

19th Sunday After Pentecost



**October 11, 2020
at 10:30 a.m.
on Facebook **Live****

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

COME

Opening Voluntary

Nearer, My God, to Thee

Seth Bingham

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

Let us worship the eternal God, the source of love and life, who creates us.

Let us worship Jesus Christ, the risen one, who lives among us.

Let us worship the Spirit, the holy fire, who renews us.

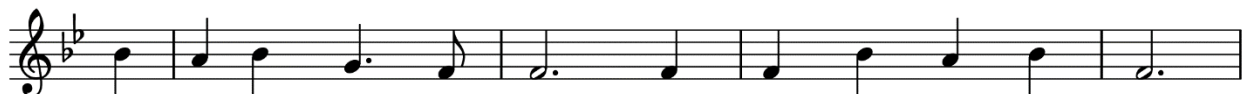
To the one true God be praise in all times and places, through the grace of Jesus Christ.

*Hymn 487


When Morning Gilds the Skies

LAUDES DOMINI

1. When morn - ing gilds the skies, My heart a - wak - ing cries,
2. The night be - comes as day, When from the heart we say,
3. Ye na - tions of man - kind, In this your con - cord find:
4. In heavn's e - ter - nal bliss The love - liest strain is this,



May Je - sus Christ be praised! A - like at work and prayer,
 May Je - sus Christ be praised! The pow'rs of dark - ness fear,
 May Je - sus Christ be praised! Let all the earth a - round
 May Je - sus Christ be praised! Let earth, and sea, and sky



To Je - sus I re - pair; May Je - sus Christ be praised.
 When this sweet song they hear, May Je - sus Christ be praised.
 Ring joy - ous with the sound: May Je - sus Christ be praised.
 From depth to height re - ply, May Je - sus Christ be praised.

ENCOUNTER

Call to Confession

1 John 1:5-7

This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all.

If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth.

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and Jesus purifies us from all sin.

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, for the things we have done that we regret,
forgive us;

for the things we have failed to do that we regret,
forgive us;

for all the times we have acted without love,
forgive us;

for all the times we have reacted without thought,
forgive us;

for all the times we have withdrawn care,
forgive us;

for all the times we have failed to forgive,
forgive us.

for hurtful words said and helpful words unsaid, for unfinished tasks and unfulfilled hopes,

God of all time, forgive us and help us to lay down our burden of regret. 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

Romans 5:1-2

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of 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. Amen.

*Passing the Peace

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

Moment for Ministry

Unveiling of Pastoral Portraits for

The Rev. Dr. Arnold A. (Bill) Markley III (December 1, 1992 - November 1, 1994),
The Rev. Dr. Clifford John Hayes (September 15, 1997 - December 31, 2004),
and The Rev. Derek Starr Redwine (August 1, 2006 - June 30, 2013)
Michael Dunbar/Membership Committee

Time for Church Life and Call for the Offering

God has shown us the meaning of generosity
in the beautiful diversity of creation,
in the overflowing love of Jesus Christ,
in the never-ending gift of the Holy Spirit.
God has abundantly blessed us and called us
to be a community that honors each other,
to serve others with joy,
to share our love and material possessions.
Let us rejoice in what we have been given
and in what is ours to give.

Anthem

God of Mercy, God of Grace

Jerry F. Davidson

*God of mercy, God of Grace, show the brightness of thy face. Shine upon us,
Savior, shine, fill thy church with light divine, and thy saving health extend unto
earth's remotest end.*

Let thy people praise thee, Lord; be by all that live adored. Let the nations shout and sing glory to their savior King; let all be, below, above, one in joy, and light and love. One in joy, and light, and love.

*Response 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

Sheila Svoboda

GROW

Prayer for Illumination

Psalm 85:8

Lord God, help us turn our hearts to you and hear what you will speak, for you speak peace to your people through Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

The First Lesson

1 Thessalonians 1:1-6a

New Testament

1 Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. 2 We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly 3 remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. 4 For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, 5 because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. 6 And you became imitators of us and of the Lord.

The Second Lesson

Philippians 4:1-9

New Testament

1 Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved. 2 I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. 3 Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life. 4 Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. 5 Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. 6 Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. 7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

8 Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.
9 Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

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

Sermon Reflecting on Our Past and Envisioning Our Future
The Reverend Jon Hauerwas

SERVE

*Affirmation of Faith

The church is a gathering of forgiven sinners called to be holy. Saved by the patient grace of God, we deal patiently with others and together confess our need for grace and forgiveness. Restored in Christ's presence, shaped by his life, this new community lives out the ongoing story of God's reconciling love, announces the new creation, and works for a world of justice and peace. When our pride or blindness hinders us, we seek forgiveness. We marvel that the Lord gathers the broken pieces to do God's work and that God blesses us still with joy, new life, and surprising signs of unity.

Prayers of the People

God of Life, you shared your peace with us when you gathered and formed us from the dust of the ground and breathed the breath of life into us.
Jesus, Prince of Peace, you separated us from our sin in a way we never could – in a way we never can. You were a vessel of peace in a world that did not welcome you. But you persevered in love in the face of hatred. You taught us that forgiveness is possible even in the midst of extreme suffering. We are thankful that you continue to love us, even in our unrepentant ways.
Holy Spirit, you hold peace within us despite our circumstances. You tend to the deepest parts of our inmost being, nurturing peace so that it may grow. You lead us in paths of righteousness, showing us the way to bear love to the world. When hatred speaks its convincing lies, you show us the truth. We are thankful that you continue to sanctify us, even in our careworn ways.

