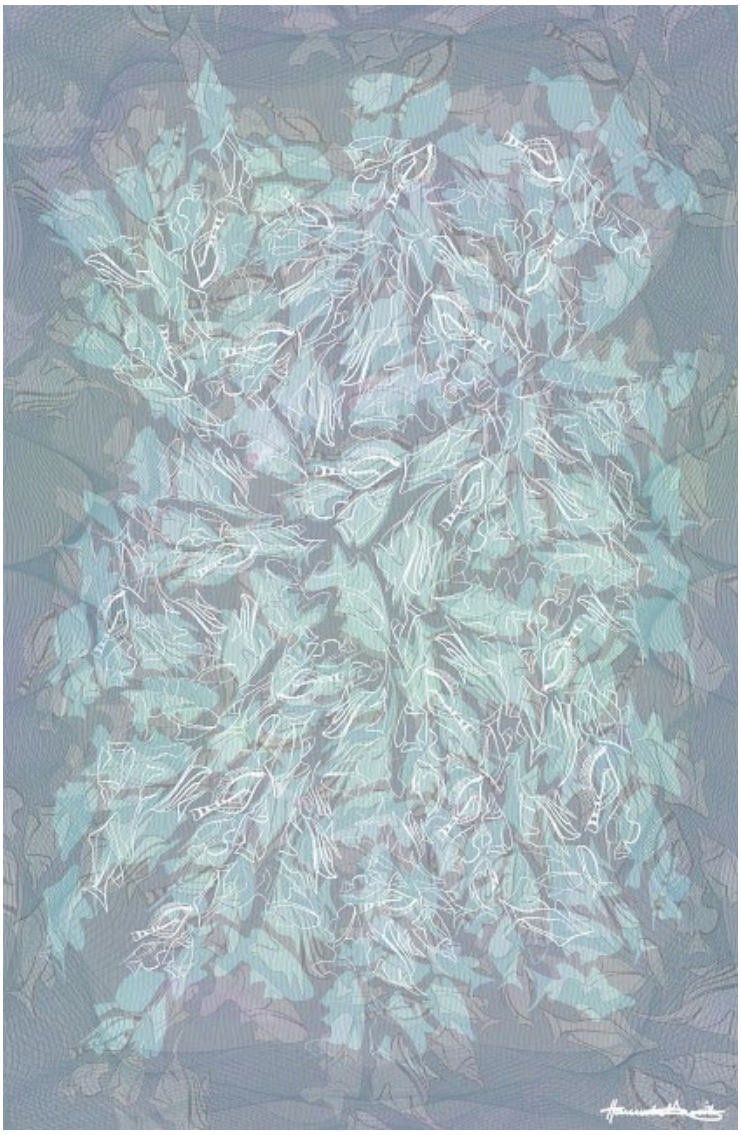


"Safety Net" by Hannah Garrity

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. 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. We ask that families sit together during worship and that no child move unaccompanied through the building.

Children's worship packets are available on the front pew and are given out after *The Time With All Gods 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 the nursery 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.

A brochure regarding our Children, Youth, and Vulnerable Adult protection policy is available in the narthex.

A Service for the Worship of God
Dedication Sunday
November 15, 2026

WE GATHER IN GOD'S WORD

Chiming the Hour

Prelude

Words of Scripture

This is the day the Lord has made, Psalm 118:24
we will rejoice and give thanks in it!

Welcome and Announcements David Bell

***Call to Worship** Psalm 65:1-4

One: In worship we tell a story:
All: A story of an unfettered love that changed the world.
One: In worship we tell a story:
All: A story of how we live and how we long to live.
One: In worship we tell a story:
All: Because we are forgetful people.
One: So may we remember who we are.
All: May we release the narratives that trap us.
One: May we reimagine this world to see what God sees.
All: And may we work toward restoration.
One: It's all that easy, and it's all that hard.
All: Let us worship holy God.

***Hymn #715** **"The Earth Belongs to God Alone"** SIMMONS

715 The Earth Belongs to God Alone



This text emerged from a study of the attention in Levitical laws to the well-being of the land, especially by calling for fallow periods, or "land sabbaths," to preserve the soil. 2 Chronicles 36:21 even suggests that the Babylonian exile may have resulted from abusing the land.

