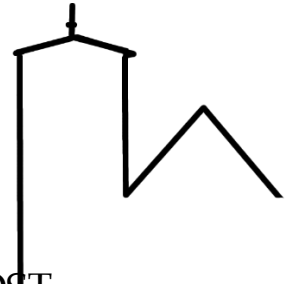


WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
1420 West Moss Avenue  
Peoria, Illinois 61606



THE FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

11 September 2022

Ten O'clock

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**ALMIGHTY GOD, undaunted you seek the lost. Exultant you bring home the found. Touch our hearts with grateful wonder at the tenderness of your forbearing love. Grant us delight in the mercy that has found us, and bring all to rejoice at the feast of forgiveness. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever. Amen**

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

GATHERING IN THE PRESENCE OF THE RISEN CHRIST

THE PREPARATION

Adagio in E Major

Frank Bridge

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

**One:** *We come into this space with our voice.*

**All:** **We come to sing praise to our God!**

**One:** *We come into this space with our presence.*

**All:** **We come to be united in fellowship with God!**

**One:** *We come into this space with our breath*

**All:** **We come to give our being, our all to God!**

**One:** *For all we have and all we are; comes from our Creator.*

**All:** **Who gives us new life in Jesus Christ our Lord! Come  
Let us celebrate as the new creation in Christ.**

\*THE HYMN 262

God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand

National Hymn

1. God of the ages, whose Almighty hand,  
Leads forth in beauty all the starry band  
Of shining worlds in splendor through the skies  
Our grateful songs before thy throne arise.

3. From war's alarms, from deadly pestilence  
Be thy strong arm our ever sure defense  
Thy true religion in our hearts increase  
Thy bounteous goodness nourish us in peace..

2. Thy love divine, hath led us in our past  
In this free land by thee our lot is cast,  
Be thou our ruler, guardian, guide and stay  
Thy word our law, thy paths our chosen way

4. Refresh thy people on their toilsome way.  
Lead us from night to never ending day;  
Fill all our lives with love and grace divine.  
And glory, laud and praise be ever thine.

Text: Daniel Crane Roberts, 1876  
-Music: George William Warren, 1892

**\*CALL TO CONFESSION**

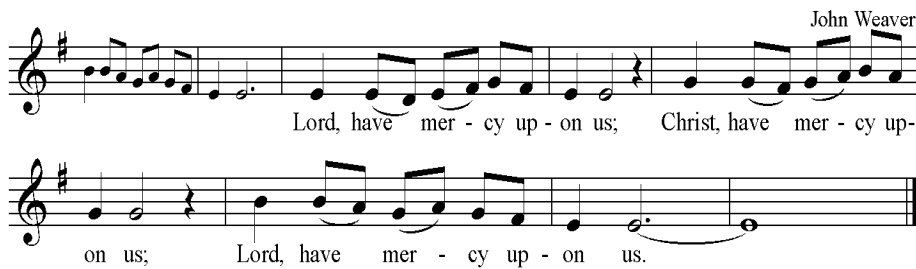
**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (*praying together*)

**SOVEREIGN GOD, we confess that we have not turned away from sin. You search for us, like lost sheep, but we pretend not to hear your voice. We make idols out of our desires, we seek security instead of peace. Our justice turns out to be prejudice, and we rationalize our hate with our fears. We forget the lost, and our quest for wholeness ends, when our kin and clan are safe. We fail to acknowledge that all people are your children. You have mercy on us, then we stop short the intent of your grace, at the warmth of our own hearts, and do not search until all the lost are found. Forgive us God of grace. Help us to repent and return to you..**

