



WESTMINSTER

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH • BUFFALO

SEPTEMBER 8, 2019

THIRTEENTH 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.

Prelude

Almand
Rondeau
Fancies, Toyes, and Dreams
Brother James' Air
Minuet
Three Dances

William Brade (1560-1630)
Jean-Joseph Mouret (1682-1738)
Giles Farnaby (1563-1640)
James Leith Macbeth Bain (1860-1925)
George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)
Tielman Susato (1510-1570)

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Ferguson

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

Song of Creation

Howard Helvey (b. 1968)

Let the earth glorify the Lord,
Praise Him and highly exalt Him forever.
Glorify the Lord, O mountains and hills,
And all that grows upon the earth,
O springs of water, fields, and streams,
O whales and all that move in the waters,
All birds of the air, praise him.
Glorify the Lord, O beasts of the wild,
And all you flocks and herds,
O men and women everywhere,
Praise Him and highly exalt Him forever.

Call to Worship

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

Praise the Lord! Praise God in his sanctuary;
Praise God in his mighty firmament!
**Praise God for God's mighty deeds,
praise God according to God's surpassing greatness!**
Praise God with trumpet sound; praise God with lute and harp!
**Praise God with tambourine and dance;
praise God with strings and organs!**
Praise God with clanging cymbals;
Praise God with loud clashing cymbals!
**Let all God's children praise the Lord!
Let everything that has breath praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!**

Hymn in Procession, No. 138

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!

NICAEA

Call to Confession

Rev. Nutter Dowling



Prayer for Illumination

Mike Reynolds

Psalm Lesson

Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810-1876)

Psalm 139:1-5, 12-18

¹Lord, you have searched me out and known me; you know my sitting down and my rising up; you discern my thoughts from afar. ²You trace my journeys and my resting-places and are acquainted with all my ways. ³Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, but you, O Lord, know it altogether. ⁴You press upon me behind and before and lay your hand upon me. ⁵Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain to it. ¹²For you yourself created my inmost parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb. ¹³I will thank you because I am marvelously made; your works are wonderful, and I know it well. ¹⁴My body was not hidden from you, while I was being made in secret and woven in the depths of the earth. ¹⁵Your eyes beheld my limbs, yet unfinished in the womb; all of them were written in your book; they were fashioned day by day, when as yet there was none of them. ¹⁶How deep I find your thoughts, O God! how great is the sum of them! ¹⁷If I were to count them, they would be more in number than the sand; to count them all, my life span would need to be like yours.

Poem

The Prelude, Book II

William Wordsworth† (1770-1850)

If, 'mid indifference and apathy
And wicked exultation, when good men,
On every side fall off we know not how,
To selfishness, disguised in gentle names
Of peace, and quiet, and domestic love,
Yet mingled, not unwillingly, with sneers
On visionary minds; if in this time
Of dereliction and dismay, I yet
Despair not of our nature; but retain
A more than Roman confidence, a faith
That fails not, in all sorrow my support
The blessing of my life, the gift is yours,
Ye mountains! thine, O Nature! Thou hast fed
My lofty speculations; and in thee
For this uneasy heart of ours I find
A never-failing principle of joy,
And purest passion.

Gospel Acclamation

The people stand.

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

Gospel Lesson

The people stand.

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

Luke 12:48

⁴⁸From everyone to whom much has been given, much will be required; and from one to whom much has been entrusted, even more will be demanded.

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

Whose We Are

Hymn

Touch the Earth Lightly

The people stand to sing. Hymn can be found on page 11.

TENDERNESS

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.

Morning Has Broken

Bob Chilcott (b. 1955)

Morning has broken like the first morning,
Blackbird has spoken like the first bird.
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!
Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!

Sweet the rain's new fall, sunlit from Heaven,
Like the first dewfall on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,
Sprung in completeness where his feet pass.

Mine is the sunlight, mine is the morning,
Born of the one light Eden saw play.
Praise with elation, praise every morning,
God's re-creation of the new day!

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

**With glad hearts and joyful voices we return to you
A portion of what has come from you,
For we know that all we have comes from you.
Guide us, we pray,
That we would use our offerings
To carry on faithfully feeding the hungry,
Housing the homeless,
Welcoming the stranger,
And caring for all your creation,
Just as your Son has taught us to do.
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**



Prayers of the People

Concluding with the Lord's Prayer

Rev. Hennessy

**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

O Praise Ye the Lord

LAUDATE DOMINUM

The People stand to sing. Hymn can be found on page 12.

Benediction

The People will remain in the Sanctuary for the filming of the website video.

