



WESTMINSTER

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH • BUFFALO

SEPTEMBER 22, 2019

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

8:15 AM IN THE HOLMES CHAPEL

10:30 AM IN THE SANCTUARY

THE REVEREND DR. THOMAS H. YORTY
PASTOR



Worship in the Sanctuary • 10:30 AM

Welcome to this Place of Christian Worship

Do not wait for someone else to begin worship. Pray silently for yourself, for those about you, for the poor and the oppressed, for those present, for those who will shortly lead our common worship. Latecomers may enter the Sanctuary during the singing of the first hymn or during the Response to the Assurance. Ushers are available for assistance. Please turn off all cell phones.

Opening Voluntary

Voluntary on CWM RHONDDA

Paul Manz (1919-2009)

Welcome and Announcements

Dr. Airhart

Order of Worship

Chiming of the Trinity

The sounding of the chimes, invoking Creator, Son, and Holy Spirit, is an invitation to prepare for worship through a time of silent reflection. Please be respectful of those who are praying.

Introit

Eternal Light

Leo Sowerby (1895-1968)

Eternal Light, shine into our hearts,
Eternal Goodness, deliver us from evil,
Eternal Power, be our support,
Eternal Wisdom, scatter the darkness of our ignorance,
Eternal Pity, have mercy upon us, through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Call to Worship

The people stand and remain standing for the hymn that follows.

Praise the Lord, O servants of the Lord!

Blessed be the name of the Lord from this time on and forevermore.

From the rising of the sun to its setting the name of the Lord is to be praised.

Blessed be the name of the Lord from this time on and forevermore.

Hymn in Procession, No. 220

All People that on Earth Do Dwell

OLD HUNDRETH

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Rev. Nutter Dowling

**Creator of the universe,
Casualty of our sin, breath of life,
We come trembling before you
For we have hoarded and bartered
What has never been ours
in the hope of securing our future.
We have yearned for wealth
More than we have yearned for you.
We have squandered your trust
And grieved your heart with our betrayal.
Help us, O God of our salvation,
For the glory of your name;
Deliver us, and forgive our sins,
For your name's sake. Amen.**

Time for silent prayer.



Scripture Lesson

Jeremiah 8:18–9:1

¹⁸My joy is gone, grief is upon me, my heart is sick. ¹⁹Hark, the cry of my poor people from far and wide in the land: 'Is the Lord not in Zion? Is her King not in her?' ('Why have they provoked me to anger with their images, with their foreign idols?') ²⁰'The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved.' ²¹For the hurt of my poor people I am hurt, I mourn, and dismay has taken hold of me. ²²Is there no balm in Gilead? Is there no physician there? Why then has the health of my poor people not been restored? ⁹O that my head were a spring of water, and my eyes a fountain of tears, so that I might weep day and night for the slain of my poor people!

Poem

On Fame (II)

John Keats[†] (1795–1821)

How fevered is the man who cannot look
 Upon his mortal days with temperate blood,
Who vexes all the leaves of his life's book,
 And robs his fair name of its maidenhood;
It is as if the rose should pluck herself,
 Or the ripe plum finger its misty bloom,
As if a Naiad, like a meddling elf,
 Should darken her pure grot with muddy gloom:
But the rose leaves herself upon the briar,
 For winds to kiss and grateful bees to feed,
And the ripe plum still wears its dim attire,
 The undisturbed lake has crystal space;
Why then should man, teasing the world for grace,
 Spoil his salvation for a fierce miscreed?

Gospel Acclamation

The people stand.



Gospel Lesson

The people stand.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Luke 16:1-13

