

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Holy Baptism
September 13, 2026

...we are the Lord's

Romans 14:8

GATHERING

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

Gordon Young

Prelude in F

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 234

One of the many ancient hymns translated in English in the 19th century, this 8th-century Eastertide hymn was originally part of a longer Greek liturgical text. This tune was created for this text by a church organist who later rose to fame as a composer of operettas.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Let us worship God!

(Those who are able may stand.)

For we do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves.

If we live, we live to the Lord,

And, if we die, we die to the Lord.

**so then, whether we live or whether we die,
we are the Lord's.**

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

Spirit of mercy,

**we come to your fountain of forgiveness
to begin again.**

You offer a fresh drink, a new life.

**Though we are often critical of others
and of ourselves,**

help us to accept that we are accepted.

**Meet us here in ways that we can understand,
that we may be filled with the life
only you can offer. 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 234

ST. KEVIN

Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain

Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain 234

1 Come, you faith - ful, raise the strain of tri - um - phant glad - ness!
 2 'Tis the spring of souls to - day: Christ has burst his pris - on,
 3 Now the queen of sea - sons, bright with the day of splen - dor,
 4 Nei - ther could the gates of death, nor the tomb's dark por - tal,

God has brought forth Is - ra - el in - to joy from sad - ness,
 and from three days' sleep in death as a sun has ris - en.
 with the roy - al feast of feasts comes its joy to ren - der;
 nor the watch - ers, nor the seal hold you as a mor - tal:

loosed from Pha - raoh's bit - ter yoke Ja - cob's sons and daugh - ters;
 All the win - ter of our sins, long and dark, is fly - ing
 comes to glad Je - ru - sa - lem, who with true af - fec - tion
 but to - day, a - mong your own, you ap - pear, be - stow - ing

led them with un - moist - ened foot through the Red Sea wa - ters.
 from the Light, to whom we give laud and praise un - dy - ing.
 wel - comes in un - wea - ried strains Je - sus' res - ur - rec - tion!
 your deep peace, which ev - er - more pass - es hu - man know - ing.

One of the many ancient hymns translated into English in the 19th century, this 8th-century Eastertide hymn was originally part of a longer Greek liturgical text. This tune was created for this text by a church organist who later rose to fame as a composer of operettas.

CALL TO CONFESSION

We are not here to pass judgment on each other:
all of us have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.
Therefore, let us go before God
as we offer our confession.

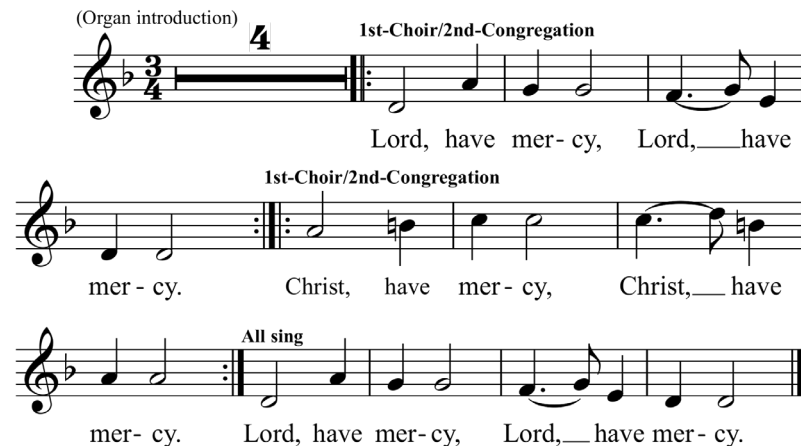
PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God our Judge,
we admit we have double standards.
We seek forgiveness for ourselves,
but fail to forgive others.
We seek relief for ourselves,
but fail to seek relief for others.
We seek leniency for ourselves,
but fail to show that mercy to others.
Forgive us, mighty God,
and help us to forgive,
showing others the same grace and mercy
that you have generously shown to us.**

(Silent confession)

Kyrie

James MacMillan



(Organ introduction) 4

1st-Choir/2nd-Congregation

Lord, have mer- cy, Lord, have mer- cy.

1st-Choir/2nd-Congregation

mer- cy. Christ, have mer- cy, Christ, have mer- cy.

All sing

mer- cy. Lord, have mer- cy, Lord, have mer- cy.

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.

Prayer for Illumination

A Prayer for Illumination calls on the Holy Spirit to empower the reading, understanding, proclaiming, and living of God's word. This sense of utter reliance on the illumination of the Spirit is an important and distinctive mark of the Reformed tradition.

