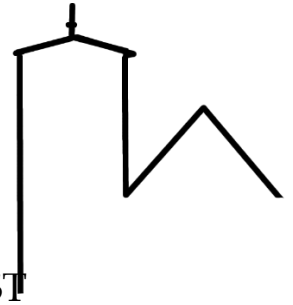


WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
1420 West Moss Avenue  
Peoria, Illinois 61606



THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

25 September 2022

Ten O'clock

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**O GOD, by whom the meek are guided in judgment and light rises in darkness for the godly: Grant us, in all our doubts and uncertainties, the grace to ask what you would have us do; that the Spirit of wisdom may save us from all false choices, and that in your light we may see light, and in your straight path may not stumble; 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

**THE PREPARATION**

**Fugue in g minor (The Little)**

*Johann Sebastian Bach*

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

**Rev. Clark-Jones**

**One:** *We come abounding in thanksgiving:*

**All:** **For in Christ we find in all fullness the holiness, the justice the hope of God.**

**One:** *We come abounding in thanksgiving:*

**All:** **To feel God's life in us flowing through our roots in Christ and establishing our faith.**

**One:** *We come abounding in thanksgiving:*

**All:** **To celebrate the mystery of God-with-us: Christ, who lives fully in us and in whom we fully live.**

**\*THE HYMN IN PROCESSION 292**

*Forest Green*

**All Beautiful the March of Days**

**1. All beautiful the march of days  
As seasons come and go:  
The hand that shaped the rose hath wrought  
The crystal of the snow;  
Hath sent the hoary frost of heaven,  
The flowing waters sealed,  
And laid a silent loveliness  
On hill and wood and field.**

**2. O'er white expanses sparkling pure  
The radiant morns unfold;  
The solemn splendors of the night  
Burn brighter through the cold;  
Life mounts in every throbbing vein,  
Love deepens round the hearth,  
And clearer sounds the angel hymn,  
"Good will to all on earth."**

3. O Thou, from whose unfathomed law  
 The year in beauty flows,  
 Thyself the vision passing by  
 In crystal and in rose.  
 Day unto day doth utter speech,  
 And night to night proclaim,  
 In ever-changing words of light,  
 The wonder of Thy name.

Text: Frances Whitmarsh Wile, 1911

Music: English folk melody arr. R. Vaughan Williams, 1906

**\*CALL TO CONFESSION**

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

MERCIFUL GOD, we confess that we have not followed Your way. We protect what is dear to us and neglect what is dear to you. We preserve our own way of life and profit at the expense of others. Forgive us, God of grace. Show us the error of our ways, and guide us back to Your path of righteousness, justice, and peace.

**\*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 32:1-3a; 6-15

The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord in the tenth year of King Zedekiah of Judah, which was the eighteenth year of Nebuchadrezzar. <sup>2</sup> At that time the army of the king of Babylon was besieging Jerusalem, and the prophet Jeremiah was confined in the court of the guard that was in the palace of the king of Judah, <sup>3</sup> where King Zedekiah of Judah had confined him.

<sup>6</sup> Jeremiah said, "The word of the Lord came to me: <sup>7</sup> Hanamel son of your uncle Shallum is going to come to you and say, 'Buy my field that is at Anathoth, for the right of redemption by purchase is yours.' " <sup>8</sup> Then my cousin Hanamel came to me in the court of the guard, in accordance with the word of the Lord, and said to me, "Buy my field that is at Anathoth in the land of Benjamin, for the right of possession and redemption is yours; buy it for yourself." Then I knew that this was the word of the Lord.

<sup>9</sup> And I bought the field at Anathoth from my cousin Hanamel and weighed out the silver to him, seventeen shekels of silver. <sup>10</sup> I signed the deed, sealed it, got witnesses, and weighed the silver on scales. <sup>11</sup> Then I took the sealed deed of purchase containing the terms and conditions and the open copy, <sup>12</sup> and I gave the deed of purchase to Baruch son of Neriah son of Mahseiah, in the presence of my cousin<sup>[a]</sup> Hanamel, in the presence of the witnesses who signed the deed of purchase, and in the presence of all the Judeans who were sitting in the court of the guard. <sup>13</sup> In their presence I charged Baruch, saying, <sup>14</sup> "Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Take these deeds, both this sealed deed of purchase and this open deed, and put them in an earthenware jar, in order that they may last for a long time. <sup>15</sup> For thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Houses and fields and vineyards shall again be bought in this land."

