

The Lord's Service

Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

SEPTEMBER 20, 2026



Westminster Presbyterian Church

POST TENEBRAS LUX

PRELUDE

*O Lord, I Am Not Worthy
If Thou but Trust in God*

ARR. NOEL JONES

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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



CALL TO WORSHIP

from PSALM 1

Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked,

nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers;

but his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night.

He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers.



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, you sent Jesus, our good shepherd, to gather us together. May we not wander from his flock, but follow wherever he leads us, listening for his voice and staying near him, until we are safely in your fold, to live with you forever; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**



HYMN OF PRAISE

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty

100

CONFESSION OF SINS

Our Father, we confess that we have trusted our own wisdom, our own strength, and our own words more than we have trusted Christ. We have hardened our hearts toward your Word, acted timidly with the riches of the gospel, and fixed our hope on outward things that are fading away. Forgive us for living beneath the calling you have given us in Christ. By your Spirit, soften us, strengthen us, and teach us to treasure your Word. Root and ground us in the love of Christ, draw us near to you, and make your wisdom known through your church. We ask this in Jesus' name. 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

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

Depth of Mercy Can There Be?

ORLANDO GIBBONS

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Prepare our hearts, O God, to accept your Word. Silence in us any voice but your own, that, hearing, we may also obey your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

JOB 1:13-22

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

EPHESIANS 3:1-13



PSALM OF RESPONSE: PSALM 87

Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken

345



GOSPEL LESSON

MATTHEW 4:12-17



RESPONSE

The Word of the Lord.
Praise be to God.

SERMON

The Mystery of Christ



THE APOSTLES' CREED

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

There Is One Gospel

RICH THOMPSON



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, 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 WITH 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.

THE COMMUNION (Outer ring alone is grape juice)

COMMUNION HYMN *How Sweet and Awesome Is the Place* 469

*How sweet and awesome is the place
with Christ within the doors,
while everlasting love displays
the choicest of her stores.*

*While all our hearts and all our songs
join to admire the feast,*

*Each of us cries, with thankful tongue,
"Lord, why was I a guest?"*

*'Twas the same love that spread the feast
that sweetly drew us in;
else we had still refused to taste,
and perished in our sin.*

⌘ HYMN OF DEPARTURE *To God Be The Glory* 55

⌘ CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

⌘ POSTLUDE *Rejoice, Rejoice Believer* ARR. NOEL JONES

PREACHER: Rev. Rob Maeder
WORSHIP LEADER: Robert David
ORGANIST: Diane Pedrosa

[illegible]

Missions Work Highlight

JEREMIAH & JULIE DIEDRICH
JAARS (JUNGLE AVIATION AND RELAY SERVICE), NC / WORLDWIDE

Since 2006, Jeremiah, Julie and their children, Miriam, Nehemiah, Hadassa and Simeon have been aiding Bible translation through the use of aircraft in the Amazon region of Brazil. In 2022, after nine years of flying a Cessna aircraft, and then four years of flying a helicopter in Brazil, Jeremiah and Julie were asked to take a permanent role in training and recruiting at the JAARS center in Waxhaw, North Carolina. Leaving their home and work in Brazil had been difficult for their family, but they are very excited to be able to use their years of field experience preparing the next generation of missionary aviators. They are thrilled that their new roles will have an even broader impact speeding the work of church planters, evangelists, Bible translators, and other gospel centered workers around the world. (Website: www.jaars.org/)

Prayer Requests

Saints/Families of the Month

Maucher family, Melvin Family, Diane Menhart, Joan Mesaris, William Mitchell

Weekly Prayer & Praise Focus

Rich Family, Pulpit Search Cmte., Kameron Riffard (Esther's grandson), the family of Mary McCorvey, Alice Watson (Chaz Watson's mother), Barbara Booth (John Grammer's mother), Linda Dennis, Stanley Osiecki (Ed Norris' nephew), Bert Roosje, Leslie Mitchell (William's brother), Angela DeMatteo Davis' mother, Jane.

Announcements

It is our joy to welcome Rev. Rob Maeder, ordained Teaching Elder from the West Hudson Presbytery (NJ), to minister the Word and Sacrament for us today. Pastor Rob will lead us on most Sundays this fall.

We will have Sunday School classes today from 11:45am-12:30pm.

NYS Presbytery meets on 9/25 and 9/26 in Oneonta, NY. This meeting brings together teaching elders (pastors) and ruling elders from NY PCA congregations to discern and handle regional church business. Please pray for wisdom and unity.

The next PM service will be on Oct 11 at 2 following the fellowship meal. Rev. Maeder will lead.

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

Christ’s Church of the Hudson Valley

Worship	10:30 AM
Sunday School	12:00 PM

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 Pastor

Vacant

Assistant Pastor

Rev. Justin Chiarot

Session (Ruling Elders, with Class Year)

Gary Berg (2027), Ron Bonagura (2027),
Robert David (2027), Bob Maucher (2027),
James Phillips (2028), Adam Kuliszewski (2028),
Mike Bonagura (2029)

Board of Deacons (with Class Year)

David Babick (2027), John Grammer (2027, Chair),
Noah Watson (2027), Ethan Westlund (2027),
Joe Hall (2028), Ed Timberger (2028)

Board of Trustees

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

Staff

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