TEXT: Adam M. L. Tice, 2006
MUSIC: William P. Rowan, 1992
Text © 2011 GIA Publications, Inc.
Music © 1993 Selah Publishing Co., Inc.

SIMMONS
CM

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Holy God,
To restore is to bring back;
We confess that we are need of restoration.
We confess that you alone can restore our story.
Bring us back to your love, your grace, your peace, your story.
Author us again.
Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

***Gloria Patri**

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 for Illumination

Scripture Reading John 21:1-19

21 After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias, and he showed
himself in this way. **2** Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of
Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. **3** Simon Peter said to them, "I am
going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that
night they caught nothing.

4 Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach, but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. **5** Jesus said
to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered him, "No." **6** He said to them, "Cast the
net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul
it in because there were so many fish. **7** That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!"
When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment, for he had taken it off, and
jumped into the sea. **8** But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were
not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

9 When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. **10** Jesus said to
them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." **11** So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net
ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them, and though there were so many, the net was not
torn. **12** Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who
are you?" because they knew it was the Lord. **13** Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them and did
the same with the fish. **14** This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was
raised from the dead.

Jesus and Peter

15 When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more
than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs."
16 A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you
know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." **17** He said to him the third time, "Simon son of
John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he

said to him, “Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my sheep.
18 Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you
wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt
around you and take you where you do not wish to go.” **19** (He said this to indicate the kind of death by
which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, “Follow me.”

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

Sermon Rev. Caroline Vinson Dennis

“Our Restored Story”

We Respond to God's Word

Prayers of the People and 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.

New Member Welcome

Call to Offering and Dedication of Stewardship Covenants

Worshippers are invited to bring their offering, stewardship covenants, and prayer cards forward during the offertory.

***Offertory** **"Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"** St. George's Windsor

367 Come, Ye Thankful People, Come



Despite its familiar Thanksgiving associations, the real concern of this text is to recall the harvest imagery Jesus used to describe the fulfillment of God's sovereignty. The tune name commemorates the royal chapel where the composer was organist for forty-seven years.

TEXT: Henry Alford, 1844, alt.
MUSIC: George Job Elvey, 1858

ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR
7.7.7.7.D

***Doxology Hymn #717 "For The Life That You Have Given"** PLEADING SAVIOR

For the life that you have given, for the love in Christ made known,
with these fruits of time and labor, with these gifts that are your own:
here we offer, Lord, our praises; heart and mind and strength we bring;
give us grace to love and serve you, living what we pray and sing.

*** Prayer of Dedication**

Generous God, with truly grateful hearts and trust in your sure provision we dedicate these gifts and commitments in service to you and to your mission embodied in this place and these people.

Holy and loving God, receive what we offer here today. May our grateful response to your gracious love transform us, mind, body, and soul and unite us with your transformative work in the world. Amen.

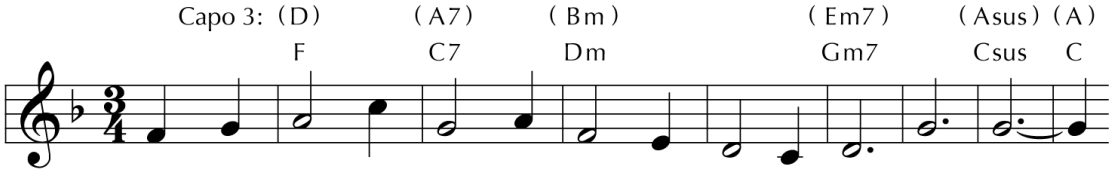
***Affirmation of Faith**

One: We believe in a restoring God,
All: Who restores our bodies through the gift of Sabbath.
One: We believe in a restoring God,
All: Who restores our souls through the gift of grace and second chances.
One: We believe in a restoring God,
All: Who restores this hurting world through the gift of mercy and God's son Jesus Christ.
One: And we believe in a restoring God who invites us to join in this restoration work.
All: As people of faith, we seek to restore creation to God
by feeding the hungry, loving our neighbors,
forgiving seventy times seven, welcoming the children,
seeing all, loving all, and living like we belong to all.
One: And so we will work until God's promised day.
All: This we believe. Amen.