***ACT OF PRAISE**

John Weaver

Glory to God in the Highest

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

**Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,
You take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;
You are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.
For You alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord,
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.**

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

Hear the Word of God! **Our ears are open.**

Exodus 15:1b-11, 20-21

(Old Testament, page 61 in your pew Bible)

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Psalms 103, Hymn 439

STUTTGART

All Sing
Verses 1-4

Romans 14:1-12

(New Testament, page 163 in your pew Bible)

SERMON

"Weak Days"

Donovan Drake

(A moment for meditation)

***HYMN 822**

SOMOS DEL SEÑOR

When We Are Living

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

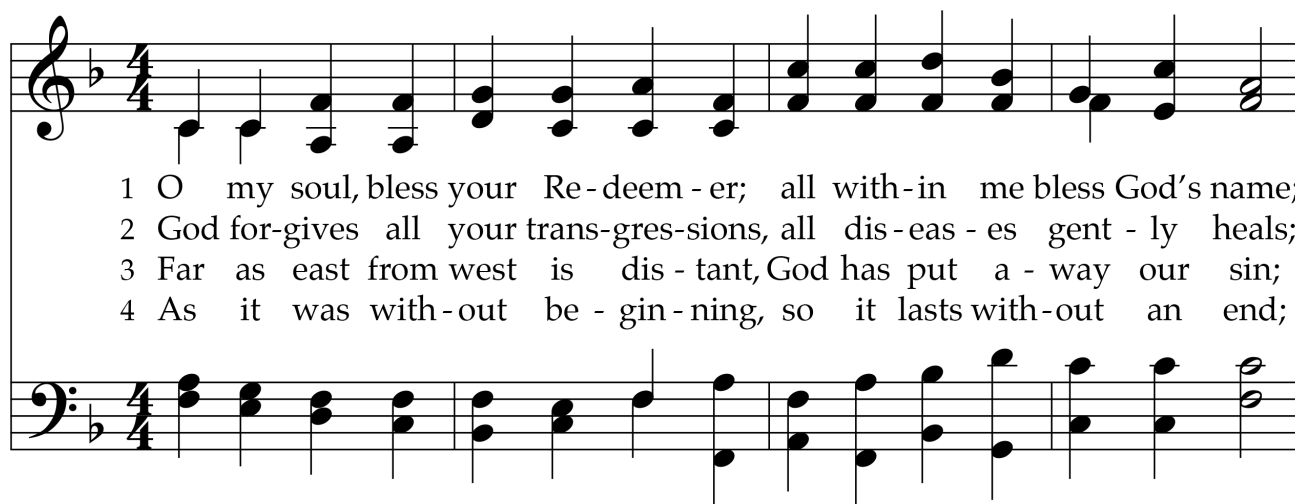
Presentation

Hear the words of our Lord Jesus Christ...

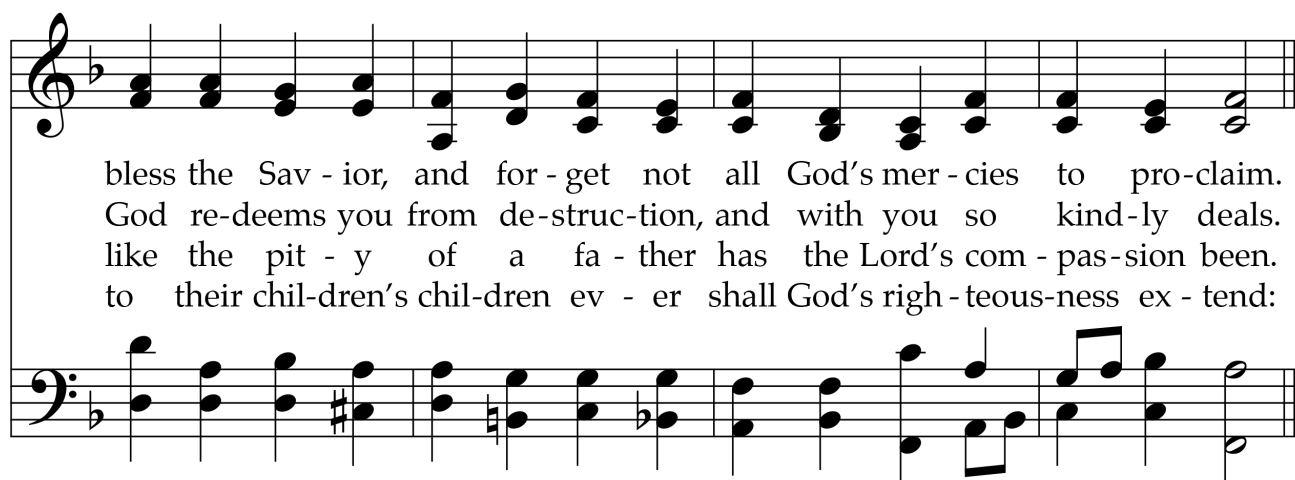
Obedying the word of our Lord Jesus,

O My Soul, Bless Your Redeemer 439

(Psalm 103)



