

"The notion that, repeatedly, we must bang on the doors of heaven if we are to catch God's attention is hardly an appropriate theology on prayer."

David Buttrick Speaking Parables, page 186

GATHERING

(Silence during the Prelude is requested in preparation for worship.)

PRELUDE Jason Krug

Exploration on DEO GRACIAS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Let us worship God!

(Those who are able may stand.)

I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where is my help to come? My help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth.

Psalm 121:1-2

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

God of grace and steadfast love, in Jesus Christ you taught us to pray-stubbornly, relentlessly, faithfully-crying out for justice night and day. Hear our prayers for the world you made. Amen.

(The Cross and Bible lead the procession, symbolic of the centrality in worship of Jesus Christ - the Living Word, and the Bible - the written Word.)

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN 12

ST. DENIO

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

CALL TO CONFESSION

The Word of God, Jesus Christ leads the way to salvation through faith. In turning to the Lord with humility, and trusting in his love, we confess our sin and the sins of the world.

About the Prelude

The Prelude is a musical offering to help move the hearts and minds of the gathering community from the daily struggles of life to the worship of God.

Worship on the Lord's Day

Worship begins as the people gather - greeting one another, praying in silence, or offering music to the glory of God. The act of assembling in Jesus' name bears witness to the Church's identity and mission as Christ's body in the world.

About Hymn 12

The opening line of this hymn was inspired by the three divine attributes listed in 1 Timothy 1:17 (King James Version), and it continues by considering how God's life exceeds our own finite existence. The text is well set to a Welsh melody shaped by many three-note units.

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise 12



The opening line of this hymn was inspired by the three divine attributes listed in 1 Timothy 1:17 (King James Version), and it continues by considering how God's life exceeds our own finite existence. The text is well set to a Welsh melody shaped by many three-note units.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, you pardon all who truly repent and turn on you. We humbly confess our sins and ask your mercy. We have not loved you with a pure heart, nor have we loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not done justice, loved kindness, or walked humbly with you, our God.

Have mercy on us, O God, in your loving-kindness. In your great compassion, cleanse us from our sin.

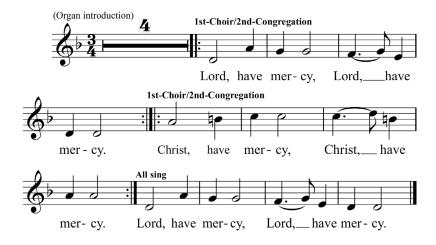
Do not cast us away from your presence, or take your Holy Spirit from us.

Restore to us the joy of your salvation and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit.

(Silent confession)

Kyrie

James MacMillan



ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Believe the Good News: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

*The Peace

Since God in Christ has forgiven us, let us also forgive one another.

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

(Please exchange the peace with the words, "The peace of Christ be with you.") Call to and Prayer of Confession

A call to confession expresses God's initiative in calling for repentance and promising forgiveness in Christ. As members of Christ's body, we confess the reality of sin, captivity, and brokenness in personal and common life and ask for God's saving grace.

About the Kyrie

The Kyrie (Greek "kyrios" [Lord]) is a corporate musical prayer for grace.

Assurance of Pardon

A declaration of forgiveness proclaims the good news of God's mercy and offers the assurance of pardon in Jesus' name. The liturgist pours water into the font, which reminds us of the grace and cleansing of our Baptism, and the baptismal call to new life in Christ.

Act of Praise

The Act of Praise brings together the choir and congregation to sing God's praise in response to the Assurance of Pardon as the last phrase.

Children's Time will happen at both services when we do not have communion or baptisms.

Scripture

The scriptures bear witness to the word of God, revealed most fully in Jesus Christ, the Word who "became flesh and lived among us." (John 1:14) Where the word is read and proclaimed, Jesus Christ the living Word is present by the power of the Holy Spirit. Therefore, reading, hearing, preaching, and affirming the word are central to Christian worship and essential to the Service for the Lord's Day.

*ACT OF PRAISE

GLORIA PATRI

(Singing together 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.

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

(Everyone is asked to sign the Friendship pad, which is located on the center aisle end of each pew.)

THE WORD

CHILDREN'S TIME

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

Hear the Word of God! Our ears are open.

Jeremiah 31:27-34

(Old Testament, page 734 in your pew Bible)

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

Psalm 121

8:30 AM Hymn 45 All Sing

DUNDEE

I to the Hills Will Lift My Eyes

11:00 AM

Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy Lift Thine Eyes

Lift thine eyes, O lift thine eyes to the mountains, whence cometh help.

