



WESTMINSTER

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH • BUFFALO

AUGUST 25, 2019

ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

10:00 AM IN THE HOLMES CHAPEL

THE REVEREND DR. THOMAS H. YORTY
PASTOR



Worship in the Holmes Chapel • 10 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 unable to be present, for those who will shortly lead our common worship. Latecomers may enter the Holmes Chapel 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

Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee

arr. Neil Harmon (b. 1967)

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Nutter Dowling

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.

Call to Worship

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

Opening Hymn

Stand Up and Bless the Lord

FESTAL SONG



1. Stand up, and bless the Lord, ye peo - ple of God's choice; stand
2. Tho' high a - bove all praise, a - bove all bless - ing high, who
3. O for the liv - ing flame, from God's own al - tar brought, to
4. God is our strength and song, now is sal - va - tion ours; then
5. Stand up and bless the Lord; the Lord your God a - dore; Stand



up and bless the Lord your God with heart, and soul, and voice.
would not fear God's ho - ly Name, and laud and mag - ni - fy?
touch our lips, our mind in - spire, and wing to heav'n our thought!
be God's love in Christ pro - claimed with all our ran - somed pow'rs.
up and bless God's glo - rious name, Hence forth for - ev - er - more.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

**Lord God,
We are so bound by rules and regulations
That we fail to see the human need that goes beyond the bounds of structures.
We easily relegate compassionate service to those agencies in our society
That have that as their mandate, forgetting that you have given us the supreme mandate
To care for one another, even as you have cared for us.
We turn our backs on those in need, giving the responsibility to someone else.
"Let someone else do the work," we proclaim.**

**Stop us from our selfish ways, and heal our hardened hearts.
Forgive us, again, as you have so often before
When we have failed to be your witnesses and workers.
Help us become involved in ministries of peace and justice right where we are,
For there is nowhere in creation where your love is not needed.
Let us bring messages of love and hope to all people.
Bring us to an understanding of the partnership of healing and hope
That abides in your service. For we ask these things in Jesus' Name. Amen.**

Time for silent prayer.



Scripture Lesson

Jeremiah 1:4-10

⁴Now the word of the Lord came to me saying, ⁵'Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations.' ⁶Then I said, 'Ah, Lord God! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy.' ⁷But the Lord said to me, 'Do not say, "I am only a boy"; for you shall go to all to whom I send you, and you shall speak whatever I command you. ⁸Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, says the Lord.' ⁹Then the Lord put out his hand and touched my mouth; and the Lord said to me, 'Now I have put my words in your mouth. ¹⁰See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms, to pluck up and to pull down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant.'

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 13:10-17

¹⁰Now he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. ¹¹And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. ¹²When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, 'Woman, you are set free from your ailment.' ¹³When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. ¹⁴But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, 'There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured, and not on the sabbath day.' ¹⁵But the Lord answered him and said, 'You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to give it water?' ¹⁶And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the sabbath day?' ¹⁷When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame; and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things that he was doing.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Gospel Acclamation



Voluntary

Ride On, King Jesus

arr. Harry T. Burleigh^{††} (1866-1949)

Ride on, King Jesus! No man can a-hinder me.
I was young when I begun, No man can a-hinder me.
But now my race is almost run, No man can a-hinder me.
King Jesus rides a milk white horse, No man can a-hinder me.
The river of Jordan he did cross, No man can a-hinder me.

Sermon

Against All the Rules

Hymn, No. 274

O God of Earth and Space
The people stand to sing.

LEONI



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.

At the River

arr. Aaron Copland (1900-1990)

Shall we gather by the river, where bright angel's feet have trod,
With its crystal tide forever flowing by the throne of God.
Soon we'll reach the shining river, soon our pilgrimage will cease,
Soon our happy hearts will quiver with the melody of peace.
Yes, we'll gather with the saints by the beautiful river that flows from the throne of God.

Presentation of the Gifts

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

OLD HUNDRETH

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise God, all crea - tures here be - low;
Praise God a - bove, ye heaven - ly host; Cre - a - tor, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost. A - men.

