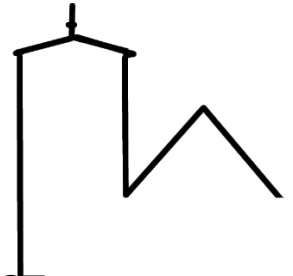


WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
1420 West Moss Avenue  
Peoria, Illinois 61606



THE THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

4 September 2022

Ten O'clock

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**Direct and help us, O Lord, in all our deeds, that in all our works begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name, and finally, by your mercy, obtain everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.**

*from the Book of Common Worship, PC(USA).*

GATHERING IN THE PRESENCE OF THE RISEN CHRIST

PREPARATION

**In praise of the Eternal Jesus**  
**Matthew Winkler, Saxophone**

*Olivier Messiaen*

WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH FAMILY

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

**Rev. Clark-Jones**

**One:** *We come to worship our God, to shout with joy to the God of all people.*

**All:** **We come to the Creator of all things, to be bathed in the waters of life.**

**One:** *We come to the Feast of God's faithful, to be fed by the One who never forsakes us.*

**All:** **We come to worship our God, to sing aloud to the One who saves us.**

\*THE HYMN 461

**God Is Here!**

*Abbot's Leigh*

**1. God is here! As we your people**  
**Meet to offer praise and prayer.**  
**May we find in fuller measure**  
**What it is in Christ we share.**  
**Here, as in the world around us,**  
**All our varied skills and arts**  
**Wait the coming of the Spirit**  
**Into open minds and hearts.**

**2. Here are symbols to remind us**  
**Of the lifelong need of grace,**  
**Here are table, font, and pulpit;**  
**Here the cross has central place**  
**Here in honesty of preaching,**  
**Here in silence, as in speech,**  
**Here in newness and renewal,**  
**God the Spirit comes to each;**

3. Here our children find a welcome  
In the Shepherd's flock and fold,  
Here, as bread and wine are taken,  
Christ sustains us as of old  
Here the servants of the Servant  
Seek in worship to explore  
What it means to daily living  
To believe and to adore.

4. Lord of all, of church and kingdom,  
In an age of change and doubt  
Keep us faithful to the gospel,  
Help us work your purpose out.  
Here in this day's dedication  
All we have to give, receive:  
We who cannot live without you,  
We adore you! We believe!

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1979  
Music: Cyril Vincent Taylor, 1941

### \*CALL TO CONFESSION

### \*PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(praying together)*

GOD OF WHOLENESS, we have become fragmented. We build up walls and hide ourselves from others. The pain of others is too much to deal with. The struggles of the world are too much to bear. We'd much rather just focus on our own lives. But God, You have called us to be Your people, a people of the Covenant in which You are our God, not only my God. You have called us to be the people of the New Commandment, which is to love one another. We cannot go it alone. We cannot put blinders on and build up our dividers. Guide our hands to reach out across walls, our eyes to see beyond ourselves, so that we might participate in the healing of the world.

### TIME OF SILENCE AND PERSONAL CONFESSION

#### \*KYRIE

*(Sung by the Choir)*

*George Oldroyd in D*

#### \*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

#### \*GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

*(Sung by the Choir)*

*George Oldroyd in D*

## HEARING THE WORD

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

#### **OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:** Jeremiah 18:1-11

The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord: <sup>2</sup>“Come, go down to the potter's house, and there I will let you hear my words.” <sup>3</sup>So I went down to the potter's house, and there he was working at his wheel. <sup>4</sup>The vessel he was making of clay was spoiled in the potter's hand, and he reworked it into another vessel, as seemed good to him.

<sup>5</sup> Then the word of the Lord came to me: <sup>6</sup> Can I not do with you, O house of Israel, just as this potter has done? says the Lord. Just like the clay in the potter's hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel. <sup>7</sup> At one moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will pluck up and break down and destroy it, <sup>8</sup> but if that nation, concerning which I have spoken, turns from its evil, I will change my mind about the disaster that I intended to bring on it. <sup>9</sup> And at another moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will build and plant it, <sup>10</sup> but if it does evil in my sight, not listening to my voice, then I will change my mind about the good that I had intended to do to it. <sup>11</sup> Now, therefore, say to the people of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem: Thus says the Lord: Look, I am a potter shaping evil against you and devising a plan against you. Turn now, all of you, from your evil way, and amend your ways and your doings.

*The Word of the Lord ...* Thanks be to God.

