



Westminster Presbyterian Church

125 N. Wilkinson Street • Dayton, OH 45402

www.westminsterdayton.org

Service for the Lord's Day – October 12, 2025

"Friends share all things in common." – Ancient Greek proverb

"I have a searing memory of the summer of 1962, when I was almost nine years old . . . In that moment, I understood something about community and courage." – Ken Burns, Commencement Address, Stanford University, June 12, 2016.

"For the growing good of the world is partly dependent on unhistoric acts; and that things are not so ill with you and me as they might have been, is half owing to the number who lived faithfully a hidden life, and rest in unvisited tombs." – George Eliot, *Middlemarch*

CARILLON PEAL

CALL TO WORSHIP IN MUSIC

Hymn Tune Settings

Dale Wood

"The Lord's My Shepherd" (Brother James' Air)

"Be Thou My Vision"

"The King of Love My Shepherd Is"

(During the Call to Worship in Music you are requested to enter into a time of silence, actively opening your spirit to God's presence in your midst.)

INTROIT- "Speak to Me, Lord"

Kathy Clark

Speak O Lord, come speak to me on this day.

***WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP IN WORD**

The Reverend Nancy S. Hodgkins

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

(Please greet your neighbor with a verbal greeting or enthusiastic wave.)

***HYMN 430 - "Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!"**

Darwall's 148th

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

Merciful God, in baptism you promise forgiveness and new life, making us part of the body of Christ. We confess that we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We walk away from neighbors in need, wrapped in our own concerns.

In your loving kindness, have mercy on us, and free us from sin.

Remind us of the promises you make in baptism so that we may rise to new life, and live together in grace.

(Silence is kept for personal confession.)



Lord, have mer-cy up-on us. Christ, have mer-cy up-on us. Lord, have mer-cy up-on us.

DECLARATION OF PARDON

Leader: Friends, hear this Good News: the mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. I declare to you in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

People: Thanks be to God.

All: Amen.

*GLORIA PATRI

H. W. Greatorex

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

MINUTE FOR STEWARDSHIP

Shelly and Peter Davies

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBER AND SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Elder Michael Newman

The Reverend Dr. Caitlin T. Deyerle

Leader: With the whole church, let us confess our faith.
Do you believe in God, the Father almighty?

People: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Leader: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

**People: I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Leader: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

**People: I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

WELCOME

All: With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you into Christ's church and into the common life of Westminster Presbyterian Church. We promise you our friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love and be witnesses of our risen Savior.

HYMN (all sing) - "Blest Be the Tie That Binds"
Blest be the tie that binds
Our hearts in Christian love:
The fellowship of kindred minds
Is like to that above.

Dennis

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON - Acts 4: 32-37

Pew Bible, p. 122 NT

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

(Children in Pre-K - Grade 2 will leave the service at this time.
Their shepherd will be in the Narthex to escort them to their room.)

ANTHEM - "Lord, Make Me a Channel of Thy Peace"

M. Searle Wright

Lord, make me a channel of thy peace,
that where there is hatred, I may bring love;
that where there is wrong, I may bring the spirit of forgiveness;
that where there is discord, I may bring harmony;
where there is error, I may bring truth;
where there is doubt, I may bring faith;
where despair, where there are shadows,
where there is sadness, I may bring hope;
I may bring light; I may bring joy!

Lord, grant that I may seek rather to comfort, than to be comforted;
to understand, than to be understood; to love, than to be loved.

For it is by giving that one receives;

it is by self-forgetting one finds.

It is by forgiving that one is forgiven;

it is by dying that one awakens unto eternal life.

-Attributed to Francis of Assisi

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON - Acts 10: 44-48

Pew Bible, p. 130 NT

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

The Reverend Dr. Richard L. Baker

Beyond All Divisions and Expectations: Sharing Our Gifts Creates Community

Focus: Now the full number of those who believed were of one heart and soul,

and no one said that any of the things that belonged to him was his own,

but they had everything in common. — Acts 4:32

***HYMN (See page 10) - "Let Us Build a House"**

Two Oaks

(Those in grades 3-8 will leave the service after the Sermon. A shepherd
will meet them in the Narthex and escort them to their rooms.)

RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

ANTHEM - "Teach Me, O Lord"

William Byrd

Teach me, O Lord, the way of thy statutes: and I shall keep it unto the end.
Give me understanding, and I shall keep thy law: yea, I shall keep it with my whole heart.
Make me to go in the path of thy commandments: for therein is my desire.
Incline my heart unto thy testimonies: and not to covetousness.
O turn away mine eyes, lest they behold vanity: and quicken thou me in thy way.
O stablish thy word in thy servant: that I may fear thee.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, and is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.
-Psalm 119:33-38 with Gloria Patri

SILENT PRAYER, PASTORAL PRAYER AND 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 434 - "Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples"

Kingsfold

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*RESPONSE (all sing) - "Go, My Children"

Ar hyd y nos

Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me.
Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free.
Here my Spirit's power filled you,
Here his tender comfort stilled you.
Go, my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free.

