

# Westminster Presbyterian Church

*A Telling Presence in the City*

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Sunday, September 17, 2023



*Westminster Bells*

*We enter this church not as strangers, but as children of God.*



# Preparing for the Word

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*Our service begins with the Prelude, inviting us to prepare for worship.*

## **Prelude**

*Sarabande and Gavotte from Holberg Suite*

Edvard Grieg, trans. Thomas Heywood  
Joseph Trucano, organ

## **Our Life in Christ**

The Rev. Dr. Meghan Gage-Finn

One: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

## **\*Call to Worship** (Psalm 100:4-5)

One: Enter the gates of the Lord with thanksgiving and the courts of God with praise; give thanks and bless God's holy name!

**All: For the Lord is good; God's love is eternal, and God's faithfulness has no end.**

One: Let us worship God.

## **\*Processional Hymn** No. 403 *Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty*

## **Call to Confession and Prayer of Confession**

The Rev. Alanna Simone Tyler

O Holy One, you wear a thousand different names, but we hesitate to use any. Forgive us. We depend solely on ourselves, as if you were a figment of someone else's imagination. We go through the motions, yet our faith has little depth or staying power. We long to be renewed. Help us discover the deep joy that comes from trusting in you, and following Jesus, in whose name we pray.

## **Silent Prayers of Confession**

*Worshippers seek and reflect on God's forgiveness in their own lives.*

## **Assurance of God's Forgiveness**

One: Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. Friends, hear the good news:

**All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Alleluia! Amen.**

\* Please stand as you are able.

## **Sung Response** *Hallelujah*

William Walker

Westminster Choir; Dr. Amanda Weber, conductor

And let this feeble body fail, and let it faint or die;  
My soul shall quit this mournful vale, and soar to worlds on high,

*Refrain:*

And I'll sing hallelujah, and you'll sing hallelujah,  
And we'll all sing hallelujah, when we arrive at home.

Oh what are all my sufferings here, if, Lord, Thou count me meet  
With that enraptured host t'appear, and worship at Thy feet!

Give joy or grief, give ease or pain, take life or friends away,  
But let me find them all again, in that eternal day.

*At this time, children ages 4-1st grade are invited to Children's Church.*

## Listening to the Word

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### **Prayer for Illumination**

Jette Johnson

### **Readings from Holy Scripture**

Isaiah 25:6-9 (OT, p. 612)

Romans 8:31-35, 37-39 (NT, pp. 138-139)

One: This is the Word of God.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

### **Sermon** *The Benediction Never Ends*

The Rev. Dr. Tim Hart-Andersen

## Responding to the Word

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**\*Hymn** No. 834 *Precious Lord, Take My Hand*

### **The Sacrament of Holy Baptism**

Roselyn Natasha Hoffman,  
child of Michael Hoffman and Nadya Hill

### **Presentation of the Baptisand**

Scott Appelwick

### **Questions to the Parents and Congregation**

The Rev. Dr. David Tsai Shinn

### **\*Affirmation of Faith** (United Church of Canada)

We are not alone, we live in God's world. We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God. We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

### **Prayer over the Water 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.

### **Baptism**

#### **\*Congregational Response**

With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you to Westminster and to the fellowship of Christ's Church, for we are all one in Christ. We promise to love, encourage, and support you, to share the good news of the gospel with you, to serve that gospel alongside you, and to help you know and follow Christ.

#### **\*Sung Baptismal Response** No. 492 *You Belong to Christ*

*The choir will sing the first time through; the congregation is invited to join the second time.*

### **Offering Invitation**

*You are invited to give online via Realm or by placing your donation in the offering plate. Please assist the ushers in passing the plates as needed. To learn more about how to make a gift online, please see the back of the bulletin. Thank you for supporting the mission and ministry of Westminster.*

## **Offertory Anthem** *Rest*

Ralph Vaughan Williams  
Text by Christina Rossetti

O Earth, lie heavily upon her eyes;  
Seal her sweet eyes weary of watching, Earth;  
Lie close around her; leave no room for mirth  
With its harsh laughter, nor for sound of sighs.  
She hath no questions, she hath no replies,  
Hushed in and curtained with a blessed dearth  
Of all that irked her from the hour of birth;  
With stillness that is almost Paradise.  
Darkness more clear than noon-day holdeth her,  
Silence more musical than any song;  
Even her very heart has ceased to stir:  
Until the morning of Eternity  
Her rest shall not begin nor end, but be;  
And when she wakes she will not think it long.

