10th Sunday after Pentecost



August 1, 2021 at 10:30 a.m.

Follow us also on You Tube

or on our church website at westminsterakron.org

At the ringing of the carillon please silence your conversations and prepare your hearts and minds for an encounter with the Living God. We also ask that you power off your cell phones to prevent interference with our livestreaming and recording equipment. **Bolded text is read or sung by all.** *Please rise in body or spirit.

COME

Voluntary Based on "Chandler" a traditional Scottish folk tune arr. Dale Wood

*Call to Worship

Jacquie Mabry

We do not live by bread alone, but by the Word who became flesh and dwells among us.

Christ is the true bread of heaven, the manna of freedom. Come, let us worship and give thanks.



ENCOUNTER

Call to Confession

God has given us a sign showing us that love is stronger than death. The sign of the cross points to our exodus from bondage to sin. Let us repent, seek God's forgiveness, and enter into new life in Christ.

Prayer of Confession

God, you uphold those who are falling and raise up all who are bowed down. Therefore we confess our sins - both things we have done and things we have left undone - in every confidence that you will open your hands to us in an embrace of forgiveness and love. 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

The bread of life God sends is the offering of the only begotten Son. Whoever comes in Jesus Christ shall never be hungry; whoever believes in him shall never thirst. Believe the gospel; in Jesus Christ our sins are forgiven. **Amen.**

*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

Greet both friends and strangers saying, **The peace of Christ be with you.**

During this time of pandemic, a nod of the head and wave of the hand will suffice.

Time for Church Life and Call for the Offering

The worship God blesses is honest and personal, a broken and contrite heart. When we give of ourselves to God, our hearts are changed for good. Let us present our tithes and offerings.

Offertory God is my shepherd

Antonin Dvorak Ben Hayes, soloist

God is my shepherd, I want for nothing. My rest is in the pleasant meadows. He leadeth me where quiet waters flow. My fainting soul doth He restore and guideth me in the ways of peace, to glorify His name. And though in death's dark valley my steps must wander, my spirit shall not fear, for Thou are by me still. Thy rod and staff are with me, and they shall comfort me.

*Response 592 Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow Doxology OLD HUNDREDTH

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

Following the Time with Young Disciples, children are invited to remain with their families or to visit with our childcare staff in the nursery.

GROW

Prayer for Illumination

Creator of unity, Body of peace, Spirit of community, bind us together around your Word and send us out to do your justice, show your mercy, and embody your redeeming love, glorifying you, Holy Trinity. **Amen.**

The First Lesson

Ephesians

4:1-16

New Testament

1I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, 2with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, 3making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. 4There is one body and one Spirit, just as you

were called to the one hope of your calling, 5one Lord, one faith, one baptism, 6one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all. 7But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. 8Therefore it is said, "When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a

captive; he gave gifts to his people." 9(When it says, "He ascended", what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? 10He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.) 11The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, 12to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, 13until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. 14We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. 15But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, 16from whom the whole body, joined and knitted together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

The Second Lesson

John 6:24-35

New Testament

24So when the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus.

25When they found him on the other side of the lake, they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you come here?" 26Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. 27Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal." 28Then they said to him, "What must we do to perform the works of God?" 29Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent." 30So they said to him, "What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? 31Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, 'He

gave them bread from heaven to eat." 32Then Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. 33For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." 34They said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always."

35Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."

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

Sermon Bread of Life The Reverend Jon Hauerwas

SERVE

*Affirmation of Faith

From Belhar Confession

We believe in the Triune God - Father, Son, and Holy Spirit - who gathers, protects, and cares for the church through Word and Spirit. We believe in one holy, universal Christian church, the communion of saints called from the entire human family. We believe that Christ's work of reconciliation is made manifest in the church as the community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another. Together we will celebrate our differences as opportunities for mutual service within the one visible people of God. Together we will love each other.

Prayers of the People

Hear us as we pray for the sick. We pray for those with chronic illnesses, for those who have life-threatening conditions, and for those with inadequate medical care. **Bring the healing we need.**

Hear us as we pray for all who are hungry. We pray for those who live in regions of drought and famine, for those who cannot afford nutritious food, and for the vulnerable who are not adequately fed. **Give us the food we need.**

Hear us as we pray for those who grieve. We pray for those who mourn a loved one, for those whose communities are no more, and for those who cannot imagine a joyful future. **Give us comfort to restore hope.**

Hear us as we pray for the world's victims. We pray for those who are caught in violence, for those who are trapped in others' self-seeking, and for those who suffer from neglect. **Grant us freedom from all evil.**