Prayer of Dedication

**We give you our money,
Cold and hard,
Or crisp and easily blown away.**

**We ask your blessing, O God on these gifts
That they may be transformed by their use.**

**No longer cold,
But the warm smile of friendship,
The warmth of a power bill paid or a jersey knitted.**

**No longer hard,
But the loving acceptance of a wise counselor
And the kindness of a helping hand.**

**No longer crisp,
But the tears of happiness on the face of a child
And the mellowness of good food and company shared.**

**No longer easily blown away,
But lasting, unchanging,
Always there like your love for all your creation. 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. 104

Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!
The people stand to sing.

HYMN TO JOY

Benediction

Closing Voluntary

Improvisation

Garrett F. Martin

*Immediately following the service, please join us for Meet & Mingle "Light" in the Holmes Room.
Thank you to our host today, Leslie Deitch.*

Worship Leaders

The Reverend Katelyn Nutter Dowling, Preacher
Barbara Nelson, Reader
Garrett F. Martin, Organist and Director of Music Ministries
MaryAlice Devine, mezzo-soprano
Bruce Dierenfield, guest organist

Deacons Serving Today

Peter Ahrens, Ellen Bean, Kate Dierenfield, Janet Kifner-Arnett, Robert Nickelsen, Joan Rice

Chancel Flowers

The flowers at the Lord's Table are in honor of the Reverend Katelyn Nutter Dowling, given by Sue Adams.

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 at their son Ian's home in Ridgefield, CT.

Rita Dove, African-American poet, was born in Akron, Ohio. She loved poetry and music from a young age and was an exceptional student who was invited to the White House as a Presidential Scholar out of high school. She studied in Germany on a Fulbright Scholarship, later teaching creative writing at Arizona State University. Dove was Poet Laureate of the United States 1993-1995 and is currently poetry editor for The New York Times Magazine. Her work is about the African American experience, romance and family life, politics, and social justice. "Obedience" from her Pulitzer Prize winning collection "Thomas and Beulah" (about her grandparents) established her as a major American poet and pays homage to her grandmother's strength of character, creativity and devotion to family.

Notes on Today's Music

Harry Thacker Burleigh was the first and one of the most influential of the African American composers who emerged in the U.S. after the Civil War. Born in Erie, Pennsylvania, Burleigh showed an early passion for music and sang in local church choirs, but was unable to afford formal lessons until 1892 when he attended New York's National Conservatory of Music on a scholarship. While there he developed a friendship with Antonín Dvořák, the school's director, and the two shared an interest in using Negro spirituals and folksongs as inspiration for classical compositions.

After graduating, Burleigh began his musical career as a vocalist. He was selected as the baritone soloist in 1894 at St. George's Episcopal Church in New York City and was the choir's first and only black chorister. In 1900 he broke precedent again by becoming the first black soloist at Temple Emanu-El, a Jewish synagogue. The success of his singing career established Burleigh as a professional musician. As an acclaimed soloist he was highly sought after, even singing at a command performance for King Edward VII of England.

During his lifetime, Burleigh composed more than 300 pieces including such well known titles as *Six Plantation Melodies for Violin and Piano*, *From the Southland*, *Southland Sketches*, *Saracen Songs*, *Five Songs*, *Little Mother of Mine*, *I Love my Jean*, *Under a Blazing Star*, and *In the Great Somewhere*.

Music reprinted with permission: OneLicense.net license #A-72296

THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

Sunday, August 25

9:30 AM Infant/Toddler Care
10:00 AM Worship
11:00 AM Meet & Mingle Light
11:30 AM Nominating Committee Meeting

Monday, August 26

7:00 PM Year of the Bible

Tuesday, August 27

7:15 AM Wake Up Group
9:00 AM Management Meeting
10:00 AM Garden Group
6:00 PM Zen Dharma

Wednesday, August 28

8:00 AM WEDI Board Meeting
5:30 PM Pathways To Peace
8:00 PM AA Meeting

Thursday, August 29

7:15 AM Wake Up Group
8:00 AM WECP Staff Meeting

Friday, August 30

8:00 AM WECP Staff Meeting
12:00 PM Noontime Al-Anon

Sunday, September 1

9:30 AM Infant/Toddler Care
10:00 AM Worship /Communion
11:00 AM Meet & Mingle Light

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.