¹Jesus said to his disciples, "There was once a rich man who had a manager. He got reports that the manager had been taking advantage of his position by running up huge personal expenses. ²So he called him in and said, 'What's this I hear about you? You're fired. And I want a complete audit of your books.' ³"The manager said to himself, 'What am I going to do? I've lost my job as manager. I'm not strong enough for a laboring job, and I'm too proud to beg. . . ⁴Ah, I've got a plan. Here's what I'll do . . . then when I'm turned out into the street, people will take me into their houses.' ⁵"Then he went at it. One after another, he called in the people who were in debt to his master. He said to the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' ⁶"He replied, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' "The manager said, 'Here, take your bill, sit down here—quick now—write fifty.' ⁷"To the next he said, 'And you, what do you owe?' "He answered, 'A hundred sacks of wheat.' "He said, 'Take your bill, write in eighty.' ⁸"Now here's a surprise: The master praised the crooked manager! And why? Because he knew how to look after himself. Streetwise people are smarter in this regard than law-abiding citizens. They are on constant alert, looking for angles, surviving by their wits. ⁹I want you to be smart in the same way—but for what is right—using every adversity to stimulate you to creative survival, to concentrate your attention on the bare essentials, so you'll live, really live, and not complacently just get by on good behavior." ¹⁰Jesus went on to make these comments: If you're honest in small things, you'll be honest in big things; ¹¹If you're a crook in small things, you'll be a crook in big things. ¹²If you're not honest in small jobs, who will put you in charge of the store? ¹³No worker can serve two bosses: He'll either hate the first and love the second Or adore the first and despise the second. You can't serve both God and the Bank.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Christ.



Gospel Acclamation

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!

Sermon

Well-Behaved People Seldom Make History

Hymn, No. 391

Take My Life
The people stand to sing.

HENDON

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory Anthem

The Deacons receive the gifts, a portion of the blessings God has given us, which we return unto God.

Let All the World in Every Corner Sing

Bruce Neswick (b. 1956)

Let all the world in every corner sing My God and King.
The heavens are not too high, His praise my thither fly,
The earth is not too low, His praises there may grow.
The Church with psalms must shout, no door can keep them out;
But, above all, the heart must bear the longest part. (text: George Herbert, 1593-1633)

Presentation of the Gifts

The people stand as the Deacons come forward and remain standing for the Prayer of Dedication.

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise God, all crea - tures here be - low:
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Je - sus Christ whose pow'r up - lifts! Praise the Spir - it, Ho - ly Spir - it!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! A - men.

Prayer of Dedication

Gracious God,
Source of our daily bread and Sabbath trust,
You feed us with your love
And equip us to share in your purpose.
Receive the offerings of our wounded spirits,
Our guarded purses,
Our meager strength,
And continue to expand our hearts,
Until we live with the boldness and joy of Easter morning;
For we pray in the name of your son, Jesus,
And by the power of your Spirit. Amen.



Prayers of the People

Concluding with 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 trespasses,
As we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil;
For thine is the kingdom and the power
And the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

Sending Hymn, No. 420

God of Grace and God of Glory
The people stand to sing.

CWM RHONDDA

Benediction and Choral Response

God Be In My Head

Daniel Gawthrop (b. 1949)

God be in my head, and in my understanding;
God be in my eyes, and in my looking;
God be in my mouth, and in my speaking;
God be in my heart, and in my thinking;
God be at mine end, and at my departing.

Closing Voluntary

Comes Autumn Time

Leo Sowerby^{††} (1895-1968)

*Immediately following the service, please join us for Meet & Mingle in the Holmes Room.
Thank you to our host today, Janet Kowalski.*

Worship Leaders

Dr. Cameron Airhart, Preacher
The Reverend Kateln Nutter Dowling, Associate Pastor for Christian Education
The Reverend Beth Hennessy, Pastoral Care Associate
Barbara Nelson, Liturgist
Garrett F. Martin, Organist and Director of Music Ministries
The Westminster Schola

Deacons Serving Today

Peter Ahrens, Kate Dierenfield, Stephen Johnson, John Mahoney, Jane Morris, Roberta Nickelsen
Joan Rice, Roy Stewart, Ron Sutz

Chancel Flowers

The flowers at the Lord's Table are given by Leslie Deich in memory of her mother, Virginia Deich.

Notes on Today's Poet

While Tom and Carol travel along the road of the Romantic poets on a Lilly National Clergy Renewal Grant, we will read, each Sunday before the Scripture reading for the day, lines from a romantic poet. Tom and Carol are in Alton Bay, NH, with his sister and brother in law.

