

# 20<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost



**October 18, 2020  
at 10:30 a.m.  
on Facebook **Live****

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

## COME

Opening Voluntary

Sing God a Simple Song

Leonard Bernstein  
*Ben Hayes, soloist*

*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

Jeremiah 29

Barb Shriner

God's word reminds us:

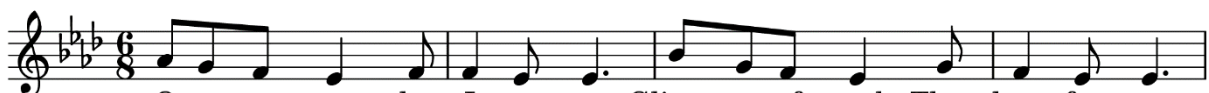
**For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord,**  
plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.  
**Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you.**

When you search for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart.  
**Open our hearts and minds, O God, to receive your good gifts.**

\*Hymn 324

Open My Eyes That I May See

OPEN MY EYES



1. O-pen my eyes, that I may see Glimps-es of truth Thou hast for me;
2. O-pen my ears, that I may hear Voic - es of truth Thou send-est clear;
3. O-pen my mouth and let me bear Glad - ly the warm truth ev - 'ry-where;



Place in my hands the won-der-ful key That shall un - clasp and  
And while the wave - notes fall on my ear, Ev - 'ry - thing false will  
O - pen my heart, and let me pre-pare Love with Thy chil - dren,



set me free. Si-lent-ly now I wait for Thee, Read-y, my God, Thy  
dis - ap-pear. Si-lent-ly now I wait for Thee, Read-y, my God, Thy  
thus to share. Si-lent-ly now I wait for Thee, Read-y, my God, Thy



will to see; O-pen my eyes, il - lu-mine me, Spir - it di - vine!  
will to see; O-pen my ears, il - lu-mine me, Spir - it di - vine!  
will to see; O-pen my heart, il - lu-mine me, Spir - it di - vine!

## ENCOUNTER

Call to Confession

Romans 8:39

We know that nothing is able to separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ. Let us in freedom confess the wrong we have done.

Prayer of Confession

**Merciful God, you made us in your image, with a mind to know you, a heart to love you, and a will to serve you. But our knowledge is imperfect, our love inconstant, our obedience incomplete. Day by day, we fail to grow into your likeness. In your tender love, forgive us through Jesus Christ, our Lord. 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

While it is true that we have sinned, it is a greater truth that we are forgiven through God's love in Jesus Christ. To all who humbly seek the mercy of God I say, in Jesus Christ your sin is forgiven.

**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. Amen.**

\*Passing the Peace

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

Moment for Ministry

Stewardship/Larry Hawkins

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, chapter 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.

Anthem

I Want Jesus to Walk with Me

Traditional Spiritual

*I want Jesus to walk with me. I want Jesus to walk with me. All along my pilgrim journey I want Jesus to walk with me. In my trials, Lord, walk with me. In my trials, Lord, walk with me. When my heart is almost breaking, Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.*

*When I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me. When I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me. When my head is bowed in sorrow, I want Jesus to walk with me. In my troubles, in my trials, I want Jesus to walk with me.*

\*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

Blessed are you, God of all creation. You spoke in the beginning, and all things came to be.

**You spoke, and your Word came to live with us, full of grace and truth.**

Bless this place where we would hear your voice.

**Bless this place where we would hear your story.**

As we listen, may our ears be attuned to you.

**As the Word is spoken, may you speak to us. May all we hear lead us to you. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

The First Lesson

Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18

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.

13 For it was you who formed my inward parts;  
you knit me together in my mother's womb.

14 I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.  
Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.

15 My frame was not hidden from you,  
when I was being made in secret,  
intricately woven in the depths of the earth.

16 Your eyes beheld my unformed substance.  
In your book were written all the days that were formed for me,  
when none of them as yet existed.

17 How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God!  
How vast is the sum of them!

18 I try to count them—they are more than the sand;  
I come to the end—I am still with you.

The Second Lesson

Micah 6:6-8

Old Testament

6 “With what shall I come before the Lord,  
and bow myself before God on high?  
Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,  
with calves a year old?

7 Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams,  
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?  
Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,  
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”

8 He has told you, O mortal, what is good;  
and what does the Lord require of you  
but to do justice, and to love kindness,  
and to walk humbly with your God?

