

16th Sunday after Pentecost



September 12, 2021 at 10:30 a.m.

Follow us also on



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 live-streaming and recording equipment. **Bolded text is read or sung by all.***

**Please rise in body or spirit.*

Today, we are celebrating the Sacrament of Holy Communion. During this time of pandemic, you are encouraged to take a pre-made Communion packet prior to the service, which will be distributed along with your bulletin.

COME

Voluntary

Fanfare on an Original Theme

Gilbert Martin

*Call to Worship

Steve Harp

Look at the heavens!

They are shouting the glory of God.

The days and the nights declare the magnificence of God's creative works.

Their voice goes through all the earth and their words reach the ends of the world.

Let our words of praise be acceptable to you.

Our Lord, our rock, our redeemer!

*Hymn #423

Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun DUKE STREET

ENCOUNTER

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

You have called us, O God, and we have refused to listen; you have stretched out your hand and we have not taken it. We have taken what you have given us and used those gifts to hurt others and defy you. We have refused to be tamed by your wisdom. Forgive our inability to recognize you and live out the reality of your gospel. Give us the insight we need to understand your place in our lives so that our words and actions reflect the glory of God in the lives of others. In the name of the Messiah we pray. 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.**

*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.*

Moment for Ministry Lisa Bansen-Harp/Discipleship
 Rally Day

Time for Church Life and Call for the Offering

God has given us our lives, our beings, and made us stewards of all of
creation. Let us give to God, from what God has given to us.

Offering plates may be found as you exit the sanctuary.

Offertory From the Rising of the Sun F.A. Gore Ouseley

*From the rising of the sun unto the going down of the same my name
shall be great among the Gentiles; and in ev'ry place incense shall be
offer'd up unto my name: for my name shall be great among the
heathen, thus saith the Lord.*

*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.**

Commissioning of Teachers (see next page)

Commissioning of Teachers

I would like to invite all who have heard and accepted God's call to offer their gifts and skills in our educational ministries for the coming year to please come forward with bulletin in hand for a service of commissioning.

Friends, we have come to commission teachers to the education ministry of Christ's holy church.

Christ alone is the source of all Christian ministry, through the ages calling men and women to service.

Water is poured into the font at this time.

By the Holy Spirit all who believe and are baptized receive a ministry to witness to Jesus as Savior and Lord, and to love and to serve those with whom they live and work.

We are ambassadors for Christ who reconciles and makes whole. We are salt of the earth; we are the light of the world. Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. (1 Corinthians 12:4-7)

The Vows

Leader: At the celebration of baptism, we pledge to nurture one another in the faith. You, as teachers, carry a particular joy and responsibility. Do you believe in your heart you are called by Christ's church, and therefore by Christ, to this teaching ministry?

Teachers: Yes, truly, with all my heart.

Leader: Do you promise, by the grace of God, to give yourselves to this calling, with diligence, energy, and love, and to be guided by the Spirit and the Word of God?

Teachers: I will, and I ask God to help me.

The leader will address the congregation.

Leader: Christians, let us acknowledge the gifts and calling of our sisters and brothers.

Congregation: We receive you all as servants of Christ; we pledge to support you in your service. We will encourage you with works and prayers. We will consider ourselves coworkers with you in the service of Christ.

The Charge

Servants of Christ, accept the service with which you have been entrusted.

Do not neglect the gift that is in you. Present yourselves as ever faithful to the Spirit of God.

Remember always that Jesus called you as friends as well as servants.

Attend to prayer, for without God you can do nothing.

Let us pray.

O God, giver of all good gifts,
we commend ourselves and our brothers and sisters
to your constant love and guidance.
Fill them with grace and grant them
the strength and peace of your Spirit. Amen.

Following Time with Young Disciples, 3 through 5 year-olds are invited to room 104 for age-appropriate activities. Kindergartners through 5th graders are invited to the children's choir rehearsal in room 207 with Miss Val. Miss Val and Margo will meet the children at the Sanctuary door on the lectern side and take the children to the appropriate classrooms.

GROW

Prayer for Illumination

The First Lesson

Psalm 19:1-10

Old Testament

1 The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.

2 Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge.

3 There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard;

4 yet their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In the heavens he has set a tent for the sun,

5 which comes out like a bridegroom from his wedding canopy, and like a strong man runs its course with joy.

6 Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them; and nothing is hidden from its heat.