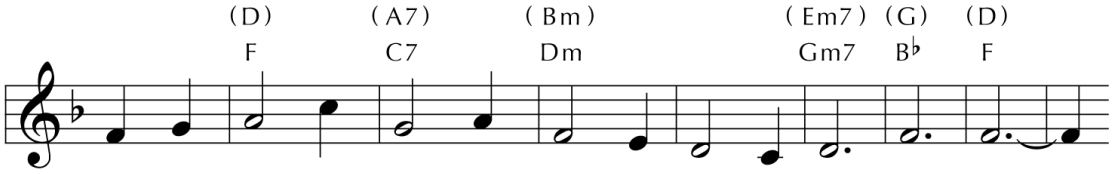
***Hymn #726** **"Will You Come and Follow Me"** KELVINGROVE

726 Will You Come and Follow Me

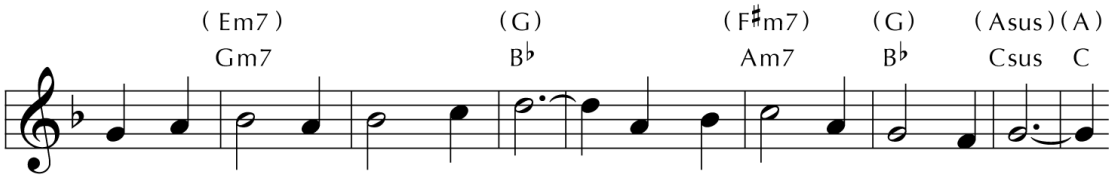
The Summons



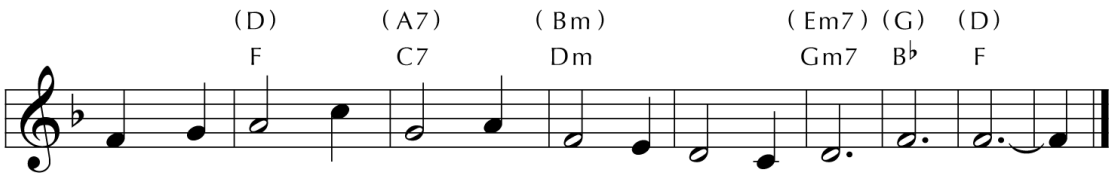
1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call your name?
2 "Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call your name?
3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call your name?
4 "Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?
5 Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call my name.



Will you go where you don't know and nev - er be the same?
Will you care for cruel and kind and nev - er be the same?
Will you set the pris - oners free and nev - er be the same?
Will you quell the fear in - side and nev - er be the same?
Let me turn and fol - low you and nev - er be the same.



Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known;
Will you risk the hos - tile stare should your life at - tract or scare?
Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as this un - seen,
Will you use the faith you've found to re-shape the world a - round,
In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and foot-steps show.



will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?"
Will you let me an - swer prayer in you and you in me?"
and ad - mit to what I mean in you and you in me?"
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?"
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

The first four stanzas of this ballad-like hymn are understood to be in the voice of Christ, with the fifth reflecting the individual singer's response. Created for this traditional Scottish tune, the text was written to mark the conclusion of a youth volunteer's time of ministry.

TEXT: John L. Bell and Graham Maule, 1987
MUSIC: Scottish melody; arr. John L. Bell, 1987
Text and Music Arr. © 1987 WGRG, Iona Community (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)

KELVINGROVE
13.13.7.7.13

Charge and Benediction

Postlude
[*All stand as they are able.]

*The sanctuary flowers are given in celebration of Joyce Withers Alexander and cheers as she kicks off her **90th** year!*

Serving Today at Westminster

Organist:	Claire Kuhl
Liturgist:	David Bell
Host:	Marvin and Ginny Cartee
Sunday Study:	David Grier
Children's Sunday School	Kathy Gillespie

