

# The Lord's Service

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*The Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time*

SEPTEMBER 10, 2023



Westminster Presbyterian Church

POST TENEBRAS LUX

## PRELUDE

*Please use the prelude as a time of silent preparation for the worship of the Triune God.*

## GREETING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### ⊗ WESTMINSTER SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 103:

Q. What do we pray for in the third petition?

**A. In the third petition, which is, “Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven,” we pray that God, by His grace, would make us able and willing to know, obey, and submit to His will in all things, as the angels do in heaven.**

### ⊗ CALL TO WORSHIP

2 CORINTHIANS 4:6

God who said, “Out of darkness the light shall shine!”  
is the same God who made light shine in our hearts

**to bring us the knowledge of God’s glory shining in the face of Christ.**

### ⊗ PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of holiness and light, in the mystery of dying and rising with Christ you have established a new covenant of reconciliation. Cleanse our hearts, and give a new spirit to all your people, that your saving grace may be professed and proclaimed to the whole world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### ⊗ HYMN OF PRAISE

*Amazing Grace!*

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## CONFESSION OF SINS

**Eternal God, in whom we live and move and have our being, whose face is hidden from us by our sins, and whose mercy we forget in the blindness of our hearts: Cleanse us from all our offenses, and deliver us from proud thoughts and vain desires, that with reverent and humble hearts we may draw near to you, confessing our faults, confiding in your grace, and finding in you our refuge and our strength; through Jesus Christ your Son. Amen.**

## THE KYRIE ELEISON

*Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.*



## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

### ⌘ RESPONSIVE READING OF THE LAW

Hear, O people of God, the law that the Lord speaks in your hearing this day, that you may know his statutes and walk according to his ordinances.

**Teach us, O Lord, the grace of your law, and give us life by your Word.**

The God who saved us in Jesus Christ gave this law, saying: I am the Lord your God! You shall have no other gods before me.

**We will worship the Lord our God and serve only him.**

You shall not make for yourself an image of anything to worship it.

**Living no more in bondage to earthly gods, we will worship the Lord our God in spirit and in truth.**

You shall not misuse the name of the Lord.

**We will use the holy name of God with reverence, praising him in everything we do and say.**

You shall observe the Sabbath day by keeping it holy, for in six days you shall labor and do all your work.

**This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

You shall honor your father and mother, that you may live long in the land the Lord your God is giving to you.

**As children we will be obedient to our parents in the Lord; as parents we will correct our children and guide them in the training and instruction of the Lord; we will respect the lawful authorities appointed by God.**

You shall not murder.

**We will be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave us.**

You shall not commit adultery.

**We will use our bodies in ways that are holy and honorable, and abstain from immorality and impurity.**

You shall not steal.

**We will do what we can for our neighbor's good, and work faithfully so that we may share with the poor.**

You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

**We will speak the truth with our neighbor in love, render judgments that are true and make for peace, and not devise in our hearts any evil against anyone.**

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

**We will be content whatever the circumstances through the strength of Christ within us.**

Thus we must love our neighbor as ourselves.

**For the Lord requires of us to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with our God. Amen!**

### ⌘ THE PEACE

### ⌘ GLORIA PATRI

735

### INTERLUDE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Guide us, O God, by your Word and Spirit, that in your light we may see light, in your truth find freedom, and in your will discover your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON DEUTERONOMY 28:1, 15, 25-29 *p. 199*

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON ACTS 9:1-19 *p. 1090*

⊗ PSALM OF RESPONSE: PSALM 67 *O God, to Us Show Mercy* 437

⊗ GOSPEL READING MATTHEW 17:1-7 *p. 977*

⊗ RESPONSE  
The Word of the Lord.  
**Praise be to God.**

SERMON *The Hunter Hunted*

⊗ THE NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds: God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made: Who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man, and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried; and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. And he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.**

**And we believe in the Holy Spirit, The Lord, and Giver of Life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets.**

**And we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. And we look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERTORY

⊗ DOXOLOGY

731

⊗ SURSUM CORDA

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

⊗ PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

⊗ THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMN

*Let Thy Blood in Mercy Poured*

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*Let thy blood in mercy poured,  
let thy gracious body broken,  
be to me, O gracious Lord,  
of thy boundless love the token.  
Thou didst give thyself for me,  
now I give myself to thee.*

*By the thorns that crowned thy brow,  
by the spear wound and the nailing,  
by the pain and death, I now  
claim, O Christ, thy love unfailing.  
Thou didst give thyself for me,  
now I give myself to thee.*

*Thou didst die that I might live;  
blessed Lord, thou cam'st to save me;  
all that love of God could give  
Jesus by his sorrows gave me.  
Thou didst give thyself for me,  
now I give myself to thee.*

*Wilt thou own the gift I bring?  
All my penitence I give thee;  
thou art my exalted King,  
of thy matchless love forgive me.  
Thou didst give thyself for me,  
now I give myself to thee.*

⊗ HYMN OF DEPARTURE

*We Sing the Glorious Conquest*

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⊗ CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

⊗ POSTLUDE

MINISTER: Rev. Kevin Chiarot  
WORSHIP LEADER: James Phillips  
ORGANIST: Wilma Dejager

# The Hunter Hunted

ACTS 9:1-19

This shows Christianity to be a d\_\_\_\_\_ revelation.

## 1. Saul (vv. 1-2)

Later, he will say he was in a raging \_\_\_\_\_.

He asks essentially for e\_\_\_\_\_ papers.

## 2. Jesus (vv. 3-9)

Here the h\_\_\_\_\_ becomes the h\_\_\_\_\_.

This is a C\_\_\_\_\_.