[†]**John Keats** was one of England's greatest poets. One of five children, Keats went to Clarke's School in Enfield. John left school in 1810 and shortly after, he was apprenticed to a surgeon and apothecary in Edmonton. As a teenager, Keats became passionately fond of poetry and when he was about 18 years old, he wrote his first poem, entitled 'Imitation of Spenser'. In 1815 John became a student at Guy's Hospital in London, but he continued to write poetry. In 1816, he had a poem published for the first time, in a magazine called *The Examiner*; it was a sonnet called 'O Solitude!'. In 1817, he published a book called 'Poems'. However, it was not a success, attracting little interest, nevertheless, Keats continued writing. His epic poem *Endymion* was published in 1818. During 1818-1819 Keats continued to write great poems including 'Ode to a Nightingale', 'Hyperion', 'The Eve of St Agnes' and 'Ode to Autumn'. At 25 years old, Keats fell ill with tuberculosis and passed away.

Notes on Today's Music

Leo Sowerby was a composer, organist, and teacher, whose organ and choral works provide a transition between 19th- and 20th-century American church-music styles.

Sowerby studied in Chicago and in Rome as the first American winner of the Prix de Rome. He taught composition and theory at the American Conservatory of Music in Chicago and was organist at St. James Church (now Cathedral). He became director of the College of Church Musicians in Washington, D.C., where he also was associated with the National Cathedral (Episcopal).

Sowerby combined a fine melodic talent with a use of modern harmonies. His *Canticle of the Sun* for chorus and orchestra based on Matthew Arnold's translation of a canticle by St. Francis, won the Pulitzer Prize in 1946. His orchestral works include tone poems, notably *Prairie*, and four symphonies. He also wrote chamber music; concerti for piano, cello, and organ; numerous choral and organ works; and for bandleader Paul Whiteman's orchestra, two symphonic jazz pieces entitled *Synconata* and *Monotony*.

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WORSHIP AND PREACHING SCHEDULE

Sunday Worship • 8:15 AM in the Holmes Chapel with Communion • 10:30 AM in the Sanctuary

September 29 • Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost • Worship, Music & Arts Dedication

The Rev. Beth Hennessy, Preacher; Luke 16:19-31

October 6 • World Communion Sunday at First Presbyterian Church, 1 Symphony Circle One Worship Service at 11:00 AM

The Rev. Thang Van Lian, Preacher; Luke 17:5-10

Rev. Thang Van Lian, a minister of the Presbyterian Church of Myanmar, will visit Western New York in early October as one of a number of "international peacemakers" selected by the Presbyterian Church (PCUSA) to witness to the power of non-violence. Rev. Thang comes with first-hand knowledge of the cause to which he testifies. He grew up in a poor, rural village experiencing significant challenges, racial and religious discrimination, and life-threatening situations. Based on this experience, and his 20 years in ministry, Rev. Thang will speak about the Rohingya crisis, the current civil war on ethnic minority groups, the silence of the Myanmar churches, and what a faithful response might look like to the humanitarian crisis in Myanmar today. He also will share the current peace, justice and development work of the Presbyterian Church of Myanmar.

Blessing of the Animals and Choral Evensong • October 6 • 4 PM at Westminster

The Westminster Choir welcomes all creatures to this special service of Evensong.

Live Stream Worship Services Each Sunday

Can't make it to Worship? You can still connect with Westminster. Visit our website: www.wpcbuffalo.org and click on the link to LiveStream on our homepage.

THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

Sunday, September 22

8:00 AM Infant /Toddler Care
8:15 AM Worship W/ Communion
9:00 AM Case Library Conversations
9:00 AM Deacon Meeting
9:00 AM Heavenly Grounds
9:15 AM Spiritual Life
9:15 AM Year of the Bible
9:30 AM Dialogue Diner
10:30 AM Worship
10:40 AM Sunday School
11:30 AM Meet & Mingle
11:35 AM Christian Ed/Youth Meeting
2:00 PM Buffalo Opera Unlimited Rehearsal

Monday, September 23

5:00 PM CMH Board Meeting
7:00 PM Year of the Bible

Tuesday, September 24

7:15 AM Wake Up Group
9:00 AM Management Meeting
10:00 AM Garden Group

11:30 AM Effective Communication Seminar

4:00 PM ENERGY Volunteer Orientation
5:00 PM Church Life Committee
6:00 PM Zen Dharma