CONCLUDING VOLUNTARY - A Festive Trumpet Tune

Gilbert Martin

(The Concluding Voluntary is the final Alleluia of our worship.
You are invited to remain in silence.)

*Please rise in body or spirit.

Welcome to our new members Joyce Barrier, Fred Labs, Janet and Ronnie Wayne, Kendra and AJ Stich, with children Olivia, Spring, and Teddy, Debbie Ellington and Gary Lane; as well as Chloe Culp, who is being baptized this morning.

Music Participants: Westminster Choir - Rachael Boezi, Mezzo Soprano - Graysen Schaney, Mezzo Soprano - The Reverend John Neely is Organist-Director.

Today's Music: The hymn "Let Us Build a House" is serving as the inspiration for this year's Stewardship emphasis. Although it was written for a church dedication, the text is not about a physical structure but a spiritual one. The building is at best only a vessel for the essential love and hope, life and faith, peace and justice, hospitality and nurture that form the worshiping community.

The text of the first Anthem is attributed to St. Francis of Assisi (c.1181-1226). The life of this founder of the Franciscan monastic order is most astounding. Born to wealth, he forsook all for a life of asceticism, mysticism, and charitable works with the sick and downtrodden. It is said that he even preached to the birds and they listened! An early environmentalist, his "Canticle of the Sun" was the first genuine religious poem in the Italian language. St. Francis saw all of nature and everything - including death - as praising God.

The second anthem includes these words: O stablish thy word in thy servant: that I may fear thee. In the Bible, the word "fear" describes two distinct concepts: a destructive, crippling anxiety about God's chastisement, and a positive, healthy reverence for God, which is the "fear of the Lord." This beneficial fear means taking God seriously, acknowledging God's majesty and holiness, and acting with awe and wonder, inspiring trust and leading to wisdom, life, and security. In contrast, the baneful fear of God can paralyze faith.

Westminster Choir member Kathy Clark composed today's Introit.

"Let Us Build a House," text and music by Marty Haugen, text and music © 1994 by GIA Publications, Inc., is reprinted under CCLI License #2287801.

A **brochure listing all musical events** for the academic year can be found in the literature racks. It can also be downloaded from Westminster's website.

Joshua Stafford's organ recital performed here on October 5 will be broadcast on Dayton Public Radio (WDPR - Discover Classical 88.1, 89.1, 89.9) on Saturday, October 18 (10:00 a.m.) and October 19 (8:00 p.m.).

Choirs for children and youth today. New members are welcome.

Children's Choirs and Youth Handbells (Sundays)

11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Genesis Singers (4 and 5 year olds, Pre-Kindergarten) - Rm. 104 - Hilary Toerner, Director

Cherub Choir (grades K-2) - Theater - Rachael Boezi, Director

Calvin Choir (grades 3-6) - Rm. 100 (Choir Room) - John Neely, Director

Knox Ringers (grades 7-12) - Rm. 203 - Brent Manley, Director

Youth Choir

5:00-6:00 p.m.

Knox Choir (grades 7-12) - Choir Room - John Neely, Director

Youth Fellowship Groups follow.

All are welcome!

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Please stop by our Children's Ministry check-in desk anytime between 9:40-10:05 a.m. to record your child's attendance and receive their name tag.

Infants and Toddlers, Room 108 (Infant - 3 years old), are cared for from 8:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in Room 108. Parents of infants will be contacted via text by the nursery staff in case immediate communication is needed while they worship in the Sanctuary. During the worship hour, children take part in an activity and enjoy a snack.

Classes for children and youth today. New members are welcome.

Pre-K - 2nd Grades:

10:00-10:20 - Worship with family in the Sanctuary

10:25-11:30 - Sunday School

Pre-K & K, Room 101

1st & 2nd grades, Room 103/105

3rd-8th Grades:

10:00-10:40 - Worship with family in the Sanctuary

10:45-11:30 - Sunday School

3rd & 4th grades, Room 109

5th-8th grades, Theater

Junior High and Senior High Youth Fellowships meets from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. All youth in grades 7 through 12 are welcome. Dinner will be served at 6:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Please bring \$3.00 to help cover the cost of dinner.

