



Westminster PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

OCTOBER 11, 2026 AT 11AM | 20TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

An open and welcoming Christian community in service to God and neighbor

We Come Into God's Presence with Joy

Life of the Church

Prelude

* Call to Worship

Earl Begg, liturgist

(congregation please read bold type)

Beloved community, let us assemble with purpose

In the presence of God, let us find grounding and renewal

We embrace the holy gift of joy, both personal and political

Joy connects us to each other

Joy calls us to build a better world

Joy keeps our hearts open and alive

A friend to righteous anger and determination

A companion in sorrow and struggle

Let us worship the One who is Joy, for They sustain and uphold us

From enfleshed

* Hymn #351

*All Who Love and Serve
Your City*

CHARLESTOWN

* *You are invited to stand as you are able.*

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

We confess, O Lord, that we love attention. We are pleased when people single us out for something good that we have done, for some outstanding act or trait of kindness that we exhibit. We revel in the light; but the seductive light too often captures us. We seek its brightness and glory and turn our backs on others in need. We have been given many gifts, but often fail to use them to help others and to serve you. Forgive us our vanity and greed. Heal our wounded and aching souls. Place us again on the pathway of peace and hope that is your way to true life. For we ask these things in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Adapted from a prayer by Rev. Nancy C. Townley

Silent prayers of confession.

Assurance of Grace

* Passing the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

* Song of Response #609 *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

† **Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.**

Praise God, all creatures high and low. Alleluia, alleluia!

Praise God, in Jesus fully known: Creator, Word and Spirit one.

Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

† *You are welcome to sign as you are comfortable and able.*

We include this practice as a way to engage our whole selves in worship.

We Hear God's Word

First Reading of The Word

Isaiah 25:1-9

Anthem

Let Me Walk You Home

by Heather Sorenson

Heather Gerety, soloist; Westminster Choir

Maybe we've got years to go, or maybe time is short.
The journey is important though, and we all need some support.
In case you hit a detour, or things come up unknown,
you'll need someone to hold a light 'cause not all roads lead to Rome.
So let me walk you home. Is there something I can carry?
Your burden's temporary, though they're heavy for today.
Let me walk you home.

The sun is getting lower, and the dark is getting closer,
and before we know, the time has flown. So let me walk you home.

Where two or three are gathered, we make a mighty Choir!
I will take the low notes, and you can take the higher.
It's not a race to heaven, but if you get there first,
I'll hand you off to Jesus, and I'll sing another verse, I'll sing another verse.
So let me walk you home. Let me walk you home to Jesus.
He's running out to meet us, and His smile lights up the way.
Let me walk you home.

We can make this road a sanctuary, a haven for the weary.
And before we know, the time has flown.
We blink our eyes, the years pass by.
So let me walk you home. Let me walk you home.

Maybe we've got years to go, or maybe time is short.
The journey is important though, so let me walk you home.
Is there something I can carry?

A Moment to Wonder

Children are invited to come forward for a short lesson on the chancel steps.

Second Reading of the Word **Luke 14:7-14**

Sermon

Rev. Anna Taylor-McCants

We Respond to God's Word

* Hymn #644

*Give Thanks,
O Christian People*

ES FLOG EIN KLEINS
WALDVOGELEIN

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.

Offering and Prayer of Dedication

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

* Song of Response #654 *In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful*

In the Lord I'll be ever thankful;

in the Lord I will rejoice!

Look to God; do not be afraid.

Lift up your voices, the Lord is near.

Lift up your voices; the Lord is near.

* Prayer of Dedication

* Hymn #757

*Today We All Are Called
to Be Disciples*

KINGFOLD

We Go Forth to Serve

* Dismissal

And let all God's people say:

Alleluia! Amen!

Postlude

Rev. Anna Taylor-McCants is the Lead Pastor, ELCA Mission Developer, and Executive Director for Fed Up Ministries. She received her M.Div. from United Lutheran Seminary in Philadelphia and Gettysburg, PA. She is originally from East Tennessee but has lived in Syracuse, NY and Philadelphia, PA since beginning her ministry. Pastor Anna currently resides in Ypsilanti with her wife, Monique, and children, Laynee and Ezra. Pastor Anna is passionate about antiracism work and queer inclusion in the Church. She also cares deeply for those who are food and housing insecure. FedUp Ministries is the place where these passions meet. You can learn more about FedUp Ministries at fedupministries.org.

