

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 12, 2021

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Gathering Music – *Lift High the Cross* Donald Busarow

Prayer of Preparation

God of John, Elijah, and all the prophets, in Christ you came to lead us in the way of everlasting life. Set our minds on holy things so that we may have the courage to take up the cross and follow you; through Jesus the Messiah. Amen.

Chiming of the Hour

Greeting and Announcements Tommy Suttle

Call to Worship (responsive)

Wisdom cries out in the streets:

Listen to my word and live.

Jesus calls out to the church:

Take up the cross and follow me.

Let us worship God.

* Hymn of Praise 20 – *All Things Bright and Beautiful*

* Call to Confession

It is only by the power of God that we are able to stand against evil. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

* Prayer of Confession (unison)

Merciful God, we confess that we have not followed your way. We protect what is dear to us and neglect what is dear to you. We preserve our own way of life and profit at the expense of others. Forgive us, God of grace. Show us the error of our ways, and guide us back to your path of righteousness, justice, and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

(time for silent confession)

* Declaration of Forgiveness (responsive)

Now stand firm in your faith, covered by the saving grace of God and ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God.

* The Congregation's Response: *Gloria Patri* Hymn 581

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.

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Time with Children

Christopher Crotwell and Tommy Suttle

Prayer for Illumination

God of every generation, by the wisdom of your Word and the power of your Spirit, help us to comprehend the height and depth and breadth and length of your great love for us; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

First Reading – James 3:1-12

pew Bible pg. 981

The Word of the LORD.

Thanks be to God!

Anthem – *How Great Thou Art*

arr. by Dan Forrest

O Lord my God! O Lord by God! How great Thou art!

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
consider all the worlds Thy hands have made,
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy power throughout the universe displayed.

Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee,
how great Thou art, how great Thou art!

Then sings my soul, my Savior God, my Savior to Thee,
how great Thou art, how great Thou art!

When through the woods and forest glades I wander
and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur,
and hear the brook, and feel the gentle breeze.

Then sings my soul, how great Thou art!
And when I think God, His Son, not sparing,
sent Him to die, I scarce can take it
Then sings my soul, how great Thou art.

That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,
He bled and died to take my sin.
Then sings my soul, how great Thou art!

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration,
and there proclaim, "My God, how great Thou art!"

Second Reading – Mark 8:27-38

pew Bible pg. 820

The Word of the LORD.

Thanks be to God!

GIVE THANKS TO GOD

* Hymn of Thanksgiving 718 – *Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said*

* Affirmation of Faith: (unison) The Apostles' Creed (Hymnal pg. 35)

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 life everlasting. Amen

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer (unison)

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.

Invitation to Offering

Every generous act of giving is itself a gift from God above. As people of faith and action, let us offer our lives to the Lord. (time for silence)

Offertory – *I Danced in the Morning*

Robert Lau

* The Doxology – Hymn 606

* Prayer of Dedication (unison)

We give you thanks and praise, O God, for you have chosen the poverty of the world to make your people rich in faith. Help us to put our faith into practice through the offering of our lives—giving food to the hungry, clothes to the naked, and shelter to the poor; all for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord, your Word made flesh. Amen.

GO IN GOD'S NAME

* Hymn of Consecration 264 – *At the Name of Jesus*

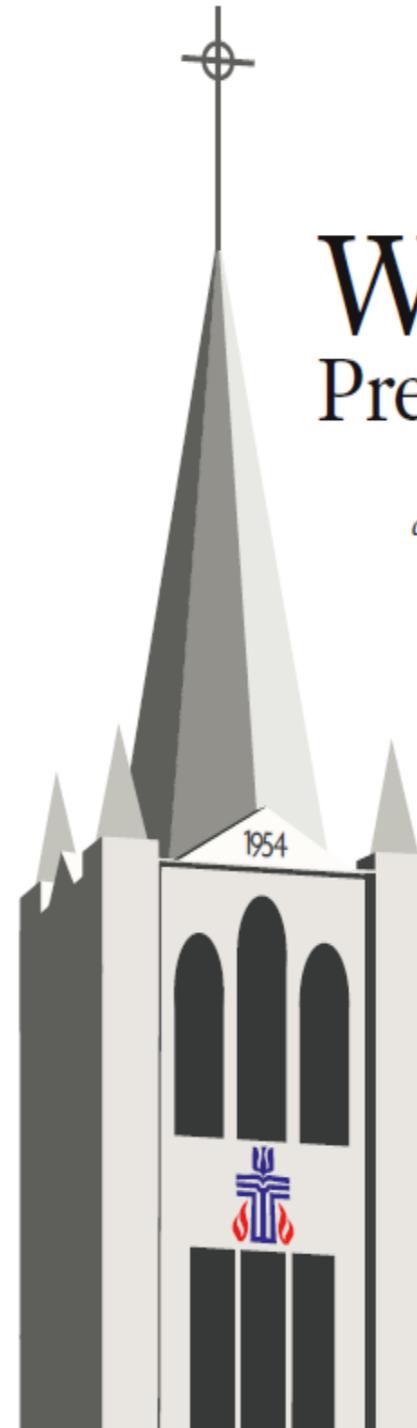
* Charge and Blessing

* Postlude – *Jubilation*

Jason D. Payne



* Please stand at the * as you are able. Unison readings are **printed in bold**.