WORSHIP AND PREACHING SCHEDULE

One Worship Service at 10:00 AM in the air conditioned Holmes Chapel through September 1

September 1 - Labor Day

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost • Sacrament of the Lord's Supper
The Rev. Dr. Skip Ferguson, Preacher; Luke 14:1, 7-14

Fall Worship Times Begin on September 8
8:15 AM • Worship in the Holmes Chapel with Communion
and 10:30 AM • Worship in the Sanctuary

September 8 - Rally Day

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
The Rev. Dr. Skip Ferguson, Preacher; Luke 14:25-33

September 15

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Marcia Buhl, Preacher; Luke 15:1-10

3:30 Organ Recital; 4:00 Evensong
Choral Evensong and Opening Service for the Buffalo Chapter of the American Guild of Organists
The Westminster Choirs lead this festival Evensong at St. John's Grace (51 Colonial Circle)

RALLY DAY & MORE! SEPTEMBER 8

Join us on Rally Day, as we will celebrate the start of our new program year with festival worship, beautiful music, and warm fellowship! Worship times return to 8:15 AM in the Holmes Chapel with Communion and 10:30 AM in the Sanctuary. Following Rally Day worship, there will be a special Meet & Mingle on the front lawn. Adult Education programs will resume on September 15; Sunday School will resume on September 22.

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 9:30 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

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 (571.481.839), Ellen Smith (882.2064), Phil Stevens (839.3357).

If you are recovering from an illness/surgery, 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.

WEDI AND MISSION

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

ENERGY (Education, Nurture, Encouragement, Readiness, and Growth for Youth) finished up their year on May 23rd and said their final goodbyes to Alyssa, until her return as a

volunteer of course! ENERGY began their summer program on July 8 in collaboration with the middle school program, FLY (Focused Learning for Youth). For the first summer, both programs will be operating out of the church for six weeks, Monday through Friday. Students will have their usual literacy hour in the morning, with some groups spending their morning in the library, and then in the afternoon they will have art, cooking, science, swimming, and field trips, all while learning about their new home, the city of Buffalo. When all goes well, FLY may find a permanent home in the church for the fall! Please feel free to reach out to volunteer@wedibuffalo.org if you would like to volunteer, or let us know if you would like to pop in for a visit and see what we are all about!

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Year of the Bible Class provides participants the opportunity to read through the entire Bible, cover to cover, over the course of the year. Led by The Rev. Dr. Skip Ferguson, the summer schedule switches to 7 PM Monday evenings and runs through August 26 with no class on September 2, Labor Day. It's not too late to get started, so come join the group of more than 50 who have already begun! 15 minutes of reading each day is all it takes. By the end of the year, you will have read through the entire Bible! More important, you will grow spiritually in countless ways as you deepen your understanding of God's Written Word.

CASE LIBRARY CONVERSATION SERIES

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

Every Sunday, Case Library Conversations provides an opportunity to discuss local, national, and global issues. With these conversations, we can examine our life-long adventure in faith. Offerings for the 2019-2020 program year will be announced in Sunday bulletins and newsletters. Please join us. All are welcome!

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. As a Christian congregation, we are also open to learning about other faith traditions and practices that nurture, sustain, and challenge the "inward journey."

FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

KNITTING GROUP

Our September meetings are Tuesday, September 3, and 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 “LIGHT”

Sundays, following 10:00 AM Worship. Enjoy snacks and fellowship in the Holmes Room with friends old and new!

A WATER TOUR OF THE BUFFALO RIVER

Saturday, September 7 • 9:00 AM -10:00 AM

Come and see why the clean-up of the Buffalo River is the “talk of nation” when John Montague leads a tour of the river on the Buffalo Maritime Center’s electric boat. Sign-up sheets are available in the Gallery Room or you may contact Jamie, jadamczyk@wpcbuffalo.org, 716.884.9437. Spaces are limited. More detailed information will be emailed to participants in the week before the tour.

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.

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.

A MESSAGE FROM THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

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, 716.536.4906 or sbernat@roadrunner.com, or placed in the nominating committee mailbox or offering plate.

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.

DID YOU KNOW...

