



Westminster Presbyterian Church

125 N. Wilkinson Street • Dayton, OH 45402

www.westminsterdayton.org

Service for the Lord's Day – September 21, 2025

"There is no general doctrine which is not capable of eating out our morality if unchecked by the deep-seated habit of direct fellow-feeling with individual fellow-men". – George Eliot, *Middlemarch*

"Why did Christ weep except to teach us to weep?"
– Augustine, *Tractates on the Gospel of John*

CARILLON PEAL

CALL TO WORSHIP IN MUSIC

Carillon: Marche

Organ: Andante cantabile (from Symphony No. 4)

Johannes de Gruyters

Charles-Marie Widor

(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 - "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 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 483 - "Sing Praise to God, Who Reigns Above"

Mit Freuden zart

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

God of compassion, in Jesus Christ you reveal the light of your glory, but we turn away, distracted by our own plans. We have turned from our neighbors, and refused to bear the burdens of others. We have ignored the pain of the world, and passed by the hungry, the poor, and the oppressed.

In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.



Lord, have mer-cy up-on us. Christ, have mer-cy up-on us. Lord, have mer-cy up-on us.
(Silence is kept for personal confession)

DECLARATION OF PARDON

Leader: Friends, hear the Good News: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, that we might be dead to sin, and alive to all that is good. 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.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON- Philippians 2:1-8

Pew Bible, p. 197 OT

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 - "The Heavens Are Telling" (From *The Creation*)

Joseph Haydn

The heavens are telling the glory of God,
The wonder of his work displays the firmament;

To day that is coming speaks it the day,
The night that is gone to following night.

The heavens are telling the glory of God,
The wonder of his work displays the firmament;

In all the lands resounds the word,
Never unperceived, ever understood.

The heavens are telling the glory of God,
The wonder of his work displays the firmament.

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON - John: Chapter 11 (selected verses)

Pew Bible, p. 104-106 NT

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

The Reverend Dr. Richard L. Baker

Being the Church: Being of One Mind with Jesus
Focus: "Be of the Same Mind as Christ Jesus" — Philippians 2:5

*HYMN 392 - "Take Thou Our Minds, Dear Lord"

Hall

(Children in Grade 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*

The Reverend Dr. Caitlin T. Deyerle

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 - "When Storms Arise"

Adolphus Hailstork

When storms arise
And dark'ning skies
About me threat'ning lower,
To thee, O Lord, I raise my eyes,
To thee my tortured spirit flies
For solace in that hour.

The mighty arm
Will let no harm
Come near me nor befall me;
Thy voice shall quiet my alarm,
When life's great battle waxeth warm
No foeman shall appall me.

Upon thy breast
Secure I rest,
From sorrow and vexation;

No more by sinful cares oppressed,
But in thy presence ever blest,
O God, O Lord God, of my salvation.
-Paul Laurence Dunbar

***Doxology**

Old Hundredth

*Prayer of Dedication

***Response** (all sing) - "We Give Thee but Thine Own"

Schumann

**We give thee but thine own,
Whate'er the gift may be;
All that we have is thine alone,
A trust, O Lord, from 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** (see opposite page)- "O God Beyond All Praising"

Thaxted

***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 - "Now Thank We All Our God" (Hymn 555)

Johann Sebastian Bach, arr. Virgil Fox

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

*Please rise in body or spirit.

O God Beyond All Praising



1. O God be-yond all prais-ing, we wor-ship you to-day

2. Then hear, O gra-cious Sav-ior, ac-cept the love we bring,



and sing the love a-maz-ing that songs can-not re-pay;

that we who know your fa-vor may serve you as our King;



for we can on-ly won-der at ev-ery gift you send,

and wheth-er our to-mor-rows be filled with good or ill,



at— bless-ings with-out num-ber and mer-cies with-out end.

we'll tri-umph through our sor-rows and rise to bless you still,



We lift our hearts be-fore you and wait up-on your word;

to mar-vel at your beau-ty, and glo-ry in your ways,



we hon-or and a-dore you, our great and might-y Lord.

and make a joy-ful du-ty our sac-ri-fice of praise!

Music Participants: Westminster Choir - Kathy Raisch, Soprano - Tom Lehmann, Tenor - Nick Raines, Baritone - The Reverend John Neely is Organist-Director.

Today's Music: Paul Laurence Dunbar, author of the text to "When Storms Arise," was born June 17, 1872 in Dayton. He was the first African American poet to garner national critical acclaim. He penned a large body of dialect poems, standard English poems, essays, novels, and short stories, before he died at age 33. His work often addressed the difficulties encountered by members of his race and the efforts of African Americans to achieve equality in America. He was praised both by the prominent literary critics of his time and by his literary contemporaries.