Today at Westminster

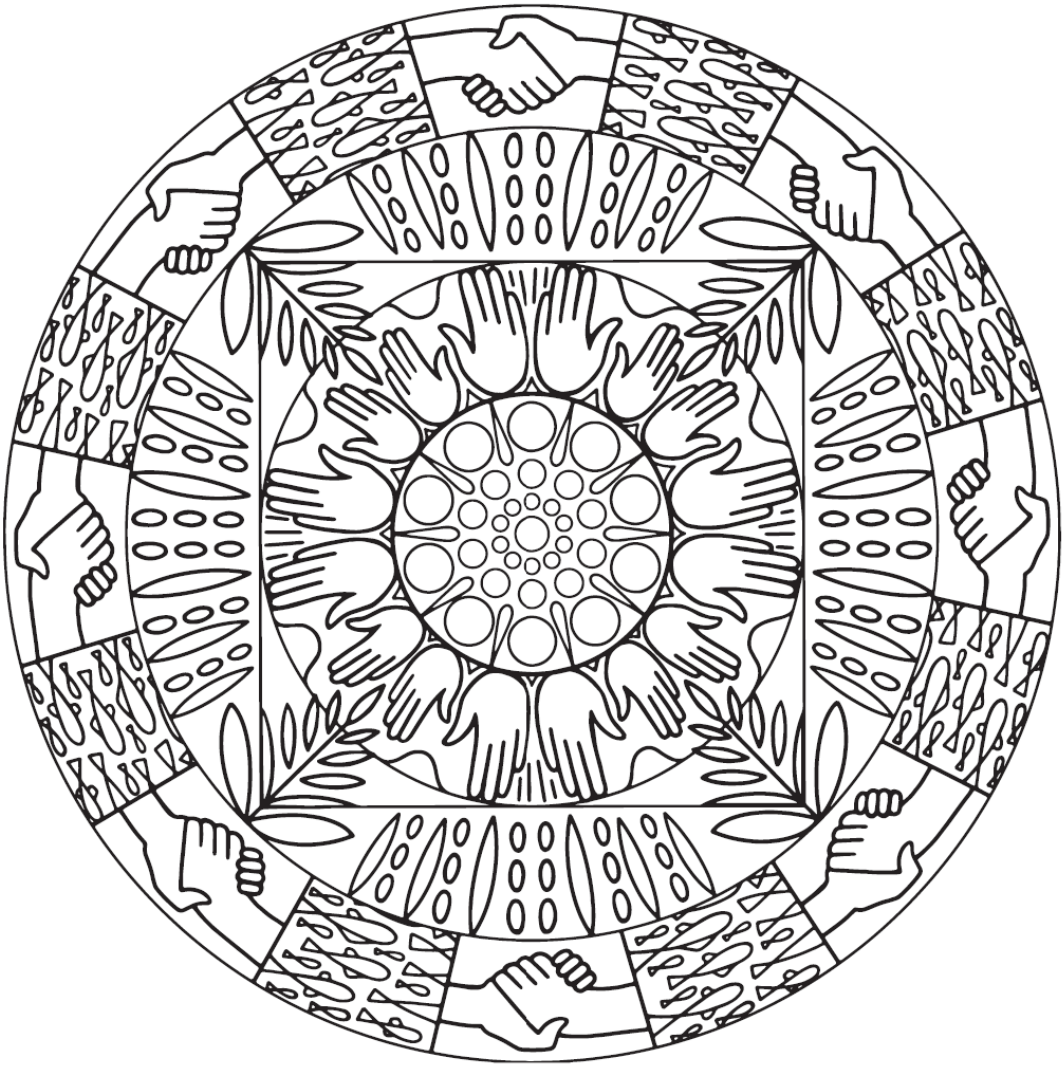
Sunday Study	9:00 am	Joe Gettys Classroom *(Adults)*
Sunday School	9:00 am	Children's Wing *(Children and Youth)*
Worship	10:00 am	Sanctuary
Children's Nursery	10:00 am	Sanctuary and Children's Wing
Caroling Practice	11:00 am	Sanctuary

This Week at Westminster

Office Hours:	9:00 am– Noon	M-Th	
Zoom Prayer Time	Noon	Monday	Zoom
BEMA Discussion Group	6:00 pm	Monday	Joe Gettys Classroom
Books and Brown Bags	6:00 pm	Wednesday	Joe Gettys Classroom
Advent Decoration Prep	9:00 am	Saturday	Choir Room