1 O my soul, bless your Re-deem-er; all with-in me bless God's name;
2 God for-gives all your trans-gres-sions, all dis-eas-es gent-ly heals;
3 Far as east from west is dis-tant, God has put a-way our sin;
4 As it was with-out be-gin-ning, so it lasts with-out an end;



bless the Sav-ior, and for-get not all God's mer-cies to pro-claim.
God re-deems you from de-struc-tion, and with you so kind-ly deals.
like the pit-y of a fa-ther has the Lord's com-pas-sion been.
to their chil-dren's chil-dren ev-er shall God's righ-teous-ness ex-tend:

5 Unto such as keep God's cov'nant
and are steadfast in God's way;
unto those who still remember
the commandments and obey.

6 Bless your Maker, all you creatures,
ever under God's control,
all throughout God's vast dominion;
bless the Lord of all, my soul!

These stanzas are selected from sixteen that originally made up this paraphrase of Psalm 103, the second of two versions in the volume where they were first published. The tune used here was probably created as a German psalm tune but later came to be used with hymn texts.

TEXT: *The Book of Psalms*, 1871, alt.

MUSIC: Witt's *Psalmodia Sacra*, 1715; harm. William Henry Havergal, 1847, alt.

STUTTGART

8.7.8.7

When We Are Living

822

Pues si vivimos

1 When we are liv - ing, it is in Christ Je - sus,
 2 Through all our liv - ing, we our fruits must give.
 3 'Mid times of sor - row and in times of pain,
 4 A - cross this wide world, we shall al - ways find

1 *Pues si vi - vi - mos, pa - ra Él vi - vi - mos,*
 2 *En es - ta vi - da fru - tos hay que dar*
 3 *En la tris - te - za y en el do - lor,*
 4 *En es - te mun - do por do - quier ha - brá*



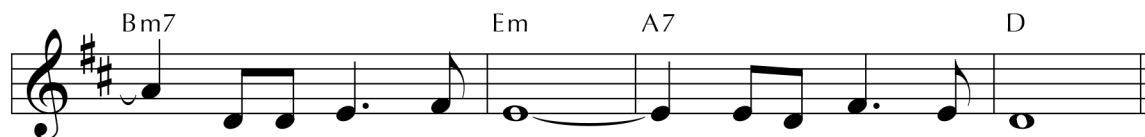
and when we're dy - ing, it is in the Lord.
 Good works of ser - vice are for of - fer - ing.
 when sens - ing beau - ty or in love's em-brace,
 those who are cry - ing with no peace of mind,

y si mo - ri - mos pa - ra Él mo - ri - mos.
y bue - nas o - bras he - mos de o - fren - dar.
en la be - lle - za y en el a - mor,
gen - te que llo - ra y sin con - so - lar.



Both in our liv - ing and in our dy - ing,
 When we are giv - ing, or when re - ceiv - ing,
 wheth - er we suf - fer, or sing re - joic - ing,
 but when we help them, or when we feed them,

Sea que vi - va - mos o que mu - ra - mos,
Sea ya que de - mos o que re - ci - ba - mos,
sea que su - fra - mos o que go - ce - mos,
Sea que a - yu - de - mos o que a - li - men - te - mos,



we be-long to God; we be-long to God.
so - mos del Se - ñor, so - mos del Se - ñor.

This hymn began as an orally transmitted stanza reflecting on Romans 14:7–8 and was expanded by a Spanish-language hymnal committee to offer additional examples of the many dimensions of life, thereby strengthening the recurring affirmation that we belong to God through them all.

TEXT: Stanza 1, anon.; English trans. Elise S. Eslinger, 1983;

stanzas 2–4, Roberto Escamilla, 1983; English trans. George Lockwood, 1987

MUSIC: Spanish melody; arr. Barbara C. Mink, 1988

English Trans. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House (admin. The Copyright Company)

Spanish Text Sts. 2–4 © 1983 Abingdon Press (admin. The Copyright Company)

Music Arr. © 1988 Barbara C. Mink (admin. Community of Christ)

SOMOS DEL SEÑOR

10.10.10.10

and confident of his promises,
we baptize those whom God has called.