Wednesday, September 25

7:15 AM AA Meeting
8:00 AM WEDI Board Meeting
9:30 AM Worship Planning
1:30 PM Staff Meeting
4:00 PM ENERGY Volunteer Orientation
5:30 PM Pathways To Peace
6:00 PM Session Meeting
8:00 PM AA Meeting

Thursday, September 26

7:15 AM Wake Up Group
4:00 PM ENERGY Volunteer Orientation
6:00 PM Handbells
7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal

Friday, September 27

12:00 PM Noontime AI-Anon

7:30 PM Adam Sherkin Concert

Saturday, September 28

10:00 AM TOY- Imagination Celebration

Sunday, September 29

8:00 AM Infant/Toddler Care
8:15 AM Worship/Communion
9:00 AM Case Library Conversations
9:00 AM Choir Rehearsal
9:00 AM Heavenly Grounds
9:15 AM Spiritual Life
9:15 AM Year of the Bible
9:30 AM Dialogue Diner
10:30 AM Worship - Worship, Music and Arts Dedication
10:40 AM Sunday School
11:15 AM Inquirer Class
11:30 AM Meet & Mingle
11:35 AM Acolyte Training
2:00 PM Buffalo Opera Unlimited
7:00 PM Rehearsal

NEWS AND NOTES

WELCOME TO WESTMINSTER

If you are visiting and would like to learn more about our programming or mission, please fill out a Welcome Card (found in the pews) and return it to a deacon or staff member.

- As a More Light church, we invite all persons of the LGBTQIA+ community to membership and full participation in all ministries of Westminster.
- We light our Peace Candle to pray for peace—both in our own neighborhoods and across the world.
- Bibles and children's worship guides are available at the Sanctuary entrances.
- For the hearing impaired, wireless receivers are available in the Church Conference Room.
- Childcare for children 5 years old and younger is available from 8:00 AM to 11:30 AM in the school building (across the garden).
- If you need assistance at any time, please ask a Deacon.
- Please pick up your generosity envelopes, which are available on the table in the Holmes Room.

CHURCH LIFE

INQUIRER CLASS

September 29 following the 10:30 AM Worship Service

Friends and visitors interested in learning more about Westminster and the ministries we support are invited to attend a meeting immediately following worship. We will share details of Westminster's history, discuss current outreach and mission programs in the city and region, and answer any questions. At the conclusion of the meeting, those who so desire will be received into the membership of the church. For more information, please contact Sawrie Becker, 884-9437, ext. 315, sbecker@wpcbuffalo.org

MISSION AND OUTREACH

Westminster's Alcohol/Other Drug Education and Referral service provides support to assist members and friends with issues and questions related to abuse of alcohol or other drugs. If you or someone you love needs help, call for free and confidential advice. Jen Read (228.7526) and Elizabeth Stewart (585.217.7878), Co-Chairs; Dave Carstensen (884.5403), Jane Morris (571.481.1839), Ellen Smith (882.2064), Phil Stevens (839.3357).

WEST SIDE BAZAAR

Check out The West Side Bazaar, 25 Grant Street, for lunch and shopping. Sunday and Monday: Closed. Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 11 AM–7 PM. Friday: 11 AM–8 PM, Saturday: 10 AM–8 PM.

ENERGY

The name ENERGY reflects what we value: Education, Nurture, Encouragement, Readiness, and Growth for Youth. The ENERGY school-year program gathers Monday through Friday from 3:30–6:00 PM at Westminster and offers a robust place for children, whose families are refugees and recently immigrated to this country, to develop English-language skills, self-confidence, and cultural awareness. Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, students receive a one-on-one experience with trained volunteer tutors and staff; and, with

our two new extra days, we have the opportunity to offer our students additional enrichment, including boys/girls club and long-term STEM projects. Engaging conversations over a meal, patient review and repetition during homework time, partner reading, and writing help to develop our students' language skills. If you are interested in reading with children, helping with homework, cooking meals, or leading lessons or activities, reach out to volunteer@wedibuffalo.org

RECOVERING FROM AN ILLNESS OR SURGERY? Or if you are a caregiver with an ill family member, or have had a new baby, Westminster can provide a simple meal for those in need. Contact Jamie Adamczyk at 884.9437, ext. 326 or jadamczyk@wpcbuffalo.org,

