

Westminster Presbyterian Church



Westminster Presbyterian Church

is called by God to be an inclusive community of faith,
abiding in God's love, and committed to:
Enjoying God, Following Jesus, and Growing Disciples

You Are Welcome Here:

We are glad you are worshipping with us today. Westminster is a welcoming and inclusive community seeking to grow in faith and understanding and to show God's love to those among us and those around us. We pray you experience our joyful welcome and God's peaceful presence as you worship with us today.

Questions about Westminster? Just ask! Any one of us would be glad to help.

The Sanctuary is a Place of Reverence and Worship

In order that our worship might be meaningful to all, please enter the sanctuary reverently. The narthex or courtyard are good places to visit with friends before or after worship. Use the moments before worship to prepare your heart, mind, and body for worship, centering yourself in the space and quieting your heart. It may be helpful to listen quietly to the prelude, find the hymns we will be singing, meditate on the scriptures we will be reading.

Children at Westminster:

Children are an integral part of our church family. We are glad when they come to worship God with us. In our midst, children learn our rhythms of worship, become knit into our fellowship, and teach us as surely as we are teaching them.

Please take children to the restroom before worship. If you need to leave the sanctuary during worship, please use the exits at the rear of the sanctuary. Please avoid walking through the courtyard during worship. We ask that families sit together during worship. Please do not let any child move unaccompanied through the building.

After the "Time with All God's Children", children first grade and up (by age or development) are encouraged to remain in worship. Children in kindergarten and younger (by age or development) may depart with our caregivers and teachers for Children's Sunday School or remain with their parents for worship if they choose.

If this is your first visit to Westminster, you are welcome to accompany your child to Children's Sunday School so that you can meet our caregivers and help settle your child in. Children's worship packets are available in the narthex. As is a brochure regarding our Children, Youth, and Vulnerable Adult protection policy.



Westminster Presbyterian Church
A Service for the Worship of God
Communion Sunday
August 3, 2025

WE GATHER IN GOD'S WORD

Chiming the Hour

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Luke Christie

***Call to Worship**

God has given us this day.

God's steadfast love endures forever.

God has gathered us in this place.

God's steadfast love endures forever.

There are many places we could be, but God has brought us here.

God's steadfast love endures forever.

***Hymn #409**

"God is Here"

ABBOT'S LEIGH

409

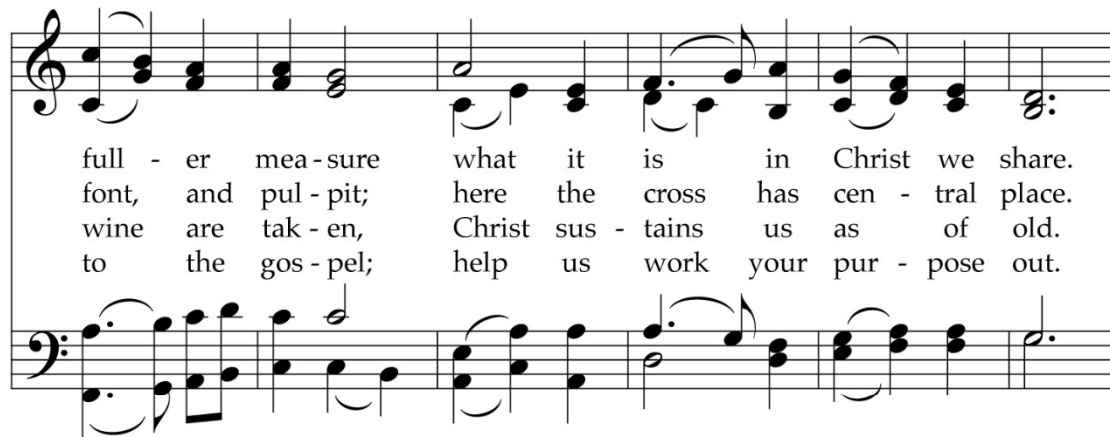
God Is Here!



1 God is here! As we your peo - ple meet to
 2 Here are sym - bols to re - mind us of our
 3 Here our chil - dren find a wel - come in the
 4 Lord of all, of church and king - dom, in an




of - fer praise and prayer, may we find in
 life - long need of grace; here are ta - ble,
 Shep - herd's flock and fold; here as bread and
 age of change and doubt keep us faith - ful



full - er mea - sure what it is in Christ we share.
 font, and pul - pit; here the cross has cen - tral place.
 wine are tak - en, Christ sus - tains us as of old.
 to the gos - pel; help us work your pur - pose out.

Commissioned for the dedication of a renovated worship space in Austin, Texas, this text is one of the few to devote attention to how customary church features facilitate worship. The tune was composed in wartime Britain to replace a Haydn tune tainted by Nazi associations.



