

A black and white photograph of a plant with large, lobed leaves and small, dark, spiky seed heads, possibly a species of grass or sedge, set against a blurred background.

Follow us also on



*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. Please note that hymns are no longer being printed in the bulletin. You may find a hymn book on the back of the pew in front of you. **Bolded text is read or sung by all.** *Please rise in body or spirit.*

Voluntary Holy Manna William Moore *Arr. Mary Ellen Kerrick*
Richard Shirey, Piano - Bob Carlyon, Organ

Cindy Weiss

Thanks be to God!

Praise the Lord!

AURELIA

ENCOUNTER

Call to Confession

Because God is near to the brokenhearted, let us consider how we have lived, confessing our sins and trusting in God's mercy to save.

Prayer of Confession

God of our redemption, we confess that we have not been faithful servants. We have not served with sincere hearts, nor trusted in your salvation. We have forsaken you, the living God, and have chosen to follow the lifeless idols of worldly power and wealth. Forgive us our sin, O God. Lead us to heartfelt repentance that we may honor you with our lips and serve you with our lives; through our Savior, Jesus Christ. 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

Hear the good news: Christ himself is the Word that offers eternal life to all who receive him. This proves his love for us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are 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
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

Offering plates may be found as you exit the sanctuary.

Let all who revere the Lord, who desire to serve the Lord in sincerity and in faithfulness, bring their gifts with joyful hearts.

Offertory Be Thou My Vision Bob Chilcott
Valerie Stewart, soloist. Text may be found at hymn#339

*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 Margo Works

Following the Time with Young Disciples, young children and early tweens are invited to the church playground for age-appropriate activities (rain location: the nursery/pre-school rooms). As always, all children are welcome to remain in the sanctuary if they, or their parents, prefer.

GROW

Prayer for Illumination

Lord Jesus Christ, as we hear the reading of Holy Scripture, speak to us your words of spirit and life. **Amen.**

The First Lesson Psalm 84:1-12 Old Testament

- 1 How lovely is your dwelling place, O LORD of hosts!
- 2 My soul longs, indeed it faints for the courts of the LORD; my heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God.
- 3 Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, at your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King and my God.
- 4 Happy are those who live in your house, ever singing your praise. *Selah*
- 5 Happy are those whose strength is in you, in whose heart are the highways to Zion.
- 6 As they go through the valley of Baca they make it a place of springs; the early rain also covers it with pools.
- 7 They go from strength to strength; the God of gods will be seen in Zion.
- 8 O LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; give ear, O God of Jacob! *Selah*
- 9 Behold our shield, O God; look on the face of your anointed.
- 10 For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than live in the tents of wickedness.

11 For the LORD God is a sun and shield; he bestows favor and honor. No good thing does the LORD withhold from those who walk uprightly.

12 O LORD of hosts, happy is everyone who trusts in you.

Beach Spring

The Sacred Harp, 1844

Arr. Anna Laura Page

The Second Lesson John 6:56-69

New Testament

56 "Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them.

57 Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me.

58 This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever."

59 He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

60 When many of his disciples heard it, they said, "This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?"

61 But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, "Does this offend you?"

62 Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before?

63 It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life.

64 But among you there are some who do not believe." For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him.

65 And he said, "For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father."

66 Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him.

67 So Jesus asked the twelve, "Do you also wish to go away?"

68 Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life.

69 We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God."

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

Sermon

Turning Points

The Reverend Dr. Sandy Selby

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. All things work together for my salvation. 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

Sisters and brothers, as Christ offered himself for the life of the world, let us pray for the needs of the world, saying,
Merciful God, hear our prayer.

God, we pray for the church in every land: Help all who serve the living God to be strong in the power of God and to withstand all the temptations of the evil one. For the church universal,
Merciful God, hear our prayer.

God, we pray for those who lead your church: Guide all who order the life of the Christian community, that they and we may persevere in supplication for all in need, and make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel.
Merciful God, hear our prayer.

God, we pray for those who govern the nations and exercise authority in civic life: Give our governing officials wisdom for the administration of justice, compassion for the sake of mercy, and determination for the pursuit of the common good.
Merciful God, hear our prayer.

God, we pray for the sick, the poor, and the oppressed: Save those who are in need and strengthen all who minister to them. For those in trouble or want,
Merciful God, hear our prayer.