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

CHILDREN AND YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL

If you've ever thought "I wonder what the students do when they leave before the sermon on Sunday mornings," now is the time to find out! We are in need of additional Sunday School teachers for the fall. Our goal is to have 4 teachers set up for each semester so teachers can switch in and out, as we know schedules are tight. You will have a curriculum, a co-teacher to work with, and the Rev. Katelyn Nutter Dowling will be readily available to help and answer any questions you might have. Contact Katelyn at katelynnd@wpcbuffalo.org as soon as possible!

CONFIRMATION CLASS

We are kicking off a Confirmation Class in conjunction with Lafayette Avenue Presbyterian Church in September. Confirmation is something like a "rite of initiation" that welcomes young people that may have grown up in the faith (or not) to take the Presbyterian Church as their own set of beliefs and polity. For many students, church has been something they've gone to because of you—their parents. This is a wonderful gift you have given your child: a solid foundation on top of which to build their own faith. Confirmation is a chance for the student to ask questions, dig deep, and hopefully, at the end of the process, stand in front of the church and proclaim the PCUSA to be their church of their own free will and choosing. If your student is in grade 8 or above and they have not gone through confirmation, please contact Katelyn at katelynnd@wpcbuffalo.org to sign up and begin the process of finding a mentor!

The Confirmation Kick-Off Brunch! Sunday, October 13, Noon in Case Library. Confirmands and Mentors are welcome to attend our kick-off lunch/breakfast. We will give details for the upcoming journey of confirmation for our Westminster and Lafayette students. To sign up please email Micah, micahnd@wpcbuffalo.org or Katelyn, katelynnd@wpcbuffalo.org

ADULT BIBLE STUDY: YEAR OF THE BIBLE CLASS

Sunday mornings, 9:15–10:15 AM and Monday evenings 7:00–8:15 PM. Both classes meet in the Parish Hall

As we begin September, Year of the Bible participants have reached yet another milestone: we have now read 2/3 of the Bible! We continued to meet regularly over the summer as we moved through readings in Old and New Testament, Psalms, and Proverbs. We're now working our way through

Paul's letters in the New Testament, and we are beginning our journey with the Prophets in the Old Testament. It's not too late to join our group! We meet Sunday mornings 9:15-10:15 AM and Monday evenings 7:15-8:15 PM; both classes meet in the Parish Hall.

CASE LIBRARY CONVERSATION SERIES

Sundays, 9 AM-10:15 AM in the Case Library

Case Library Conversations presents opportunities to hear from community leaders, experts and members on local, national, and global issues. These offerings are always lively and intelligent. Participants are invited to dialogue, discuss and respectfully disagree. Through conversations we can examine how our life-long adventure in faith informs our response to these local, national, and international issues.

September 22

Major Initiatives at the Niagra Frontier Transportation Authority
From the Buffalo Airport enhancements to the DL&W construction, Helen will speak about how they will impact the Western New York Community.

Speaker: Helen Tederous, Director of Public Affairs, NFTA

September 29

Infrastructure Challenges in Western New York's Growing Communities

A look at how municipalities like Amherst are working to improve roads, buildings, sewers and much more to keep up with the demands created by increased population, development, technology and other trends.

Speaker: Brian Kulpa, Amherst Town Supervisor

SPIRITUAL LIFE

Sundays, 9 AM-10:15 AM in the Heritage Room

Spiritual Life creates opportunities to explore and reflect together upon the interior life of faith. Discoveries and questions come from topics such as deep listening, gratitude, compassion, grace, and grieving. Poetry and art are frequently woven into a presentation.

September 22

Our Big and Little Worlds, Kathleen Kelly, Presenter

Through her work and travel experience, Westminster Elder Kathleen Kelly has a unique understanding of the refugee children she teaches in the Buffalo Public School System. She will talk about how understanding their frames of reference can help us in our spiritual journey.

September 29

The Power of Mindfulness: What You Practice Grows Stronger. TED Talk by Shauna Shapiro

Chris LaMendola, Presenter

We will view Shauna Shapiro's TED Talk on the power of mindfulness in which Dr. Shapiro draws on modern neuroscience and ancient wisdom to demonstrate how mindfulness can help us make positive changes in our brains and in our lives.