Closing Voluntary

Galliard Battaglia

Samuel Scheidt^{††} (1587-1654)

The people will process out of the Sanctuary through the Delaware Avenue doors and join for a special Meet and Mingle on the front lawn. Thank you to today's Meet and Mingle sponsor, Roger Seifert.

Worship Leaders

The Reverend Dr. Skip Ferguson, Preacher
The Reverend Katelyn Nutter Dowling, The Reverend Beth Hennessy, Liturgists
Mike Reynolds, Reader
Garrett F. Martin, Organist and Director of Music Ministries
The Westminster Choir
Matt Marco, piano
The Buffalo Brass
 Matt Miraglia and Rich Reiderer, trumpet
 Tim Schwartz, horn
 Rob King, trombone
 Jim Pace, tuba
 Larry Dubill, percussion

Deacons Serving Today

Drew Dees, Kate Dierenfield, Teddie Granville, Stephen Johnson, Janet Kifner-Arnatt, Candace Marr, Joan Rice, Roy Stewart, Ron Sutz

Chancel Flowers

The flowers at the Lord's Table are in honor of the Westminster Choirs, the church, and the Westminster Early Childhood Programs, given by Val and Fred Cooley.

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 Camden, Maine.

Born in England, poet **William Wordsworth** worked with Samuel Taylor Coleridge on Lyrical Ballads (1798). The collection, which contained Wordsworth's "Tintern Abbey," introduced Romanticism to English poetry. Wordsworth also showed his affinity for nature with the famous poem "I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud." He became England's poet laureate in 1843, a role he held until his death.

In *The Prelude, Book II* by William Wordsworth, the poet has returned to his native Lake District after the ideals of the French Revolution turned to the Great Terror. He realizes that in his beloved lakes and mountains not the politics of the day will he find the answer to his hope and confidence in life.

Notes on Today's Music

Samuel Scheidt was a German composer, organist, and teacher of the early Baroque era. He was born in Halle, and after early studies there, he went to Amsterdam to study with Sweelinck, the distinguished Dutch composer, whose work had a clear influence on Scheidt's style.

On his return to Halle, Scheidt became court organist, and later Kapellmeister, to the Margrave of Brandenburg. Unlike many German musicians, for example Heinrich Schütz, he remained in Germany during the Thirty Years' War, managing to survive by teaching and by taking a succession of smaller jobs until the restoration of stability allowed him to resume his post as Kapellmeister.

Scheidt was the first internationally significant German composer for the organ, and represents the flowering of the new North German style, which occurred largely as a result of the Protestant Reformation. In south Germany and some other countries of Europe, the spiritual and artistic influence of Rome remained strong, so most music continued to be derivative of Italian models. Cut off from Rome, musicians in the newly Protestant areas readily developed new stylistic ideas which were much different from the practice of their neighbors.

Scheidt's music is in two principal categories: instrumental music, including a large amount of keyboard music, mostly for organ; and sacred vocal music, some of which is a cappella and some of which uses a basso continuo or other instrumental accompaniment. His organ music was famous at the time, though since then it has been eclipsed by the music of J.S. Bach.

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THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

Sunday, September 8 • Rally Day

8:00 AM Infant/Toddler Care
8:15 AM Worship/Communion
9:00 AM Heavenly Grounds
9:00 AM Buffalo Brass Rehearsal
9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal
9:30 AM Dialogue Diner
10:30 AM Worship/Buffalo Brass
11:30 AM Meet & Mingle
2:00 PM Buffalo Opera Unlimited

Monday, September 9

4:30 PM Membership Committee Meeting

7:00 PM Year of the Bible

Tuesday, September 10

7:15 AM Wake Up Group
9:00 AM Management Mtg.
10:00 AM Garden Group
3:45 PM Capital Campaign Cabinet Mtg.

5:00 PM Worship, Music & Arts

6:00 PM Zen Dharma

7:00 PM WECP Parent Board Meeting

Wednesday, September 11

7:15 AM AA Meeting

9:30 AM Worship Planning

1:30 PM Staff Mtg.

5:30 PM Pathways To Peace

8:00 PM AA Meeting

Thursday, September 12

7:15 AM Wake Up Group

7:30 AM Coffee @ WECP

8:00 AM Ministry of Generosity Meeting

7:15 AM AA Meeting

6:00 PM Handbells

7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal

Friday, September 13

7:30 AM Coffee @ WECP

12:00 PM Noontime AI-Anon

Sunday, September 15

8:00 AM Infant/Toddler Care

8:15 AM Worship/Communion

9:00 AM Case Library Conversations

9:00 AM Heavenly Grounds

9:15 AM Spiritual Life

9:15 AM Year of the Bible

9:30 AM Dialogue Diner

9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal

10:30 AM Worship

11:30 AM Meet & Mingle

11:30 AM Racial Justice Meeting.