Here, as in the world a - round us, all our
 Here in hon - es - ty of preach - ing, here in
 Here the ser - vants of the Ser - vant seek in
 Here, in this day's ded - i - ca - tion, all we



var - ied skills and arts wait the com - ing
 si - lence, as in speech, here, in new - ness
 wor - ship to ex - plore what it means in
 have to give, re - ceive: we, who can - not



of the Spir - it in - to o - pen minds and hearts.
 and re - new - al, God the Spir - it comes to each.
 dai - ly liv - ing to be - lieve and to a - dore.
 live with - out you, we a - dore you! We be - lieve!

Call to Confession

God who is here greets us as beloved children, with grace, love, and joy.

Confident of God's love, forgiveness, and help, we confess our sins.

Prayer of Confession

Loving God, you call to us from our enslavement to all that robs us of life in communion with you, our neighbors, and your carefully ordered creation. But we persist in turning away from you and stopping our ears to your voice. Forgive us.

We pause in silence for personal prayer.

In your mercy, gather us up like children, wrap us in the swaddling clothes of your steadfast love, and feed us from the abundance of your table, that we might crave your presence, attend to your instruction, and be bearers of your light. Amen

Assurance of Pardon

*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.*

*Passing the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Time for All God's Children

Prayer of Illumination

First Scripture Reading

Hosea 11:1-11

¹When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt I called my son. ²The more I called them, the more they went from me; they kept sacrificing to the Baals, and offering incense to idols. ³Yet it was I who taught Ephraim to walk, I took them up in my arms; but they did not know that I healed them. ⁴I led them with cords of human kindness, with bands of love. I was to them like those who lift infants to their cheeks. I bent down to them and fed them.

⁵They shall return to the land of Egypt, and Assyria shall be their king, because they have refused to return to me. ⁶The sword rages in their cities, it consumes their oracle-priests, and devours because of their schemes. ⁷My people are bent on turning away from me. To the Most High they call, but he does not raise them up at all.

⁸How can I give you up, Ephraim? How can I hand you over, O Israel? How can I make you like Admah? How can I treat you like Zeboiim? My heart recoils within me; my compassion grows warm and tender. ⁹I will not execute my fierce anger; I will not again destroy Ephraim; for I am God and no mortal, the Holy One in your midst, and I will not come in wrath.

¹⁰They shall go after the LORD, who roars like a lion; when he roars, his children shall come trembling from the west. ¹¹They shall come trembling like birds from Egypt, and like doves from the land of Assyria; and I will return them to their homes, says the LORD.

¹So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, ³for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

⁵Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). ⁶On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. ⁷These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. ⁸But now you must get rid of all such things-anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. ⁹Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices ¹⁰and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. ¹¹In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and free; but Christ is all and in all!

This is the Word of the LORD. **Thanks be to God.**

Communion Meditation

Rev. Caroline V. Dennis

“Good Words: Grace of Our Lord Jesus Christ”

“So, if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is.”

Colossians 3:1

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD**Call to Offering*****Offertory Hymn #649****“Amazing Grace”**
(verses 1-3)

AMAZING GRACE

649 Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

1 A - maz - ing grace, how sweet the sound, that
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I
 4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
 grace my fears re - lieved. How pre - cious did that
 have al - read - y come. 'Tis grace has brought me
 word my hope se - cures. He will my shield and
 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

now am found, was blind, but now I see.
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

CHOCTAW

*Shilombish holitopa ma!
 Ishmminti pulla cha
 hatak ilbusha pia ha
 is pi yukpalashke.*

CREEK

*Po ya fek cha he thlat ah tet
 ah non ah cha pa kas
 cha fee kee o funnan la kus
 um e ha ta la yus.*

NAVAHO

*Nizhónítigo joobá diits' a'
 yisdáshúitinigítí,
 lah yóóiiyá, k'ad
 shénáhoosdzin,
 doo eesh'íí da ínt'ée.*

As was his custom, the author wrote this hymn to accompany his sermon on 1 Chronicles 17:16–17, preached on January 1, 1773; he called it "Faith's Review and Expectation." Much of its current popularity comes from this now-familiar tune, an association that began in 1835.

TEXT: Stanzas 1–4, John Newton, 1772; stanza 5, *A Collection of Sacred Ballads*, 1790; Navaho, Albert Tsosie
 MUSIC: *Columbian Harmony*, 1829; arr. Edwin O. Excell, 1910, alt.

Text Phonetic Transcr. Cherokee, Kiowa, Creek, and Choctaw © Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference;
 Phonetic Transcr. Navaho © Albert Tsosie

AMAZING GRACE
 CM

***Doxology**

*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.*

***Prayer of Dedication**

***Affirmation of Faith**

A Brief Statement of Faith

**In life and in death we belong to God.
Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit,
we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel,
whom alone we worship and serve.**

**We trust in Jesus Christ, Fully human, fully God.
Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:
preaching good news to the poor
and release to the captives,
teaching by word and deed
and blessing the children, healing the sick
and binding up the brokenhearted,
eating with outcasts,
forgiving sinners,
and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.
Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition,
Jesus was crucified,
suffering the depths of human pain
and giving his life for the sins of the world.
God raised this Jesus from the dead,
vindicating his sinless life,
breaking the power of sin and evil,
delivering us from death to life eternal.**

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give our thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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.

