

Westminster Presbyterian Church

125 N. Wilkinson Street • Dayton, OH 45402
www.westminsterdayton.org

Service for the Lord's Day — November 8, 2026

"To love is to will the good of the other." –St. Thomas Aquinas

"Divine love is, of course, the template and model for such human love, and yet human love is the necessary school for any encounter with divine love. If we've never experienced human love—to the point of sacrifice and forgiveness and generosity—it will be very hard for us to access, imagine, or even experience God's kind of love. Conversely, if we have never let God love us in the deep and subtle ways that God does, we will not know how to love another human in the deepest ways of which we are capable." –Richard Rohr

CALL TO WORSHIP IN MUSIC

Voluntary in D — *William Boyce*
Arioso — *Joseph W. Jenkins*

(During 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 - "Make a Joyful Noise Unto the Lord" — *John Ness Beck*

Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands. Serve the Lord with gladness: come before his presence with singing. Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise!
-Psalm 100

WELCOME — The Reverend Dr. Richard L. Baker

***CALL TO WORSHIP IN WORD**

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

(Please greet your neighbor.)

***HYMN -** "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" — *Hymn to Joy*

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee,
God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flowers before thee,
Opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
Drive the gloom of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness,
Fill us with the light of day.

All thy works with joy surround thee,
Earth and heaven reflect thy rays,

Stars and angels sing around thee,
Center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
Flowery meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird and flowing fountain,
Call us to rejoice in thee.

Thou art giving and forgiving,
Ever blessing, ever blest,
Well-spring of the joy of living,
Ocean depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our Brother,
All who live in love are thine;
Teach us how to love each other,
Lift us to the joy divine.

Mortals, join the happy chorus
Which the morning stars began;
Love divine is reigning o'er us,
Joining all in heaven's plan.
Ever singing, march we onward,
Victors in the midst of strife,
Joyful music leads us sunward
In the triumph song of life.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

God of grace, we confess that too often we become arrogant in our self-assuredness and proud of our spiritual accomplishments. We believe that we are above others. Forgive our haughty and prideful hearts. Remind us, O God that there is no greater knowledge than to know and be known by Christ. Help us to continue to plumb the depths of your forgiveness, and instruct us in the ways of humility.

(Silence is kept for personal confession.)

DECLARATION OF PARDON

Leader: Friends, believe the Good News. As far as the North is from the South, as far as the East is from the West, so far has God removed our transgressions from us. Know that you are forgiven, and be at peace.

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.

CHORAL PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION *Hal H. Hopson*

O God, by your Spirit tell us what we need to hear, and show us what we ought to do to obey Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON - Matthew 22:34-40 Pew Bible, p 25 NT

Leader: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM - "Will You Light a Candle?" *Katie Houts*

Will you light a candle for hope to shine amid the dark?
Will you light a candle for peace to shine amid the dark?
We you light a candle for joy to shine amid the dark?
Will you light a candle for love to shine amid the dark?
The world needs hope, and peace, and joy, and love
To shine amid the dark.
Calvin Choir

(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.)

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON - Matthew 23:1-7, 23-26 Pew Bible, pp 25-26 NT

Leader: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON The Reverend Dr. Caitlin T. Deyerle

The Challenge of Love
Focus: You have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faith.
–Matthew 23:23

HYMN - "What is This Place " (See Page 5) *Komt nu met zang*

(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** Apostles' Creed (Ecumenical)
The Reverend Nancy S. Hodgkins

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

RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

ANTHEM - "Dona nobis pacem" (from *Mass in C* – sung in Latin) *Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart*

Dona nobis pacem. (Grant us peace.)

***DOXOLOGY**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

***CHORAL RESPONSE** (all sing) *Russell G. Wichmann*

All things come of thee, O Lord, and of thine own have we given thee.