WOW LUNCHTIME BIBLE STUDY

Women of Westminster cordially invites you to a **Brown Bag Lunchtime Bible study on the 3rd Monday of each month in the Case Library**. This year we will explore the 2019-2020 Horizons Bible study, *Love Carved in Stone: A Fresh Look at the Ten Commandments*. Each lesson begins

with an exploration of one of the Ten Words in its biblical context. From there, we consider a moment from Jesus' life that shows us how he lived out that Word. We then consider the Word for our own lives and contexts. We conclude with an invitation to pray with the Word in our circles or study groups and in our personal devotions. There will be a nominal fee for the book.

FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

KNITTING GROUP

Our next meetings are Friday, October 11, 1 PM, and Tuesday, October 22, 7 PM. Our group meets on occasional days throughout the year and works on their individual projects, as well as prayer shawls, scarves, and other handmade items for members of the church. Contact Fran Holmes for information or dates, mfranholmes@verizon.net

MEET AND MINGLE

Please join us on Sundays following 10:30 AM Worship. Enjoy snacks and fellowship in the Holmes Room with friends old and new! Sponsors, Shoppers, and Hosts are needed for Meet & Mingle in September, October, and November. Meet & Mingle is a great way to celebrate a special person or occasion. For more information and to sign up to help, please sign up in the Gallery Room or contact Sawrie Becker, sbecker@wpcbuffalo.org

PASSAGES: A PROGRAM FOR OLDER ADULTS

Naming the Ties that Divide Us: A Discussion on Race and White Privilege. Join us on Tuesday, October 1 when Rev. Beth Hennessy will revisit the subject that was the topic of her thought-provoking August sermon. Beth will facilitate a discussion and invite participants to share their own experiences. Lunch is at 12:30 PM in the Oak Room and the program is in the Case Library at 1:15 PM. Information and a sign up sheet will soon be on the Information Table in the Gallery Room.

HEAVENLY GROUNDS CAFE

Sundays, 9:00 AM-11:30 AM

Stop by the Oak Room for a cup of coffee or tea as you make your way to Adult Education programs between the worship services, or sit and enjoy with friends after worship.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Westminster is a vibrant faith community because of the time and commitment our members dedicate. We are thankful for our volunteers, and encourage everyone to consider participating in our church life by volunteering your time and talent. If you are interested in the following opportunities please contact Sawrie Becker, 884-9437, ext. 315, or email sbecker@wpcbuffalo.org

Meet & Mingle Coordinator: 1-2 hours a month. Reach out to members to schedule hosts/shoppers/donors for the Meet & Mingle weekly fellowship hour.

WECP Coffee & Donuts: 2 hours a month. Greet WECP Parents with coffee, a donut, and a smile on the second Thursday or Friday of each month.

NOMINATIONS WANTED

The Nominating Committee is calling for thoughtful nominations for elder and deacon positions. Three Year terms will start January 2020. People may self nominate or nominate others. The nominee must be a church member and willing to serve in one of these special leadership roles

in the church. Nomination forms are on the Information Table in the Gallery Room. and should be submitted to Sherrie Bernat, sbernat@roadrunner.com, 716.536.4906 or or placed in the nominating committee mailbox or offering plate.

AROUND OUR COMMUNITY

Theatre of Youth Company, Inc. (TOY) stimulates the imagination, nurtures the creative spirit and enhances the education of young people by engaging them in relevant, child-centered, and professionally-produced live theatre

programs. TOY believes meaningful childhood experiences in the theatre develop confidence in creative thinking skills, cultivate empathy and establish a life-long connection to the arts.

IMAGINATION CELEBRATION for students in Grades K-2, Saturdays, September 28, October 5, October 12 in the Parish Hall, 10 AM-Noon. In this class, children will play pretend. An exploration of creativity through theatre vocabulary and exercises will open minds and also engage children in essential skills like listening, responding, working as a group and being a courageous decision maker. For participant tickets and more information, visit www.theatreofyouth.org

PASTORAL CARE

During Tom's sabbatical, if you are in need of pastoral care, please contact The Reverend Beth Hennessy, Pastoral Care Associate at 716-697-0919.