2:00 PM Buffalo Opera Unlimited

4:00 PM Evensong

WORSHIP AND PREACHING SCHEDULE

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

September 15 • Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Marcia Buhl, Preacher; Luke 15:1-10

September 15

Choral Evensong and Opening Service for the Buffalo Chapter of the American Guild of Organists

3:30 Organ Recital; 4:00 Evensong

The Westminster Choirs lead this festival Evensong at St. John's Grace (51 Colonial Circle)

September 22 • Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Cameron Airhart, Preacher; Luke 16:1-13

September 29 • Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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

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 LG-BTQIA+ 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 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, additionally, 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

FAITH SONGS, SPIRIT VOICES II

The second Faith Songs, Spirit Voices II of the Network of Religious Communities will be held Sunday, September 15, 2 -5 PM at the Montante Cultural Center, Canisius College, 2001 Main Street, Buffalo 14208. *Faith Songs, Spirit Voices* is a multi-faith, multi-cultural celebration of the religious diversity of Western New York through music, dance, and story telling. Participants include Baragumbu Congolese Choir, Mamta Bhargava Hindu Devotional Singers, Nerva Turkish Violin, Prakriti Dance, a True Bethel Baptist Choir, and many more. Information about religious traditions and sample foods will be available. A \$10.00 donation is requested. Tickets are available at the NRC office, 1272 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14209, or at the door.

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. Please contact Jamie Adamczyk at jadamczyk@wpcbuffalo.org, 884-9437, ext. 326.

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. ***We will kick off Sunday School on the 22nd***, so please 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!

ADULT BIBLE STUDY: YEAR OF THE BIBLE CLASS

Sunday mornings, 9:15-10:15 AM and Monday evenings 7:15 -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're about to begin 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

Case Library will resume on Sunday, September 15, 9 AM-10:15 AM in the Case Library

The 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. Most important: through these conversations we can examine how our life-long adventure in faith informs our response to these local, national and international issues.

Infrastructure Series

September 15

NFTA Metro Rail Expansion: Bringing us Together

Speaker: Rachael Maloney Joyner,
Planning Project Manager, NFTA

Discussion of the 7-mile, potential 10 station expansion of the Metro Light Rail that will serve the City of Buffalo, Tonawanda, and Amherst and maximize mobility and economic development opportunities.

SPIRITUAL LIFE

Spiritual Life will resume on Sunday, September 15, 9 AM-10:15 AM in the Heritage Room. All are welcome!

Spiritual Life creates opportunities for Westminster members and friends 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. We are always interactive and supportive, looking for ways to apply important spiritual concepts to our daily lives.

September 15

Contemplative Meditation with Keith Kristich
Fred Cooley, Organizer

Keith Kristich has visited WPC once before and is looking forward to his morning with Spiritual Life. Keith spent many years with the Catholic diocese, including leading meditation groups around Western New York. He will add to our knowledge of why this form of meditation is so valuable, as well as guide us in a short session. He offers Thursday 9 AM group contemplative meditations at Lafayette Presbyterian, and all are welcome (enter by the rear door on the Elmwood Avenue side). Keith is now doing this work full-time independently and is available to other groups.

WOW LUNCHTIME BIBLE STUDY

Begins Monday, September 16, 1-2:30 PM in the Case Library. Women of Westminster cordially invites you to a Brown Bag Lunchtime Bible study on the 3rd Monday each month at 1:00 PM 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*, which examines: How do we live out our relationship with God and with one another in a world that is often ruled by other standards? What is the pain from which God seeks to protect us in the Ten Commandments? How can a fresh embrace of the Ten Commandments contribute to the restoration of ourselves, our communities, and the furthering of the gospel in the world? 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. Come as your schedule permits. There will be a nominal fee for the book.

FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

KNITTING GROUP

Our next September meeting is Wednesday September 18. Our group meets on various Tuesdays, 7-9 PM 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 more information and 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 at sbecker@wpcbuffalo.org

FIRST FALL MEET-UP

Meet-Up at the Colonel Ward Pumping Station
Saturday, September 14th • 10:00 AM

A wonderful and rare opportunity to see the massive technology that supplies water for the city of Buffalo. There will be food trucks: Fat Bob's Smokehouse, Rudy's Kitchen, The Great Aussie Bite Food Truck, a beer tent with local brews, antique and classic boats, music, and activities for kids. All outside events are free and open to the public. Tours and the artisan market inside the Col. Ward Pumping Station will have a \$10 registration fee. Sign-up sheets are available in the Gallery Room or you may contact Jamie, 716.884.9437, jadamczyk@wpcbuffalo.org, More information will be emailed to participants in the week before the tour.