**\*THE PSALTER**  
(Hymnal 248)

Psalm 139

*Sursum Corda*

1. You are before me, Lord, you are behind  
And over me you have spread out your hand  
Such knowledge is too wonderful for me.  
Too high to grasp, too great to understand.
2. Then, from your Spirit, where Lord should I go  
And from your presence where, Lord, shall I fly?  
If I ascend to heaven you are there,  
And still are with me if in hell I lie.
3. If I should take my flight into the dawn,  
If I should dwell on ocean's farthest shore,  
Your mighty hand will rest upon me still,  
And your right hand will guard me evermore.
4. If I should say, "Let darkness cover me,  
And I shall hide within the veil of night,"  
Surely the darkness is not dark to you:  
The night is as the day, the darkness, light.
5. Search me, O God, search me and know my heart,  
Try me, O God my mind and spirit try:  
Keep me from any path that gives you pain,  
And lead me in the everlasting way.

**THE EPISTLE:** Philemon 1-21

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,  
To our beloved coworker Philemon, <sup>2</sup> to our sister Apphia, to our fellow soldier  
Archippus, and to the church in your house:

<sup>3</sup> Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

<sup>4</sup> I thank my God always when I mention you in my prayers, <sup>5</sup> because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. <sup>6</sup> I pray that the partnership of your faith may become effective as you comprehend all the good that we share in Christ. <sup>7</sup> I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother.

<sup>8</sup> For this reason, though I am more than bold enough in Christ to command you to do the right thing, <sup>9</sup> yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love – and I, Paul, do this as an old man and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. <sup>10</sup> I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. <sup>11</sup> Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful to you and to me. <sup>12</sup> I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. <sup>13</sup> I wanted to keep him with me so that he might minister to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel, <sup>14</sup> but I preferred to do nothing without your consent in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. <sup>15</sup> Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back for the long term, <sup>16</sup> no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother – especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

<sup>17</sup> So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. <sup>18</sup> If he has wronged you in any way or owes you anything, charge that to me. <sup>19</sup> I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. <sup>20</sup> Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. <sup>21</sup> Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I ask.

### **GOSPEL:** Luke 14:25-33

Now large crowds were traveling with him, and he turned and said to them, <sup>26</sup> “Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. <sup>27</sup> Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. <sup>28</sup> For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? <sup>29</sup> Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, <sup>30</sup> saying, ‘This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.’ <sup>31</sup> Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? <sup>32</sup> If he cannot, then while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. <sup>33</sup> So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.

*The Word of the Lord ...*

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Rev. Denise Clark-Jones

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

\*HYMN 515

Now to Your Table Spread

*Love Unknown*

1. Now to your tables spread

We come each one in faith

That you alone provide

the words of life and death.

In wine and bread,

In promised food,

We find your loving heart, O God.

2. Hands of the world stretched out

Your mystery to touch

In longing to believe

a truth beyond our reach.

To sing in joy,

To cry in grief,

To know your meaning for our life.

3. Here is our commonwealth

In sharing what is good.

As though all humankind

Around one table stood,

This bread to break,

This wine to taste,

One people in the name of Christ.

Text: Shirley Erena Murray, 1987

Music: John Ireland, 1918

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*affirming together*)

*The Apostles' Creed*

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.

\*PASSING OF THE PEACE

*The peace of Christ be with you.*

And also with you

THE GIFT OF MUSIC

The secret of Christ  
The Choir

*Richard Shephard*

For a long time, I have held my peace, but now will I speak. I will lead the blind in a way they know not, in paths that they have not known, I will guide them. I will turn their darkness into light, and I will not forsake them. And he showed me a pure river of the water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God; and on either side of the river was there

a tree of life, and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. Help us Lord, to persevere in prayer, with minds awake and thankful hearts, that we may share the secret of Christ with those we meet on our earthly pilgrimage. Following in the steps of Jesus, our Master and our friend. Amen. Amen.

## SEALING THE WORD

*At the time of the Distribution of the EUCHARIST, worshipers are encouraged to use the bread and wine given out as you entered church this morning. Those worshiping at home via the world wide web may use whatever bread and wine are at hand as the food of the Supper. Jesus himself used the left over bread and wine from the Passover Feast to institute the first Eucharist. So we, too, may use those things closest at hand for this celebration. Christians of any age or church affiliation are welcome at Christ's table, where Christ himself is the host.*

### INVITATION

**One:** *The Lord be with you.*

**All:** **And also with you.**

**One:** *Lift up your hearts.*

**All:** **We lift them to the Lord.**

**One:** *Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*

**All:** **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

### COMMUNION PRAYER

### SANCTUS

*(Sung by the Choir)*

*George Oldroyd in D*

### COMMUNION PRAYER

### MEMORIAL ACCLAMATIONS



Dy-ing you de - stroyed our— death, Ris-ing you re - stored our life,  
Lord Je - sus come a - gain— in— glo - ry!