The words for "O God Beyond All Praising" were written in 1982 by Michael Perry (1942-1996). The tune *Thaxted* comes from the middle section of the "Jupiter" movement in Gustav Holst's orchestral suite, *The Planets*. This tune is normally associated in the U.K. with the more patriotic text "I Vow to Thee My Country." Perry composed the text, he said, "in response to a call for alternative words that would be more appropriate for Christian worship."

"O God Beyond All Praising," music by Gustav Holst, words by Michael Perry, words © 1982 by Hope Publishing Company are reprinted under CCLI License #2287801.

Choir schedules, 2025-2026, for children, youth, and adults may be found on the church website.

Carillon Bells, a handbell choir for beginning ringers, has resumed rehearsals, Thursdays, 6:00-7:15 p.m. in Room 301. Westminster Choir member Aaron Meece is director. New ringers will be heartily welcomed. Please direct your questions to John Neely (937-223-7285 or john@westminsterdayton.org).

Are you interested in becoming a part of the **Westminster Choir** (college age and up)? Rehearsals are on Thursday evenings at 7:30 p.m. Now is the time to speak with John Neely (john@westminsterdayton.org). Join us for great music making and fellowship.

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 11:30 a.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

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

The flowers in the Narthex are given by the Westminster Staff in memory of Marvin Fleming, whose Memorial Service was held here yesterday.

The flowers in the Chancel are given in memory of Jane Collins by Sharon Norton.

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, Scott Spangler

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 **First Presbyterian Church, Eaton**.

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.

Hearing Assistance has moved to the Church Office. If you would like to borrow a hearing aid for the service, visit the Church Office and a volunteer can help you.

Members currently known to be in the hospital: Elizabeth Weibel (Miami Valley Hospital Main Campus),

Members recently released from the hospital: Marilyn Spalding (Kettering Main Campus)

A Service of Witness to the Resurrection will be held in the Sanctuary for **Wanda Stofer** on Thursday, October 2, at 2:00 p.m. A reception will follow in Fellowship Hall.



Join us for Faith & Civic life next Sunday. Guest Speaker Michael Wear will lead us in Worship and teach an Adult Education Class following. Michael, Author of *The Spirit of Our Politics* and President and CEO of the Center for Christianity and Public Life, argues for a new paradigm of political involvement rooted in the teachings of Jesus and drawing insights from Dallas Willard's approach to spiritual formation.

Today in the West Parlor

Join us for a special Faith & Civic Life "Kick Off" Adult Education Class, led by Elder JD Whitlock. We'll review our "Faith and Civic Life" series, which started with Jim Wallis back in 2018. We will discuss the origin and vision for the series, look back to review highlights from our previous speakers, and look forward to Michael Wear next week.

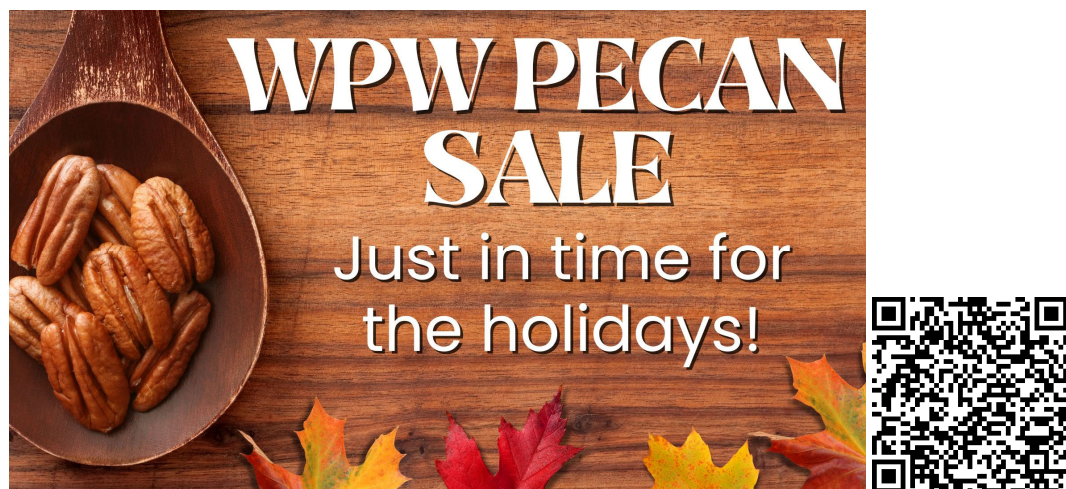


Parents Fellowship is back starting September 7th! Whether you have been a part of the OG Parents Fellowship Class or are new and interested in connecting with other people in a similar stage of life please join us for informal discussion and fellowship led by Pastor Caitlin. We meet in the Mission Room adjacent to the Fellowship Hall from 11:30-12:15 while our children attend choir.