Thy help cometh from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth.

He hath said, thy foot shall not be moved. Thy Keeper will never slumber,

Lift thine eyes, O lift thine eyes to the mountains, whence cometh help.

I to the Hills Will Lift My Eyes 45



Although the first stanza of this paraphrase of Psalm 121 draws heavily on 17th-century Scottish psalters, most of this version dates from the early 20th century. In its original source the tune printed here is one of twelve not assigned for use with a specific psalm.

Luke 18:1-8

(New Testament, page 81 in your pew Bible)

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

SERMON

"Judge, NOT!"

Guy D.Griffith

"Then the Master said, 'Do you hear what that judge, corrupt as he is, is saying? So what makes you think God won't step in and work justice for his chosen people, who continue to cry out for help?

Won't he stick up for them? I assure you, he will."

(Luke 18:6-7, The Message).

(A moment for meditation)

*HYMN 435

IN BABILONE

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

*AFFIRMATION 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.

(from A Brief Statement of Faith)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord be with you. And also with you. Lift up your hearts. We lift them up to the Lord.

About hymn 435

These stanzas offer a reminder that the model for our dealings with others should be God's generosity rather than limited human tolerance. The text is effectively set to a broad and sturdy Dutch folk melody, probably from the 17th century.



These stanzas, excerpted from quite a few more, offer a reminder that the model for our dealings with others should be God's generosity rather than limited human tolerance. The text is effectively set to a broad and sturdy Dutch folk melody, probably from the 17th century.

Offering

The collection of tithes and offerings takes place as a response to the Word. These actions are signs of our gratitude for the grace of God proclaimed in the gospel.

To give, please scan the QR code below:



THANKSGIVING

OFFERING

Anthem 8:30 AM David Ashley White

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Come, thou fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace!
Streams of mercy never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of thy redeeming love.

Here I raise my Ebenezer;
hither by thy help I'm come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,
safely to arrive at home.

Jesus sought me when a stranger,
wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger,
interposed with precious blood.

Oh, to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!
Let thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee: prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love; here's my heart, oh, take and seal it, seal it for thy courts above.

Alleluia!

11:00 AM

Gustav Holst/Proulx

O God, Beyond All Praising

O God, beyond all praising, we worship you today and sing the love amazing that songs cannot repay; for we can only wonder at ev'ry gift you send, and blessings without number and mercies without end: we lift our hearts before you and wait upon your word, we honor and adore you, our great and mighty Lord.

The flow'r of earthly splendor in time must surely die, its fragile bloom surrender to you, the Lord most high;

but hidden from all nature the eternal seed is sown though small in mortal stature, to heaven's garden grown: for Christ the man from heaven from death has set us free, and we through him are given the final victory.

Then hear, O gracious Savior, accept the love we bring, that we who know your favor may serve you as our King; and whether our tomorrows be filled with good or ill, we'll triumph through our sorrows and rise to praise you still: to marvel at your beauty and glory in your ways, and make a joyful duty our sacrifice of praise.

*DOXOLOGY

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And also with you. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

God of all goodness, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up ourselves to your service, and by walking before you. Amen.

*THE LORD'S PRAYER (Singing together)

(Please refer to the inside back cover of your hymnal for the words and music for this hymn.)

Doxology

A short hymn of praise to the triune God (God, Jesus Christ, Holy Spirit).

SENDING

*HYMN 688

MORECAMBE

Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart (Verses 1-3)

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

J.S. Bach

Nun danket alle Gott (Hymn 643) BWV 657

About the Postlude

The Postlude is considered the final Alleluia of worship.

About hymn 688

This reflection on Galatians 5:25 was written by a literary Anglican clergyman whose preaching drew people of many social classes to one of the formerly poorer London churches. The tune was created for "Abide with Me" (no. 836) but more often appears with the present text.

^{*(}Those who are able may stand.)

Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart 688



This reflection on Galatians 5:25 was written by a literary Anglican clergyman whose preaching drew people of many social classes to one of the formerly poorer London churches. The tune was created for "Abide with Me" (no. 836) but more often appears with the present text.