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

### **\*THE PSALTER**

*(Hymnal Nr. 212)*

### Psalm 91

*Abbey*

1. Within your shelter, loving God,  
My refuge and my tower,  
I safely walk by day and night,  
Beneath your guiding power.

3. Your holy angels bear me up  
And keep my feet secure,  
Though fierce and angry foes assail,  
In you my way is sure.

2. Because I trust in you alone,  
No evil shall come near.  
The strong defender of my home,  
With you I have no fear.

4. As often as I call to you,  
You kindly hear my prayer  
In times of trouble and distress  
I rest in your own care.

5. All those who know your name on earth  
Shall life abundant know,  
On all abiding in your love  
Your saving grace bestow.

Text: John G. Dunn, 1982  
Music: Scottish Psalter, 1625

**EPISTLE:** I Timothy 6:6-19

Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment,<sup>7</sup> for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it,<sup>8</sup> but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these.<sup>9</sup> But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction.<sup>10</sup> For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains.

<sup>11</sup> But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness.<sup>12</sup> Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and for which you made<sup>l</sup> the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.<sup>13</sup> In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you<sup>14</sup> to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ,<sup>15</sup> which he will bring about at the right time – he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords.<sup>16</sup> It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.

<sup>17</sup> As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches but rather on God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment.<sup>18</sup> They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share,<sup>19</sup> thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

**GOSPEL:** Luke 16:19-31

“There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day.<sup>20</sup> And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores,<sup>21</sup> who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man’s table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores.<sup>22</sup> The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried.<sup>23</sup> In Hades, where he was being tormented, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side.<sup>24</sup> He called out, ‘Father Abraham,

have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in agony in these flames.’<sup>25</sup> But Abraham said, ‘Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things and Lazarus in like manner evil things, but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony.’<sup>26</sup> Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.’<sup>27</sup> He said, ‘Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father’s house –<sup>28</sup> for I have five brothers – that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.’<sup>29</sup> Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.’<sup>30</sup> He said, ‘No, father Abraham, but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.’<sup>31</sup> He said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.’ ”

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

SERMON

Rev. Denise Clark-Jones

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

\*HYMN 306

Fairest Lord Jesus

*Crusader Hymn*

1. Fairest Lord Jesus,  
Ruler of all nature,  
O thou of God to earth come down,  
Thee will I cherish,  
Thee will I honor,  
Thou, my soul’s glory, joy and crown.

2. Fair are the meadows,  
Fairer still the woodlands,  
Robed in the blooming garb of spring  
Jesus is fairer,  
Jesus is purer,  
Who makes the woeful heart to sing.

3. Fair is the sunshine,  
Fairer still the moonlight,  
And all the twinkling, starry host.  
Jesus shines brighter,  
Jesus shines purer,  
Than all the angels heaven can boast.

Text: *Münster Gesangbuch*, 1677  
Music: Silesian folk melody, 1842

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*affirming together*)

from The Confession of Belhar, PC(USA)

WE BELIEVE in the triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, who gathers, protects and cares for the church through Word and Spirit. This, God has done since the beginning of the world and will do to the end.

We believe in one holy, universal Christian church, the communion of saints called from the entire human family.