Next Sunday, November 22

Sunday Study	9:00 am	Joe Gettys Classroom *(Adults)*
Sunday School	9:00 am	Children's Wing *(Children and Youth)*
Worship	10:00 am	Sanctuary
Children's Nursery	10:00 am	Sanctuary and Children's Wing
Sunday Sustenance	11:15 am	Fellowship Hall
Advent Decorating	12:15 pm	Sanctuary



Our Money Story: *Restore*

Stewardship 2027 – November 15, 2026

*As we have practiced **remembering**, **releasing**, and **reimagining**, we conclude the series by focusing on **restoration**. Ultimately, practicing faithful stewardship heals us as individuals and helps us restore right relationship with one another.*
*Use these prompts to help you discern your personal money story by **restoring**.*

Restore (verb): to give back; return (*Merriam-Webster*)

Write a list of the words you would use to honestly describe your current money story.

Thinking about what in your story needs restoration, write a list of the words you *want* to use to describe your money story. Where is there overlap in your two lists? Where is there a disconnect?

Now list the concrete actions you and your faith community might take to bring about a new economy—to bring forth God's economy. Start small, for you need small wins. Share your ideas with a conversation partner.

*Let us engage in the act of **restoration** by giving back that which is not ours, but is God's—by returning to God's vision for our world.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Study Opportunities at Westminster

Sunday Adult Study: Join us for Adult Study this Sunday at 9:00 am in the Joe Gettys Room as we discuss chapters 9 and 10 of *Christian Prayer for Today* by Martha Moore-Keish.

Books and Brown Bags: Following the Enneagram exploration, B&BB will shift gears and tackle *Unclobber: Rethinking Our Misuse of the Bible on Homosexuality*, by Colby Martin.

Thanksgiving Service Community Choir Dr. Will Cleveland, Music Director at both Immanuel Lutheran Church and The Church of the Resurrection, has invited interested choir members to join a joint choir rehearsal to prepare for the Community Thanksgiving Service (November 23 at Main Street UMC) Copies of the music are available on the sideboard in the Narthex. Rehearsals will be from 6:00 pm (arrive 10 minutes early) to 6:20 pm on Thursdays, Nov. 5, Nov. 12, and Nov. 19. If you plan to participate, please email Dr. Will at will@episcopalgreenwood.org

Annual Special Offering in Support of Thornwell Home on November 22
For nearly 150 years, Thornwell has continued its mission of providing healing and hope to vulnerable children and families. Through safe and supportive homes, family reunification, and crisis support, Thornwell works to prevent child abuse and neglect, strengthen families, and build healthy communities in the name of Jesus Christ.

Westminster has a long history of supporting Thornwell through its annual Thanksgiving Offering. This year, we will receive the special offering on Sunday, November 22. Every gift makes a difference! Please make checks payable to Westminster and write “Thornwell Gift” on the memo line.

Caroling – Join Us! As we prepare for Advent, we hope to go Caroling at Wesley Commons and Ashley Place Assisted Living Centers. Stay after worship today for Caroling Practice in the Sanctuary!

Artist's Statement for the Cover Art: "Safety Net"

In the artwork, patterned fish represent the miracle that Jesus performed that morning so many years ago. This miracle convinced the disciples that they must tell the story of Jesus and act out the love Jesus modeled. This miracle continues to inspire us to contribute and act as God's disciples.

We are the safety net. As I worked with this text, I contemplated that money has a lot to do with saving lives. Therefore the background of this piece is woven with a guilloché pattern, reminiscent of currency. It portrays the flow of financial resources from government support, to charities, to crowdfunding, to church missions that are the fabric of the net that will catch us all.

Jesus inspires us in this text—and in this moment—to weave God's safety net.

Hannah Garrity

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.

Office Hours: M-Th 9:00 a.m. – Noon Office Phone: 864.229.3595
www.wpcgnwd.org wpcgwd1@gmail.com

Clerk of Session	Treasurer	Office Manager
Claire Kuhl	David Hammond	Charleston Warner

RULING ELDERS

Class of 2026	Class of 2027	Class of 2028
Laine Horowitz	Luke Christie	Ginny Cartee
David Grier	Bill Kimler	Rob Graves

Rev. Caroline Vinson Dennis, pastor
317.777.1487

Sunday Study 9:00 a.m. Church Service: 10:00 a.m.

CCLI License #2724601 and #20189191