God, we pray for our planet Earth:
Save our world from the ravages of war, thoughtless waste, and the foolish exploitation of Earth's abundance. For the good earth,
Merciful God, hear our prayer.

Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people and grant that what we ask in faith we may receive according to your gracious love, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **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.**

*Hymn #554 Let All Things Now Living ASH GROVE

*Charge and Benediction

Sisters and brothers, you have chosen to serve God because God has chosen you in Jesus Christ.
Go, therefore, to love and serve as God's people in the world.
We go in Jesus' name.

May the blessing of God, who delivers us,
the grace of Christ, who sustains us,
and the communion of the Spirit, who empowers us,
be with you always.

Voluntary	Psalms 19 The Heavens Declare	Benedetto Marcello <i>Arr. Dennis Janzer</i>
-----------	-------------------------------	---

At the piano today is Richard Shirey, Westminster's Director of Music/Organist from 1976 - 1993 and for whom the choir room is named.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our Guest Preacher Today
The Reverend Dr. Sandy Selby is Pastor of Furnace Street Mission.
She worked for BFGoodrich for 18 years before following the call
to ordained ministry.

The Flowers in the Chancel are given in loving memory of Elaine Young by her husband, Jerry.

The Flowers on the Pedestal are given by Jim Mismas and Bruce Stebner in loving memory of Jim's mother, Ann Mismas.

Pride Festival WPC will be sharing God's love at the Akron Pride Festival on Saturday, August 28 at Lock 3 in downtown Akron. The day will begin with a march starting at 10:00 a.m. If you would like to march, please contact Phil Fry at fryphillip60@yahoo.com to sign up. Westminster will also have a tent booth at Lock 3 at the Festival. We will have water, stickers and church information available for festival attendees. Volunteers are needed to staff the tent in 2-hour shifts from 10:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. Please sign up on the sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall. For more information contact Phil Fry or Ellen Daugherty at edaugh1185@gmail.com.

Monthly Financial Report

July 2021	Actual	Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Total Revenues	\$52,660.59	\$35,547.66	\$375,597.16	\$308,783.62
Total Expenses	\$36,340.01	\$45,129.43	\$269,404.26	\$335,416.59
Net	\$16,320.58	(\$9,581.77)	\$106,192.90	(\$26,632.97)

Please contact the Finance Office if you would like a copy of the detailed financial report for the period ending July 31, 2021.

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 have returned hymnals, Bibles, and giving envelopes to pews with green stickers. 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 22-28

Sunday, 8/22 10:30 am Worship Service in Sanctuary & on YouTube Livestream/ Guest Preacher The Reverend Dr. Sandy Selby Monday, 8/23 1:00 pm Zoom Bible Study Tuesday, 8/24 2:30 pm Adult Bell Choir Rehearsal in Chancel	Thursday, 8/26 9:30 am WPC Staff Meeting in Library Saturday, 8/28 9:00 am Celtic Gardeners in the Garden 10:00 am Pride March & Festival at Lock 3 Downtown Akron
---	--

The Church Office is open from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Monday - Friday.
Staff Schedule in the Office:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Pastor Jon	Pastor Jon		Pastor Jon	Pastor Jon
The Reverend Jonathan S. Hauerwas jhauerwas.wpc@gmail.com Cell phone 330-606-4551				
Claudine Schooley		Claudine Schooley	Claudine Schooley	Claudine Schooley
WPC Church Office wpcoffice1250@gmail.com				
	Margo Works	Margo Works	Margo Works	
Director of Children, Family, and Youth wpcchildren1250@gmail.com				
	Bob Carlyon	Bob Carlyon	Bob Carlyon	
Music Director/Organist wpcmusicdir1250@gmail.com				
Dave Bodnar	Dave Bodnar	Dave Bodnar	Dave Bodnar	
Daytime Custodian wpcbuilding@gmail.com				

Other Staff:

Val Stewart, Director of Children's Choir
Bruce Klucharich, Audio-Visual Technician
Traci Range, Director of Childcare wpcchildcare1250@gmail.com

Volunteers:

Kristy Yates, Director of Adult Bell Choir
Finance Office: Shelley Koutnik. Monday from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Contact wpctreasurer1250@gmail.com for assistance.



Westminster Presbyterian Church
1250 West Exchange Street, Akron, Ohio 44313
westminsterakron@gmail.com - 330-836-2226
www.westminsterakron.org