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 361** "How Firm a Foundation" *Foundation*

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***RESPONSE -** "Spirit of the Living God" *Living God*

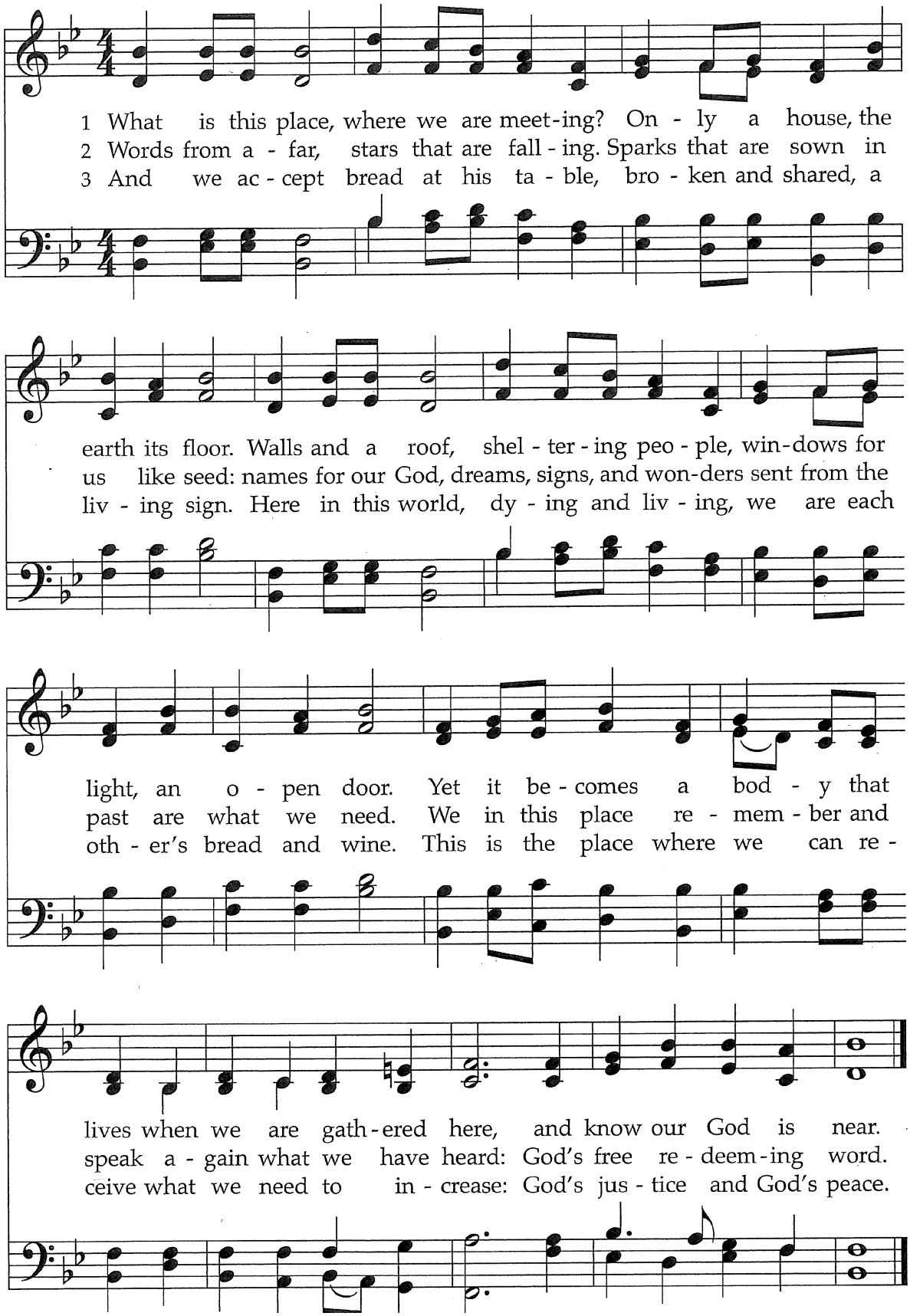
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me;
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

CONCLUDING VOLUNTARY – Trumpet March in D *Jean-Baptiste Lully*

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

*Please rise in body or spirit.

"What Is This Place"



Music Participants: Westminster Choir - Calvin Choir (grades 3-6; John Neely Director; directed this morning by Peter Moore, Music Resident; Brent Manley, Pianist; Kathleen Durig, Flutist) - Chamber Ensemble: Todd Bodey, Carla Drye, Seamus Dunphy, Brent Manley, Peter Moore, Sharon Norton, Kathy Raisch, Leah Scholl - The Reverend John Neely is Organist-Director.