## **Prayer of Dedication for the Offerings Received**

**Poem** *Blessings*

Wendy Brown-Báez, Westminster Artist-in-Residence

**\*Hymn** No. 366 *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

### **\*Charge and Benediction**

*The people respond with "Amen."*

### **\*Passing of the Peace**

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

**Postlude** *Rigaudon* from *Holberg Suite*

Edvard Grieg, trans. Thomas Heywood

## Daily Phone Devotions

612.332.7087

September 17 ..... Matthew 18:21-35  
18 ..... Psalm 133  
19 ..... Romans 14:13-15:2  
20 ..... Mark 11:20-25  
21 ..... Exodus 16:2-15  
22 ..... Psalm 145:1-8  
23 ..... Philippians 1:21-30  
24 ..... Matthew 20:1-16

# Welcome to Westminster

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*We are grateful for your presence and invite you to participate in our worship, mission, and programs.*

## If you are new to Westminster

**Accessible Worship.** Large print bulletins, hearing assistance devices, and Hearing Loop information are available from ushers during 10:30am worship.

**Welcome, Children!** Young ones are always welcome in worship at Westminster. We also offer Nursery care for children 3 years old and younger, and the child-friendly Children's Tower Room (in the southwest balcony corner) is open with the service livestreamed for those who may need to step away for nursing or to tend to children's needs.

**Coffee Hour.** Join us in Westminster Commons for coffee and fellowship, following Sunday morning worship.

**Membership.** The next New Member class will take place on Sunday, October 8 at 11:45am. For information about membership, contact the Rev. Dr. Meghan Gage-Finn at [mgage-finn@wpc-mpls.org](mailto:mgage-finn@wpc-mpls.org) or Janice Teliczan at [jteliczan@wpc-mpls.org](mailto:jteliczan@wpc-mpls.org).

## If you seek to deepen your involvement

**Justice & Mission.** Get involved in serving and seeking justice; contact the Rev. Alanna Simone Tyler, [atyler@wpc-mpls.org](mailto:atyler@wpc-mpls.org).

**Families, Youth, and Children.** Connect with Church School, youth groups, Confirmation, parent offerings, and special events; contact the Rev. Alexandra Jacob, [ajacob@wpc-mpls.org](mailto:ajacob@wpc-mpls.org).

**Congregational Care.** Join volunteer teams providing support for members through prayer, meals, and visitations; contact the Rev. Dr. David Tsai Shinn, [dshinn@wpc-mpls.org](mailto:dshinn@wpc-mpls.org).

**Adult Ministries.** Enjoy faith formation with other adults of the church through classes, small groups, and forums; contact the Rev. Margaret Fox, [mfox@wpc-mpls.org](mailto:mfox@wpc-mpls.org).

**Worship & the Arts.** Offer your artistic gifts in worship, participate in adult or children's music ensembles, or connect with other artists; contact Dr. Amanda Weber, [aweber@wpc-mpls.org](mailto:aweber@wpc-mpls.org).

## Westminster Cares

**Births, Adoptions, and Baptisms.** Contact Janice Teliczan, [jteliczan@wpc-mpls.org](mailto:jteliczan@wpc-mpls.org).

**Pastoral Care.** Contact Deb Wagner about hospitalization, illness, death, or prayer requests, 612.332.3421 or [dwagner@wpc-mpls.org](mailto:dwagner@wpc-mpls.org).

**Free parking is available on Sundays**  
in the Orchestra Hall Ramp,  
at 11th St. & Marquette Ave  
**from 7am-2pm.**

At Orchestra Hall, take a ticket when  
you enter the ramp & pick up a parking  
voucher at Westminster; use both your  
ticket and the voucher to exit the ramp.

**Free parking for those who need it is**  
also available on Sunday mornings  
in the Westminster parking garage  
at Alice Rainville Place.



# Our Life in Christ: Opportunities

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## **Writing Workshop with Westminster Artist-in-Residence Sunday, September 17 | 11:45am | Meisel Room**

Join Westminster Artist-in-Residence Wendy Brown-Báez for an introductory writing exercise, using her *Blessings* poem as inspiration. For about 30-45 minutes, participants will be given writing prompts and asked to write about blessings in their own lives.

