

9th Sunday After Pentecost



Hymn Sing Sunday
August 2, 2020
at 10:30 a.m.
on Facebook **Live**

or in the afternoon on our
church website at
westminsterakron.org

We welcome you to Westminster's online worship service this Sunday. To set a more worshipful tone while watching this service at home, we encourage you to find a quiet space and light a candle.

Today, we are having an online "Hymn Sing." Many of you have sent in your Five Favorite Hymns, and based on your selections, Valerie has chosen the top favorite hymns of the congregation to sing in today's service.

If you are joining us on Facebook Live, then you can find a copy of today's bulletin on our church website at westminsterakron.org.

COME

Opening Voluntary

Duet on "Amazing Grace"
Bob Carlyon, organ Valerie Thorson, piano

*Call to Worship

Psalm 47:1-2, 5-6

Zachary Troyer

Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout to God with loud songs of joy.
For the Lord, the Most High, is awesome, a great king over all the earth.

God has gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of the trumpet.
Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises.

*Hymn 464

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

HYMN TO JOY

(This is the top favorite hymn of WPC)

1. Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee,
God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee
Opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
Drive the gloom of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness
Fill us with the light of day.
2. All Thy works with joy surround Thee,
Earth and heaven reflect Thy rays,
Stars and angels sing around Thee,
Center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
Flowery meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird and flowing fountain,
Call us to rejoice in Thee.
3. Mortals, join the happy chorus
Which the morning stars began;
Love divine is reigning o'er us,
Joining all in heaven's plan.
Ever singing, march we onward,
Victors in the midst of strife,
Joyful music leads us sunward
In the triumph song of life.

ENCOUNTER

Call to Confession

We cannot come before God unless we are first honest with ourselves about who we are, about the mistakes we make, and about how well or poorly we care for others. In this spirit, let us offer our prayers to God.

Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, so many of the psalms show a heart out of tune, sighing, crying, and breaking with sorrow, yet still clinging to faith in you. So too, O Lord, are our hearts. In Jesus Christ, you have

given us what we need most: the cross makes our forgiveness possible, and God's Spirit tunes our hearts again to sing your praises. Humbly we ask your pardon for our sins as we declare our trust in your unfailing love. Amen.

Silence is observed.

Response 574 Lord, Have Mercy *Kyrie*
Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

Assurance of Forgiveness

God the Creator brings you new life, forgives and redeems you. Take hold of this forgiveness, and live your life in the Spirit of Jesus. **Amen.**

*Response 567 Glory Be to the Father *Gloria Patri*
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, As it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever, Amen. Amen. Amen.

*Passing the Peace

We invite you now to greet one another saying, **The peace of Christ be with you.**

Time for Church Life and Call for the Offering

As we come before God with our tithes and offerings, let us remember the words of Micah 6: What does the Lord require of us? To act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with our God. Thus we bring our money, gifts, and whole lives as an offering to our God.

Hymn 339 Be Thou My Vision SLANE

1. Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
Nought be all else to me, save that Thou art--
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.
2. Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise,
Thou mine inheritance, now and always;
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart,
Great God of heaven, my treasure Thou art.

3. Be Thou my wisdom, and Thou my true word;
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

*Response 592 Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow *Doxology*
**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures
here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts; Praise Father,
Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Time with Young Disciples

Valerie Thorson

GROW

Prayer for Illumination

Lord, before the world's days even began, your Word was in the beginning, and it was with you and it was you. The mystery of that brings us to our knees. Yet today you allow us to open your Word and know you better. So we ask that you would give us eyes to see and ears to hear. Give us hearts open to your Spirit as we seek you. **Amen.**

The First Lesson

Psalm 92

Old Testament

- 1 It is good to praise the Lord
and make music to your name, O Most High,
- 2 proclaiming your love in the morning
and your faithfulness at night,
- 3 to the music of the ten-stringed lyre
and the melody of the harp.
- 4 For you make me glad by your deeds, Lord;
I sing for joy at what your hands have done.
- 5 How great are your works, Lord,
how profound your thoughts!
- 6 Senseless people do not know,
fools do not understand,
- 7 that though the wicked spring up like grass
and all evildoers flourish,
they will be destroyed forever.
- 8 But you, Lord, are forever exalted.
- 9 For surely your enemies, Lord,
surely your enemies will perish;
all evildoers will be scattered.

- 10 You have exalted my horn like that of a wild ox;
fine oils have been poured on me.
- 11 My eyes have seen the defeat of my adversaries;
my ears have heard the rout of my wicked foes.
- 12 The righteous will flourish like a palm tree,
they will grow like a cedar of Lebanon;
- 13 planted in the house of the Lord,
they will flourish in the courts of our God.
- 14 They will still bear fruit in old age,
they will stay fresh and green,
- 15 proclaiming, "The Lord is upright;
he is my Rock, and there is no wickedness in him."