Today's Music: This text of "What Is This Place" is by Huub Oosterhuis (b. 1933), a 20th-century Jesuit priest. The words beautifully capture the fundamental truth that "church" is not primarily the building but the people who come together in order to be nourished by God's Word and Table so that they may show forth Christ's redeeming presence in the world.

"What Is This Place," text by Huub Oosterhuis, trans. by David Moore, ca.1970; music harmonized by B. Huijbers,1968; text and harmonization copyright © 1984 by TEAM Publications, published by OCP Publications, 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.

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

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. 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.

The **Junior High and Senior High Youth Fellowships** will meet this evening from 6:00 to 8:15 p.m. for a Fall Festival at the home of the Agiro Family (417 Ridgewood Ave, Oakwood). We will leave immediately following Knox Choir and return to the parking lot at 8:15 p.m. Youth should dress for the weather and bring $10 if they have not paid for youth dinners in advance. Parents, please speak to Nancy if you have questions.

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.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

The flowers in the Chancel are given by Nicholas, Rebeccah, and Margot Raines in celebration of the 21st annual Dayton Literary Peace Prize being awarded this weekend, a prize dedicated to advancing peace through the power of the written word. "Blessed are the peacemakers."

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: Warren Assink and Paul Agiro
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 **Northminster Presbyterian Church in Springfield.**

The Sympathy of the Congregation is extended to the family and friends of **Donna Reece**, who passed away Saturday, October 31. A Service of Witness to the Resurrection will be held in he Sanctuary on Saturday, December 19, 2:00 p.m.

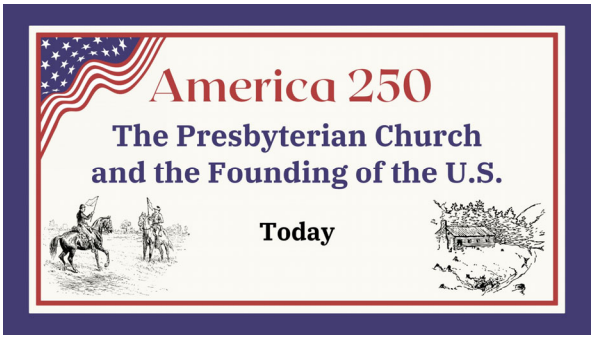
Westminster is a praying church and we would love to pray for you. You are welcome to **add your prayer to our Prayer Wall**, located in the Sanctuary near the front on the east wall. You will find paper and pencil to write your private prayer to God and place it between the bricks of the wall.
If you 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.



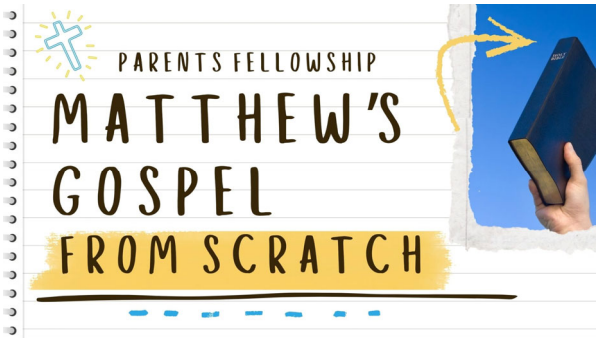
Join us to celebrate Westminster Presbyterian Church's 100th anniversary next Sunday, November 15, at 10:00 a.m. The event includes a festive worship service, historical artifacts, and a short film during coffee time in the renovated Fellowship Hall, focused on accessibility and inclusivity.

Centennial cookbooks ($15) and ornaments ($20) will be available for purchase, with proceeds supporting church renovations. These items serve as gifts and keepsakes reflecting Westminster's legacy.

In the evening, enjoy the Choral Vespers-Hymn Festival at 4:00 p.m., featuring the Westminster Choir, youth choirs, Westminster Ringers, and more. A joyful celebration of music and spirit awaits. A harvest dinner will follow for those with reservations.



