

Westminster
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)



*“A Glimpse of God’s Love
on the Delmar Divide...”*

September 17th, 2023

WESTMINSTER ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 17, 2023

11:00 A.M.

Welcome to all our visitors. We are glad to have you with us.

We pray you experience God's presence during this time of worship.

A restroom is located at the north end of the narthex.

Please remember to silence all electronic devices during the worship service.

You are invited to join the listening session in the library following worship.

Those who are able are invited to stand for portions of the service marked with an asterisk.

We Gather in God's Name

PRELUDE

"Prelude in C Minor"

Vincent Lübeck

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We observe this day as the Lord's Day,

All: giving thanks to God, who gives justice to the oppressed,

One: who forgives us and redeems us, and crowns us with steadfast love and mercy.

All: Let us worship the One who is worthy of our praise!

*HYMN #81 (GG)

"Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken"

AUSTRIAN HYMN

CALL TO LAY DOWN OUR BURDENS BEFORE GOD

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God our Judge, we admit we have double standards. We seek forgiveness for ourselves, but fail to forgive others. We seek relief for ourselves but fail to seek relief for others. We seek leniency for ourselves but fail to show mercy to others. Forgive us, mighty God, and help us to forgive, showing others the same grace and mercy that you have generously shown to us.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE AND FORGIVENESS

*RESPONSE OF THANKSGIVING "We Are Standing on Holy Ground"

(GG) #406

**We are standing on holy ground,
and I know, that there are angels all around;
let us praise Jesus now;
we are standing in his presence on holy ground**

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

(As a sign of reconciliation with God and each other, all may greet those around them observing everyone's preference regarding physical contact. This action will conclude with the singing of the Response of Thanksgiving printed above.)

SELECTION

“I Will Bless the Lord At All Time”
Westminster Singers

Charles Yanarella

OFFERING PRAYER

*(You may place your offering in the basket on the communion table before or after the service,
or you may scan the following QR code or click here (if you are using an online version of the bulletin)
Donation (eservicepayments.com for online giving)*



*DOXOLOGY

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

GG#607

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

We Listen for God’s Word

PRAYER FOR GOD’S WISDOM AND UNDERSTANDING

SCRIPTURE READING

Exodus 14:19-31

SELECTION

“Miriam's Song/ He Has Done Marvelous Things”
Westminster Singers

arr. M. Brooks

SERMON

“Hubris of Empire”

We Respond to God’s Love

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Adapted from A Brief Statement of Faith

In a broken and fearful world, the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, Come, Lord Jesus! 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.

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, holy is your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our

debtors. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

* HYMN #658 (GG)

“God Is So Good”

GOD IS SO GOOD

*BENEDICTION

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE “I’m Gonna Eat at the Welcome Table” GG#770

I’m gonna eat at the welcome table; I’m gonna eat at the welcome table, Alleluia.

I’m gonna eat at the welcome table; I’m gonna eat at the welcome table, Alleluia.

We're gonna feast on milk and honey; we're gonna feast on milk and honey, Alleluia.

We're gonna feast on milk and honey; we're gonna feast on milk and honey, Alleluia.

Here all the world will find a welcome; here all the world will find a welcome, Alleluia.

Here all the world will find a welcome; here all the world will find a welcome, Alleluia.

POSTLUDE

“Recessional on ‘Old Hundredth’”

Piet Post

Today’s Worship Participants

Ministers: Westminster Congregation

Liturgist: Lawson Calhoun

Organist: Donita Bauer

Kwamina Walker-Williams, Guest Singer

Preacher: Mark R. Miller

Music Director: Mark Brooks

Percussion: Robert Woodie

Theda Person, Guest Singer

Westminster Presbyterian Church is a multiracial congregation called by the radically inclusive love of God in Jesus Christ to ministries rooted in grace-filled hospitality, social justice, and transformation.