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

Sermon

God Has a Plan for Us

The Reverend Jon Hauerwas

## SERVE

\*Affirmation of Faith

**In our world, where many journey alone, nameless in the bustling crowd, the forces of evil seek whom they may scatter and isolate; but God, through Christ, gathers a new community - those who by God's gift put their trust in Christ. In the new community all are welcome: the homeless come home, the broken find healing, the sinner makes a new start; the despised are esteemed, the least are honored, and the last are first. Here the Spirit guides and grace abounds.**

Prayers of the People

Lord God, because Jesus has taught us to trust you in all things, we hold to his Word and share his plea:

**Your kingdom come, your will be done.**

Where nations budget for war, while Christ says, "Put up your sword":

**Your kingdom come, your will be done.**

Where countries waste food and covet fashion, while Christ says, "I was hungry...I was thirsty...":

**Your kingdom come, your will be done.**

Where powerful governments claim their policies are heaven blessed, while Scripture states that God helps the powerless:

**Your kingdom come, your will be done.**

Where Christians seek the kingdom in the shape of their own church, as if Christ had come to build and not to break barriers:

**Your kingdom come, your will be done.**

Where women who speak up for their dignity are treated with scorn or contempt:

**Your kingdom come, your will be done.**

Where men try hard to be tough, because they are afraid to be tender:

**Your kingdom come, your will be done.**

Where we, obsessed with being adults, forget to become like children:

**Your kingdom come, your will be done.**

Where our prayers falter, our faith weakens, our light grows dim:

**Your kingdom come, your will be done.**

Where Jesus Christ calls us:

**Your kingdom come, your will be done.**

Lord God, you have declared that your kingdom is among us. Open our ears to hear it, our hands to serve it, and our hearts to hold it. This we pray in Jesus' name. **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 441 I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord

ST. THOMAS



1. I love Thy king - dom, Lord, The house of Thine a - bode,
2. I love Thy church, O God! Her walls be - fore Thee stand,
3. For her my tears shall fall; For her my pray'rs as - cend;
4. Be - yond my high - est joy I prize her heav'n - ly ways,
5. Sure as Thy truth shall last, To Zi - on shall be giv'n



The church our blest Re-deem-er saved With His own pre-cious blood.  
Dear as the ap-ple of Thine eye, And grav-en on Thy hand.  
To her my cares and toils be giv'n Till toils and cares shall end.  
Her sweet com-mu-nion, sol-emn vows, Her hymns of love and praise.  
The bright-est glo-ries earth can yield, And bright-er bliss of heav'n.

### \*Charge and Benediction

Friends, God has a plan for your life. A plan to provide for your future with hope.  
So go in peace, in the knowledge of God's power.  
Go in confidence, in the knowledge of God's strength.  
Go in joy, in the knowledge of God's love.  
And may God be with you.

Voluntary

Blessed Be the Tie/God Be with You

Traditional

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**The Flowers on One Pedestal** are given in memory of Martha D. Nelson MD (10/15/1931 – 8/6/2020) in honor of her 89<sup>th</sup> birthday by Roger Nelson and their children, Mark and Jane.

**The Flowers on the Second Pedestal** are given by Pookie and Bruce Barnes in loving memory of David and William Barnes and in honor of Jo Barnes' 93<sup>rd</sup> birthday on October 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Evening Circle** will be meeting via Zoom on Monday, October 19. The session will open at 6:30 p.m. for a social time with a devotion and lesson from 7:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. Copies of the lessons are available in the Evening Circle mailbox in the C.E. Office. This time of fellowship is open to any Presbyterian Woman who would like to participate. Please contact Kristy Yates at 330-807-6228 or [ksjyates@gmail.com](mailto:ksjyates@gmail.com) for the Zoom link.

**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](mailto:wpcchildren1250@gmail.com)

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

CALENDAR of CHURCH EVENTS for the week of October 18–24, 2020	
<p><b>Sunday, 10/18</b></p> <p>9:15 am     Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)</p> <p>9:45 am     Tween Sunday School via Zoom</p> <p>10:30 am    Worship Service on Facebook Live</p> <p>12:00 pm    Youth Group at Church</p> <p>1:00 pm     Food Distribution</p> <p>5:00 pm     Free Hot Meal (Church Side Parking lot)</p>	<p><b>Monday, 10/19</b></p> <p>6:30 pm     Evening Circle Meeting via Zoom</p> <p>7:00 pm     Bible Study via Zoom</p> <p><b>Thursday 10/22</b></p> <p>9:30 am     Staff Meeting via Zoom</p> <p>7:00 pm     Adult Education via Zoom</p> <p><b>Saturday 10/24</b></p> <p>2:00 pm     Children's Ministries meeting in WHH</p>

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