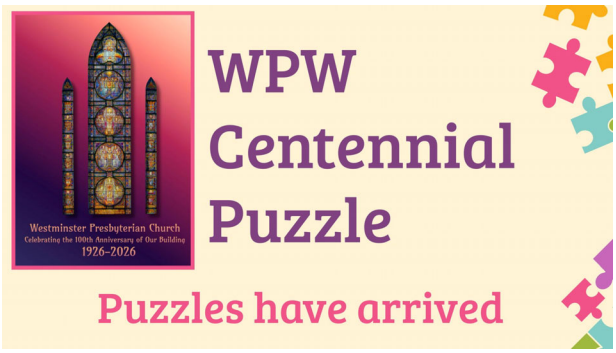
Adult Education
Today
11:20, West Parlor with John Weaver
As our nation observes its 250th anniversary this year we will take a look back at Presbyterians involved in its political founding, and then in the controversy over slavery. Many Americans in those years looked to Christianity as an ethical and spiritual guide to civic life and the making of moral decisions. With its tradition of respect for learning, American Presbyterians were well-prepared to contribute to those debates and arguments.



Parent Fellowship
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!



Cards for Veterans
The Children's Ministry will be making cards for veterans today, in honor of Veterans Day. If you know a veteran who would like to receive a card, please give us their name and address using the form below or by contacting Kylie Hettinger.



WPW Centennial Puzzles have arrived! Pick up your puzzles in the Fellowship Hall. They will be available for the next few Sunday's after worship. For questions, contact Julie Drumheller at jdrumheller@woh.rr.com.



Westminster's Medical Loan Closet offers good, used medical equipment for members in need of short-term use. The equipment includes, but is not limited to, wheelchairs, walkers, portable toilets, bath chairs, crutches, canes, and other related items. Any member may sign out equipment for home use, and when finished using the equipment, just return it to the loan closet. This service is free. Contact the Church Office for the key to the loan closet, which is located on the ground floor near the Choir Room.

Westminster
Presbyterian Church

MINISTERS
All members of the Church

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

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

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.

Church Calendar
November 8—November 14

Sunday, Nov. 8

8:30am-12:30pm	Nursery Birth-Age 3, Nursery
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, Fellowship Hall
11:20am-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
12:15pm-1:00pm	PYC Meeting, Library
5:00pm-6:00pm	Youth Advisors Meeting, Fellowship Hall
5:00pm-6:00pm	Knox Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room
6:00pm-8:30pm	Youth Fall Festival, Offsite

Monday, Nov. 9

9:00am-12:00pm	Sunshine Circle, West Parlor
6:00pm-9:00pm	DGMC Rehearsal, 100(Choir)
6:30pm-8:30pm	Bridge Interest Group, West Parlor
7:15pm-9:15pm	Bach Society Rehearsal, Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, Nov. 10

5:00pm-6:00pm	Personnel Committee Meeting, West Parlor
7:30pm-6:30pm	Westminster Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room

Wednesday, Nov. 11

9:00am-12:00pm	Staff Meeting, West Parlor
10:00am-12:30pm	ID Ministry,101,103, 105
6:30pm-8:00pm	Buildings & Grounds Meeting, Library

Thursday, Nov. 12

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

Saturday, Nov. 14

10:30am-12:00pm	Brass Rehearsal, Sanctuary
1:30pm-3:30pm	Westminster Choir & Brass Rehearsal, Sanctuary

* 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.

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”
Joyful, joyful, we adore thee,
God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flowers before thee,
Opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
Drive the gloom of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness,
Fill us with the light of day.

All thy works with joy surround thee,
Earth and heaven reflect thy rays,
Stars and angels sing around thee,
Center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
Flowery meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird and flowing fountain,
Call us to rejoice in thee.

Thou art giving and forgiving,
Ever blessing, ever blest,
Well-spring of the joy of living,
Ocean depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our Brother,
All who live in love are thine;
Teach us how to love each other,
Lift us to the joy divine.

Mortals, join the happy chorus
Which the morning stars began;
Love divine is reigning o'er us,
Joining all in heaven's plan.
Ever singing, march we onward,
Victors in the midst of strife,
Joyful music leads us sunward
In the triumph song of life.

“How Firm a Foundation” (361)
How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in God's excellent Word!
What more can be said than to you God hath said,
To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?
"Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed,
For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;
I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
Upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.
"When through the deep waters I call thee to go,
The rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;
For I will be near thee, thy troubles to bless,
And sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.
"When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,
My grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply;
The flame shall not hurt thee; I only design
Thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.
"The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose,
I will not, I will not desert to its foes;
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no, never, no, never forsake."