**\*TIME FOR SILENCE AND PERSONAL CONFESSION**

**\*KYRIE**

John Weaver

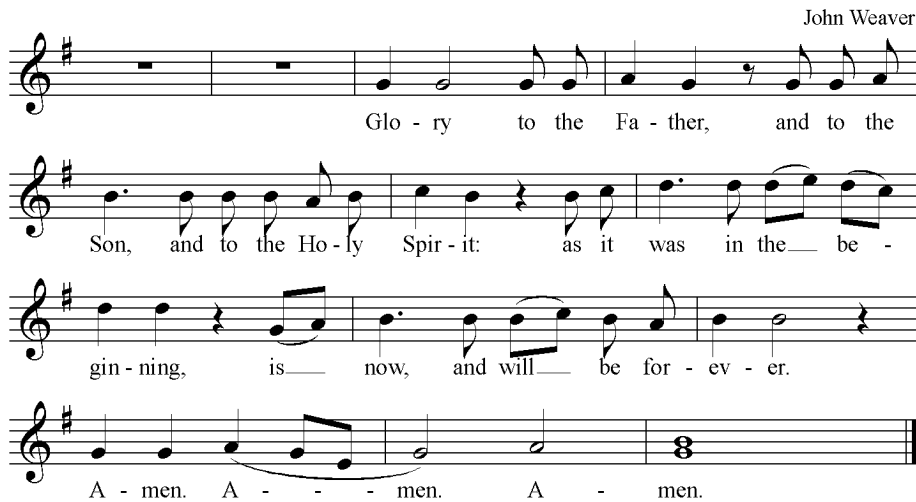


Lord, have mer - cy up - on us; Christ, have mer - cy up - on us;  
 on us; Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

**\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**\*GLORIA PATRI**

John Weaver



Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the  
 Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it: as it was in the be -  
 gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er.  
 A - men. A - - - men. A - men.

**HEARING THE WORD**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:** Jeremiah 4:11-12; 22-28

**At that time it will be said to this people and to Jerusalem: A hot wind comes from me out of the bare heights in the desert toward my poor people, not to winnow or**

cleanse— a wind too strong for that. Now it is I who speak in judgment against them.

“For my people are foolish,  
they do not know me;  
they are stupid children,  
they have no understanding.  
They are skilled in doing evil,  
but do not know how to do good.”  
I looked on the earth, and lo, it was waste and void;  
and to the heavens, and they had no light.  
I looked on the mountains, and lo, they were quaking,  
and all the hills moved to and fro.  
I looked, and lo, there was no one at all,  
and all the birds of the air had fled.  
I looked, and lo, the fruitful land was a desert,  
and all its cities were laid in ruins  
before the LORD, before his fierce anger.  
For thus says the LORD: The whole land shall be a desolation;  
yet I will not make a full end.  
Because of this the earth shall mourn,  
and the heavens above grow black;  
for I have spoken, I have purposed;  
I have not relented nor will I turn back.

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

**\*THE PSALTER**

Psalm 14

*Tallis' Canon*

1. The God who sits enthroned on high The foolish in their heart deny; Not one does good; corrupt in thought, Unrighteous works their hands have wrought	2 From heaven the Lord with searching eye Looked down the sons of men to try, To see if any understood And sought for God, the only good.
3. From righteousness they all depart, Corrupt are all, and vile in heart; Yea, every man has evil done; Not one does good, not even one.	4. Thy lowly servant they despise, Because he on the Lord relies; But they shall tremble yet in fear, For lo, the righteous God is near.

Text: The Psalter, 1912  
Music: Thomas Tallis, 1561

**EPISTLE:** I Timothy 1:12-17

I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he considered me faithful and appointed me to his service,<sup>13</sup> even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy

because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief,<sup>14</sup> and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me<sup>[a]</sup> with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.<sup>15</sup> The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance: that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners – of whom I am the foremost.<sup>16</sup> But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience as an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life.<sup>17</sup> To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever Amen.

**GOSPEL:** Luke 15:1-10

Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him.<sup>2</sup> And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

<sup>3</sup> So he told them this parable: <sup>4</sup> “Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? <sup>5</sup> And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. <sup>6</sup> And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my lost sheep.’ <sup>7</sup> Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

<sup>8</sup> “Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? <sup>9</sup> And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’ <sup>10</sup> Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

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

SERMON

Rev. Denise Clark-Jones

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

\*HYMN 396

O for a Closer Walk with God

*Caithness*

O for a closer walk with God  
A calm and heavenly frame,  
A light to shine upon the road  
That leads me to the Lamb!

The dearest idol I have known,  
What e'er that idol be,  
Help me to tear it from thy throne  
And worship only thee.

Return, O holy Dove, return  
Sweet messenger of rest!  
I hate the sins that made thee mourn  
And drove thee from my breast.

So shall my walk be close with God  
Calm and serene my frame:  
So purer light shall mark the road  
That leads me to the Lamb.