This Week's News

Caring for our community: Pick up a cloth grocery bag in the main entry today and bring it back next Sunday with nonperishable food and personal and household items for Hope Clinic's food pantry.

Habitat for Humanity Rock the Block: Join Habitat for Humanity for a service day in the Sugarbrook neighborhood of Ypsi. Friday, October 23, 8am-1pm. This large-scale exterior project day seeks to bring together a team of 100+ volunteers to serve a whole block of homes! Check our website for the registration link. Contact Ron Fairchild (ron@thefairchilds.net) for more information.

Chili & Cookies Cook-Off: Join us for an all-church cook-off! Friday, October 23, at 6pm. Bring your favorite chili or cookies. We'll set out the dishes with a description or recipe, but the chefs will remain anonymous! Diners can vote for a favorite chili and favorite cookie of the night. Signup sheet is on the bulletin board. Halloween costumes encouraged!

Football Parking: Our next football parking and tailgate day is October 17 for the Penn State game! Kickoff is 3:30pm. We'll start parking cars by 7am, but feel free to stop by any time before kickoff. Bring a comfortable chair for outdoor seating and a dish to pass (if you are able). All are welcome!

Quarterly Contribution Statements are available for pickup on the coffee bar.

Confirmation: A confirmation class for youth in 8th grade and above will begin on Sunday, October 18th. For the first session, we will share an overview of the year; students can take a week to decide if they would like to participate. We'll meet on the 1st and 3rd Sundays at 9:30am, with a field trip offsite about once a month. Confirmation is a chance to dive deeper in faith, ask big questions, and be affirmed that there is always room for curiosity, uncertainty, and wonder in a life of faith. Join us on the 18th to learn all about it, and let Pastor Hannah know if you have questions!

Grow in Faith and Friendship

Reading Through the Bible Group meets Sundays at 9:30am in Room 34 and via Zoom. Contact Marcia Anderson (hilden.anderson@gmail.com; 734-757-4305) for more information.

Sunday Morning Adult Ed meets in the fellowship hall at 9:30am.

Children and Youth Faith Formation meets on the second and fourth Sundays of each month at 9:30am. Contact Cathy Daniels (catld1121@gmail.com) for more info.

Monday Conversations are weekly at 1pm online: an opportunity to discuss Sunday's sermon in a small group. The Zoom invitation is in the Friday *Good Things* and Sunday podcast emails.

Mary Martha Group meets the first and third Mondays at 7pm via Zoom. Contact Margaret Klammer (mklammer@comcast.net) for more information.

Matthew 25 Study Group meets at 7pm on the second and fourth Mondays of each month. For meeting information, please contact Elizabeth Tidd (lizbeth0405@yahoo.com) or Carol Hufnagel (carol.hufnagel@tetrattech.com).

Thursday Book Club meets weekly at 1pm at Westminster and over Zoom. Contact Linda Harnisch for more information (rlharnisch@gmail.com).

We pray for our Westminster family

Ongoing needs: Fran Bolhouse, Cara Doane

Condolences: We hold the family of Marcy Teppo in our prayers as they grieve the loss of Marcy, who died on September 25. A memorial service will be held at Westminster on November 6.

We hold the family of Kathryn Foltz in our prayers as they grieve the loss of Kathryn, who died on October 1.

We hold the family of Bernice Merte in our prayers as they grieve the loss of Bernice, who died on October 5.

Welcome to Westminster

Our Values: Love, Compassion, Connection, Inclusion, Earth-Care, Service

Our Mission: Show the love of Jesus Christ by welcoming everyone, without exception, into the full life of the church; participating in the joyful worship of God; engaging in regular study, reflection, prayer and sharing of our faith; committing ourselves and our resources to the spiritual and physical needs of our church family and neighbors near and far; seeking to be a good neighbor in our neighborhood.

Sunday worship podcasts are at westpresa2.org/online-sermons.

For deacon care, please contact Amy Welzenbach (awelzenbach411@gmail.com).

Thank you for continuing to fulfill your pledges and financial commitments in support of the mission and ministry of Westminster Presbyterian Church.

Westminster Staff may be reached by phone at 734-761-9320

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