With Tom & Carol Yorty away on Sabbatical, this writer has been drawn to re-reading several of Tom’s Sermons in his recently published; *Stand For Truth, Cry For Justice: Sermons from Westminster*.

One in particular (October 18, 2015) entitled: Beauty: Gratitude in Every Action: Worship, Music and The Arts [Mark 10:17-31] set the tone for this brief mention of our upcoming Capital Campaign.

Quoting Tom... “Friends, we have much to be thankful for today - a robust ministry of worship, music and the arts. It is strange how we can take even these remarkable gifts for granted. I remember one of the first Sundays I sat in this Chancel seventeen years ago, the reader had to elbow me because it was my turn to lead worship, yet I had become so enraptured by the windows, especially the ethereal blue, that I was just sitting, blissfully staring at them while the congregation waited for the order of worship to proceed. Now I can walk through this Sanctuary on a busy day and barely notice them. We dare not take the beauty that surrounds us in this Sanctuary for granted...”

The restoration and much needed repair of our historic Sanctuary Windows, is but one of the important projects that Session has identified and approved to be part of the Capital Campaign which will be formally launched to our congregation on Sunday 27th October.

If you would like to consider restoration honoring, or in memory of someone, or simply would like more information, please reach out to Sawrie Becker, Director of Development [716.884.9437 ext.315] to arrange to speak with a member of the volunteer Capital Campaign team.

-Submitted by Roger Seifert

VIDEO SHOOT FOLLOWING WORSHIP ON SEPTEMBER 1 AND 8

Please make plans to participate in a video shoot following Worship on September 1 and 8 (later service only). Photographers and videographers will be present to capture impressions of our worship service for use in upcoming Generosity Campaign materials. Most shots will be overviews of the congregation, clergy, and choir, however, volunteers are needed for a few specific “closeups.” If you are interested in volunteering or have questions, please contact Matt Marco or Garrett Martin.

PLEASE HELP WESTMINSTER SUPPORT OUR WEDI FAMILIES

The donation of backpacks and school supplies would be greatly appreciated. No donation is too small! A box is available in the Gallery Room for donations.



WESTMINSTER

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH • BUFFALO

Westminster Presbyterian Church

The Rev. Dr. Thomas H. Yorty, Pastor
tyorty@wpcbuffalo.org, ext. 313

The Rev. Katelyn Nutter Dowling
Associate Pastor for Christian Education
katelynd@wpcbuffalo.org, ext. 311

The Rev. Beth Hennessy, Pastoral Care Associate
bhennessy@wpcbuffalo.org, 716.697.0919

Garrett F. Martin, Organist and Director of Music Ministries
gmartin@wpcbuffalo.org, ext. 318

Jamie Adamczyk, Administrative Assistant
jadamczyk@wpcbuffalo.org, ext. 326

Sawrie Becker, Director of Development
sbecker@wpcbuffalo.org, ext. 315

Matthew Marco
Assistant to the Pastor and to the Director of Music
mmarco@wpcbuffalo.org, ext. 306

Lenore Neiler, Graphic Designer
lneiler@wpcbuffalo.org, ext 302

The Rev. Micah Nutter Dowling
Director of Youth Ministries
micahnd@wpcbuffalo.org, ext. 310

Kathryn Wilde, Director of Finance
kwilde@wpcbuffalo.org, ext. 305

Westminster Early Childhood Programs

Dr. Cindy Lynn-Garbe, Director
clynn-garbe@wpcbuffalo.org, ext. 328

Todd Bothwell, Associate Director of Admissions
tbothwell@wpcbuffalo.org, ext. 330

Jessica Mitrovits, Development Associate
jmitrovits@wpcbuffalo.org, ext. 332

Lindsay McGuire, Human Resources
lmcguire@wpcbuffalo.org, ext. 359

Heather Abbott, Administrative Assistant
habbott@wpcbuffalo.org, ext. 300

Facilities

Aaron Vivian, Facilities Supervisor
avivian@wpcbuffalo.org, ext. 319, 716.504.7308

Jeff Kaczmarek, Maintenance
ext. 319, 716.345.8013

Austin Becker, Maintenance
716.479.0668

Luigi Sylejmani, Maintenance
716.472.5477