Communion of the People

Today we will come forward to receive communion. Please receive your elements and return to your seat. When all are served, we will all partake together. If you need the bread and juice brought to you, please remain in your seat and our servers will serve you there. Please note that there is a gluten free option if you need it.

Prayer after Communion

CREATION AND PROVIDENCE

44 Like a Mother Who Has Borne Us

1 Like a moth - er who has borne us, held us
 2 Like a fa - ther who has taught us, grasped our
 3 Though as chil - dren we have wan - dered, placed our
 4 When we of - fer food and com - fort, grasp our

close in her de - light, fed us free - ly from her
 hand and been our guide, lift - ed us and healed our
 trust in power and might, left be - hind our broth - ers,
 neigh - bor's hand in love, tread the path of peace and

bod - y, God has called us in - to life.
 sor - rows, God has walked with us in life.
 sis - ters, God still calls us in - to life.
 jus - tice, God still walks with us in life.

This text was inspired by how the prophet Hosea describes the parental nature of God's relationship with Israel (Hosea 11:1–19). The last stanza echoes Christ's teachings about love of neighbor (Matthew 22:37–40/ Mark 12:29–31) and care for "the least of these" (Matthew 25:31–46).

TEXT: Daniel Bechtel, 1986
 MUSIC: William P. Rowan, 1992
 Text © 1986 Daniel R. Bechtel
 Music © 1993 Selah Publishing Co., Inc.

AUSTIN
 8.7.8.7

***Charge and Benediction**

Postlude

[*All stand as they are able.]

Serving Today at Westminster

Organ:	Claire Kuhl
Vocalist:	Elizabeth Watkins
Liturgist:	Luke Christie
Host:	Mary Anne & Richard Wilson
Sunday Study:	Tim Rogers

Today at Westminster

Welcome to WPC	8:45 am	Fellowship Hall
Sunday Study	9:00 am	Choir Room (<i>Adults</i>)
Sunday School	9:00 am	Children's Wing (<i>Children and Youth</i>)
Worship	10:00 am	Sanctuary
Children's Nursery	10:00 am	Sanctuary and Children's Wing
Music and Worship	11:15 am	Choir Room
Nurture and Education	3:00 pm	Parlor

This Week at Westminster

Office Hours:	9:00 – 1:00	M-Th	
Prayer Time	NOON	Monday	Zoom
BEMA Discussion Group	6:00 – 7:00	Monday	Joe Gettys Classroom
Mission and Outreach	6:00 – 7:00	Thursday	Choir Room
Books & Brown Bags	6:00 – 7:00	Wednesday	Joe Gettys Classroom

Next Sunday, August 10

Sunday Study	9:00 am	Choir Room (<i>Adults</i>)
Sunday School	9:00 am	Children's Wing (<i>Children and Youth</i>)
Worship	10:00 am	Sanctuary
Children's Nursery	10:00 am	Sanctuary and Children's Wing

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Study Opportunities at Westminster

Sunday Adult Study: Today we continue our Summer Study of *The Present Word*, Tim Rogers leads our discussion of 1 Corinthians 3:1-23 – Believers (the Church) as God's Temple.

Welcome to Westminster Mini Series: We kick off this Sunday, August 3 at 8:45 am in Fellowship Hall. Join us for a time to grow in fellowship, knowledge, and belonging.

Books and Brown Bags will conclude their reading of *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* by C.S. Lewis and plan their next book!

***Come From Away* - A Very Special “Pop-Up Presbyterians”** This September, Greenville’s Centre Stage will present *Come From Away*, a musical that follows the residents of Gander, Newfoundland as they offer radical hospitality to some 7,000 strangers forced to land in their small town on September 11, 2001. Among the welcomed were our own Caroline and Phillip Dennis, along with their daughters, Helen and Hannah. We are organizing a “Pop-Up Presbyterians” to see *Come From Away* at **3:00 on Sunday, September 28**. We will cheer on Caroline and Phillip as they share their story in a “talkback” after the show, then have dinner at Limoncello. To join us, please **purchase your own tickets** to Come From Away online (centrestage.org) or by phone (864-233-6733) **and let Luke Christie know by August 24** so that he can give Limoncello an accurate headcount.



Mark Your Calendars for the Music for Ministry Fundraiser: Greater Greenwood United Ministry will host the 11th Music for Ministry Fundraiser on Saturday, August 23, 2025 at New Spring Church from 5:00-8:00p.m. – make sure to join them for an uplifting evening of soul-stirring music, featuring a mix of traditional and modern selections, as well as worship teams, choirs, soloists, praise dancers, a live and silent auction, topped off with a down-home Southern Supper! Event tickets \$30.00 per person through Eventbrite.com or at GGUM.