

Seventh Sunday After Pentecost



**July 19, 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 virtual 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.

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 Elevation (*Tierce en Taille*) François Couperin

*Call to Worship Matthew 11:28-29 and Psalm 118:24 Kate Clark

Jesus said, "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.

Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls."

This is the day that the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

*Hymn 361 How Firm a Foundation FOUNDATION

1. How firm a foundation, Ye saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in God's excellent Word!
What more can be said than to you God hath said,
To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

2. "Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed,
For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid.
I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand
Upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.
3. "When through the deep waters I call thee to go,
The rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;
For I will be near thee, thy troubles to bless,
And sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.
4. "When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,
My grace, all-sufficient, shall be thy supply.
The flame shall not hurt thee; O only design
Thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.
5. "The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose,
I will not, I will not desert to its foes;
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no never, no, never forsake."

ENCOUNTER

Call to Confession

Romans 8:14-15

Sisters and brothers, all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. We did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but we have received a spirit of adoption. Let us then confess our sin with the freedom of children who know how deeply they are loved.

Prayer of Confession

Romans 8:12-25

Merciful God, your creatures cry - creation groans - but we turn away; we surround ourselves with noise. We are quick to excuse ourselves from responsibility: we are young; we are old; we are tired. It is hard to imagine that we might make a difference. Life-giving God, wash us clean. Restore our imagination and our hearts. Let your courage and compassion flow through our veins until we love with abandon and our hands reach out in blessing, for the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God. Amen.

Silence is observed.

Kyrie

Gloria Patri

Eric Thiman

Doxology

Time with Young Disciples

GROW

Prayer for Illumination

Holy One, you love with a father's tenderness, a mother's zeal. Move now in our hearts. Breathe through the words we hear, the songs we share, the burdens we carry, until we discover our purpose in your liberating love, for we long to join creation's praise and to shine with the mercy of the Christ, in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

The First Lesson Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24

Old Testament

- 1 O LORD, you have searched me and known me.
- 2 You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
 you discern my thoughts from far away.
- 3 You search out my path and my lying down,
 and are acquainted with all my ways.
- 4 Even before a word is on my tongue,
 O LORD, you know it completely.
- 5 You hem me in, behind and before,
 and lay your hand upon me.
- 6 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
 it is so high that I cannot attain it.
- 7 Where can I go from your spirit?
 Or where can I flee from your presence?
- 8 If I ascend to heaven, you are there;
 if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.
- 9 If I take the wings of the morning
 and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,
- 10 even there your hand shall lead me,
 and your right hand shall hold me fast.
- 11 If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me,
 and the light around me become night,"
- 12 even the darkness is not dark to you;
 the night is as bright as the day,
 for darkness is as light to you.
- 23 Search me, O God, and know my heart;
 test me and know my thoughts.
- 24 See if there is any wicked way in me,
 and lead me in the way everlasting.

12 So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh — 13 for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. 14 For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. 15 For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” 16 it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, 17 and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ — if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. 18 I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. 19 For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; 20 for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope 21 that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. 22 We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; 23 and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. 24 For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? 25 But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

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

Sermon

With Patience

The Reverend Jon Hauerwas

SERVE

*Affirmation of Faith

The Spirit renews our hearts and moves us to faith, leads us into truth, and helps us to pray, stands by us in our need, and makes our obedience fresh and vibrant. God the Spirit lavishes gifts on the church in astonishing variety. Sent by the Spirit, the church engages with the world. We are ambassadors of God’s peace, announcing forgiveness and reconciliation, and proclaiming the good news of grace in all that we say and do.

Prayers of the People

Gracious Creator, Sower of life, you know the complicated histories that have carried us to this moment. You know the names of all our generations, for you are there in each story of falling away and turning home, in our long years of wandering, and in the shining moments when we recognize your presence and

find the grace to worship you. You are no stranger to the striving or the listlessness of humanity.

Incarnate One, all creation is groaning, and so we dare to ask that you would come to us; be born again in this place. In the midst of our boredom, our self-congratulation, our closeted vision, startle us with the tearing, the cry, the first breath of life that will not be restrained. Strengthen in us the fruits of your Spirit, and teach us to pray:

We pray for all who flee from pasts by which they are haunted. We lift up all who feel abandoned by a future for which they had hoped. We plead for all who do not know that they are loved and chosen. We intercede for our own divided souls.