PASSAGES: A PROGRAM FOR OLDER ADULTS

Join us on Tuesday, October 1 when Passages begins a new program year. Lunch is at 12:30 PM in the Oak Room and the program is in the Case Library at 1:15 PM. Our presentation topic will be announced. Information and a sign up sheet will soon be on the Information Table in the Gallery Room.

WOW BOOK DISCUSSION

Everyone is welcome to join our annual sharing of favorite-books-read evening. We bring information on one or two books we have read, enjoyed, and think others would too. Consider books that would make for a good discussion. During the year we have meetings to discuss the books we've selected. It's a great way to expand our reading lists! Come meet new friends and connect with old. Tuesday, September 17 at 7 PM. We'll meet at Laura Houghtaling's home, 19 Bondcroft Drive, Amherst. Call 834-8382 if you need directions.

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. Look for nomination forms on the Information Table

in the Gallery Room. Nominations should be submitted to Sherrie Bernat, sbernat@roadrunner.com, 716.536.4906 or or placed in the nominating committee mailbox or offering plate.

WESTMINSTER ONLINE

LIVE STREAM WORSHIP SERVICES EACH SUNDAY

Can't make it to Worship on Sunday or to a special event/concert? You can still connect with Westminster. Simply visit our website: www.wpcbuffalo.org and click on the link to LiveStream on our homepage.

FOLLOW WESTMINSTER ON FACEBOOK

Keep up on events and conversations! Visit us at facebook.com/westminsterBflo/

AROUND OUR COMMUNITY

TOY Workshops at Westminster. 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.

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER WORKSHOPS

IMAGINATION CELEBRATION

For students in Grades K-2

Saturdays, September 28, October 5, October 12, in Parish Hall, 10 AM-12 PM.

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

VIDEO SHOOT FOLLOWING 10:30 AM WORSHIP TODAY

Please make plans to participate in a video shoot following Worship today (later service only). Photographers and videographers will be present to capture impressions of our worship service for use in upcoming Generosity Campaign materials. There will be no audio recordings taken.

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.

Touch the Earth Lightly

TENDERNESS

Shirley Erena Murray

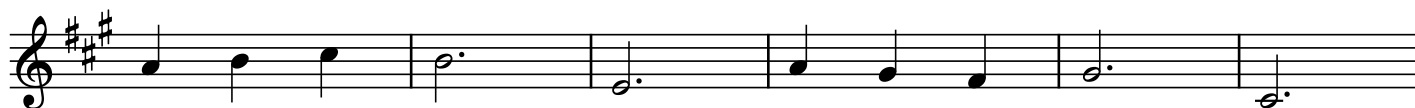
Colin Gibson



1. Touch the earth light - ly, use the earth gent - ly,
Choir only 2. We who en - dan - ger, who cre - ate hun - ger,
3. Let there be green - ing, birth from the burn - ing,
4. God of all liv - ing, God of all lov - ing,



nour - ish the life of the world in our care:
a - gents of death for all crea - tures that live,
wa - ter that bless - es, and air that is sweet,
God of the seed - ling, the snow, and the sun,



Gift of great won - der, ours to sur - ren - der,
We who would fos - - ter clouds of dis - as - - ter:
Health in God's gar - den, hope in God's chil - dren,
Teach us, de - flect us, Christ re - con - nect us,



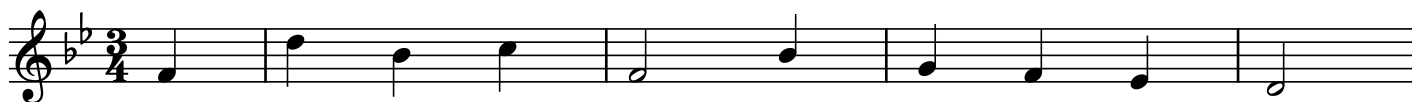
trust for the chil - dren to - mor - row will bear.
God of our plan - et, fore - stall and for - give!
re - gen - er - a - tion that peace will com - plete.
us - ing us gent - ly, and mak - ing us one.