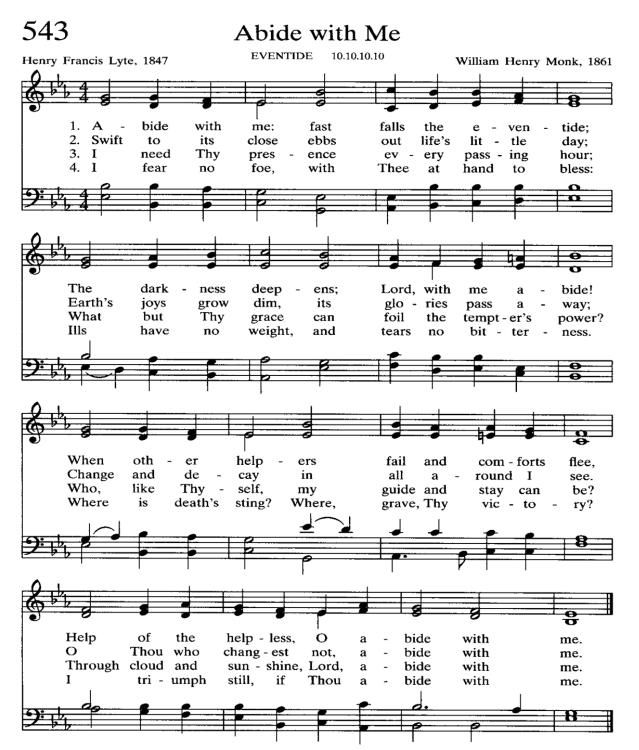
God of the poor and the poor in spirit, we pray for your help against all that oppresses, as we look forward to the kingdom you have promised and are bringing even now through Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

We pray silently...

And finally, together, as the people of God, we offer the prayer that Christ taught us, 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.



5. Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes; Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies: Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee; In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

*Charge and Benediction

Be open to the Holy Spirit's leading and grow as a member of Christ's body. love with God's love, be at peace within yourself, make peace with others, prepare the coming kingdom. worship God and God alone, Holy Three, Holy One, forever and always.

May God surround you with love; Christ forgive you your sin; and the Holy Spirit fill you with eternal life.

Voluntary Lauda Anima John Goss arr. Richard Warner

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



ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Flowers in the Chancel are given in memory of Dr. Thomas Reef by the Thomas Reef Endowment Fund.

COVID-19 Protocols:

- Masks are now optional for all vaccinated adults. Unvaccinated adults are asked to continue masking.
- Masks are also optional for children and youth of every age, whether they have been vaccinated or not. This is at the discretion of the parent or guardian of the child or youth.
- Solos and congregational singing will continue both with and without masks.
- We will continue to observe social distancing measures, and the ushers
 will assist worshippers with seating in the sanctuary. The pews where
 worshippers are asked to sit are marked with a green sticker. If you would
 prefer to sit at a greater distance from others, please inform an usher who
 can guide you to a place where you will feel more comfortable.
- We are in the process of returning the hymnals, Bibles, and giving envelopes to the pews. However, offering trays and fellowship pads will not be passed at this time. Offering trays may be found at the entrance to the worship space.
- Livestreaming services will continue on YouTube.

CALENDAR OF CHURCH EVENTS for the week of August 1-7, 2021

Sunday, 8/1

10:30 am Worship Service in Sanctuary & on

YouTube Livestream

Monday, 8/2

1:00 pm Zoom Bible Study

Tuesday, 8/3

2:30 pm Adult Bell Choir Rehearsal in Chancel

Thursday, 8/4

9:30 am WPC Staff Meeting in Library

Saturday, 8/5

8:00 am Food for Life

Giving Online During these difficult times, the church remains grateful for your faithful support. To give electronically on the WPC website click under the tab "online giving" and use this QR Code.



The Reverend Jonathan S. Hauerwas, Pastor jhauerwas.wpc@gmail.com (weekly office days: Monday, Tuesday, and Friday) (cell phone 330-606-4551)

Bob Carlyon, Music Director/Organist wpcmusicdir1250@gmail.com

(weekly office days: Tuesday—Thursday)

Claudine Schooley, WPC Church Office wpcoffice1250@gmail.com

(weekly office days: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday)

Dave Bodnar, Daytime Custodian wpcbuilding@gmail.com

(weekly workdays: Sunday—Thursday)

Margo Works, Director of Children, Family, and Youth

wpcchildren1250@gmail.com

(weekly office days: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday)

Traci Range, Director of Childcare wpcchildcare1250@gmail.com

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, Margo Works and Dave Bodnar. **Tuesday** - Pastor Jon and Dave Bodnar. **Wednesday** - Margo Works and Dave Bodnar. **Thursday** - Pastor Jon, Margo Works and Dave Bodnar. **Friday** - Pastor Jon and Margo Works

Finance Office: Monday from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Contact wpctreasurer1250@gmail.com for assistance.