**In baptism God claims us and seals us
to show that we belong to God.
God frees us from sin and death,
uniting us with Jesus Christ
in his death and resurrection.
By water and the Holy Spirit,
we are made members of the Church,
the body of Christ,
and joined to Christ's ministry
of love, peace, and justice.
Let us remember with joy our own baptism,
as we celebrate this sacrament.**

Questions to the Parents, Congregation, and Children of the Church

*Profession of Faith

Through baptism we enter the covenant...
With the whole Church, let us confess our faith.

Do you believe in God, the Father almighty?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

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

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

**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.**



The sacrament
of baptism will be
administered today
at the 8:30 AM
worship service to:

**John Ethan
Humbracht**

son of Rachael
McCord and John
Humbracht



The sacrament
of baptism will be
administered today
at the 11:00 AM
worship service to:

**Frances Louise
Tiesler**

daughter of Julianna
and Daniel Tiesler

***Westminster's
baptismal font*** is a
traditional eight-sided
font.

Why eight sides?
God created the
world in six days
and rested on
the seventh. The
symbolic "eighth
day" represents the
resurrection of Jesus
and the dawn of a
brand-new creation.
Entering the baptismal
waters marks entry
into this new
spiritual life.

The Baptismal Rite

The Apostles' Creed: The oldest surviving baptismal liturgy, dating from around the year 200 C.E., describes the candidate for baptism standing in water and affirming the faith by responding to three questions. Each question corresponds to one person of the Trinity. The Paschal Candle is symbolic of Christ's death and resurrection. The Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, is our Paschal sacrifice. The Paschal Candle also symbolizes the light of the risen Christ, shining in the world. The use of this symbol dates from the early days of the Church. New Christians were given a lighted candle, symbolic of their having died and been raised to new life in Christ through baptism.

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 over the Water

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.

We give you thanks, Eternal God...lives and reigns forever.
Amen.

The Baptism

Welcome

With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you into the body of Christ.

**Live as a child of the light
and let your light shine before others. Amen.**

Baptismal Anthem

Ron Barnett

Love Is Little

Love is little, love is low,
love will make our spirit grow,
grow in peace, grow in light;
love will do the thing that's right.

PRESENTATION OF THIRD GRADE BIBLES (8:30 AM)

THANKSGIVING

OFFERING

Anthem

Gilbert M. Martin

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
Save in the death of Christ, my God!
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to his blood.

See, from his head, his hands, his feet,
Sorrow and love flow mingled down!
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,

Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were a present far too small;
Love, so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all!

Amen!

***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! 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.

**Merciful and gracious God,
you abound in steadfast love and faithfulness.
With gratitude, we bring our gifts to you.
Bless these gifts and bless our lives
that together we may share your mercy and grace
for the world you dearly love. Amen.**

***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.**

Doxology

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

*Why do
Presbyterians say
"debts" in the Lord's
Prayer?*

Presbyterian and
Reformed churches
historically favored
direct translations
of the original
biblical text over
traditional liturgical
adaptations.
Matthew 6:12 uses
the Greek word
opheilēmata, which
literally means
"debts" or "that
which is owed,"
as a metaphor for
sin. Luke 11:2 uses
the Greek word
amartias, which is
translated as "sins",
but has a root
meaning of "missing
the mark."

About the Postlude

The Postlude is considered the final Alleluia of worship.

About Hymn 503

St. Augustine spoke of eucharist as “the repeatable part of baptism,” and this hymn reminds us that each time we share in the Lord’s Supper we are renewing our baptismal vows. The text is set to a tune that dates to the transition between plainchant and modern tonalities.

*"Taste and see that the Lord is good!"
(Psalm 34:8)
is this year's focus!*

Paul's word to us today is not to consume a world full of judgment and condemnation, but to be transformed into a joyful, welcoming community.

It is easy to judge; how might you seek to develop a taste for the generous gift of grace given to you and meant to be given to others?

SENDING

***HYMN 503**

O QUANTA QUALIA

Lord, We Have Come at Your Own Invitation

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

H. Alexander Matthews

Chorale Prelude on O QUANTA QUALIA

**(Those who are able may stand.)*

Lord, We Have Come at Your Own Invitation

503

1 Lord, we have come at your own in - vi - ta - tion,
2 Here, at your ta - ble, con - firm our in - ten - tion;
3 When, at your ta - ble, each time of re - turn - ing,

cho - sen by you, to be count - ed your friends;
give it your seal of for - give - ness and grace;
vows are re - newed and our cour - age re - stored,

yours is the strength that sus - tains ded - i - ca - tion;
teach us to serve with - out pride or pre - ten - sion,
may we in - creas - ing - ly glo - ry in learn - ing

ours, a com - mit - ment we know nev - er ends.
Lord, in your king - dom, what - ev - er our place.
all that it means to ac - cept you as Lord.