Westminster Presbyterian Church

"So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation—everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!"

II Corinthians 5:17

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PRAYERS FOR HEALING AND STRENGTH

Telina Birch, friend of Nancy Johnson – covets prayers for endurance and strength
JoAnn Clarke, sister of Glenda Brown – at home recuperating
Katie Cole, granddaughter-in-law of Glenda Miller – continuing chemo
Dr. Tim Cole, friend of Mary Cromartie – pancreatic cancer
Deena Crawford, B.J. Lambert's daughter – prayers for health and endurance
Chip Edmonson, Chad Edmonson's father – recovering from surgery
Fluffy Fair
Lisa Fairchild, Kathy Cain's new administrator – radiation
Jeanette Fulmer, friend of the Forsyth's – diagnosed with cancer
Craig Garner for health issues and job search for Cyndi
Wendy Graham, Jan Bozeman's sister – continued prayers
Mary Halliwell, friend of Mary Cromartie – pancreatic cancer
Margie Hollingsworth, Maggie Sheetz's daughter – battling breast cancer
Yennefer Herrera, Alejandro Herrera's daughter
Samantha "Sam" Hood, friend of Pam Love's daughter – future reconstructive surgeries
Jennie Jackson, friend of Nancy Johnson – breast cancer
Emily Johnson, Ann Johnson's granddaughter – recovering from colon surgery
Ben Jones, close friend and band mate of Wes Brooks – battling colon and lung cancer
Geraldine Jones – special prayers for her family
Roger Kuyrkendall, Carrie Creel's father – dementia
B.J. Lambert – prayers for endurance and strength
Stephanie Liddell, Geri Jones' daughter – health issues
Bernice McIntosh, Mac Forsyth's aunt – declining health
Carolyn McLarnan – breast cancer
Alice "Ace" Miller – recovering from hip surgery and COVID
Becky Nobles, Glenn Nobles' sister-in-law – recurring cancer
Julie Reid, Carolyn McLarnan's niece – non-Hodgkin's lymphoma
Sheema Reid, Carolyn McLarnan's sister-in-law – infusion therapy
Mimi Mitchell Roy, Bill Mitchell's sister – grave health issues
Larry Royals
Jeannette Russell, Janet Burke's twin sister – serious health issues
Teressa Seals, friend of Nancy Johnson – 2nd reconstructive surgery
Allen Stanton, friend of Ben Yelverton – back home in Clinton, receiving treatment at UMMC
Luke Henry Swanzy, friend of Nancy Johnson – 16-year-old in hospital with 3 viruses
Kathy Vail, accompanist at Main Street Methodist and Meistersingers – breast cancer
Glenda Vaughn, Ruthie Davis' niece – health issues
John Watkins, Rose Marie Yore's brother – prayers for healing
Richard and Ella Young, Janet Baldwin's sister and brother-in-law – Richard has Alzheimer's
Mike Zubajlo, Glenda Miller's son-in-law – prayers for success in trial at NIH

Prayers for our nurses, doctors and healthcare workers

PRAYERS OF COMFORT

For the people affected by Hurricane Ida



Greeting and Announcements

Welcome to Westminster! We're very glad to see you in worship. We hope you will sense Christ's presence. If you are looking for a place to grow and serve, we'd love to tell you more about us. Please silence cell phones during the worship hour.

The September/October Today devotionals are on the narthex cabinet.



Blessing of Backpacks is today during Time with Children. Please come forward with your backpacks. (If you forgot your backpack, please come forward anyway.)

The deacons meet today after worship and the Session will meet Sept. 26, at 11:35 a.m.

Youth and Children will meet today from 5-6:30 p.m. A meal will be provided.

PW Circles 1 & 2 meet Tuesday, Sept. 14. **Circle 1** meets in the parlor at 9:30 a.m. and **Circle 2** meets at 6:30 p.m. at the church.

Brown Bag Bible Study meets Tuesday at 11 a.m. via ZOOM and in person in the parlor. Contact the office for ZOOM information.

All **Men of the Church** are invited to meet Thursday, Sept. 16, at 6:30 a.m. in Montague Hall for breakfast.

Grades 3-5 and Youth will sell \$10 parking slots Saturday, Sept. 18, starting at 3 p.m. for the USM game.



New Beginnings is Monday, Sept. 20, at noon. Our program will be provided by Mac Forsyth and some of his co-workers who assist him in his job as a youth court judge. Come join us. Please RSVP to Tommy or Martha.



Please join us for Wednesday night dinner this week at 5:30. There is no charge for the meal, but donations are encouraged. We need a headcount, so please place a reservation slip in the offering plate or call the office.

Menu: Adults—Poppy seed chicken, green beans, green salad, rolls, and dessert
Children—menu available

Starting at 6, the activities are:

Youth will meet upstairs in the youth room.

Children's Choir will meet upstairs in the rotation Sunday school room.

The Adults will meet in Montague Hall. Christopher and Tommy will alternate teaching a study of the Gospel of Luke.

Chancel Choir will meet at 7.

Youth and Children's new Sunday School classes will start Sept. 19.