

Westminster Staff

Rev. Dr. Sandy Selby, Bridge Pastor

Dave Bodnar, Custodian

Lou Camerato, Staff Accountant

Jim Cole, Treasurer

Bruce Klucharich, Audio-Visual Technician

Dawn M. Pokorny, Office Administrator

Traci Range, Director of Childcare

Gwynne Rearick, Director Family Ministry

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Valerie Stewart, Director Children's Choir

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Westminster Presbyterian Church

March 16, 2025 at 10:30 a.m.



The 2nd
Sunday in
Lent



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

1250 West Exchange Street, Akron, Ohio 44313

wpcoffice1250@gmail.com - 330-836-2226

www.westminsterakron.org



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

"The Lord is my light and my salvation, whom shall I fear?"

Psalm 27

Follow Westminster on



or on our church website at westminsterakron.org

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 by Nancy Keogh in loving memory of her husband Jack.

First day of SPRING, is March 20th (but to remind you we live in OHIO).

We encourage everyone to join us for our Mardi Gras feast/Community Dinner on Thursday, March 27th, at 5:00 PM. This is a wonderful opportunity to connect, share ideas, and strengthen our sense of community. Please consider inviting a friend to be part of this enriching experience. Together, we can create a more supportive and inclusive environment for all.

Westminster is planning to schedule a comprehensive training class that includes CPR, First Aid, and AED instruction for members and their families. We believe it is essential to learn life-saving techniques and understand how to use medical equipment in case of an emergency. If you are interested in attending, and prefer a week-night or a Saturday please contact the church so we can arrange a date for the class. wpcoffice1250@gmail.com or 330.836.2226

Those members who have ordered contribution envelopes, can pick them up from the table at the front of the church.

Per capita is an opportunity for all communicant members of Westminster Presbyterian Church through its' governing bodies (Eastminster Presbytery, Synod of the Covenant, General Assembly) to participate equally, responsibly, and interdependently by sharing the cost of coordination and evaluation of mission; and of performing ecclesiastical, legislative, and judicial functions that identify a Reformed Church, while strengthening the sense of community among Presbyterians.

Westminster's per capita amount per person for 2025 is \$33.00 and is composed of \$18.76 for Eastminster Presbytery; \$3.40 for Synod of the Covenant; and \$10.84 for General Assembly. Consider paying your per capita to help Westminster offset the amount being used from our budget. Please write "per capita" on your check's memo line.

Everyone is invited to Coffee fellowship in Wright-Herberich Hall after 10:30 am. worship to say hello, visit and catch up with your neighbor.

Calendar of Church Building Events For March 16– March 23, 2025

Sunday, 3/16

- 8:30 am Childcare available
- 8:45 am Choir practice (in Sanctuary)
- 9:30 am Adult Book Club (Room 106)
- 10:30 am Worship & YouTube Live-Stream
- 11:40 pm Deacons Meeting (Room 106)
- 11:45 am Personnel Meeting (Pastor's Study)
- 11:45 am Coffee Fellowship (WHH)
- 5:00 pm Amplified Youth Meeting

Tuesday, 3/18

- 9:30 am Quilt Ministry Meeting (WHH)
- 2:00 pm Finance Committee Meeting (Pastor's Study)
- 5:30 pm ILP Studio

Wednesday, 3/19

- 3:15 pm Bell Choir rehearsal
- 5:30 pm Girl Scout Troop 91442

Thursday, 3/20

- 10:00 am Staff Meeting (Pastor's Study)
- 7:00 pm Adult Bible Study via Zoom

Sunday, 3/23

- 8:30 am Childcare available
- 8:45 am Choir practice (in Sanctuary)
- 9:30 am Adult Book Club (Room 106)
- 9:30 am Commissioning Class (Youth Rooms, upstairs)
- 9:30 am Sunday School (Godly Play Room, upstairs)
- 10:30 am Worship & YouTube Live-Stream
- 11:45 am Coffee Fellowship (WHH)

*Affirmation of Faith

We believe in God:

Who has created and is creating; who works in others and us through the Spirit.

We follow in the ways of Jesus:

celebrating God’s presence, living with respect in creation, loving and serving others, seeking justice, and resisting injustice, and seeking out hope and peace.

We believe every person, regardless of color, religion, creed, age, class, or sexual orientation, is a child of God.

We are connected because we all have something to share.

We encourage one another and hold each other accountable; but most of all, we love one another. Thanks be to God. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Out of the ashes, up from the dust, we bring our prayers to God saying:

In your steadfast love, O God,

have mercy on 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 84

In the Cross of Christ I Glory

RATHBUN

*Charge and Benediction

Voluntary

Improvisation on Take Up Your Cross

Nik Stackpole

Today’s Worship team is Reverend Dr. Sandy Selby (preaching);
Harriet Chapman (liturgist); Nik Stackpole (organist);
Bruce Klucharich (audio-visual); Adult Choir; Hand Bell Choir 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

The Passion Chorale

(Hand Bell Choir)

Brenda E. Austin (b.1972)

*Call of Worship

Harriet Chapman

The psalmist sings,

One thing I asked of the Lord, that I will seek after:

to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life,

to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in God’s temple.

Sisters and brothers, God is good, and in love and mercy greets us here.

*Hymn 393

Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said

BOURBON

Call to Confession

The Lord is our light and our salvation;

whom shall we fear?

With humble hearts, let us confess our sins before God

and one another.

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.



Prayer of Confession

Merciful God,
you have made us citizens of heaven,
but we confess that we have set our minds on earthly things.
We have let our desire for security restrain our commitment to
serve the poor.
We have let our fear of danger curb our obligation to love
our enemies.
We have let our love of things dull our generosity to the needy.
We have let our craving for public status prevent our honesty
about hidden sins.
Yet, you know the desires of our heart and nothing is hidden
from you. By the power of the Holy Spirit, conform our sin-weakened
bodies to the glory of Christ, that we may be the body of Christ for
the world. 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

God, our light and our salvation, does not forsake us or leave us with
our sin. In Christ we are forgiven and offered the gift of healing repentance.
Thanks be to God.

*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 to those seated near you.
Last one to sign, please leave at the end of the pew. Thank you.

Offertory Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said Howard Helvey (b. 1968)

Take up your cross, the Savior said, if you would my disciple be;
Take up your cross with willing heart, and humbly follow after me.
Take up your cross; let not its weight fill your weak spirit with alarm;
Christ's strength shall bear your spirit up and brace your heart, and nerve your arm.
Take up your cross, heed not the shame, and let your foolish heart be still;
The Lord for you accepted death upon a cross, on Calvary's hill.
Take up your cross, then, in his strength, and calmly every danger brave:
It guides you to abundant life and leads to victory over the grave.
Take up your cross, and follow Christ, nor think till' death to lay it down;
For only those who bear the cross may hope to wear the glorious crown.

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

Prayer of Dedication

(Children may exit with Ms. Valerie to attend choir rehearsal)

Prayer for Illumination

Lord, open your Word by your Holy Spirit, so that we, like Abraham,
may believe your promises to us. **Amen.**

The First Lesson

Psalm 27

(pew bible pg. 503-504)

Hymn 363

I Want Jesus to Walk With Me

SOJOURNER

The Second Lesson

Luke 13:31-35

(pew bible pg. 77)

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

Sermon

“Nevertheless”

The Rev. Dr. Sandy Selby