O Praise Ye the Lord

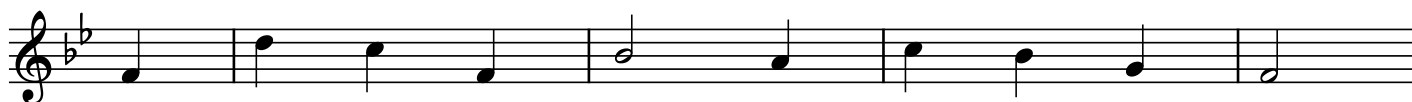
LAUDATE DOMINUM

Henry Williams Baker

Charles Hubert Hastings Parry



1. O praise ye the Lord! Praise him in the height;
2. O praise ye the Lord! Praise him up - on earth,
3. O praise ye the Lord! All things that give sound;
4. O praise ye the Lord! Thanks - giv - ing and song



re - joice in his word, ye an - gels of light;
in tune - ful ac - cord, all ye of new birth;
each ju - bi - lant chord re - ech - o a - round;
to him be out poured all a - ges a - long!



ye hea - vens, a - dore him by whom ye were made,
praise him who hath brought you his grace from a - bove,
loud or - gans, his glo - ry forth tell in deep tone,
For love in cre - a - tion, for hea - ven re - stored,



and wor - ship be - fore him, in bright - ness ar - rayed.
praise him who hath taught you to sing of his love.
and sweet harp, the sto - ry of what he hath done.
for grace of sal - va - tion, O praise ye the Lord!



Worship in the Holmes Chapel - 8:15 AM

*The Gathering is an opportunity for worshippers to greet one another and to share prayer concerns.
An offering plate has been placed on the Communion Table to receive your gifts.*

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.

Opening Voluntary

Ceremonial Suite
I. Processional
II. Aria

Carson Cooman (b. 1982)

It is the tradition of this congregation to remain silent during the Opening Voluntary as we collectively prepare for worship.

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Ferguson

Call to Worship

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

Praise the Lord! Praise God in his sanctuary;
Praise God in his mighty firmament!
**Praise God for God's mighty deeds,
praise God according to God's surpassing greatness!**
Praise God with trumpet sound; praise God with lute and harp!
**Praise God with tambourine and dance;
Praise God with strings and organs!**
Praise God with clanging cymbals;
Praise God with loud clashing cymbals!
**Let all God's children praise the Lord!
Let everything that has breath praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!**

Hymn, No. 138

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!

NICAEA

Prayer of Confession

Rev. Nutter Dowling

**Gracious and Merciful God,
You created this earth and all that is in it,
And then gave us the responsibility to care for your Creation.
But we confess we have been
Poor stewards of what is yours,
For we have abused this earth,
Paved over your glory,
Turned your blue skies gray,
Used your rivers, lakes, and oceans for our sewers,
And buried our garbage under your verdant meadows.
Lord, we are ashamed of our self-indulgence.
Forgive us and renew us
Through the fresh, clean breeze of your Holy Spirit,
That we might accept eagerly and joyfully
Our call to be faithful stewards of your earth
For ourselves and for those who will come long after us.
We pray in the name of our Savior,
Jesus the Christ. Amen**

Time for silent prayer.



Poem

The Prelude, Book II

William Wordsworth (1770-1850)

If, 'mid indifference and apathy
And wicked exultation, when good men,
On every side fall off we know not how,
To selfishness, disguised in gentle names
Of peace, and quiet, and domestic love,
Yet mingled, not unwillingly, with sneers
On visionary minds; if in this time
Of dereliction and dismay, I yet
Despair not of our nature; but retain
A more than Roman confidence, a faith
That fails not, in all sorrow my support
The blessing of my life, the gift is yours,
Ye mountains! thine, O Nature! Thou hast fed
My lofty speculations; and in thee
For this uneasy heart of ours I find
A never-failing principle of joy,
And purest passion.

Gospel Lesson

The people stand.

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Luke 12:48

⁴⁸From everyone to whom much has been given, much will be required;
and from one to whom much has been entrusted, even more will be demanded.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ

Meditation

Whose We Are

Rev. Ferguson

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.

Sending Hymn

O Praise Ye the Lord

LAUDATE DOMINUM

The People stand to sing. Hymn can be found on page 12.

Benediction

Closing Voluntary

Ceremonial Suite

Carson Cooman

III. Grand Chœur Dialogué

Worship Leaders

The Reverend Dr. Skip Ferguson, Preacher

The Reverend Katelyn Nutter Dowling, Associate Pastor for Christian Education

Garrett F. Martin, Organist and Director of Music Ministries



WESTMINSTER

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH • BUFFALO

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