Text: William Cowper, 1772  
Music: Scottish Psalter, 1635

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*affirming together*)

from Romans 8

**We believe there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus; for we know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to God's purpose. We are convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord**

**\*PASSING OF THE PEACE**

*The peace of Christ be with you. And also with you.*

**THE GIFT OF MUSIC**

**The King of Love My Shepherd Is  
The Westminster Choir**

*Edward C. Bairstow*

The King of Love my Shepherd is, whose goodness faileth never: I nothing lack if I am his, and he is mine forever. Where streams of living water flow, my ransomed soul he leadeth, And where the verdant pastures grow, with food celestial feedeth. Perverse and foolish oft I strayed; but yet in love he sought me, and on his shoulder gently laid, and home rejoicing brought me. In death's dark vale I fear no ill with thee dear Lord beside me; thy rod and staff my comfort still, thy cross before the guide me. Thou spreadst a table in my sight; thy unction grace bestoweth; and O what transport of delight from thy pure chalice floweth. And so through all the length of days thy goodness faileth never.. Good Shepherd may I sing thy praise within thy house forever.

**SEALING THE WORD**

**INTERCESSIONS AND SUPPLICATIONS**

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

**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.**

**BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD**

1. O beautiful for spacious skies  
For amber waves of grain,  
For purple mountain majesty  
Above the fruited plain.  
America! America!  
God shed his grace on thee.  
And crown thy good with brotherhood  
From sea to shining sea.

3. O beautiful for heroes proved  
In liberating strife,  
Who more than self their country loved  
And mercy more than life!  
America! America!  
May God thy gold refine.  
Till all success be nobleness  
And every gain divine.

2. O beautiful for pilgrim feet,  
Whose stern, impassioned stress  
A thoroughfare for freedom beat  
Across the wilderness:  
America! America!  
God mend thy every flaw.  
Confirm thy soul in self control,  
Thy liberty in law.

4. O beautiful for patriot dream  
That sees beyond the years,  
Thine alabaster cities gleam,  
Undimmed by human tears.  
America! America!  
God shed his grace on thee  
And crown thy good with brotherhood  
From sea to shining sea.

Text: Katherine Lee Bates, 1893  
Music: Samuel Augustus Ward, 1882

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL BENEDICTION

The Lord Be With Us

Belmont

\*POSTLUDE

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## LEADING IN WORSHIP TODAY

The Rev. Denise M. Clark-Jones, *Pastor*  
Thomas Clark-Jones, *Organist-Choirmaster*  
Larry Hicks, *Video Producer*

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OPEN HANDS, OPEN HEARTS, OPEN MINDS

**WELCOME TO WESTMINSTER CHURCH OF PEORIA** and this celebration of the Fourteenth 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** resumed rehearsals last Thursday evening, September 8 at 7:30 p.m. The choir is open to all who wish to sing. If you would like to join with us, please see Tom Clark-Jones in the next week or two so music can be set aside for your use in the fall term. It would be nice to see a few more people in the loft each week. If you love singing, you will have a great time in the Westminster Choir.

THE WESTMINSTER CHOIR is funded, in part, by a generous grant from the Gretchen R. Iben Trust for the Arts.

**TWENTY ONE YEARS AGO TODAY**, on September 11, 2001, our country was attacked without provocation by airliners commandeered from US airlines and flown into the World Trade Center towers in lower Manhattan causing them to collapse with a death toll of some five thousand. Another such plane was crashed into the Pentagon building in Washington and a group of patriots stopped the final plane from reaching Washington, and its target, the White House by crashing it into a field in western Pennsylvania. This has been one of the great defining moments in our lifetimes. So this morning we mark this day of tragedy and heroism with a quiet psalm setting of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm, sung by the choir and the patriotic hymns "God of the Ages" and "O Beautiful, for Spacious Skies". With these simple musical gestures we mark this solemn day in our country's history and pray to never see such a tragedy again. And as the third verse of 'America the Beautiful' says, "God mend thine every flaw." We have found some flaws in this great nation in the past few years. May God help us face them, and give us strength to fulfill the great dreams and aspirations on our Founding Fathers, and where necessary, to correct our flaws to continue to be the great hope of the world.

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Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time  
with one accord to make our common supplication to you;  
and you have promised through your well-beloved Son  
that when two or three are gathered together in his Name  
you will be in the midst of them:  
Fulfill now, O Lord,  
our desires and petitions as may be best for us;  
granting us in this world knowledge of your truth,  
and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

*... A Prayer of St Chrysostom*

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SUNDAY, 11 SEPTEMBER 2022

THE FOURTEENTH 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)*