St. Augustine spoke of eucharist as "the repeatable part of baptism," and this hymn reminds us that each time we share in the Lord's Supper we are renewing our baptismal vows. The text is set to a tune that dates to the transition between plainchant and modern tonalities.

Today @ Westminster

Worship Leaders

Preaching

Rev. Dr. Donovan Drake
Senior Pastor and Head of Staff

Liturgist

Jessie King
Youth and Pastoral Care Fellow

Lay Liturgists

8:30 AM Sallie Bailey
11:00 AM Andy Garcia

Presenting Elder

11:00 AM Krissie Self

Music

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

John Semingson
Director of Music Ministries

Stephen Z. Cook
Organist

Flower Dedication

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in loving remembrance of our Bailey Family members who are no longer with us by the extended Bailey family.

The flowers in the Parlor are given to the glory of God in thanksgiving for the life of our beloved John Penton from his many friends and co-workers at Westminster.

Hearing Assistance

We offer two options to assist with hearing during services. 1.) Download the Sennheiser MobileConnect app. 2.) Personal FM receivers with an earpiece. Receivers and instructions for both options are located in the Narthex and on the Welsh Dresser in the Parlor. Please see an Usher if you need assistance.

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



**LIVING
OUT THE
WORD**

LOVE
RECONCILE
SHINE
TRANSFORM

Welcome those who are weak in
faith but not for the purpose of
quarreling over opinions.

Romans 14:1

When have you experienced the best "welcome"?

When have you worked to "welcome"?

How can you practice a more inclusive and intentional welcome?
("taste and see")

Welcome

Westminster Presbyterian Church welcomes you to share our common journey to become more faithful disciples of Christ. If you are interested in joining us in this journey, you are invited to contact Stephanie Boaz, sboaz@nashvillewpc.org.

Having trouble hearing during the service?

We have hearing aids available in the Narthex and instructions to download the Sennheiser MobileConnect app. The Sennheiser MobileConnect app is a Wi-Fi audio streaming solution that turns smartphones into personal listening and communication devices. It provides barrier-free hearing assistance and live translation directly through your personal headphones or hearing aids.



Baptisms

Baptism Sunday is the second and fifth Sundays of each month except during Lent.

If you would like more information about baptisms at Westminster, please contact Sophie Maness, 615.292.5526, smaness@nashvillewpc.org.

If you would like to schedule a baptism, please contact Hannah Boles, 615.292.5526, hboles@nashvillewpc.org.



TODAY @ WESTMINSTER

Presentation of Bibles to our Third-Graders

It is a privilege to present NRSV Bibles to the children in our Third Grade Church School Class. "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." Psalm 119:105

Riley Anne Adams
Henry Barnett Boswell
Elizabeth Judson Brush
Oliver Manning Chaffin
Grant Lee Childers
Bryan Edward Frist, Jr.
Wright Hastings Goodridge
Baylor Hannafan
Molly Patricia Higgins
John Howard Hudson IV
Samantha Ellen Hunter
Katherine Mae Kramer

Davis McRae Lancaster
Steven Hanley Ludlam III
Alexis Hess McDonald
Charlotte Helen Moody
Cecilia Rose Morse
Mayes Andrusin Porter
Wyatt Jack Sherwin
Hyde Edward Springer
William Lucas Walker
Reese Morgan Wedemeyer
Riley Anne Wilson
Mathis Calhoun Wyatt

Journey Through the Bible

This milestone has been around WPC for a long time. It is an interactive learning experience to help third graders discover what's in their new Bible, and how to find their way around. They receive some great bookmarks to mark each section of their Bible. It's a lot of fun and parents and children learn so much together!

It is a great opportunity to see what children already know and what they are curious about.





TODAY @ WESTMINSTER



Sunday, September 13
Parents Remember Together
2:30 PM • Overlook Room

A time for parents who have lost children to meet one another and share about their children.

For more info, please contact Stephanie Boaz, sboaz@nashvillewpc.org.



Sunday, September 13
Women's Bible Study Kick-Off
7:00 - 8:30 PM
Ashley Higgins' Home

Life is best lived in community. Join us as we study the book of Philippians and how it informs our life of faith. Kickoff is tonight at Ashley Higgins' house (note location change).

Email Ashley for address (ahiggins@nashvillewpc.org).

Financials

Each month, the Finance Committee provides a summary of the church operating income and expenses.

If any members wish to have more information about church finances, please contact:

Mike Koban, Finance Committee Chair
mkoban@prodigy.net

Suzanne McLemore, Treasurer
suzannegm58@gmail.com

Jo Ann McFarlin, Administrator
jmcfarlin@nashvillewpc.org or
615.292.5526 x231.