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:
where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;

where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.
 O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek
 to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love.
 For it is in giving that we receive,
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
 and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.
Amen.

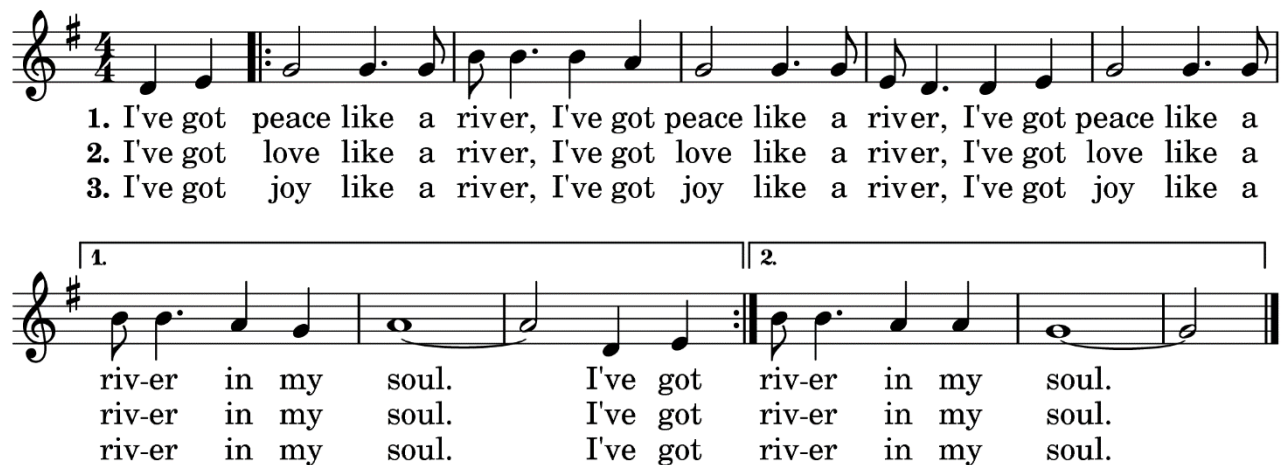
We pray silently.

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 368 I've Got Peace Like a River TRADITIONAL SPIRITUAL



1. I've got peace like a river, I've got peace like a river, I've got peace like a
 2. I've got love like a river, I've got love like a river, I've got love like a
 3. I've got joy like a river, I've got joy like a river, I've got joy like a

1. riv-er in my soul. I've got riv-er in my soul.
 riv-er in my soul. I've got riv-er in my soul.
 riv-er in my soul. I've got riv-er in my soul.

*Charge and Benediction

Jesus said, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid."

May the peace of God, which passes all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God,
and of God's Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord;
and the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

Voluntary

Trumpet Tune in D Major

Tommaso Albinoni

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The flowers In The Chancel are given in loving memory of Mary Seiberling Chapman by her daughter, Harriet D. Chapman.



Pastor Jon's birthday was Monday, October 5. Happy 40th birthday Jon!

Script November/December Deadline is Tuesday, October 13. Please send your articles and pictures to our new communications coordinator, Adam Kalcic, at wpcsmidia1250@gmail.com. Claudine Schooley will continue to be responsible for the content of the bulletin, while Adam serves as the primary contact for the church newsletter.



Adam Kalcic is our new Communications Coordinator. Adam is originally from the Youngstown area and has a bachelor's degree in Web Communications from Youngstown State University. He has lived and worked professionally in the Akron area for over ten years. As the Communications Coordinator he will be managing the Worship live streaming, website, newsletters, and other communications at Westminster. Adam and his wife Christa have one daughter, Amelia, and currently reside in Tallmadge.

Halloween at WPC We will not let this pandemic keep us from bringing a little joy to the residents at Rockynol! We are going to do a socially distanced Reverse Halloween! We will have two groups as needed. We will fill the 1 o'clock spot first! One at 10:30 a.m. and one at 1 pm. We will meet on the playground in costume with masks to decorate pumpkins (grown and donated by Anne & Mike Karney) which we will deliver to Rockynol by parade (I will need some volunteers to bring wagons.) We will leave them at the door of the Assisted Living and then chalk their sidewalk with Halloween wishes. Those who are able will watch out their windows as we march around the building. We will also give you names and addresses of residents if your child may want to start a pen pal relationship with a template for the letter. Please let me know if you want your child to participate and tell me if you can volunteer to stay, what time you prefer, and if you have a wagon we can use! Contact Sheila at wpcchildren1250@gmail.com

CALENDAR of CHURCH EVENTS for the week of October 11–17, 2020

Sunday, 10/11

9:00 am Youth Group via Zoom
 9:15 am Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
 9:45 am Tween Sunday School via Zoom
 10:30 am Worship Service on Facebook Live
 12:00 pm Parents' Meeting via Zoom

Monday, 10/12

7:00 pm Bible Study via Zoom
 7:00 pm Book Discussion via Zoom

Tuesday, 10/13

5:45 pm Endowment Committee via Zoom

Wednesday, 10/14

6:00 pm Outreach Zoom meeting via Zoom
 7:00 pm Discipleship Meeting via Zoom

Thursday 10/15

9:30 am Staff Meeting via Zoom
 7:00 pm Adult Education via Zoom

Saturday 10/17

8:00 am Food For Life in the kitchen

The church office is open from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Monday - Friday.



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