Today @ Westminster

Worship Leaders

Preaching

Rev. Dr. Guy D. Griffith Pastor

Liturgist

Sophie Maness Executive Director of Family Ministries

Lay Liturgists

8:30 AM Keith Cole 11:00 AM Lynne Trost

Music

Harvard Handbells

8:30 AM Laudate Choir 11:00 AM Westminster Choir

John Semingson
Director of Music Ministries

Dale Nickell
Organist and Associate Director
of Music Ministries

Flower Dedication

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Anne Douglass White by her family.

Mask Policy

Westminster Presbyterian Church, Nashville is mask optional.

Hearing Assistance

We offer personal FM Receivers with an earpiece, located in the Narthex and in the Parlor on the Welsh dresser. Instructions can be found at each location.

Large Print Hymns

Looking for large-print hymns? They can be found in the Narthex at the Sanctuary entrance or in the Parlor on the Welsh dresser.

Recorded Worship Services

To watch a service at a later time, go to www.nashvillewpc.church and scroll down to the Worship Service Archive. Click on the service you would like to view.

Dial-a-Sermon

Dial 629.206.1073 after 10:15 AM each Sunday morning to listen to the sermon. The sermon will be available all week.

Childcare

Childcare is available on Sundays from 8:15 AM to 12:00 PM.

Nursery - Room 146

Toddlers - Room 152

2s and 3s - Room 151

Copyright Information

The music used in the service this morning is copyrighted under Christian Copyright Licensing International, Inc., No. 1121525.

Our Mission

Ordinary people testifying to the extraordinary light found in our Lord Jesus Christ.

"For it is the God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness,' who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us."

(2 Corinthians 4:6-7)

TODAY @ WESTMINSTER



When have you been utterly persistent, refusing to give up not matter the setbacks? What were you trying to accomplish?

What kept you going? How did you not lose heart?

This parable in Luke is a "how much more" type parable. In other words, if even this unjust judge eventually does the right thing, how much more will God respond to our pleas for justice? When have you experienced the "much more" of God in your life or community?

Welcome

Westminster Presbyterian Church welcomes you to share our common journey to become more faithful disciples of Christ. Any who are interested in joining us in this journey are invited to contact one of the pastors on staff by calling 615.292.5526, the church office.

Update Your Membership Contact Info

Contact Hannah Boles, Membership Secretary, hboles@nashvillewpc.org, to update your contact info or your photo. Hannah can also help you to access the online church member directory.

Are you up-to-date on all the WPC news?

We send emails out to the congregation and community three plus times a week. On Monday, we send an email about our mission work. On Wednesdays, we send info about all the events we have going on throughout the month. On Fridays, the Sunday info is included in the email. We also have emails from our Children's, Youth and Young Families ministries.

Please scan the QR code to sign up for the emails you would like to receive.





TODAY @ WESTMINSTER



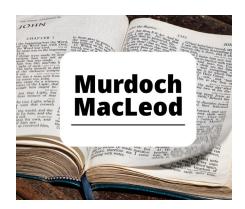
Covenant Class • Fellowship Hall

Everybody hurts...

some of the hurts in our communities we are aware of and we have protocols to respond to that. But we all know of others in our community that are hurting in silence, or hurting but haven't ever named it, or maybe are hurting but don't really understand what exactly hurts, or others who feel like their hurts aren't big enough. What are some of these hidden or overlooked hurts, where are these other people who hurt? Isn't some hurting just a part of life?

This class is an opportunity to discuss these questions as a community of faith.

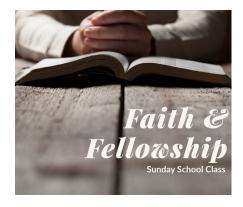
This class is part of the a Congregational Care Ministry series.



Murdoch MacLeod • Library

We will discuss this week's gospel lesson.

For more info, please contact Paul DeWitt, pdewitt@comcast.net.



Faith & Fellowship • 214

The Bible and Justice -From Amos, Adam & Eve, through Jesus; How does the Bible handle Justice?

For more info, please contact Donna Schwaber, dkschwaber@gmail.com.



Journevs • **Overlook Room**

Fellowship Sunday

For more info, please contact Krissie Self, krissiebself@gmail.com.



TODAY @ WESTMINSTER



New Member & Inquirer Class

9:45 AM • Goodpasture Hall

Fall Break We will meet again on October 26.