### INTERCESSIONS AND SUPPLICATIONS

*( ... In your mercy ... Lord hear our prayer)*

### CONSECRATION

## THE LORD'S PRAYER *[we pray together]*

**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.**

## DISTRIBUTION OF ELEMENTS

*These are holy things to keep us holy. Gifts of God for the people of God ...*  
**Let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

## COMMUNION MUSIC

### **Ave Verum**

*Edward Elgar*

Ave, ave verum corpus, natum Ex Maria Virgene, Vere passum, immolatum. In cruce pro homine. Cuius latus perforatum, Vero fluxit sanguine, Esto nobis praegustatum, Mortis in examine. O Clemens, O pie, O dulcis Jesu, Fili Mariae.

*Jesus, Word of God incarnate, of the Virgin Mary born. On the cross thy sacred body for us with nails was torn. Cleanse us by the blood and water streaming from thy pierced side. Feed us with thy body broken, now and in death's agony. O merciful, O sweetest, O blessed Son of Mary.*

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYERS

## BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

### **\*HYMN 509**

### **For the Bread Which You Have Broken**

*Cross of Jesus*

**1. For the bread which you have broken  
For the wine which you have poured,  
For the words which you have spoken  
Now we give you thanks, O Lord.**

**2. By this promise that you love us,  
By your gift of peace restored,  
By your call to heaven above us,  
Hallow all our lives O Lord.**

**3. With the saints who now adore you,  
Seated at the heavenly board,  
May the church still waiting for you  
Keep love's tie unbroken, Lord.**

**4. In your service, Lord, defend us,  
In our hearts keep watch and ward,  
In the world to which you send us  
Let your Kingdom come, O Lord.**

**Text: Louis FitzGerald Benson, 1926  
Music: Sir John Stainer, 1887**

### **\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

### **\*CHORAL BENEDICTION**

**May Christ Support Us**  
*(text from the Roman Missal)*

*Norman Dello Joio*

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## LEADING IN WORSHIP TODAY

**The Rev. Denise M. Clark-Jones, Pastor**  
**Thomas Clark-Jones, Organist-Choirmaster**  
**The Westminster Choir**  
**Laurel Cramer, Soprano Soloist**  
**Matthew Winkler, Saxophone**  
**Larry Hicks, Video Producer**

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**WELCOME TO WESTMINSTER CHURCH OF PEORIA** and this celebration of the Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost. We greet you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ and pray this service will be a blessing to all who participate. We are also live-streamed on the world wide web at [www.westminsterpeoria.org](http://www.westminsterpeoria.org). The webcast is covered by permissions granted by One License A 726060 for the use of musical portions of the service as well as to broadcast all music in the service with permission of the various publishers.

The Westminster Choir is supported in part by a grant from the Gretchen R. Iben Fund for Music and the Arts.

**TODAY** we welcome the Choir back to leading our services. Actually, today's group is the choir from last season, meeting early this morning to prepare for this service. Thursday evening we have our first rehearsal of the season and will be welcoming new members to join with us. Please, if you wish to sing, speak to Tom Clark-Jones so music can be prepared for your arrival. Rehearsals begin at 7:30 p.m. and dismiss at 9:15. We look forward to a somewhat larger choir this season ... or at least we hope so. Come join us!

*We do not presume to come to this your table, O merciful Lord,  
trusting in our own righteousness,  
but in your abundant and great mercies.  
We are not worthy so much as to gather up  
the crumbs under your table;  
but you are the same Lord  
whose character is always to have mercy.  
Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord,  
so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ,  
and to drink his blood,  
that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body,  
and our souls washed through his most precious blood,  
and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.*

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OPEN HANDS, OPEN HEARTS, OPEN MINDS





SUNDAY, 4 SEPTEMBER 2022

THE THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

WESTMINSTER CHURCH

A Presbyterian Church, USA  
in the Presbytery of the Great Rivers

1420 West Moss Avenue + Peoria Illinois 61606

*[www.westminsterpeoria.org](http://www.westminsterpeoria.org)*