August 2026

Year to Date

Income: \$2,848,133

Expense: 2,824,155

Net Income (loss):

\$ 23,978



ANNOUNCEMENTS



Leadership Transition Website

How in the world will we find our next Senior Pastor? What's the difference between the Transition Team and the Pastor Nominating Committee? How can I voice the qualities that I find important for our next leader? You can find all these answers and more on our new website, WLTNashville.church, which details the whole pastoral transition process. Also on this website, you'll find the visioning covenant, purpose and mission statements guiding the prayerful process of filling Donovan's shoes. You can leave

comments and questions on the Feedback page, and its Updates page is where you can watch a video of our last Congregational meeting about the transition, as well as read timely updates on our progress.



Deadline Extended: September 18

Ministry Priority Survey

Ministry priority surveys are still available if you didn't have an opportunity to complete one when Bill Wilson was here. Copies are in the church office. Please have it completed and returned by September 18 if possible.



Elder Nominations

Nominations for next year's Elder class and Legacy Fund Trustees (the Class of 2030) are requested from Westminster members. To nominate a church member, please complete a suggestion form. Forms can be found in the Parlor by the wood ballot box, or online at www.nashvillewpc.church (click on Forms tab).

Nominations close on October 11, 2026. For more information, please contact Krissie Self, Chair, krissiebsself@gmail.com or Terri Eckert, teckert@nashvillewpc.org.

Below are our current Session members.

Elizabeth Ball
Mollie Brookshire
Jamie Capps
Bill Christie
Mark Hardison
Hugh Harvey
Bob Hines
Susan Isaacs
Keith Maddin
Scott Portis
Krissie Self
David Wyatt

Jennifer Anderson
Lisa Atkinson
Thomas Bernstein
Doug Berry
Susan Carey
Jennifer Corbett
Ward DeWitt
Houston Estes
Fred Lowrance
Katherine McElroy
Nicole Oeser
Bobby Veach

Marees Choppin
Kirsten Crosby
Beville Dunkerley
Chad Folk
Andy Garcia
Ken Garrison
Kate Griffin
Eric Helman
Ned Hildebrand
Rachel Hose
Stephen Maggart
Margaret Wheeler



ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Sunday School Classes Begin at 9:45 AM

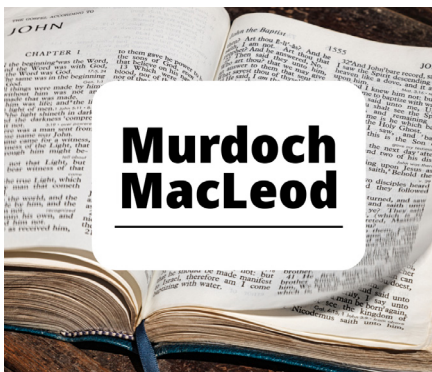


Covenant Class • Fellowship Hall

In their 2022 book, *The Story of American Religion* (Westminster John Knox) authors James Hudnut-Beumler and James Byrd explored more than 400 years of religion in North America and the Caribbean. Two recurrent themes in the book bear faithful reflection in a season of celebration for the nation's 250th birthday and voting for state and federal leaders. The first is Religion, Immigration, and

Belonging, which will be topic of James Hudnut-Beumler's class on September 13th. The second focuses on How Christian Does American Politics Get? (by someone's definition at various points) for a class on September 20th. Here, Hudnut-Beumler will reflect on the means by which, even in a country with religious freedom in the Constitution, politicians and religious leaders wrap the cross and flag together to influence others.

For more info, please contact Sarah Bird Kneff, skneff@nashvillewpc.org.



Murdoch MacLeod • Library

We will discuss this week's gospel lesson.

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



Journeys • Overlook Room

Is Forgiveness an option? A discussion led by Stephen & Mandy Young and Jim & Betsy Hunt.

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



Faith & Fellowship • 214

Fellowship and Bible study for folks who are "empty nesters" to "early retirees." Led by Donovan Drake.



KOINONIA YOUTH MINISTRY



9:45 AM •
Sunday School •
Koinonia Youth Café

Join us for Sunday School and Confirmation class.



6:00 PM •
Youth Group •
Koinonia Youth Café

Invite your friends and join us for an evening of food, laughter, and GROG.



Save The Date
October 19

WPC Golf Tournament

more info to come



MUSIC MINISTRY



Sunday Rehearsals

4:00-4:50 PM - Children's Choirs

Alleluia Choir

Gloria Choir

Jubilate Choir

Tintinnabulation Integenerational Handbell Choir

5:00-6:00 PM

Laudate Youth Choir



Dear Westminster Church,

I will complete 25 years as the Director of Music for Westminster at the end of this year. I began January 15, 2001. Time has flown by, but it is not without my great appreciation for the privilege of serving this church. Thank you for your support during my time. Thank you to all the wonderful children, youth and adults who have given so much to our worship life, and meant so much to me, personally.