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.*



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.

ANNUAL MEMORIAL ORGAN RECITAL

Joshua Stafford returns to Westminster!

Sunday, October 5, 4:00 p.m.



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).

Joshua Stafford is Director of Sacred Music at Chautauqua Institution, New York, and Minister of Music at First Congregational Church, Columbus. The meticulous technique, innate and highly mature musicality, and constant musical engagement exhibited by Joshua Stafford compelled the jury of the 2016 Longwood Gardens International Organ Competition to unanimously name him, out of 12 stellar competitors, the Pierre S. du Pont First Prize Winner of this illustrious event.

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

2025 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.



Church Calendar Sept. 21 – Sept. 27

Sunday, Sept. 21

8:30am-12:30pm Nursery Birth-Age 5, 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 Calvin Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room
11:30am-12:15pm Cherub Choir Rehearsal, Theater
11:30am-12:15pm Genesis Singers Rehearsal, 104
12:30pm-2:30pm Westminster 101, Library
6:00pm-6:00pm Youth Advisors Meeting, 102
5:00pm-6:00pm Knox Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room
6:00pm-8:00pm Youth Dinner & Fellowship (Grades 7-12), Fellowship Hall

Monday, Sept. 22

6:30pm-8:30pm Bridge Interest Group, West Parlor
6:30pm-8:30pm Young Adult Bible Study, Offsite
7:00pm-9:00pm DGMC Rehearsal, Choir Room
7:15pm-9:15pm Bach Society Rehearsal, Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, Sept. 23

5:30pm-6:30pm Hospitality Committee, Library

Wednesday, Sept. 24

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
 CTF Steering Committee, West Parlor

3:00pm-5:00pm

Thursday, Sept. 25

6:00pm-7:15pm

Carillon Bells Rehearsal, 301
 Stewardship & Finance Committee, Library

6:00pm-7:00pm

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.



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 with the camera of any smart device. You can also text "give" to 937-468-4003.

“Sing Praise to God, Who Reigns Above” (483)

Sing praise to God who reigns above,
The God of all creation,
The God of power, the God of love,
The God of our salvation.
With healing balm my soul is filled,
And every faithless murmur stilled:
To God all praise and glory!

What God’s almighty power hath made,
God’s gracious mercy keepeth;
By morning glow or evening shade
God’s watchful eye ne’er sleepeth;
Within the kingdom of God’s might,
Lo! All is just and all is right:
To God all praise and glory!

The Lord is never far away,
But through all grief distressing,
An ever present help and stay,
Our peace, and joy, and blessing;
As with a mother’s tender hand,
God gently leads the chosen band:
To God all praise and glory!
Thus all my toilsome way along,
I sing aloud thy praises
That all may hear the grateful song
My voice unwearied raises.
Be joyful in the Lord, my heart,
Both soul and body take your part:
To God all praise and glory!

“Take Thou Our Minds, Dear Lord” (392)

Take thou our minds, dear Lord, we humbly pray;
Give us the mind of Christ each passing day;
Teach us to know the truth that sets us free;
Grant us in all our thoughts to honor thee.

Take thou our hearts, O Christ, they are thine own;
Come thou within our souls and claim thy throne;
Help us to shed abroad thy deathless love;
Use us to make the earth like heaven above.

Take thou our wills, Most High! Hold thou full sway;
Have in our inmost souls thy perfect way;
Guard thou each sacred hour from selfish ease;
Guide thou our ordered lives as thou dost please.

Take thou ourselves, O Lord, heart, mind, and will;
Through our surrendered souls thy plans fulfill.
We yield ourselves to thee—time, talents, all;
We hear, and henceforth heed, thy sovereign call.

O God beyond all praising, we worship you today
And sing the love amazing that songs cannot repay;
For we can only wonder at every gift you send,
At blessings without number and mercies without end:
We lift our hearts before you and wait upon your Word,
We honor and adore you, our great and mighty Lord.
Then hear, O gracious Savior, accept the love we bring,
That we who know your favor may serve you as our
King;
And whether our tomorrows be filled with good or ill,
We’ll triumph through our sorrows and rise to bless you
still:
To marvel at your beauty and glory in your ways,
And make a joyful duty our sacrifice of praise.