7 The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of the LORD are sure, making wise the simple;

8 the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the LORD is clear, enlightening the eyes;

9 the fear of the LORD is pure, enduring for ever; the ordinances of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

10 More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey, and drippings of the honeycomb.

The Second Lesson

Mark 8:27-32a, 34

New Testament

27 Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?"

28 And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets."

29 He asked them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered him, “You are the Messiah.”

30 And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

31 Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again.

32 He said all this quite openly.

34 He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.”

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

Sermon

Take It Up

The Reverend Jon Hauerwas

SERVE

Pre-made Communion packets are available for you. Please see the ushers for assistance. In keeping with social distancing protocols, the congregation will not be coming forward to receive the elements. Instead, you are encouraged to receive the elements in your pew at the appropriate time.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation

John 6:35

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

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts! **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The minister offers thanksgiving for the work of God in creation.

Together let us sing: Holy, Holy, Holy! (Hymn #138 verse 1)

The minister offers thanksgiving for the work of Christ and the Holy Spirit.

Christ is the bread of life: **When we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim your life, ministry, death, and resurrection, Lord Jesus, until you come in glory.**

In one voice, let us offer the words of 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.

Words of Institution

"The bread of life." "The cup of salvation."

The Sharing of the Bread and the Cup

Communion Hymn #504 Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether
UNION SEMINARY

Prayer following Communion

O God, you have so greatly loved us, long sought us, and mercifully redeemed us. Give us grace, that in everything we may yield ourselves, our wills, and our works, a continual thank-offering to you, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

*Hymn #430 Come Sing, O Church in Joy! DARWALL'S 148TH

*Charge and Benediction

Voluntary The Prince of Denmark's March Jeremiah Clarke

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Flowers in the Chancel are given by Phil Fry in loving memory of his parents Foster H. and Beverly J. Palmer Fry.

Script October/November Deadline is Tuesday, September 14. Please send your articles and pictures to the office, to Claudine Schooley at wpcoffice1250@gmail.com.

Adult Education This fall, our adult education Bible study class will be offered on Zoom again on Thursday evenings from 7:00-8:00 p.m. starting September 16. Our first topic is the book of Galatians. Anyone interested in receiving a Zoom email link should contact Rae Leonard at 330-256-9316 or leonardrae4@gmail.com. Come join the fun, fellowship, and discussions.

Outreach Committee The Acme Community Cash Back program is underway. The dates are August 5, 2021 to December 25, 2021. There is a box in Wright Herberich Hall for the placement of your Acme receipts that say "Community Cash Back" on the bottom. Proceeds will go to the Outreach committee programming.

WPC Men's Lunch Group Welcome back to the Men's Lunch Group which will start up again on Monday, September 13, 2021 at the Olive Garden Restaurant in Montrose. We will order from the menu beginning at 11:30 a.m. so that parking space will be no problem. This will be a very informal gathering with no program. However, we should have much to talk about since the virus prevented us from meeting for a long time. The manager of the Olive Garden said that masks will not be required and we will be seated at one table until a critical number is reached. I am looking forward to seeing you at the meeting.

WPC Book Group will meet on Monday, September 13 at 7:00 p.m. at Cathy Melver's home, 775 Rothrock Circle in Copley, just off Cleve/Mass, behind Copley High School. Come on around the back. Our book for this month is *Buses Are A Comin'* - Memoir of a Freedom Rider by Charles Person. All are welcome to join us.

For the most recent CDC guidance, we encourage you to visit:
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated-guidance.html>

Westminster's policy presently includes the following:

- 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.

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.



Calendar of Church Events for the week of September 12-18

Sunday, 9/12 is Rally Day

- 8:45 am Choir Rehearsal in Choir Room
- 9:30 am Nursery Opens
- Sunday School
- Parenting group in the Library
- 10:30 am Worship Service in Sanctuary & on YouTube Livestream
- Children's Choir in Choir Room
- 11:30 am Rally Day Picnic

Monday, 9/13

- 11:30 am Men's Lunch at Olive Garden
- 1:00 pm Zoom Bible Study
- 7:00 pm Book Discussion Off Site

Tuesday, 9/14

- 2:30 pm Adult Bell Choir Rehearsal in the Chancel
- 7:00 pm Properties Committee Meeting in WHH

Wednesday, 9/15

- 6:00 pm Finance Committee Meeting in Pastor Study

Thursday, 9/16

- 9:30 am WPC Staff Meeting in the Library
- 7:00 pm Adult Education Zoom Meeting

Saturday, 9/18

- 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.
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.



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