WESTMINSTER PRESENTS MUSIC AND THE ARTS 2019-2020

Copland: The Music Within • September 27 • 7:30 PM

Adam Sherkin, Piano

Composer and Pianist Adam Sherkin pairs Copland pieces of different styles as well as original compositions.

Blessing of the Animals and Choral Evensong • October 6 • 4 PM

The Westminster Choir welcomes all creatures to this special service of Evensong.

Wednesdays@Westminster • October 16 • noon

On the Road with the Romantic Poets

Rev. Tom Yorty shares pictures, stories, and reflections from his Summer 2019 tour of New England, the UK, and Italy.

Les Illuminations • October 18 • 7:30 PM

The Western New York Chamber Orchestra

Artist-in-residence • Glen Cortese, Conductor

Requiem for the Homeless • November 1 • 7:30 PM

The Choirs of Westminster Presbyterian Church

The Choir of Calvary Episcopal Church

The Choir of St. Joseph Cathedral

Garrett F. Martin, Conductor

Proceeds from this concert will be distributed among local agencies that seek to combat homelessness in Western New York.

Wednesdays@Westminster • November 20 • noon

Copland's Old American Songs

Steve Edge, Baritone • Matthew Marco, Piano

Copland: Old American Songs, Sets 1 & 2

Westminster Choir Member and Roswell Park Surgeon, Steve Edge, sings Copland's Old American Songs. Included are popular American hymn tunes, Shaker songs, minstrel songs, and lullabies.



Response

The people stand to sing.

Glo - ry to the Cre - a - tor, and to the
 Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost, as it was in the be -
 - gin - ning is now and for - ev - er. A - men.

Passing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Please share the peace of Christ with your neighbors.

Prayer for Illumination

Psalm

Psalm 79

A Psalm of Asaph.¹O God, the nations have come into your inheritance; they have defiled your holy temple; they have laid Jerusalem in ruins. ²They have given the bodies of your servants to the birds of the air for food, the flesh of your faithful to the wild animals of the earth. ³They have poured out their blood like water all around Jerusalem, and there was no one to bury them. ⁴We have become a taunt to our neighbours, mocked and derided by those around us. ⁵How long, O Lord? Will you be angry for ever? Will your jealous wrath burn like fire? ⁶Pour out your anger on the nations that do not know you, and on the kingdoms that do not call on your name. ⁷For they have devoured Jacob and laid waste his habitation. ⁸Do not remember against us the iniquities of our ancestors; let your compassion come speedily to meet us, for we are brought very low. ⁹Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of your name; deliver us, and forgive our sins, for your name's sake.

Scripture Lesson

Jeremiah 8:18-9:1

¹⁸My joy is gone, grief is upon me, my heart is sick. ¹⁹Hark, the cry of my poor people from far and wide in the land: 'Is the Lord not in Zion? Is her King not in her?' ('Why have they provoked me to anger with their images, with their foreign idols?') ²⁰'The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved.' ²¹For the hurt of my poor people I am hurt, I mourn, and dismay has taken hold of me. ²²Is there no balm in Gilead? Is there no physician there? Why then has the health of my poor people not been restored? ⁹O that my head were a spring of water, and my eyes a fountain of tears, so that I might weep day and night for the slain of my poor people!

Poem

On Fame (II)

John Keats (1795-1821)

How fevered is the man who cannot look
 Upon his mortal days with temperate blood,
 Who vexes all the leaves of his life's book,
 And robs his fair name of its maidenhood;
 It is as if the rose should pluck herself,
 Or the ripe plum finger its misty bloom,
 As if a Naiad, like a meddling elf,
 Should darken her pure grot with muddy gloom:
 But the rose leaves herself upon the briar,
 For winds to kiss and grateful bees to feed,
 And the ripe plum still wears its dim attire,
 The undisturbed lake has crystal space;
 Why then should man, teasing the world for grace,
 Spoil his salvation for a fierce miscreed?