I have worked hard to help the Westminster Choirs offer their very best every week. The extraordinary commitment of our adult choir members to the Westminster Choir and the church has been a profound joy and witness to me. We have rehearsed for many hours, traveled together, and supported one another through difficult personal times. It has also been a deep joy to plan Word-centered worship in the Reformed tradition, where music serves the hearing and celebration of God's Word each week. I hope that, over these past 25 years, our music has inspired you in worship and given you moments of feeling closer to God and to one another.

Sincerely,

Dr. John Semingson
Director of Music Ministries



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

Who lets you know they are so glad to see you?

Who are you excited to see because they make you feel great?

Draw a picture of someone who makes you smile.

The Weak and the Strong

o	l	c	x	u	b	s	p	g	k	p	j	b	j	n	x	p	l
u	j	o	o	n	z	y	f	e	e	k	z	k	r	f	e	a	g
i	l	v	r	t	r	e	a	t	b	l	a	f	i	g	r	q	g
k	q	k	b	d	l	b	z	y	x	d	k	h	g	j	i	q	s
u	x	u	x	r	l	l	s	a	t	s	t	a	n	d	d	t	e
o	m	a	a	m	x	l	u	j	z	z	i	n	i	m	a	m	r
s	t	n	w	r	a	j	u	d	g	e	a	o	y	f	f	d	v
y	e	r	e	j	r	s	a	y	o	o	n	p	k	a	i	b	a
f	l	e	a	m	w	e	t	f	p	e	h	l	r	i	s	g	n
n	w	f	k	x	c	m	l	e	s	b	a	n	j	t	b	m	t
q	v	e	p	q	g	i	i	c	r	t	j	t	l	h	a	t	b
q	t	r	g	o	d	m	l	k	v	s	g	u	a	x	g	s	d

Can you find these words?

eat
faith
God
judge
Lord
master
quarrel
servant
stand
treat
weak



ANNOUNCEMENTS



September 14

Women's Covenant Group

11:30 AM • BYO Lunch

12:00 PM • Presentation

Goodpasture Hall

Our speaker will be Sarah Bird Kneff, Associate Pastor of Adult Faith Formation. You've seen her name in the bulletin. Perhaps you've even spoken to her in the hallway. But who is this new Associate Pastor for Adult Faith Formation? What is Sarah Bird Kneff's role at WPC and what brought her here? Come learn more about Sarah, her call to ministry, her family, and what she is most excited about as we begin the new program year together.

Lisa Atkinson, lbas1958@gmail.com

Carolyn Harris
carolynmorganharris@gmail.com

Peggy Bernstein
peggyjbernstein@gmail.com

September 22
Westminster Book Group
9:30 AM • Fellowship
10:00 AM • Presentation
Goodpasture Hall

The Barn: The Secret History of a Murder in Mississippi by Wright Thompson

Led by Guy Griffith

This book re-examines the 1955 torture and murder of 14-year-old Emmett Till, exposing the precise physical location of the crime inside a barn in Sunflower County, Mississippi, and detailing the decades-long local cover-up.

Thursday Morning Theology Group DELAYED

Due to unforeseen circumstances, the Thursday Morning Theology Group's start date has been delayed. This fall, we'll be covering Jürgen Moltmann's *Theology of Hope*, but we will not meet until late September or early October.

A start date will be announced in the next few weeks. If you would like to get on an email list for updates, please email Kris Pardue, kpardue@nashvillewpc.org.



ANNOUNCEMENTS



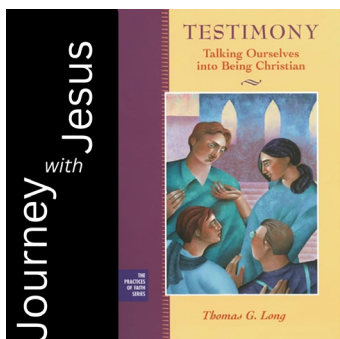
Begins September 16
Westminster Academy
6:30 PM • Overlook Room

Please join us for a discussion on *The Correspondent* by Virginia Evans. Led by Sue Trout. For more info, please contact Sarah Kneff, skneff@nashvillewpc.org.



Fall New Member & Inquirer Class
September 20 - October 25
Goodpasture Hall

If interested in joining, please contact Stephanie Boaz, sboaz@nashvillewpc.org.