**We believe that God has revealed himself as the one who wishes to bring about justice and true peace among people; that God, in a world full of injustice and enmity, is in a special way the God of the destitute, the poor and the wronged; that God calls the church to follow him in this; for God brings justice to the oppressed and gives bread to the hungry; that God frees the prisoner and restores sight to the blind; that God supports the downtrodden, protects the stranger, helps orphans and widows and blocks the path of the ungodly; that for God pure and undefiled religion is to visit the orphans and the widows in their suffering; that God wishes to teach the church to do what is good and to seek the right; that the church must therefore stand by people in any form of suffering and need, which implies, among other things, that the church must witness against and strive against any form of injustice, so that justice may roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream; that the church as the possession of God must stand where the Lord stands, namely against injustice and with the wronged; that in following Christ the church must witness against all the powerful and privileged who selfishly seek their own interests and thus control and harm others. Therefore, we reject any ideology which would legitimate forms of injustice and any doctrine which is unwilling to resist such an ideology in the name of the gospel.**

**To the one and only God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be the honor and the glory for ever and ever.**

**\*PASSING OF THE PEACE**

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

**THE GIFT OF MUSIC**

**Dives and Lazarus  
The Westminster Choir**

**arr. Andrew Carter**

As it fell out upon one day, Rich Diverus he made a feast, And he invited all his friends And gentry of the best. As it fell out upon one day, Poor Lazarus he was so poor, He came and laid him down and down, Even down at Diverus' door. So Lazarus laid him down and down, Even down at Diverus' door, Some meat, some drink brother Diverus, Do bestow upon the poor. Thou art none of mine, brother Lazarus, laying begging at my door, No meat, no drink will I give thee, Nor bestow upon the poor. As it fell out upon one day, Poor Lazarus he sickened and died, There came two angels out of heaven, His soul thereto to guide. Rise up, rise up brother Lazarus, And come along with me; There is a place prepared in heaven For to sit upon an angel's knee. As it fell out upon one day, Rich Diverus he sickened and died; There came two serpents out of hell his soul thereto to guide. Rise up, rise up brother Diverus, And come along with me: There is a place prepared in hell, For to sit upon a serpent's knee.

**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

\*HYMN 450

O Day of Peace

*Jerusalem*

1. O day of peace that dimly shines,  
Through all our hopes and prayers and dreams  
Guide us to justice, truth and love,  
Delivered from our selfish schemes,  
May swords of hate fall from our hands,  
Our hearts from envy find release,  
Till by God's grace our warring world  
Shall see Christ's promised reign of peace.

2 Then shall the world dwell with the lamb,  
Nor shall the fierce devour the small;  
As beasts and cattle calmly graze,  
A little child shall lead them all.  
Then enemies shall learn to love,  
All creatures find their true accord;  
The hope of peace shall be fulfilled,  
For all the earth shall know the Lord.

Text: Carl P. Daw, Jr., 1982  
Music: C. Hubert H. Parry, 1916

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL BENEDICTION

A Gaelic Blessing

*John Rutter*

Deep peace of the running wave to you; Deep peace of the flowing air to you; Deep peace of the quiet earth to you, Deep peace of the shining stars to you. Deep peace of the gentle night to you, Moon and stars pour their healing light on you, Deep peace of Christ, of Christ, the light of the world to you. Deep peace of Christ to you.

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## LEADING IN WORSHIP TODAY

**The Rev. Denise M. Clark-Jones, *Pastor***  
**The Westminster Choir**  
**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 Sixteenth 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 funded, in part, by a generous grant from the Gretchen R. Iben Trust for the Arts.

**THE ANTHEM** is a setting of a traditional English Carol named 'Dives and Lazarus.' This tune has appeared in works by many well known English composers because of its wonderful tune. Here, Andrew Carter (b. 1939) does a choral arrangement of this famous tune with the story of Lazarus and the rich man told in a most colorful manner. In the English tradition of this tale, the rich man has been given the name "Diverus." The fact that the Biblical text omits the rich man's name indicates the displeasure of the Scriptures with his actions. Listen carefully to the text and how Mr. Carter sets the tune to enlighten the story as well as to make fun of Diverus. We hope you will enjoy hearing it as much as we enjoy singing it!

**NEXT SUNDAY** we celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion. This is a special Communion celebration as it is the Sunday we mark World Communion with Christians around the world. Come and be a part of this special celebration of the Church Universal.

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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, 25 SEPTEMBER 2022

THE SIXTEENTH 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)*