This event authenticates Paul as an \_\_\_\_\_.

The same glory as on the Mount of T\_\_\_\_\_.

A profound so\_\_\_\_\_ between Christ and his \_\_\_\_\_.

The voice means \_\_\_\_\_ is a \_\_\_\_\_ and well.

The blindness evokes the c\_\_\_\_\_ of the c\_\_\_\_\_.

## 3. Ananias (vv. 10-19)

There is no higher calling than b\_\_\_\_\_ this \_\_\_\_\_.

This is Saul's con\_\_\_\_\_ and his com\_\_\_\_\_.

First words from the Christian community: \_\_\_\_\_ Saul.

We see the free, glorious, mighty g\_\_\_\_\_ of God.

Gospel in three words: God s\_\_\_\_\_ s\_\_\_\_\_.

C.S. Lewis: His c\_\_\_\_\_ is our li\_\_\_\_\_.

## Missions Work Highlight

ADAM GORDON, ALL 4 JESUS MINISTRIES

Today's Great Commission Focus is upon Adam Gordon and the strategic mission of All 4 Jesus Ministries, Inc. Its mission "to fulfill the great commission and to ignite a passion in others to do the same," is pursued by working with local Gospel centered churches, conducting gospel outreaches in towns and cities, and investing deeply in the lives of college students. Accordingly, two multi-week evangelism classes were conducted this summer. God provided several fine young men who having taken the evangelism training, regularly shared the gospel in 1 to 1 witness along with Adam on the streets of Poughkeepsie, Beacon, New Paltz and Pawling NY. For returning-students, four bible study groups at New Paltz and two at Orange have commenced, and weekly leadership meetings for the students launched. WPC's Prof. James Phillips RE, is a regular guest speaker at the New Paltz meetings. Weekly Gospel outreaches are planned for Orange and New Paltz. During freshman outreach, 80 Bibles were given out and connections made with students who became involved with the bible study groups. Some are brand new to Christianity and their growth is exciting.

We joyfully celebrate with Adam and his wife Karla as their first wedding anniversary approaches. Please join with them in earnest prayer that the Lord grant them a more spacious residence for building their family and as a base for ministry.

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## Announcements

Officer nominations will be accepted through Sunday 9/24. Please prayerfully consider who the Lord may be calling to serve his body. You may return your signed nomination form to our secretary Jo-Anne Weber or to Pastor Chiarot.

Sunday School classes for ages 4-18, and Adult classes, will start today. Our Sunday School opening will be in the sanctuary following the worship service after a brief 15-minute break. Sunday School classes will be held from 11:45-12:30pm. The Adult Sunday School class will be an "Introduction to Covenant Theology" taught by Pastor Kevin Chiarot.

Following the Sunday School kickoff and classes today there will be a Barbecue Luncheon. All are welcome to join us! The second service will follow the Luncheon at 2:00 PM.

The Orange County Life Chain, a peaceful, prayerful, public witness for the unborn will take place on Sunday, October 1st, from 2:00 – 3:30 PM, on Route 211 in Middletown, NY. Participants will line up on the south side of Rt. 211 starting at the Galleria at Crystal Run and ending at Shop Rite Supermarket.

The Fellowship committee has an immediate need for someone to coordinate meals for one family in the congregation. Please see JoAnn Maucher for details if you can help.

We need nursery volunteers for October and November. Please sign up in the nursery.

# WELCOME TO WESTMINSTER

Westminster Church is both a place and a people. We gather in this sacred space to worship, to learn, and to serve God as he meets us in Christ. To this end we dedicate our time, our talent, and our resources. Here the Gospel of Christ is freely proclaimed: *We are weaker and more sinful than we ever dared admit, but through Christ we are more loved and accepted than we ever dared hope.* As a community of Christians, we are building a bridge to the future through faith and friendship. To this end, we pray God will give us strength, vision, and wisdom. We are thankful that you could join with us today. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Welcome to Westminster!

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## Westminster Stated Services

Worship	10:00AM
Sunday School ( <i>Sept–June</i> )	11:45 AM
Sunday Evening Service	6:00 PM

## Christ's Church of the Hudson Valley

Worship	11:00 AM
Sunday School	12:30 PM

## Church & Office Location

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[office@westminsterchurch-ny.org](mailto:office@westminsterchurch-ny.org)

## Cover

The Celtic cross reminds us, as Presbyterians, of our historical roots in the British Isles dating back at least to the fifth century. *Post Tenebras Lux* is a Latin slogan from the 16th-century Protestant Reformation meaning *After Darkness, Light*. The cross and the slogan combine to express our desire to be rooted in the ancient faith and to embrace the attainments of the Protestant Reformation.

Westminster was organized in 1854 and is affiliated with the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA).

## Senior Minister

The Reverend Kevin Chiarot, Ph.D.

## Session (Ruling Elders, with Class Year)

Johnson Chang-Fong (2024), Adam Kuliszewski (2024), Robert David (2025), Mike Bonagura (2026), James Phillips (2026)

## Board of Deacons (with Class Year)

Joe Hall (Chair: 2024), Bill Cooke (2025), Ed Timberger (2025), David Babick (2026), Noah Watson (2026)

## Board of Trustees

Robert David (Chairman)  
Adam Kuliszewski (Vice-Chairman)

## Staff

Administrative Secretary	Jo-Anne Weber
Christian Education	Brenda Grammer
Choir Director	Elaine H. Simpson
Evangelism	Johnson Chang-Fong
Fellowship	JoAnn Maucher
Music Committee	Lori Steinberger
Organist	Elaine H. Simpson
Property Manager	Joe Schlegel
Sexton	Rachel McDuffie
Treasurer	Kevin Quirk

