share and many authors. I'd like to see the newsletter be a way for all of the congregation to share information as well as your talents. If you wrote a poem, book review, had a fun adventure, or anything else, please either hand write it out, email it to me, or give me a typed paper copy. I need time to get everything assembled, so deadline date will be by the 25th of the month to give me items. Thank you! Melinda