

16th Sunday After Pentecost



**September 20, 2020
at 10:30 a.m.
on Facebook **Live****

**or on Monday on our church
website at
westminsterakron.org**

COME

Opening Voluntary

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

Arr. James Pethel

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.

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.

*Call to Worship

Jacquie Mabry

Whether we embrace God's call in our lives or try to avoid it,
God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

Whether we are longtimers or latecomers in the life of faith,
God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

Whether our lives in Christ are comfortable or bring hardship,
God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. We praise God's name forever and ever!

1. Praise the Lord, God's glories show, Alleluia!
Saints within God's courts below, Alleluia!
Angels round the throne above, Alleluia!
All that see and share God's love, Alleluia!
2. Earth to heaven and heaven to earth, Alleluia!
Tell the wonders, sing God's worth, Alleluia!
Age to age and shore to shore, Alleluia!
Praise God, praise forevermore! Alleluia!
3. Praise the Lord, great mercies trace, Alleluia!
Praise this providence and grace, Alleluia!
All that God for us has done, Alleluia!
All God sends us through the Son. Alleluia!

ENCOUNTER

Call to Confession

Because we do not always live our lives in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, we confess before God and one another our sins and shortcomings. In repentance, let us turn toward God's grace and mercy.

Prayer of Confession

God of abundant goodness, we confess that we want your grace for ourselves but often exclude others. We judge the efforts and motives of our neighbors while ignoring the faults of our own. Forgive us, we pray, when we let jealousy overtake us. Forgive us, we pray, when we are petty even in the presence of your generosity. Forgive us, we pray, when we feel slighted by you. May we ask once again for your mercy? Will you help us to be more merciful toward one another? We pray in the name of Christ Jesus, by whose grace we are saved. Amen.

Silence is observed.

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

Assurance of Forgiveness

God extends to us mercy beyond our deserving, and grace beyond our ability to earn it.

God has granted us the privilege of believing in Christ; therefore we will live as grateful and forgiven people! Thanks be to God!

*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.

*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

Great is God's mercy toward us. Let us offer a portion of what God has given with humble and grateful hearts.

Anthem Beautiful Savior Silesian Folk Song

Beautiful Savior, King of creation, Son of God to earth come down. Truly I'd love Thee, truly I'd serve Thee, Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.

Fair are the meadows, fair are the woodlands, robed in flowers of blooming spring. Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, He makes our sorrowing spirit sing.

*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

GROW

Prayer for Illumination

Gracious God, your Word surprises, challenges, upsets, and overturns our way of seeing and thinking. Come and find us today wherever we are, however we are. By the power of your Holy Spirit, cause that which is withering in us to

blossom and that which is exacting in us to broaden until we see as you see, and thereby glimpse the kingdom you are bringing. In Christ's name we pray.
Amen.

The First Lesson

Psalm 105:1-6

Old Testament

- 1 O give thanks to the Lord, call on his name,
make known his deeds among the peoples.
- 2 Sing to him, sing praises to him;
tell of all his wonderful works.
- 3 Glory in his holy name;
let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.
- 4 Seek the Lord and his strength;
seek his presence continually.
- 5 Remember the wonderful works he has done,
his miracles, and the judgments he has uttered,
- 6 O offspring of his servant Abraham,
children of Jacob, his chosen ones.

The Second Lesson

Matthew 20:1-16

New Testament

1 "For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. 2 After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. 3 When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; 4 and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. 5 When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. 6 And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' 7 They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' 8 When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' 9 When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. 10 Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. 11 And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, 12 saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' 13 But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? 14 Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. 15 Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' 16 So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

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

SERVE

*Affirmation of Faith

God was pleased, in God's eternal purpose, to choose and ordain the Lord Jesus, to be the mediator between God and human beings. As the mediator, he is the prophet, priest, and king, the head and Savior of the church, the heir of all things, and the judge of the world. God gave to him, from all eternity, a people to be by him, in time, redeemed, called, justified, sanctified, and glorified. The Lord Jesus, by his perfect obedience and sacrifice of himself, has purchased not only reconciliation but also an everlasting inheritance in the kingdom of heaven for all those whom the Father has given to him.

Prayers of the People

Gracious God, you supply us with blessings beyond our deserving. We thank you for your creation and every sign of your presence within it, for your everlasting grace and forgiveness, for the risen Lord, who has gone before us and calls us to follow him.

We thank and praise you, O Lord our God.

For our homes and our loved ones, for work to do, and strength to do it, for moments of gladness that sparkle our day,

we thank and praise you, O Lord our God.

For our faith and all that sustains it, for all whose lives and examples have persuaded us that the journey is worth the taking, for your caring discipline that keeps our faith pure,

we thank and praise you, O Lord our God.

For the depths of the sea where our falseness lies buried, for the guiding comfort of your Holy Spirit, for the powerful promise of life everlasting,
we thank and praise you, O Lord our God, for yours is the glory forever. Amen.

We pray silently...

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 191

God Is Our Refuge

WINCHESTER OLD

1. God is our refuge and our strength,
Our ever-present aid,
And therefore, though the earth remove,
We will not be afraid.
2. Though hills amid the seas be cast,
Though foaming waters roar,
Yea, though the mighty billows shake
The mountains on the shore.
3. Where God abides a river flows;
That city will rejoice.
But nations fear and kingdoms shake
Before God's thundering voice.
4. Since God is in the midst of it,
The city walls shall stand,
Secure and safe with God's sure help,
When trouble is at hand.

*Charge and Benediction

May God the Father bless you,
God the Son heal you,
and God the Holy Spirit give you strength.
May the holy and undivided Trinity guard you now,
and bring you safely to the heavenly kingdom
where God lives and reigns forever and ever.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Voluntary

Allegro (Symphony IV)

William Boyd

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Flowers In The Chancel are given by Art and Jean Schooley in honor of their 65th wedding anniversary.

The White Rose Today is in memory of Regina “Gina” Dickerson who entered eternal life on September 14.

Following Worship Today We encourage you to remain on Facebook Live for fifteen minutes following worship today as we observe a time of group fellowship by utilizing the comments section.

Today Food Distribution starts at 1:00 p.m. & the Free Hot Meal Dinner for the community is at 5:00 p.m.

Monthly Financial Report

August 2020	Actual	Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Total Revenues	\$34,758.47	\$36,307.70	\$397,408.30	*\$408,512.75
Total Expenses	\$42,574.35	\$53,000.36	\$331,573.94	\$414,459.87
Net	(\$7,815.88)	(\$16,692.66)	\$65,834.36	(5,947.12)

*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 August 31, 2020.

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.



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