LIFE OF THE CONGREGATION

Welcome Visitors: We are so glad to welcome you to worship with us today! Whether you are just passing through or looking for a new church community, we hope you feel right at home. At Westminster we believe that Jesus welcomes all people, just as they are, and so do we. We understand the life of faith to be a journey that is better walked together than alone. Following worship please join us for Coffee and Conversation in the Fellowship Hall, or join one of our Sunday School classes. We hope you will explore the bulletin as well as our website www.westminsterdayton.org to learn more about us. Please leave us your name and contact information in the Friendship Pad so we can get to know you as well! Grace and peace to you. -Westminster Pastoral Staff and Congregation

Westminster is a Reading Church!

This fall, why not read or reread some well-respected Christian theologians? Spend some time with Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Walter Brueggemann, Frederick Buechner, Peter Marshall, Henri Nouwen, Elton

Trueblood, and others. Several of their books are featured on the west wall bookcase of the church Library. Come and see! *Note: Please borrow books by using the sign-out sheets in the binder on the small table.*

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

The flowers in the Chancel are given by Ann Helen Barr in memory of Kenneth, Robert, Hester, and Roger Barr on the occasion of Robert's birthday.

The flowers in the Narthex are given by the Pugh Family in honor of Larry Pugh, whose memorial service was held here yesterday.

The flowers in the Narthex are given by the Culp family in memory of Jack Culp and Merritt and Dot-tie Culp and in honor of granddaughter Chloe's baptism today.

If you are interested in donating Chancel flowers, please contact Kay Berg (bergkay07@gmail.com or 937-367-9297). Please note that there is a one month lead time for flower donation announcements.

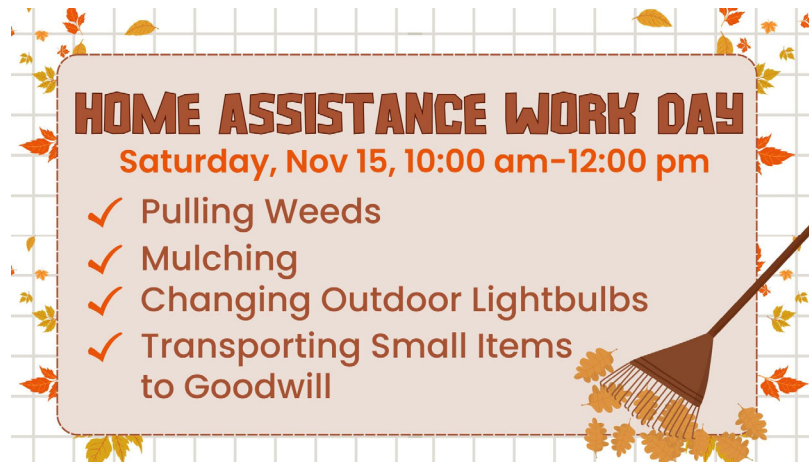
Emergency Response Team: Jenna Bertke, Paul Agiro

If you have a security concern please notify the head usher who can connect you to our security personnel.

Each week the churches of the Presbytery of the Miami Valley keep one particular congregation or group in their prayers. This week the churches are praying for **The Presbyterian Church, Hamilton.**

Westminster is a praying church and we would love to pray for you. You are welcome to **add your prayer to our Prayer Wall**, located in the Sanctuary near the front on the east wall. You will find paper and pencil to write your private prayer to God and place it between the bricks of the wall. If you have a prayer request you would like to share with our **Westminster Prays weekly email**, please use the Prayer Request Card in the pew rack and place it in the offering box following worship. You can sign up to receive the Westminster Prays email and share prayer requests or other pastoral needs directly with our pastoral staff by emailing caitlin@westminsterdayton.org or calling 937-907-6078.

Members recently released from the hospital: Joyce Barrier



Do you need a little help wrangling leaves this fall? Could your yard use a bit of a cleanup? Are there old boxes you could use a hand getting to Goodwill? Let your church neighbors lend a hand! Fill out our online form to request assistance or email Mattie Pennington (mattie@westminsterdayton.org). The deadline to request help is October 27.



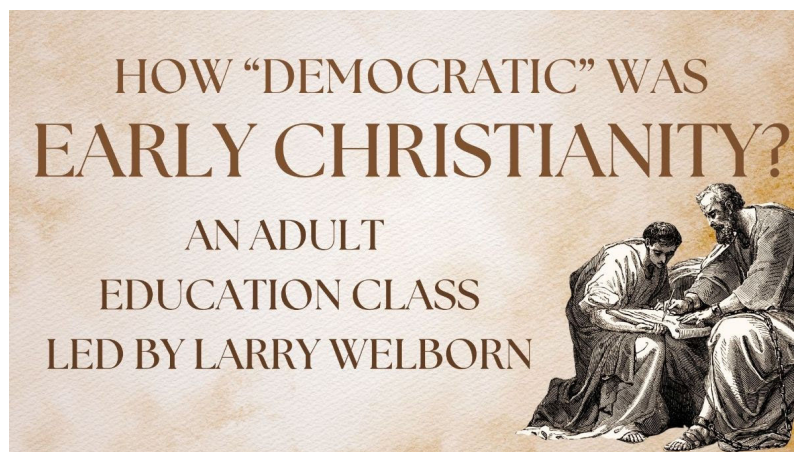
Westminster Presbyterian

Women are again selling pecans. These are freshly picked pecans from Troy, Alabama. You can order mammoth pecan halves, medium pieces, cinnamon/brown sugar spiced halves, and roasted herb spiced halves. Order forms are available in Fellowship Hall following worship. Orders may also be placed on the Westminster website. They will be ready for pick-up in mid-November just in time for Thanksgiving and holiday gift-giving. All proceeds are used to support various missions. Use the QR Code to place your order or visit us in Fellowship Hall after worship.



Continues Today

Join us to as we explore the Bible. How did it come to be? Who wrote it? And how on earth are you supposed to understand it? This class is open to all Parents Fellowship regulars as well as others of any age or stage who have questions about the bible. We will use Rachel Held Evans' book *Inspired* as a starting point if you want to read along. We will meet in the Mission Room from 11:30-12:15.

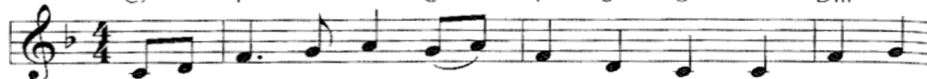


Begins Today

Recently, scholars have argued for the importance of democratic practices and ideas for a proper understanding of early Christianity as a phenomenon. For example, Paul's choice of the term *ekklesia* as a designation for the groups he established in Greece and Asia Minor. For city dwellers in Paul's day, the term *ekklesia* would have denoted "the people's assembly." By using this term, did Paul intend to arouse in converts expectations of the freedom and equality associated with participation in this democratic institution? Was early Christianity a "spiritual democracy?" If so, how did the Christian movement become a more hierarchical institution? Come and explore the relevance of these questions for life in 2025.

Let us Build A House (All Are Welcome)

Capo 3: (A7) (D) (A) (D) (G) (A) (Bm)
C7 F C F B^b C Dm



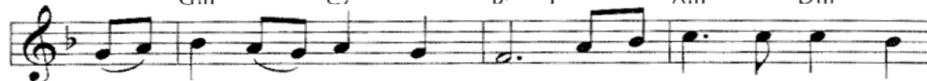
1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can
2 Let us build a house where proph - ets speak, and words are
3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter,
4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the
5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and

(D) (A) (D) (Bm7) (Em) (A)
F C F Dm7 Gm C



safe - ly live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell
strong and true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek
wine, and wheat; a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground
wood and stone to heal and strength-en, serve and teach,
vi - sions heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed

(Em) (A7) (G) (D) (F#m) (Bm)
Gm C7 B^b F Am Dm



how hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and
to dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as
where peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through
and live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the
as words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and

(Em) (A) (D) (G)
Gm C F B^b



vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the
wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as
Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we
strang - er bear the im - age of God's face; let us
laugh - ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace; let this

(D) (G) (F#7) (Bm) (Em) (Bm)
F B^b A7 Dm Gm Dm



love of Christ shall end di - vi - sions:
one we claim the faith of Je - sus:
share in Christ the feast that frees us: all are wel - come;
bring an end to fear and dan - ger:
house pro-claim from floor to raf - ter:

(F#m) (Em) (D) (Em) (A7) (D) (G) (D) (A7)
Am Gm F Gm C7 F B^b F C7



all are wel - come; all are wel - come in this place.

Church Calendar October 12 – October 18

Sunday, Oct. 12

8:30am-12:30pm Nursery Birth-Age 3, Nursery
9:00am-9:45am Confirmation Class, 209
9:00am-9:45am Westminster Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room
10:00am-11:00am Worship, Sanctuary
10:20am-11:30am 1st & 2nd Grade, 103 , 105
10:20am-11:30am Pre-K & K, 101
10:45am-11:30am 3rd & 4th Grade, 107 , 109
10:45am-11:30am 5th-8th Grade, Theater
11:00am-12:30pm Coffee & Conversation/ Garden Table, Fellowship Hall
11:15am-12:15pm Knox Ringers Rehearsal, Rooms 207, 203, 205
11:20am-12:30pm Adult Education, West Parlor
11:30am-12:15pm Parent Fellowship-Bible 101, 102
11:30am-12:15pm Calvin Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room
11:30am-12:15pm Cherub Choir Rehearsal, Theater
11:30am-12:15pm Genesis Singers Rehearsal, 104
12:15pm-1:00pm PYC Meeting, Library
5:00pm-6:00pm Knox Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room
5:00pm-6:00pm Youth Advisors Meeting, 102
6:00pm-8:00pm Youth Dinner & Fellowship (Grades 7-12), Fellowship Hall

Monday, Oct. 13

9:30am-12:30pm Sunshine Circle, Offsite
6:30pm-8:30pm Bridge Interest Group, West Parlor
7:00pm-9:00pm DGMC Rehearsal, Choir Room

Tuesday, Oct. 14

4:30pm-6:00pm Personnel Committee, West Parlor
6:00pm-8:00pm Deacon Meeting/ Dinner West Parlor

Wednesday, Oct. 15

9:00am-12:00pm Staff Meeting, West Parlor
10:00am-12:30pm ID Ministry, Chapel, Chapel Reception
12:15pm-1:30pm Women's Therapeutic Court, Fellowship Hall
6:00pm-8:00pm Nominating Committee, West Parlor

Thursday, Oct. 16

6:00pm-7:15pm Carillon Bells Rehearsal, 301
6:00pm-7:15pm Westminster Ringers Rehearsal, 207, 203, 205
7:30pm-9:30pm Westminster Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room

* Please note these dates and times are subject to change. This calendar does not include all private meetings and events in the church. Please contact church staff to reserve meeting space.



Westminster
Presbyterian Church

MINISTERS

All members of the Church

STAFF

Richard L. Baker, Jr. Pastor/Head of Staff
John W. Neely Assoc. Pastor for Music
Nancy S. Hodgkins Assoc. Pastor for Youth & Mission
Caitlin T. Deyerle Assoc. Pastor for Congregational Care
Jenne Gross Mission Associate
Kylie Hettinger Director of Discipleship
Brent Manley Music Associate

Mattie Pennington Congregational Care Coordinator
Tim Francis Business Manager
Brittany Campbell Director of Communications
Donna Schoonmaker Office Manager
Wayne King Facilities and Technology Coordinator
Keith Spencer Sexton
Roger Galloway Sexton
George H. McConnel Pastor Emeritus



Saturday, October 25, 2:00 p.m.

RSVP by October 22

The hike will be held at Aullwood Metropark. We will tour the Aullwood House, gardens and woods. We will be led by Betty Hoevel, who is a Westminster Member and Metroparks employee. All ages



Thank you for coming to Westminster today! We hope to see you again soon. If you enjoyed the service, and want to help us continue to share the love of God with our neighbors and transform their lives, please consider donating to our ministries. Donation boxes are located in the Narthex and by the elevator. You can also donate online at www.westminsterdayton.org/give or by scanning the QR code to the left with the camera of any smart device. You can also text "give" to 937-468-4003.

"Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!"

Come sing, O church, in joy!
Come join, O church, in song!
For Christ the Lord has led us
Through the ages long!
In bold accord, come celebrate
The journey now and praise the Lord!

Long years have come and gone,
And still God reigns supreme,
Empowering us to catch the vision,
Dream the dream!
In bold accord, come celebrate
The journey now and praise the Lord!

Let courage be our friend,
Let wisdom be our guide,
As we in mission
Magnify the Crucified!
In bold accord, come celebrate
The journey now and praise the Lord!

Come sing, O church, in joy!
Come join, O church, in song!
For Christ the Lord has triumphed
O'er the ages long!
In bold accord, come celebrate
The journey now and praise the Lord!

"Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples"

Today we all are called to be
Disciples of the Lord,
To help to set the captive free,
Make plowshare out of sword,
To feed the hungry, quench their thirst,
Make love and peace our fast,
To serve the poor and homeless first,
Our ease and comfort last.

God made the world and at its birth
Ordained our human race
To live as stewards of the earth,
Responding to God's grace.
But we are vain and sadly proud,

We sow not peace but strife,
Our discord spreads a deadly cloud
That threatens all of life.

Pray justice may come rolling down
As in a mighty stream,
With righteousness in field and town
To cleanse us and redeem.
For God is longing to restore
An earth where conflicts cease,
A world that was created for
A harmony of peace.

May we in service to our God
Act out the living Word,
And walk the road the saints have trod
Till all have seen and heard.
As stewards of the earth may we
Give thanks in one accord
To God who calls us all to be
Disciples of the Lord.