

Westminster Staff

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Westminster Presbyterian Church

August 24, 2025 at 10:30 a.m.

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost



Online Giving

Secure Online Giving is available through our website,
www.westminsterakron.org
Select "Give" and then click on
"Give Here" [from there follow the prompts]

Westminster Presbyterian Church

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www.westminsterakron.org



MORE LIGHT
PRESBYTERIANS

Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m.– 4:00 p.m.

Welcome to Westminster,

We are an open affirming congregation sharing God's love in West Akron.
No matter where you are on your journey of faith, you are welcome here.

The flowers in the chancel are given in loving memory of Cindy Park Mapes and David Park by their sister, Lisa Park Boush, and their brother-in-law, Carlton Boush.

The Discipleship Committee and Deacons hope you are able to attend a Rally Day Luncheon after church on September 7. We will be serving chicken and desserts to celebrate the start of fall programming and share some memories from our successful summer events. If you are able, bring a fruit, veggie, or pasta salad to share. Everyone is welcome – with or without a salad.

Mark your calendars for Community Day at Westminster Presbyterian Church on Sunday, September 14, immediately following the 10:30 a.m. service! This special event is a wonderful opportunity to come together as a church family for food, fellowship, and fun. After enjoying a shared meal, we'll turn our focus to music with engaging, lighthearted activities designed for all ages. Whether you've been part of the music program for years or are just curious about how music shapes worship at WPC, there's something for everyone to enjoy.

Beginning Sunday, September 21 and continuing for five weeks through October 19, we will be offering a special hymn class series following the Sunday morning service. This series is an invitation to explore the rich and diverse world of congregational song—from ancient origins to modern-day expressions. Each session will focus on a unique theme, combining listening, discussion, and reflection to deepen our appreciation of the hymns we sing and the ways they shape our worship and faith. Light refreshments will be provided, and all are welcome to attend—whether you are a lifelong hymn lover or just curious to learn more.

“Random Acts of Kindness” Scavenger Hunt with our Amplified Youth, Sunday, September 21, 2025 from 4-7 pm. **Save the Date** more information to come as we draw near.

Calendar of Church Building Events For August 24– August 31, 2025

Sunday, 8/24

10:15 am Childcare available/open
10:30 am Worship & YouTube Live-Stream
11:40 am Coffee Fellowship (WHH)

Tuesday, 8/26

7:00 pm Session meeting (Room 106)

Sunday, 8/31

10:15 am Childcare available/open
10:30 am Worship & YouTube Live-Stream
11:40 am Coffee Fellowship (WHH)

This Week's Music at WPC:

Scan or take a picture of the QR code with your smart phone and learn some musical history and context.



Come after worship and sit with a
cup of coffee and share your stories,
laughter and kindness.

*Affirmation of Faith

May the guiding hands of God be on my shoulders,
may the presence of the Holy Spirit be on my head,
may the sign of Christ be on my forehead,
may the voice of the Holy Spirit be in my ears,
may the smell of the Holy Spirit be in my nose,
may the sight of the company of heaven be in my eyes,
may the speech of the company of heaven be in my mouth,
may the work of the church of God be in my hands,
may the serving of God and my neighbor be in my feet,
may God make my heart God’s home,
and may I belong to God completely.

Prayers of the People

In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, let us pray for the life of the world,
saying, O Christ our Light,
hear our prayer
We pray silently...
And finally, together, as the people of God, we say 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 446 Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken AUSTRIAN HYMN

*Charge and Benediction

Voluntary Rondeau Jean Joseph Mouret(1682-1737)

*You are invited to remain seated quietly during the Postlude.
At its conclusion, we say “Amen” in lieu of clapping.*

Today’s Worship team is The Reverend Dr. Sandy Selby (preaching);
Raphael Peoples (liturgist); Robert Carlyon (organist);
Bruce Klucharich (audio-visual); and Ushers



*At the ringing of the carillon, please silence your conversations and prepare your
hearts and minds for an encounter with the Living God.*
Bolded text is read or sung by all. **Please rise in body or spirit as you are able.*

Voluntary Consecration John Ness Beck (1930-1987)
(Laurel Labbe, soloist; Bob Carlyon, piano)

*Call to Worship Raphael Peoples

God is our rock and our fortress, our refuge and strength.
God is our hope and our trust. Praise the Lord!

*Hymn 469 Morning Has Broken BUNESSAN

Call to Confession

Our God is compassionate and merciful,
knowing us with an intimacy we cannot comprehend.
There is nothing we have done, or left undone,
that is not already known by God.
This gives us confidence, to be fully ourselves,
that we can be fully forgiven.

Prayer of Confession

**God of Life,
you come to us as a consuming fire,
and the one who consecrated us before time.
You promise us a kingdom that cannot be shaken
and call us to serve you with praise and thanksgiving.**

But we forget, and yield to fear.
We trust in the tangible rewards of this world,
and neglect your promises.
We confess that we are a divided people;
we foster separations and widen rifts
in our families, our communities, and in the world.
Open us to your healing.
Free us from all that distances us from your presence.
Give us your grace
and inspire us to serve you with courage;
through Jesus Christ who comes to save. Amen.

Silence is observed.

Response 574	Lord, Have Mercy	<i>Kyrie</i>
Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.		

Assurance of Forgiveness

Promising forgiveness and the sustenance we need to
amend our lives,
God rejoices in our longing for wholeness.
Give thanks that we have been known and forgiven,
set free to live the resurrected life of faith.

*Response 567	Glory to the Father	<i>Gloria Patri</i>
Glory 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.

Time for Church Life and Call for the Offering
Please sign the friendship pad and pass it along. Thank you.

Offertory	<i>I'm Goin' Up A Yonder</i>	Walter Hawkins (1949-2010)
(Laurel Labbe, soloist; Bob Carlyon, piano)		

*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 host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Prayer of Dedication

Prayer for Illumination

Almighty God,
you know us better than we know ourselves.
By your word, give us wisdom, by your Spirit,
grant us healing, and set us free to serve you with love.
We ask this through the One who heals in your name,
Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

The First Lesson	Psalm 71:1-6	(pew bibles pg. 532)
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Hymn 303	Jesus, Lover of My Soul	ABERSTWYTH
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The Second Lesson	Luke 13:10-17	(pew bibles pg. 76)
This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!		

Sermon	“God’s Gift of Freedom”	The Reverend Dr. Sandy Selby
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