

The Lord's Service

The Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

SEPTEMBER 26, 2021



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 3:

Q. What do the Scriptures principally teach?

A. The Scriptures principally teach, what man is to believe concerning God, and what duty God requires of man.

⊗ CALL TO WORSHIP

MATTHEW 22:37-40

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment.

And the second is like it: you shall love your neighbor as yourself.

On these two commandments depend all the Law and the prophets.

⊗ PRAYER OF THE DAY

O Lord our God, in Jesus Christ you have taught us that love is the fulfilling of the law. Send your Holy Spirit upon us, and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of love, that we may love you with our whole being, and our neighbors as ourselves; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

⊗ HYMN OF PRAISE

Come, My Soul, Thy Suit Prepare

628

CONFESSION OF SINS

Eternal God, our judge and redeemer, we confess that we have tried to hide from you, for we have done wrong. We have lived for ourselves, and apart from you. We have turned from our neighbors, and refused to bear the burdens of others. We have ignored the pain of the world, and passed by the hungry, the poor, and the oppressed. In your great mercy forgive our sins and free us from selfishness, that we may choose your will and obey your commandments; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

THE KYRIE ELEISON

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

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

✠ THE PEACE

✠ GLORIA PATRI 735
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.

INTERLUDE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

God of mercy, your faithfulness to your covenant frees us to live together in the security of your powerful love. Amid all the changing words of our generation, speak your eternal Word that does not change. Then may we respond to your gracious promises by living in faith and obedience; through our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING

JEREMIAH 29:10-14 *p. 780*

NEW TESTAMENT READING

ROMANS 13:8-10 *p. 1127*

⌘ PSALM OF RESPONSE: PSALM 73 *In Sweet Communion, Lord, with Thee* 657

⌘ GOSPEL READING MATTHEW 7:7-12 *p. 965*

⌘ RESPONSE
The Word of the Lord
Praise be to God.

SERMON *Ask, Seek, Knock, Do*

⌘ THE APOSTLES' CREED 845

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERTORY

⌘ DOXOLOGY 731

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him all creatures here below; praise him above ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.



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

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.



HYMN OF DEPARTURE

Holy Ghost, Dispel Our Sadness

330



CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

PREACHER: Rev. Kevin Chiarot

WORSHIP LEADER: Ron Bonagura

ORGANIST: Elaine H. Simpson

Ask, Seek, Knock, Do

MATT. 7:7-12

Jesus seeks to encourage us with a _____ promises.

The context: the S_____ as a whole and the Lord's _____.

There is no n_____ it and c_____ it theology here.

1. Good gifts (vv. 7-11)

These are continuous, p_____ t_____ verbs.

We are asking for the k_____ of _____ and his gl_____.

God will _____ an_____ the petitions of the Lord's Prayer.

Jesus also c_____ pe_____.

Calvin: We must d____ o____ the t_____ laid up in Christ.

Persistence is not needed because God is gr_____.

Augustine: Already granted the gift of making us _____.

Prayer changes _____, not God's d_____ towards us.

In Luke, the good gifts are replaced by the _____ S_____.

The best of all d_____ God can give or we implore.

2. The Golden Rule (v. 12)

The "s____" connect this to the previous verses.

Out of gr_____ and by gr_____ we keep the rule.

The rule appears in p_____ and n_____ forms.

This is the rule of the _____ of _____.

Calls for e_____, placing ourselves in the _____ of others.

Spurgeon says this is the C_____ C_____.

The Spirit is the _____ of God p_____ out in our hearts.

Missions Work Highlight

THE ROBERG FAMILY WITH DISCIPLEMAKERS

'Reaching the campus...Reaching the world'

Last year, at the beginning of the 2020 college school year, we provided resources and training for our staff using electronic media, like Instagram. And our 2020 October Fall Conference was held on-line. We praise God for the opportunities we had to connect with students despite pandemic related obstacles.

This year, many schools have already indicated that classes and activities will be held in-person this fall. Would you join with us in prayer for (1) those students who were lonely or isolated during the pandemic that God would encourage them and connect them to Christian community? Please pray also for (2) a renewal of community on our college campuses especially where meetings were heavily restricted this past year.

Thank you for your partnership with us in making disciples on college campuses in Pennsylvania!

Grace and peace,

Brian and Carin

Announcements

Since there will be no choir at least for the next few months, if any musicians in the church would like to perform a piece during the upcoming services, please see Lori Steinberger or Elaine Simpson. The sharing of your gifts will be appreciated!

The annual Life Chain will take place Sunday, October 3, on route 211 in Middletown from 2-3:30pm — making a public, prayerful, peaceful witness against legalized abortion. The Life Chain usually extends from the Galleria at Crystal Run and ends at ShopRite on 211.

- We will be standing in two locations on Route 211. In front of Boston Market with Chapel Field teachers and students (this is a better location for younger children set back from the road), or just further west in front of Sonic Restaurant at the traffic light. The Orange County Right to Life group distributes signs to hold during the Life Chain, sharing a unified message. Bring a lawn chair if needed.

There will be a Fellowship Pasta Luncheon on 10/10/21. The Fellowship Committee will provide the pasta and breads. The congregation is asked to bring their favorite sauces (plain, meatballs, sausage, etc.), salads, side dishes and desserts.

We are starting to collect donations for Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes. New items such as school supplies, toys, games, clothing, and hygiene items will be used in a shoebox packing party this fall. There are bins located in the Narthex and in the entrance downstairs. If you have any questions see Matthew or Shelley Harwood.

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!

Westminster Stated Services

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

Westminster Kingston

Sunday School	10:00 AM
Worship	11:00 AM

Church & Office Location

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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.

Assistant Minister

The Reverend Mark D. Diedrich

Session (Ruling Elders, with Class Year)

Ron Bonagura (2022), Steve Flewelling (2022),
Bob Maucher (2023), Johnson Chang-Fong (2024),
Adam Kuliszewski (2024)
Elder Emeritus: Neil Fick

Board of Deacons (with Class Year)

Joe Schlegel (2022), Tim Elmendorf (2022),
Eric Moller (2023), Paul Mowat (Chair: 2023),
Jim Rutigliano (2023), Joe Hall (2024)

Board of Trustees

Steve Flewelling (Chairman)
Bob Maucher (Vice-Chairman)

Staff

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