The Second Lesson

Psalm 100

Old Testament

- 1 Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth.
- 2 Worship the Lord with gladness;
come before him with joyful songs.
- 3 Know that the Lord is God.
It is he who made us, and we are his;
we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.
- 4 Enter his gates with thanksgiving
and his courts with praise;
give thanks to him and praise his name.
- 5 For the Lord is good and his love endures forever;
his faithfulness continues through all generations.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

SERVE

ONLINE HYMN SING

(See end of order of service for all verses to hymns)

HYMN NO. 138	Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty	NICAEA
HYMN NO. 280	Amazing Grace!	NEW BRITAIN
HYMN NO. 473	For the Beauty of the Earth	DIX
HYMN NO. 306	Fairest Lord Jesus	CRUSADER'S HYMN
HYMN NO. 467	How Great Thou Art	O STORE GUD

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended to heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Eternal God, whom our words may cradle but never contain, we thank you for all the sound and silence and color and symbol that, through the centuries, have helped the worship of your church to be relevant and real. Here we pause to remember those who helped us to come to faith, by singing us songs or telling us stories, by inviting us in when we felt distant, by praying for us without being asked. Jesus, Son of God among us, **hear our prayer.**

We remember the preachers, the readers, the musicians, the leaders, whose sensitivity and skill have helped us grow in faith and to enjoy worshiping you. We remember those who encourage people to praise you outside the sanctuary: those who teach young children, those who lead youth groups, those who offer prayers in hospitals, in schools, in prisons. Jesus, Son of God among us, **hear our prayer.**

We remember people who cannot pray and who struggle to believe or who fear changes in the church more than in any other area of their lives. We pray that they might be encouraged, and that love might dispel fear. Jesus, Son of God among us, **hear our prayer.**

And let us pray for the renewal of the church, beginning with ourselves. **Reshape us, good Lord, until in generosity, in faith, and in expectation that the best is yet to come, we are truly Christlike. Make us passionate followers of Jesus rather than passive supporters. Make our churches communities of radical hospitality and signposts to heaven; then, in us, through us, and - if need be - despite us, let your kingdom come. Amen.**

And finally, together as the people of God, let us offer the words of the Lord's Prayer, saying in one voice:

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we
forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us
from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever. Amen.**

*Hymn 260 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God EIN' FESTE BURG

1. A mighty fortress is our God, A bulwark never failing;
 Our helper He amid the flood Of mortal ills prevailing.
 For still our ancient foe Doth seek to work us woe;
 His craft and power are great, And, armed with cruel hate,
 On earth is not his equal.
2. Did we in our own strength confide, Our striving would be losing;
 Were not the right Man on our side, The Man of God's own choosing.
 Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is He,
 Lord Sabaoth His name, From age to age the same,
 And He must win the battle.
3. And though this world, with devils filled, Should threaten to undo us,
 We will not fear, for God hath willed The truth to triumph through us.
 The prince of darkness grim, We tremble not for him;
 His rage we can endure, For lo! his doom is sure,
 One little word shall fell him.
4. That word above all earthly powers, No thanks to them, abideth;
 The Spirit and the gifts are ours Through Him who with us sideth;
 Let goods and kindred go, This mortal life also;
 The body they may kill, God's truth abideth still,
 His kingdom is forever.

*Charge and Benediction

May God go before you to lead you.
May God go behind you to guard you.
May God go beneath you to support you.
May God go beside you to befriend you.
Do not be afraid.
Let the blessing of God - the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit - come upon
you today and settle around you. Do not be afraid. Go in peace to love and
serve the Lord. **Amen.**

Voluntary

Duet on "All Creatures of Our God and King"

ONLINE HYMN SING (TEXT)

138 HOLY, HOLY, HOLY!

1. Holy, holy, holy! Lord God almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, Blessed Trinity!
2. Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore Thee,
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,
Who wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.
3. Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide Thee,
Though the eye of sinfulness Thy glory may not see,
Only Thou art holy, There is none beside Thee,
Perfect in power, in love and purity.
4. Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All Thy works shall praise Thy name
in earth and sky and sea;
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, Blessed Trinity!

#280 Amazing Grace

1. Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now I'm found,
Was blind, but now I see.
2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed.

3. Through many dangers, toils, and snares,
I have already come;
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.
4. When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we'd first begun.