Begins October 4 • Journey with Jesus
5:00 PM • Room 196

Journey with Jesus Bible study is for adults of all ages. The first book we will study together is Tom Long's "Testimony: Talking Ourselves into Being Christian." Discussion oriented gatherings are intended to grow relationships with God and each other. For more information, contact Suzie Lane, suzielane0@gmail.com.



Young Adult Reboot--Coming Soon

For more information:
Sherri Givens, sgivens@nashvillewpc.org
Stephanie Boaz, sboaz@nashvillewpc.org
Ashley Higgins, ahiggins@nashvillewpc.org.



ANNOUNCEMENTS



October 2-3, 2026

Second Annual Partnership + Marriage Retreat

\$120 per couple

(Childcare provided Saturday, October 3)

Join us for the second time or a second year!

Curious about the Enneagram? Want to grow deeper in relationship with your partner/spouse? This retreat will be both delightful and an opportunity to grow individually and together.

Join us for a Friday evening session (including dinner dates) and a Saturday morning session at WPC as we dig deeper into knowing ourselves and our partners.

Each person will take a test before the workshop and iEQ9 Integrative Enneagram will give each couple their test results. The report is rich with ideas to hear one another better, and deal with differences better. It covers communication, parenting (if applicable), finances, etc. Each couple's report will be the basis for all that we do during the Friday night and Saturday sessions.

We will cover a lot in our time together and the report will be yours to keep and use as it is helpful for you. Scan the QR code to register.

Led by Sophie Maness and Ashley Higgins.



**Starts Sunday,
September 20**

Men's Bible Study: Scripture for Today

7:00 - 8:00 PM

WPC Chancel

Life is best lived in community. Join us as we study the book of Philippians and how it informs our life of faith.

This fall, the men's bible study will meet every Sunday evening.

Led by Donovan Drake.



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.



Tuesdays
November 3, 10, 17, 24
& December 1
Clay Weaving &
Luminaries
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

To learn more about this class, please scan the QR code.



Thursdays
October 1, 8, 15, 22, 29
Christmas Gifts
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Scan the QR code to register.



Fridays
October 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
Christmas Gifts
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Scan the QR code to register.



Saturdays
November 7 and 14
Gingerbread House Fun
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
\$20 per person (all supplies included)

Led by Joan Coode and Sally Gracey
Registrations Deadline:
November 5, 2026

Scan the QR code to register.





ROOTNETWORK

September 27 Sunday Lunches

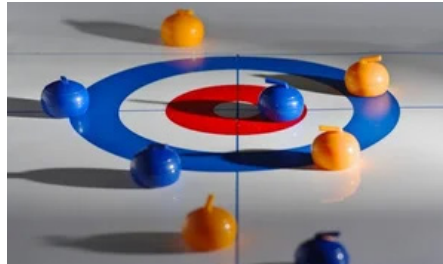


12:15 PM
Café

Limit: 40
\$10 per person
Hosted by the
ROOTnetwork Team
Catered by Maggiano's
Italian Restaurant



Thursday, October 1 Curling



6:00 - 8:30 PM
Tee Line Nashville

Limit: 10 participants
\$60 per person (\$30 for
curling and \$30 for dinner
at Tee Line Nashville)

Host: Jane Gooby



Saturday, October 24 Hiking



9:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Percy Warner Park

Limit: 12 participants
\$20 per person

Led by Julius Hooper with
Event Hosts Brandon
Clingman and Andy Garcia



A new opportunity for adults!

Eat someplace new! Listen to live music! Visit Nashville sites, hike, walk, and play! Don't like parking or driving at night? The ROOT (Relationships Over Our Time) Network offers all this and more.

Who is this for? Open to everyone (whether you attend Westminster or not) ages 21 to 121, single or in a relationship.

We plan small (about 12) and larger group activities and welcome your ideas.

MINISTRY TEAM



Donovan Drake
Pastor
ddrake@nashvillewpc.org



Will Wellman
Director of Theology and
Community Initiatives
wwellman@nashvillewpc.org



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



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



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



John Semington
Director of Music Ministries
johns@nashvillewpc.org



Guy D. Griffith
Associate Pastor for
Pastoral Care and Teaching
ggriffith@nashvillewpc.org



Adam DeVries
Parish Associate for Youth
adevries@nashvillewpc.org



Stephen Z. Cook
Organist



Sarah Bird Kneff
Associate Pastor for
Adult Faith Formation
skneff@nashvillewpc.org



3900 West End Avenue
Nashville, TN 37205-1899
615.292.5526
www.nashvillewpc.church



Give
blood.



**American
Red Cross**

October 1
9:30 AM - 3:30 PM
Goodpasture Hall