For more info, please contact:

Kathleen Simcoe, kathleenmsimcoe@gmail. com

Ken Larish klarish@ mainlandcompanies.com

Stephanie Boaz, sboaz@nashvillewpc.org

Guy Griffith ggriffith@nashvillewpc.org



Children, Youth & Intergenerational **Choirs**

4:00 pm Rehearsals

Gloria Alleluia Jubilate **Tintinnabulation**

5:00 PM Rehearsals

Laudate Choir Chiming Children



For women in their late 20s to early 50s **Women's Bible Study:** The Anchor That Holds 7:00 PM Kim Crafton's Home

Meets every other Sunday

W.B. Yeats once said, "Things fall apart." They do. But we believe, in the words of Craig Barnes, that "God is not nearly done pulling together the things that have fallen apart."

Join us for a 7-part series where we make space to wrestle with the things that fall apart and the One that holds all things together.

Leader: Ashley Higgins

For more information, contact Dana Hildebrand, dana.m.hildebrand@ gmail.com.

KOINONIA YOUTH MINISTRY





YOUTH TEAM

Adam DeVries Associate Pastor for Youth adevries@ nashvillewpc.org

Hannah Norris Youth & Missions Program Coordinator hnorris@ nashvillewpc.org

Jessie King Youth & Pastoral **Care Fellow** iking@ nashvillewpc.org

Julius Hooper **MLC Youth Ministry** Resident **WPCKoinonia** staff@gmail.com

Nathan Scott Youth Ministry Intern **WPCKoinonia** staff@gmail.com



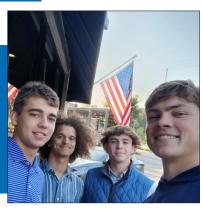
9:45 AM • **Sunday School** • Koinonia Youth Café

Donuts and devos.



6:00 PM ● **Youth Group** • Koinonia Youth Café

Fall Break Please join us again on October 26.



Small Groups Have Started

We have groups for girls and guys ninth - twelfth grades.

Please contact Jessie, Julius or Nathan for more info.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

8:30 & 11:00 AM ● Worship Services

Children and Worship

Childcare is available for children who are infants through kindergarten during both services. While childcare is available, children are always welcome in worship. There are quiet toys and worship bags for children. They may be found in baskets in the Parlor and in the back of the Sanctuary. The bags have plain paper, crayons, a pencil and a children's bulletin.

9:45 AM • Sunday School

2s are in room 149 3s are in room 161 4s are in room 163

Godly Play/Kindergarten in 183

4th & 5th Grade in room 292

1st - 3rd Chapel first and then will be picked up in rooms.



LIVING OUT THE WORD

Questions for Children and Their Families:

When you learned to walk, you fell down some and got back up.

When have you tried something, and it didn't work the first time?

What made you decide to keep trying to do that thing better?

Did someone else help you learn?

The Persistent Widow

F M O D Α Α D R Ε G A H C E В V M M С Χ X G E G L F ΧЕ U Ε С K R Y S D Μ D O W H O R A X R R F W Z

Word Search

See if you can find these words in the puzzle on the left.

chosen disciples faith God Guy Jesus judge justice parable pray town widow

ANNOUNCEMENTS



October 22 **Westminster Academy** 6:30 PM ● Overlook Room

"Here was simple goodness, natural and without effort, and he thought it beautiful."

W. Somerset Maugham was one of the 20th century's great British novelists, and Of Human Bondage was his masterpiece. It's a highly autobiographical and deeply humane portrait of a young man's search for meaning, filled with instantly memorable characters and scenes from European life at the turn of the century--Paris in the throes of the impressionist craze, London from the slums to the ballrooms of the good and the great. The book is also, and perhaps most importantly, a sustained meditation on what is truly good and worthwhile in life. That's the theme we'll be focusing on in this class. Maugham's alter-ego, Philip Carey, tries on all sorts of ways of looking at the world, coping with its suffering and injustice, and finally loving what is best in it. As Christians, we'll find many of the approaches Philip takes resonant, exciting, and challenging by turns.

Spencer A. Klavan is a writer, lecturer, and podcaster. He holds a Ph.D. in Classics from Oxford University, and he teaches Greek literature at the college level. His latest book, Light of the Mind, Light of the World, is an exploration of the history of science from a religious perspective. He and his husband, Josh, are members at Westminster.