## **Write Well-wishes for Tim**

The Celebrations Committee is creating a book of Westminster memories to present to Senior Pastor Tim Hart-Andersen upon his retirement. There will be a table in Westminster Commons before and after worship on **September 17** and **October 1** for you to contribute to the book by writing a personalized note.

## **Youth Tailgate Party**

### **Saturday, September 30 | 10am-Noon | Westminster Green**

Honor youth group athletes and artists at a tailgating party! Write an encouraging message, share game/performance schedules, and enjoy fall treats. Register on Realm.

## **Moms Group**

### **Friday, October 6 | 6:30pm | Bates Room**

Moms Group is for moms and female caregivers with children of all ages; we offer time and space for conversation and fellowship. This month we'll discuss Kate Bowler's blessing "for feeling it all" and talk about BIG feelings – yours and your child's! Register in Realm by end of day Wednesday, October 4.

## **Westminster Performing Arts Series: Charanga Tropical**

### **Friday, October 6 | 7pm | Westminster Hall**

The Westminster Performing Arts Series begins its fall schedule with Cuban music ensemble Charanga Tropical. This lively and rhythmic music will have us dancing, with a 7pm performance followed by a reception. Tickets and more information at [westminstermpls.org/WPAS](http://westminstermpls.org/WPAS), or by contacting Amanda at [aweber@wpc-mpls.org](mailto:aweber@wpc-mpls.org).

## **Men's Retreat**

The men's ministry will gather for our annual fall retreat at the Presbyterian Clearwater Forest Camp, led by Rev. Jim Cochrane. **Please save the dates, October 6-7, and look for a sign-up table in Westminster Commons on Sunday mornings. To learn more, contact David Shinn at [dshinn@wpc-mpls.org](mailto:dshinn@wpc-mpls.org).**

## **New Member Class**

### **Sunday, October 8 | 11:45am | Meisel Room**

Those interested in membership are invited to join for lunch and conversation in a gathering led by the Rev. Drs. Meghan Gage-Finn and Tim Hart-Andersen. We will share stories of our journeys of faith, discuss what it means to be Presbyterian, and explore the ministries of Westminster, specifically. To learn more, please connect with Meghan at [mgagefinn@wpc-mpls.org](mailto:mgagefinn@wpc-mpls.org).

## **Participate in Westminster's Christmas Dinners**

This year's Christmas Dinners will feature a staged reading of Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*, led by former Artist-in-Residence Sam Bardwell. To offer your voice as an actor, sing with the Christmas Choir, help with decorations, or volunteer as a table server, contact Amanda ([aweber@wpc-mpls.org](mailto:aweber@wpc-mpls.org)). **Christmas Dinners are the evenings of Dec 1 and 2, with an additional matinee performance Dec 2.**

## This Week at Westminster | September 17-24

Visit [westminstermpls.org/events](http://westminstermpls.org/events) for more details about events.

### Sunday, September 17

8am-12:30pm | *The Art of Our Global Partners* exhibition opening | Westminster Gallery  
8:15am-11:30am | Nursery Hours | Nursery  
8:30am | Worship: The Rev. Dr. Tim Hart-Andersen preaching | Westminster Hall\*  
9:15am | Congregational Listening Session | Corner Gallery  
9:15am | Social Justice Forum | Meisel Room\*  
9:15am | Adult Education: *Exploring The Older Testament* | Recreation Room\*\*  
9:15am | FYC Gathering Time & Church School | Chapel  
10:30am | Worship: The Rev. Dr. Tim Hart-Andersen preaching | Sanctuary\*  
10:30am | Children's Church | Chapel  
11:45am | Writing Workshop with Artist-In-Residence Wendy Brown-Báez | Meisel Room  
11:45am | Congregational Listening Session | Recreation Room  
5:30pm | Youth Group Kick-off | Fellowship Hall

### Monday, September 18

10am | Tai Chi | Westminster Green

### Wednesday, September 20

9am | Women's Bible Study (WOW) | Meisel Room and Zoom  
5:15pm-6:45pm | Wednesday Night Supper | Fellowship Hall  
5:15-7:15pm | Youth and Children's Choirs  
5:30pm | Handbell Choir | Great Hall Balcony  
6pm | Wednesday Evening Worship: *Blessings for the Journey* | Westminster Hall\*  
6:45pm | Adult Education Discussion Groups | Meisel Room and Zoom  
7pm | Adult Choir | Adult Choir Room

### Saturday, September 23

11am | