



Westminster Presbyterian Church

125 N. Wilkinson Street • Dayton, OH 45402

www.westminsterdayton.org

Service for the Lord's Day – September 27, 2026

"Mondegreen: a mishearing or misinterpretation of a phrase as a result of near-homophony [nearly sounding alike], in a way that gives it a new meaning." – Wikipedia

"A vigorous error vigorously pursued has often kept the embryos of truth a-breathing."
– George Eliot

CARILLON PEAL

CALL TO WORSHIP IN MUSIC

Carillon: Gavotte

Joseph-Hector Fiocco

Handbells: "All Creatures of Our God and King" (Hymn 455)

arr. Cathy Moglebust

Hymn of Promise

Natalie Sleeth, arr. Martha Lynn Thompson

(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 - "Sing Alleluia Forth"

David H. Williams

Sing Alleluia forth in duteous praise. Alleluia!

*WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP IN WORD

The Rev. Dr. Caitlin T. Deyerle

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

*HYMN 416 - "Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation"

Westminster Abbey

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

**O Lord our God, you call us to proclaim the gospel, but we remain silent in the presence of evil.
You call us to be reconciled to you and one another, but we are content to live in separation.
You call us to seek the good of all, but we fail to resist the powers of oppression.**

Forgive us, O Lord.

Reconcile us to you by the power of your Spirit, and give us the courage and strength to be reconciled to others; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior.

(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: Jesus Christ lived and died so that we are forgiven forgiven. Know this, and be at peace.

People: Thanks be to God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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.

SUNG PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (all sing see page 11) - "God of the Word"

Ken Medema

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON- I John 1:5-10

Pew Bible, pp. 238,239 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.

An adult leader will be in the Narthex to escort them to their classrooms.)

ANTHEM - "When in Our Music God Is Glorified"

arr. Lloyd Larson

Tune: Engelberg by Charles Villiers Stanford

Alleluia!

When in our music God is glorified,
And adoration leaves no room for pride,
It is as though the whole creation cried,
Alleluia!

How often, making music, we have found
A new dimension in the world of sound,
As worship moved us to a more profound
Alleluia!

So has the church, in liturgy and song,
In faith and love, through centuries of wrong,
Borne witness to the truth in every tongue:
Alleluia!

And did not Jesus sing a Psalm that night
When utmost evil strove against the light?
Then let us sing, for whom he won the fight:
Alleluia!

Let every instrument be tuned for praise!
Let all rejoice who have a voice to raise!
And may God give us faith to sing always:
Alleluia!

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON - I John Chapter 4 (selected verses)

Pew Bible, pp. 240, 241 NT

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Richard L. Baker

Walking in the Light: Is the Truth In Us?

Focus: "But these things are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name."

— The Gospel of John 20: 31

***HYMN 339 - "Be Thou My Vision"**

Slane

(Children in Grades 3 – 8 will leave the service at this time.

An adult leader will be in the Narthex to escort them to their classrooms.)

***STATEMENT OF FAITH**

From: *A Brief Statement of Faith*, Presbyterian Church (USA)

The Rev. Nancy S. Hodgkins

In life and in death we belong to God.

Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father.

In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community.

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life.

The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church.

With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

ANTHEM - "My Shepherd Will Supply My Need "

American hymn tune, arr. Virgil Thomson

My shepherd will supply my need, Jehovah is his name.

In pastures fresh he makes me feed beside the living stream.

He brings my wand'ring spirit back when I forsake his ways.

He leads me for his mercy's sake in paths of truth and grace.

When I walk through the shades of death, thy presence is my stay.

One word of thy supporting breath drives all my fears away,

Thy hand, in sight of all my foes, doth still my table spread.

My cup with blessings overflows, thine oil anoints my head.

The sure provisions of my God attend me all my days,
 O may thy house be my abode and all my work be praise.
 There would I find a settled rest, while others go and come,
 No more a stranger or a guest, but like a child at home.

***DOXOLOGY**

Old Hundredth

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

***RESPONSE (all sing) - "In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful" (from Taizé Liturgy)**

Jacques Berthier

In the Lord I'll be ev-er thank-ful, in the Lord I will re-joice! Look to God, do not be a-

fraid. Lift up your voic-es, the Lord is near; lift up your voic-es, the Lord is near. In the

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 391 - "Take My Life"**

Hendon

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***RESPONSE (all sing) - "Spirit of the Living God"**

Living God

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me;
 Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
 melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.
 Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

CONCLUDING VOLUNTARY - Toccata on Pisgah

American folk hymn, arr. Dale Wood

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

*Please rise in body or spirit.

Music Participants: Westminster Ringers (Brent Manley, Director) - Westminster Choir - Peter Moore, Music Resident, is conducting the Introit and assisting in conducting the Westminster Ringers -The Reverend John Neely is Organist-Director.

Today's Music: The anthem "When in Our Music God Is Glorified" was commissioned by the Lorenz Corporation in honor and loving memory of Larry F. Pugh (1946-2025), husband, father, Papou, friend, musician, editor, mentor, and volunteer for his home church, Westminster Presbyterian Church, Dayton, Ohio.

"God of the Word," words and music by Ken Medema, © 1993 by Ken Medema Music/ASCAP/Brier Patch Music, is reprinted under CCLI License #2287801.

The response "In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful," words and music by Jacques Berthier and the Taizé Community, © 1984 Les Presses de Taizé (France), is reprinted under CCLI License #2287801.

Choir schedules, 2026-2027, for children, youth, and adults may be found on the church website.

Carillon Bells, a handbell choir for beginning ringers, has resumed rehearsals, Thursdays, 6:15-7:15 p.m. in Room 301. Westminster Choir member Colleen Green is the director. New ringers will be heartily welcomed. Please direct your questions to Colleen (colleenjgreen1984@gmail.com).

Music brochures, listing events for the new academic year, may be found in the literature racks.

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-K) - Rm. 101 - 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.

Junior High and Senior High Youth Fellowships meet 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. 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

Adult Education brochures for fall class listings are available in the Narthex and in the bulletin board literature rack by the church office.

The Garden Table will be in Fellowship Hall today! Bring surplus to share, or make a donation to the hunger fund in exchange for a variety of good things from the good earth. Plenty of peppers and tomatoes are available.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

The flowers in the Chancel are given in loving memory of Larry Pugh, devoted husband, father, and Papou, by his family.

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: Sean Hearrell, Warren Assink

During the service, if you notice someone who appears to require medical attention, please raise your hand or contact the head usher. Emergency Response Team members will care for the person.

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 **Westminster Presbyterian Church, Piqua.**

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.

The Sympathy of the Congregation is extended to the family and friends of **Eleanor "Elly" Blacker**, who passed away on Wednesday, September 9. A visitation will be held at Routsong's Centerville Chapel (81 N Main St, Centerville, 45459) this Thursday, October 1, from 11:00a.m.-12:00 p.m., with a Celebration of Life following from 12:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m..

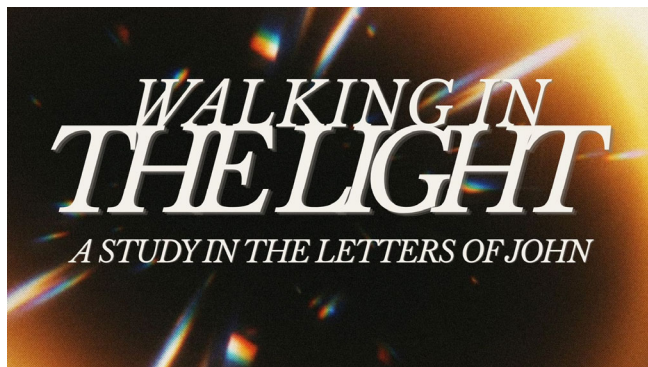
Nominating For Elders and Deacons

Submission deadline is
Monday, October 5, at Noon



Westminster is blessed with wonderful and dedicated leaders who serve on our Session and Board of Deacons. Together these Elders and Deacons use their gifts and skills to grow Westminster's ministry in the community and nurture the spiritual life of our members. Please join the Nominating Committee this October in prayerfully considering if you might be called to join those leaders in service to God. We are looking for people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love to serve our church. If that de-

scribes you or someone you know, please submit a nomination to Donna (donna@westmisnterdayton.org) before October 5 at noon.



Continues today, 11:20 a.m. West Parlor

The Apostle John's letters are among the most personal writings in the New Testament. They are short and direct, but also full of pastoral warmth and insight.

Written to communities John had known and cared for across decades, 1 John, 2 John, and 3 John carry the weight of an eyewitness who has seen everything and remained faithful to the end. While the Apostle Paul is well-known for writing like a lawyer building a case, the style of John's

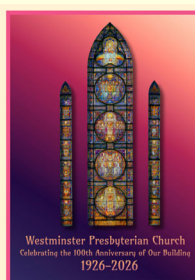
letters has a quality that is hard to name but easy to feel. It is less like a lecture and more like someone who loves you grabbing your arm and saying: "Hey, this is really important; don't let go of it."

Each session aims to mirror the pastoral feel of John's letters, working through their core themes and asking what they mean for how we live, love, and believe together. This class will continue with the Reverend Richard Baker as leader.



**Continues today
11:30 a.m., Room 211**

Have you ever felt like you wished you had a better understanding of Jesus' message? Join our Parents Fellowship class as we explore the Gospel of Matthew. We will explore the context, structure, and main themes of the Gospel together. Bibles are provided or you may bring your own. All are welcome!



WPW Centennial Puzzle Sale

Deadline is Oct. 4



Celebrate the 100th anniversary of our building with a special puzzle available through the Westminster Presbyterian Women (WPW) Puzzle Sale. Buyers

have the option to choose between a 300-piece or a 513-piece puzzle. Each puzzle measures 16 x 20 inches and is priced at \$25. Please note the important dates: the order deadline is October 4, and puzzle distribution

will take place on November 8. You can place your order online or pick up an order form from a WPW representative in Fellowship Hall.

HOME ASSISTANCE WORK DAY

Saturday, Oct 24

- ✓ Pulling Weeds
- ✓ Mulching
- ✓ Changing Outdoor Lightbulbs
- ✓ Transporting Small Items to Goodwill

Do you need a little help around the house this Fall? Could your yard use a bit of a clean up? Are there old boxes you could use a hand getting out of the attic? Let your church neighbors lend a hand! Fill out our online form to request assistance or email Caitlin@westminsterdayton.org.

We are happy to help with spreading mulch and planting, but we kindly ask homeowners to have their mulch and plants ready and at their house when the volunteers arrive.





America 250 Concert by Bach Society of Dayton, November 8, 3:00 p.m., Arbogast Performing Arts Center, Deadline to purchase tickets is October 12 Fellowship Committee invites members to the America 250 Concert on November 8 at 3:00 p.m. at the Arbogast Performing Arts Center in Troy, OH! Celebrate 250 years of American music with a choral performance by the Bach Society of Dayton. Enjoy a lobby reception at 2:00 p.m. Tickets are \$25, with premium seating. Don't miss this musical journey through history!



EARTH STEWARDSHIP HIKE

Next Sunday
October 4, 12:30 PM

Please RSVP for this event



A cartoon illustration of a brown bear wearing a red hat, holding a yellow map. Above the bear is a circular compass rose with a red needle pointing North. The background is light orange with scattered autumn leaves.

Sunday, October 4, 12:30 pm

Please join Earth Stewardship Ministry Team on a fall downtown hike. Led by Betty Hoevel, we will have a light lunch at church and then head to Deeds Point, a small MetroPark located at the convergence of the Great Miami and Mad Rivers. Many researchers have noted that people want to preserve what they know and love. This "Sense of Place" is an important feature of Earth Stewardship. Sign up to join us!



Order Deadline is Sunday, October 18
 Delicious new crop pecans just in time for the holidays – for use in baking or for gifts or just to eat. Mammoth halves, pieces, and spiced are all available. All orders must be prepaid. Your pecan purchase helps Westminster Presbyterian Women support over 20 mission programs.



ANNUAL MEMORIAL ORGAN RECITAL
Richard Elliott, Principal Organist for
The Mormon Tabernacle Choir
Sunday, October 25, 4:00 p.m.



Richard Elliott is Principal Organist at the Mormon Tabernacle in Salt Lake City, UT, where he participates in the daily recital series and accompanies the Mormon Tabernacle Choir on the choir's weekly radio and TV broadcast, "Music and the Spoken Word." As accompanist for the Tabernacle Choir he has performed in many of the world's great concert halls and has appeared on numerous television and radio programs, including the NBC "Today Show," CBS "This Morning," and "A Prairie Home Companion."

Members and friends of Westminster will once again be given the opportunity to memorialize a loved one by contributing to the Memorial Organ Recital Fund. Those wishing to contribute to the Memorial Recital Fund are asked to use the form below. Donations may also be made using the online form on our website (www.westminsterdayton.org).

The organ console will be visible by way of a large screen projection system.
The recital is open to the public without charge.

Please make your submissions before **Monday, October 19, at noon**

2026 MEMORIAL ORGAN RECITAL

Please indicate how you wish the names to appear in the program.



In Memory of _____

Given By _____

Amount given: \$ _____

Please make checks payable to Westminster Presbyterian Church,
marked "Memorial Organ Recital" in the memo line.

Thank you for this special gift.

God of the Word

Out of the bab - ble that sur - rounds us, out of the

cha - os that's with - in, where can we go to find our

mean-ing? Is there a place we can be - gin?

God of the Word, now let the Word be spo - ken. Word of our

God, come vis - it us with grace. Rise like a fra - grance,

like a chord of mu - sic, fill - ing all this ho - ly place.

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
 Peter Moore Music Resident
 Curtis T. Baxter Pastoral Affiliate

Mattie Pennington Congregational Care Coordinator
 Tim Francis Business Manager
 Zoey Wang Part-time Bookkeeper
 Brittany Campbell Director of Communications
 Donna Schoonmaker Office Manager
 Wayne King Facilities and Technology Coordinator
 Keith Spencer Sexton
 Will Leary Part-time Sunday Sexton
 George H. McConnel Pastor Emeritus

Church Calendar September 27 – October 3

Sunday, September 27

8:30am-12:30pm	Nursery Birth-Age 3, Nursery
9:00am-9:45am	Confirmation Class, Nancy's Office
9:15am-9:45am	Westminster Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room
10:00am-11:00am	Worship, Sanctuary
10:20am-11:30am	Children's Class 1st & 2nd Grades, Room 109
10:20am-11:30am	Children's Class Pre K-K, Room 101
10:45am-11:30am	Children's Class 3rd Grade, Room 103
10:45am-11:30am	Children's Class 4th - 5th Grades, Room 105
10:45am-11:30am	Children's Class 6th - 8th Grades, Theater
11:00am-12:00pm	Coffee & Conversation/Garden Table, Fellowship Hall
11:30am-12:15pm	Adult Education, West Parlor
11:30am-12:15pm	Calvin Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room
11:30am-12:15pm	Cherub Choir Rehearsal, Theater
11:30am-12:15pm	Genesis Singers Rehearsal, Room 101
11:30am-12:15pm	Knox Ringers Rehearsal, Rooms 207, 203, 205
11:30am-12:15pm	Parent Fellowship, Room 211
4:00pm-5:00pm	Youth Advisors Meeting, West Parlor
5:00pm-6:00pm	Knox Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room
6:00pm-6:30pm	Youth Dinner, Fellowship Hall
6:30pm-8:00pm	Youth Fellowship, Fellowship Hall

Monday, September 28

6:00pm-9:00pm	DGMC Rehearsal, Choir Room
6:30pm-8:30pm	Bridge Interest Group, West Parlor

Wednesday, September 30

9:00am-12:00pm	Staff Meeting, West Parlor
10:00am-12:30pm	ID Ministry, 101, 103, 105

Thursday, October 1

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



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.

“Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation” (416)

Christ is made the sure foundation,
Christ the head and cornerstone,
Chosen of the Lord and precious,
Binding all the church in one;
Holy Zion's help forever,
And our confidence alone.
To this temple, where we call you,
Come, O Lord of hosts, today:
With your wonted loving-kindness
Hear your people as they pray,
And your fullest benediction
Shed within its walls away.
Here bestow on all your servants
What they ask of you to gain,
What they gain from you forever
With the blessed to retain,
And hereafter in your glory
Evermore with you to reign.
Laud and honor to the Father,
Laud and honor to the Son,
Laud and honor to the Spirit,
Ever three and ever one,
One in might and one in glory
While unending ages run.

“Be Thou My Vision” (339)

Be thou my vision, O lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that thou art-
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Riches I heed not, nor vain empty praise,
Thou mine inheritance, now and always:
Thou and thou only, first in my heart,
Great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

“Take My Life” (391)

Take my life, and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to thee.
Take my moments and my days;
Let them flow in ceaseless praise,
let them flow in ceaseless praise.
Take my hands, and let them move
At the impulse of thy love.
Take my feet, and let them be
Swift and beautiful for thee,
Swift and beautiful for thee.
Take my voice, and let me sing
Always, only, for my King.
Take my lips, and let them be
Filled with messages from thee,
Filled with messages from thee.
Take my silver and my gold;
Not a mite would I withhold.
Take my intellect, and use
Every power as thou shalt choose,
Every power as thou shalt choose.
Take my will, and make it thine;
It shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own;
It shall be thy royal throne,
It shall be thy royal throne.
Take my love; my Lord, I pour
At thy feet its treasure store.
Take myself, and I will be
Ever, only, all for thee,
Ever, only, all for thee.