Help us to trust that you are at work in every mingled heart, every conflicted community. Nourish the life you plant within us, that we might keep seeding the world with your truth and grace; in the name of Jesus, who gave his life out of love for the world. **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 261 God of Compassion, in Mercy Befriend Us O QUANTA QUALIA

1. God of compassion, in mercy befriend us;
 Giver of grace for our needs all availing,
 Wisdom and strength for each day do Thou send us,
 Patience untiring and courage unfailing.
2. Wandering and lost, Thou has sought us and found us,
 Stilled our rude hearts with Thy word of consoling;
 Wrap now Thy peace, like a mantle, around us,
 Guarding our thoughts and our passions controlling.

3. How shall we stray, with Thy hand to direct us,
Thou who the stars in their courses art guiding?
What shall we fear, with Thy power to protect us,
We who walk forth in Thy greatness confiding?

*Charge and Benediction

Sisters and brothers, however dark the night gets -
whatever you have stolen or squandered-
know that you are held by a love like this:
the Creator who made you still claims you in covenant love.
The Redeemer who died for your sake lives again by the word of God;
the Sustainer of all creation yet breathes courage into your heart.

Sisters and brothers, the triune God still traffics in mercy.
Serve, then, with boldness and joy.

Voluntary

Toccata on “Foundation”

Dennis Eliot

*Funding for today’s soloist was provided by the
Seiberling Music Endowment fund.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Flowers In The Chancel are given by Jane Nelson Hutchinson and Mark Nelson in celebration of their father, Roger Nelson’s 89th birthday on July 24th.

First Sunday Drive-In/Drop-Off Food Collection First Sunday Food Collection resumed on July 5 as a “Drive-in/Drop-off” event. Our Youth, Gabby Gray, Kinsie Willis and Holden and Caden Labbe were in the driveway receiving the donations. They also unpacked and sorted all the goods. Our collection was very successful. We packed grocery bags for distribution to the neighborhood today between 1:00 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. Our next collection will be on Sunday, **August 2**. Please note the new hours are 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. We are requesting these non-perishable food items:

Spaghetti	Canned Vegetables
Spaghetti Sauce	Jell-O
Canned Fruit	Peanut Butter
Macaroni and Cheese	Canned Tuna or Chicken Soup

Thank you for your generosity so that we may serve the “least of these.”

The Third Sunday Dinner/Free Hot Meal The Third Sunday Dinner will resume with a drive in option for **August 16** with service times from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. We will be following social distance guidance and have simplified our staffing needs, but still will need volunteers to help with traffic control and running food to cars. Please find the link on WPC website to sign up and help serve our community.

<http://www.westminsterakron.org/deacons-volunteers/free-third-sunday-dinner/>

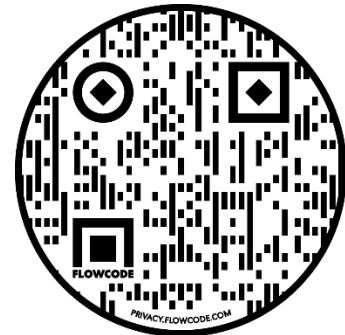
Monthly Financial Report

June 2020	Actual	Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Total Revenues	\$44,157.06	\$57,107.70	\$307,381.43	*\$317,480.30
Total Expenses	\$41,799.72	\$53,248.52	\$250,281.03	\$313,006.76
Net	\$2,357.34	\$3,859.18	\$57,100.40	\$4,473.54

*Budgeted total revenues include anticipated withdrawals from Rowley investments necessary to balance the budget totaling \$20,969 for the year.

Please contact the Finance Office if you would like a copy of the detailed financial report for the period ending June 30, 2020.

Giving Online During these difficult times, the church remains grateful for your faithful support of our ministries through your financial contributions. Please help us continue to serve the WPC family and our neighbors by ensuring that our staff is supported, our facility remains operational, and the "least of these" are served. To give online, click under the tab "online giving" and use this QR Code.



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, Mallory Gray and Dave Bodnar. **Wednesday** - Debby Evrard and Dave Bodnar. **Thursday** - Debby Evrard, Sheila Svoboda, Mallory Gray, and Dave Bodnar. **Friday** - Pastor Jon and Claudine Schooley.