

7th Sunday of Easter



**May 16, 2021
at 10:30 a.m.
on Facebook **Live****

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

COME

Opening Voluntary

Variation III on “Foundation”

Dennis Eliot

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

Cindy Weiss

Happy are those who do not ridicule and scoff but who delight in God’s teachings and meditate on them day and night.

They are like trees planted by streams of water.

They yield fruit in due season, and their leaves do not wither.

Let us worship God!

*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

The Lord watches over our ways. Let us put our trust in God's grace and confess our sins.

Prayer of Confession

God, though you call us to delight in your teachings, we can become cynical and full of doubt. Do not judge us, we pray, but heal us and restore us to you. Guard us and protect us from evil, and sanctify us in truth; in Jesus' name. 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

*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.**

REFRAIN

*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

May the reading of your Word sanctify us in the truth and bring us to perfect joy. **Amen.**

The First Lesson

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

New Testament

15 In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred twenty persons) and said,
16 “Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus —
17 for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry.”

21 So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us,
22 beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us — one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection.”
23 So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias.
24 Then they prayed and said, “Lord, you know everyone’s heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen
25 to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.”
26 And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

The Second Lesson

John 17:6-19

New Testament

6 “I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word.
7 Now they know that everything you have given me is from you;
8 for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me.

9 I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours.
10 All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them.
11 And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.
12 While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled.
13 But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves.
14 I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world.
15 I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one.
16 They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world.
17 Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth.
18 As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world.
19 And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.”

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

Sermon

A Transition Plan

The Reverend Jon Hauerwas

SERVE

*Affirmation of Faith

from Heidelberg Catechism

My only comfort in life and in death is that I am not my own, but belong - body and soul, in life and in death - to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ. Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.

Prayers of the People

Let us pray for the world and ask that we may be given the grace to be faithful disciples of Jesus.

May we be like trees planted by streams of water.

Holy God, this world is filled with those who delight in your teachings and those who scoff at your ways. Guide us to meditate on you day and night, that we may be an influence for good in the world.

May we be like trees planted by streams of water.

We pray for the people and the leaders of the world in all our diversity.
Sanctify them in your truth, that there may be peace and harmony on earth.
May we be like trees planted by streams of water.

We pray for those who are sick or suffering, that they may know your
protection and care through our faithful service.
May we be like trees planted by streams of water.

We pray for your church, that by the marriage of your grace and our faith we
may serve you and our neighbors.
May we be like trees planted by streams of water.

We pray for the Earth itself, your marvelous creation. Inspire and
help us to be the good stewards that you ask us to be, now and for the future.
May we be like trees planted by streams of water.

Make holy all for which we pray - the poor, the infirm, the church, the world -
for holiness and wholeness come from you. Receive these prayers both spoken
and unspoken, for we are yours. **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

SPIRITUAL

The musical score is written for a four-part setting (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It features a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a time signature of 4/4. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a repeat sign at the beginning of the first line. The lyrics are printed below the staves, with three verses provided: 1 I've got peace like a riv - er; 2 I've got joy like a foun-tain; 3 I've got love like an o - cean; Each verse is followed by the phrase 'I've got [emotion] like a [noun]'. The score ends with a final cadence.

1 I've got peace like a riv - er; I've got peace like a
2 I've got joy like a foun-tain; I've got joy like a
3 I've got love like an o - cean; I've got love like an

4

1.

7

2.

riv - er; I've got peace like a riv - er, in my
 foun-tain; I've got joy like a foun-tain, in my
 o - cean; I've got love like an o - cean, in my
 soul. I've got riv - er, in my soul.
 soul. I've got foun-tain, in my soul.
 soul. I've got o - cean, in my soul.

*Charge and Benediction

Living in the love of Christ, be open to God calling you into a new ministry. Jesus Christ has already given us into the arms of a loving God. Therefore go in the Spirit of peace.

Voluntary

Peace Like a River

Traditional

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Flowers in the Chancel are given in loving memory of Richard M. Park on his birthday by Lisa Park Boush and Carlton Boush.

Zoom Fellowship Gathering will immediately follow online worship today at 11:30 a.m. Please join us on Zoom.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82104714624?pwd=ODMoSo85b21OQThiQkEoeEZqZG15UT09> Meeting ID: 821 0471 4624 - Passcode: 402113

Staff Farewells As we prepare to say "farewell" to Sheila Svoboda, Valerie Thorson, and Adam Kalcic as members of our staff team, we encourage you to either hand deliver

a card of appreciation to a box in the fellowship hall, or mail them to our church office. There will be a drive thru farewell for Sheila Svoboda in the back parking lot of the church from 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, May 23, and there will be a farewell for Valerie Thorson following in-person worship on June 6.

Pentecost Sunday May 23 Pentecost is the day that we celebrate the birth of the church and it occurs on the 50th day after Easter Sunday. It commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and other followers of Jesus Christ. The liturgical color is red to symbolize the apostles "tongues of fire and also the blood of martyrs." It marks the Christian Church's missions in the world. Twenty five percent of your Pentecost contribution will remain at WPC and will be used to support the mission of children, youth, and young adults at risk. This year's project is Fostering Independence which supports teens aging out of foster care. Giving was approximately \$100 less last year than in 2019. Surely we can correct that by giving generously on May 23.

Monthly Financial Report

April 2021	Actual	Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Total Revenues	\$37,941.43	\$36,547.66	\$251,855.22	\$180,765.64
Total Expenses	\$32,606.83	\$48,018.32	\$152,191.10	\$195,275.09
Net	\$5,334.60	(11,470.66)	\$99,664.12	(\$14,509.45)

Please contact the Finance Office if you would like a copy of the detailed financial report for the period ending April 30, 2021.

Women's Evening Circle meets on May 17. Please contact Kristy Yates for Zoom link.

Food Distribution & the Free Hot Meal Dinner today.

CALENDAR of CHURCH EVENTS for the week of May 16-22, 2021	
Sunday, 5/16 9:45 am Tween Sunday School via Zoom 10:30 am Worship Service on Facebook Live 11:30 am Fellowship Zoom Meeting for Congregation 1:00 pm Food Distribution 5:00 pm Third Sunday Free Dinner Monday, 5/17 1:00 pm Zoom Bible Study 6:30 pm Women's Evening Circle via zoom	Tuesday, 5/18 9:30 am Quilt Ministry Meeting Wednesday, 5/19 6:00 pm Zoom Finance Committee Meeting Thursday, 5/20 9:30 am Zoom WPC Staff Meeting 7:00 pm Zoom Adult Education



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