Gospel Lesson

The people stand.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Luke 16:1-13

¹Jesus said to his disciples, “There was once a rich man who had a manager. He got reports that the manager had been taking advantage of his position by running up huge personal expenses. ²So he called him in and said, ‘What’s this I hear about you? You’re fired. And I want a complete audit of your books.’ ³”The manager said to himself, ‘What am I going to do? I’ve lost my job as manager. I’m not strong enough for a laboring job, and I’m too proud to beg. . . . ⁴Ah, I’ve got a plan. Here’s what I’ll do . . . then when I’m turned out into the street, people will take me into their houses.’ ⁵”Then he went at it. One after another, he called in the people who were in debt to his master. He said to the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’ ⁶“He replied, ‘A hundred jugs of olive oil.’ “The manager said, ‘Here, take your bill, sit down here—quick now—write fifty.’ ⁷”To the next he said, ‘And you, what do you owe?’ “He answered, ‘A hundred sacks of wheat.’ “He said, ‘Take your bill, write in eighty.’ ⁸“Now here’s a surprise: The master praised the crooked manager! And why? Because he knew how to look after himself. Streetwise people are smarter in this regard than law-abiding citizens. They are on constant alert, looking for angles, surviving by their wits. ⁹I want you to be smart in the same way—but for what is right—using every adversity to stimulate you to creative survival, to concentrate your attention on the bare essentials, so you’ll live, really live, and not complacently just get by on good behavior.” ¹⁰Jesus went on to make these comments: If you’re honest in small things, you’ll be honest in big things; ¹¹If you’re a crook in small things, you’ll be a crook in big things. ¹²If you’re not honest in small jobs, who will put you in charge of the store? ¹³No worker can serve two bosses: He’ll either hate the first and love the second Or adore the first and despise the second. You can’t serve both God and the Bank.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Voluntary

Fairest Lord Jesus

Calvin Hampton (1938-1984)

Fairest Lord Jesus, ruler of all nature,
O thou of God and man the Son,
Thee will I cherish, Thee will I honor,
Thou, my soul’s glory, joy, and crown.

Fair are the meadows, fairer still the woodlands,
Robed in the blooming garb of spring:
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer
Who makes the woeful heart to sing.

Fair is the sunshine, fairer still the moonlight,
And all the twinkling starry host:
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer
Than all the angels heaven can boast.

Meditation

Well-Behaved People Seldom Make History

Prayers of the People

Concluding with the Lord’s Prayer

Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper

We will distribute the elements of communion today by intinction – simply take the bread and dip it in the cup. It is appropriate to say “Amen” or “Thanks be to God” when receiving the bread and the cup as they are gifts of God for the people of God. All of the bread distributed is gluten free. Please take the center aisle to the communion station, receive the elements, and return to your seat by a side aisle. If you are unable to receive the elements by coming forward to the elders, please raise your hand for the roving elder to come to your pew to serve the bread and wine.



Voluntary During Communion

Love Bade Me Welcome

Bruce Neswick (b. 1956)

Love bade me welcome: yet my soul drew back.
Guiltie of dust and sinne.
But quick-ey'd Love, observing me grow slack
From my first entrance in,
Drew nearer to me, sweetly questioning
If I lack'd anything.

A guest, I answer'd, worthy to be here:
Love said, You shall be he.
I the unkinde, ungrateful? Ah, my deare,
I cannot look on thee.
Love took my hand, and smiling did reply,
Who made the eyes but I?

Truth Lord, but I have marr'd them: let my shame
Go where it doth deserve.
And know you not, sayes Love, who bore the blame?
My deare, then I will serve.
You must sit down, sayes Love, and taste my meat:
So I did sit and eat.

Sending Hymn, No. 420

God of Grace and God of Glory
The people stand to sing.

CWM RHONDDA

Benediction

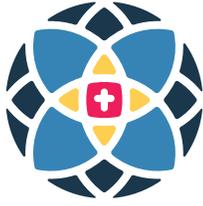
Closing Voluntary

Comes Autumn Time

Leo Sowerby

Worship Leaders

Dr. Cameron Airhart, Preacher
The Reverend Beth Hennessy, Pastoral Care Associate
Garrett F. Martin, Organist and Director of Music Ministries
Hillary Hunt, Soprano



WESTMINSTER

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH • BUFFALO

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