

18th Sunday after Pentecost



September 26, 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.*

COME

Voluntary

Chorale Prelude on “Lobe Den Herren”

Johann Gottfried Walther (1684-1748)

*Call to Worship

Suzanne Winland

Let us worship the eternal God, the source of love and life, who creates us.

Let us worship Jesus Christ, the risen one, who lives among us.

Let us worship the Spirit, the holy fire, who renews us.

To the one true God be praise in all times and places, through the grace of Jesus Christ.

*Hymn #482

Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty

LOBE DEN HERREN

ENCOUNTER

Call to Confession

The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up, and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore let us confess our sins to one another and pray for one another so that we may be healed.

Prayer of Confession

God of unity, we live in a world where our lives move between inclusivity and exclusivity. We often move toward the latter, trying to oust from our circles those who do not think like us, act like us, or look like us. Forgive our need to reject and to always be on the lookout for those things that make us different. Give us the eyes of our Teacher, who knows unconditional love and compassion and sees us all as one, for it is in his name that 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

My brothers and sisters, rejoice! You have been brought back by the redemption of God and forgiveness through Jesus Christ our Savior. You can live at peace.

*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

Becky Pool/Peacemaking Offering

Time for Church Life and Call for the Offering

Today and every day, we see signs of God's grace and abundance. But we also know that there is suffering and need in the world. Give freely of what you have been given, as a witness to God's actions in the world.

Offering plates may be found as you exit the sanctuary.

Offertory

Give Me Jesus African American Spiritual

Arr. Robert Lau

In the morning when I rise, give me Jesus. You may have all this world, give me Jesus. Just about the break of day, give me Jesus. And when I come to die, give me Jesus. And when I want to sing, give me Jesus. Give me Jesus, my 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.**

Time with Young Disciples

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

Your Word is our salt; without it, we lose our being, our joy, and our ability to endure. Open our hearts and our minds to listen, to really listen, to your Word today. **Amen.**

The First Lesson

Matthew 5:13-16

New Testament

13 “You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

14 “You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid.

15 No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house.

16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

Hymn #345

Dear Lord and Father of Mankind

REST

The Second Lesson

Mark 9:38-41, 50

New Testament

38 John said to him, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us."
39 But Jesus said, "Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me.
40 Whoever is not against us is for us.
41 For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

50 Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."

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

Sermon

Perfectly Salted

The Reverend Jon Hauerwas

SERVE

*Affirmation of Faith

The Spirit renews our hearts and moves us to faith, leads us into truth, and helps us to pray, stands by us in our need, and makes our obedience fresh and vibrant. God the Spirit lavishes gifts on the church in astonishing variety - equipping each member to build up the body of Christ and to serve our neighbors. The Spirit gathers people from every tongue, tribe, and nation into the unity of the body of Christ. Sent by the Spirit, the church is thrust into the world, ambassadors of God's peace, announcing forgiveness and reconciliation, proclaiming the good news of grace. Men and women, impelled by the Spirit, go next door and far away into science and art, media and marketplace - every area of life, pointing to the reign of God with what they do and say.

Prayers of the People (*See page 6, insert*)

(cont'd.)

Give this world the power to follow the Master's example; to love as he did, to speak as he spoke, to behave as he behaved, so that this world can become more like the world you envisioned.

Give this world the power to act on behalf of your Son, to speak the truth in love, to seek out justice when an injustice arises, to discern your will, and to be the living witness of Jesus Christ.

Give this world the power to honor your Son's name, as we are one family whose successes and achievements reflect that we are sons and daughters of God, brothers and sisters of Jesus, and are the joy of the whole body.

Give this world the power of your name, that name that is so powerful it can heal the sick, destroy all evil, give freedom to those in chains, and save each one of us.

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 #210

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

ST. ANNE

*Charge and Benediction

If it had not been for the Lord who was on our side, we would not have been freed or blessed.

Do not be a stumbling block; be salt, have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Voluntary

Choral on “Lobe Den Herren”

setting by Max Reger (1873-1916)

Both of this Sunday’s voluntaries are by German composers and are based on the tune Lobe Den Herren. The opening voluntary by Walther, who was J.S. Bach’s cousin, is a typical baroque style chorale prelude. The closing voluntary by Reger demonstrates his use of chromatic harmony, of which he was an exponent.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Flowers in the Chancel are given in loving memory of Dr. William Brideweser who entered life eternal on September 26, 2017.

Pastor on Vacation Pastor Jon will be on vacation from September 30 to October 5. The Reverend Cathy Ulrich will be preaching and administering the Sacrament of Holy Communion on October 3. For emergency pastoral care needs, please contact our main office.

New Music Director and Organist Introducing Our New Music Director and Organist, Abigail Haake, who will begin her work with us in summer of 2022. *Abigail is the Associate Director of Music and Organist at Madison Street United Methodist Church in Clarksville, TN and the owner of Kindermusik With Abby Haake, a “Top Program” Kindermusik Studio. She holds a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Organ Performance from The University of Michigan, a Master of Music degree in Organ Performance from The University of Michigan, a Bachelor of Arts degree in Organ Performance from West Virginia Wesleyan College, and a Zertifikat Deutsch from the Goethe Institut, Mannheim, Germany. Prior to*



moving to Tennessee, Dr. Haake held positions at large Presbyterian churches in West Virginia, Michigan, and North Carolina. She also served on music faculties at West Virginia Wesleyan College and Murray State University. Dr. Haake is married to John, a Lieutenant Colonel in the Army Special Forces, and they have two sons, Henry (10) and Thomas (6).

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 26-October 2

Sunday, 9/26

- 8:30 am Nursery Opens
- 8:45 am Choir Rehearsal in Choir Room
- 9:30 am Sunday School
- 9:30 am Parenting group on Johnstone Patio
- 10:30 am Worship Service in Sanctuary & on YouTube Livestream
Children's Choir in Choir Room
- 11:30 am Tween Pizza and Ice Cream on Johnstone Patio

Monday, 9/27

- 1:00 pm Zoom Bible Study

Tuesday, 9/28

- 2:30 pm Adult Bell Choir Rehearsal in the Chancel
- 7:00 pm Session Meeting in Room 106

Thursday, 9/30

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

Saturday, 10/2

- 8:00 am Food For Life in the Kitchen



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				
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.

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



Westminster Presbyterian Church

come encounter grow serve

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