#473 For the Beauty of the Earth

1. For the beauty of the earth,
For the glory of the skies,
For the love which from our birth
Over and around us lies

REFRAIN Lord of all, to Thee we raise
This our hymn of grateful praise.

2. For the wonder of each hour
Of the day and of the night,
Hill and vale, and tree and flower,
Sun and moon, and stars of light,

REFRAIN

3. For the joy of ear and eye,
For the heart and mind's delight,
For the mystic harmony
Linking sense to sound and sight,

REFRAIN

4. For the joy of human love,
Brother, sister, parent, child,
Friends on earth, and friends above,
For all gentle thoughts and mild,

REFRAIN

5. For Thy church that evermore
Lifteth holy hands above,
Offering up on every shore
Her pure sacrifice of love,

REFRAIN

#306 Fairest Lord Jesus

1. Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nature,
O Thou of God to earth come down,
Thee will I cherish, Thee will I honor,
Thou my soul's glory, joy, and crown.
2. 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.
3. 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.

#467 How Great Thou Art

1. O Lord my God! When I in awesome wonder
Consider all the works Thy hands have made,
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy power throughout the universe displayed;

REFRAIN Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!

2. When through the woods and forest glades I wander
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze;

REFRAIN

3. And when I think that God showed us such caring,
That Jesus died, I scarce can take it in;
That on the cross, our burden gladly bearing,
He bled and died to take away my sin;

REFRAIN

4. When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration,
And there proclaim, My God, how great Thou art!

REFRAIN

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Flowers In The Chancel are given in memory of Dr. Thomas Reef by the Susan Reef Endowment Fund.

First Sunday Drive-In/Drop-Off Food Collection –Today from 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Needed Items:

12 oz to 16 oz Boxed Spaghetti	Boxed Macaroni & Cheese Mix
Canned Spaghetti Sauce	Canned Green Beans, Corn or Carrots
Canned Tuna	Canned Chicken Breast
Rice/Pasta w/Cheese Side Mix	Jell-O Gelatin
Canned Fruit (Peaches, Pears, or Fruit Cocktail)	
Canned Soup (Vegetable, Tomato or Chicken Noodle)	

The value of each bag is approximately \$12.50. Thank you to our tweens for assisting with today's food collection.

Flat Jesus We would love to have anyone, any age, join in our Flat Jesus Adventure for the rest of the summer. Just download Flat Jesus at <http://www.westminsterakron.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Flat-Jesus-cutout.pdf>, color it and cut it out and take him along with you. Jesus on a walk in the MetroParks, Jesus at dinner with you, Jesus at your bedside. Jesus is always with you! How does it affect you? Does it give you support, maybe make you act differently? Sometimes a concrete representation of someone gives you a new insight. Send your pictures to wpcsmedia1250@gmail.com. Have fun with this project! We also have some Flat Jesus already made that you can find in the puzzle box outside of the education wing at church.

No Thursday Night Adult Education In August Mark your calendar:
Thursday night Bible study will resume at 7:00 p.m. on September 10, 2020.

Last update from Session on COVID-19

On July 22, Westminster's Session met to discuss the possibility of resuming in-person worship, and a motion was passed stating that we will resume in-person services on the first Sunday after the seven-day rolling average of new cases reported in the State of Ohio drops below 500 and sustains an overall downward trajectory or plateaus at a level of less than 400 for a period of 45 days. I recognize that many of you are anxious to return to in-person worship. To this end, some have suggested that we propose a date on which we might return. Unfortunately, the challenge associated with setting a future date lies in our inability to predict the future spread of the virus and, with this in mind, any date that we selected would be completely arbitrary. While this long wait has been very difficult for all of us, we have chosen to pursue the present course because we wish to preserve the health, safety, and well-being of everyone in our fellowship. Westminster's leadership does not want our congregation to be known as a place of tragedy, but of hope. As Paul writes in Romans 8:24-25, "For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience." May God be with us in our hoping, Jon

The church office is open from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Monday-Friday.
Staff schedule in the office: **Monday** - Pastor Jon, Claudine Schooley, Debby Evrard and Dave Bodnar. **Tuesday** - Pastor Jon, Claudine Schooley, Debby Evrard, Sheila Svoboda, and Dave Bodnar. **Wednesday** - Debby Evrard and Dave Bodnar. **Thursday** - Claudine Schooley, Debby Evrard, Sheila Svoboda, and Dave Bodnar. **Friday** - Pastor Jon and Claudine Schooley.



Westminster Presbyterian Church
1250 West Exchange Street, Akron, Ohio 44313
westminsterakron@gmail.com - 330-836-2226
www.westminsterakron.org