Westminster Book Group 9:30 AM • Fellowship 10:00 AM • Presentation

My Side of the River: A Memoir by Elizabeth Camarillo Gutierrez

Presenter: Guy D. Griffith

Elizabeth Camarillo Gutierrez was born and raised in Tucson, Arizona, as the daughter of Mexican citizens who periodically lived and worked as immigrants in the United States. As her parents' visas expired, they were forced to return to Mexico, leaving Elizabeth responsible for her younger brother, as well as her education. Armed with only her passport and sheer teenage determination, Elizabeth became what her school would eventually describe as an unaccompanied, homeless youth, one of thousands of underage victims affected by family separation. Her memoir relates the impact of law and U.S. immigration policy which encouraged seasonal labor but separated families like hers.

JOY IN LEARNING

Joy in Learning creatively shares God's gifts of play through the arts and other activities. As we gather in community, we promote connection, understanding and caring relationships. This is a welcoming environment for all ages as well as those from diverse cultural, ethnic and economic backgrounds.





Fridays October 24, 31 & November 7, 14 Open Studio

For Intermediate and Experienced Potters 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM \$50.00

This is NOT a class. This Open Studio is created for those who have gone through a beginners class and are ready to play more on their own.





Wednesdays and Fridays

Create a custom colored potholder for yourself or for a gift!
9:00 AM - Noon
Westminster Café
FALL and CHRISTMAS colors!
100% cotton
\$10 each

Scan the QR code to register.



WESTMINSTER CAFÉ

Café Hours Tuesday - Friday 8:00 AM - Noon

Be our guest! Park in the north entrance parking lot by the blue outdoor umbrella. Enjoy specialized coffees, various teas, and cold drinks along with homemade yummies.





November 18, 19

Helping Westminster Home Connection

9:00 - 10:30 AM

Would you be willing to help with Westminster Home Connection mailings? If you can help, please let Beth Drake, beth@westminsterjoy.org, know you can!



Needed: Knitted and crocheters to make dishcloths and scrubbys.

For many years, a bag with a bottle of Palmolive dish soap, a knitted dishcloth, and a crocheted/knitted scrubby have been given to homes that Westminster Home Connection has worked on. The thank you notes have been heartwarming!If you can help, please let Beth Drake, beth@ westminsterjoy.org, know you can!



Thursdays Fill My Cup: **A Post-Sermon Reflection Study**

8:15 AM • Meet and Greet 8:30 AM • Percolating conversation. Come when you can. No sign up necessary. We will revisit the previous Sunday's scriptures, reflect on the sermon, and share thoughts about the probing questions in the bulletin.

#

MISSION OPPORTUNITIES



Habitat Build

November 1, 2

We need folks for September 21. Join us! Scan the QR code to register.



Volunteers Needed

December 20

Volunteers needed for Nueva Vida Food Pantry

11:30 AM - 2:30 PM

Teen and adult volunteers will load grocery baskets full with USDA foods for 60 hungry families at Nueva Vida food pantry located at Glencliff Presbyterian Church 416 East Thompson Ln. Contact Kate Griffin, kwpgriffin@yahoo.com, for info. Scan QR code to volunteer.







Room In The Inn

Room In The Inn resumes at Westminster November 12, 2025, with many opportunities for engagement for singles, families, or small groups Wednesday nights through March 25, 2026. We have many great opportunities to spend time with Westminster friends and 14 homeless male neighbors. Please scan the QR code to sign up.

MINISTRY TEAM



Donovan Drake Pastor ddrake@nashvillewpc.org



Sophie Maness Executive Director of Children's & Community Life Ministries smaness@nashvillewpc.org



Stephanie Boaz Associate Pastor for Congregational Care sboaz@nashvillewpc.org



Adam DeVries Parish Associate for Youth adevries@nashvillewpc.org



Guy D. Griffith
Associate Pastor for Adult
Education & Spiritual Nurture
ggriffith@nashvillewpc.org



Hannah Norris Youth & Missions Program Coordinator hnorris@nashvillewpc.org



Ashley Higgins Associate Pastor for Young Families ahiggins@nashvillewpc.org



John Semingson Director of Music Ministries johns@nashvillewpc.org



Will Wellman

On paternity leave

Director of Theology and

Community Initiatives



Dale Nickell Associate Director of Music Ministries and Organist dnickell@nashvillewpc.org



VOX GRATA

Dorothy Rudd Moore FROM THE LIGHT

THU, OCT 23, 2025 | 7:30 St. Vincent De Paul Church, Nashville

SUN, OCT 26, 2025 | 5:00 Second Presbyterian Church, Nashville

Featuring the W. CRIMM SINGERS

Donations to benefit YEAH! Livestream + more | VOXGRATA.COM





FREE ADMISSION SCAN

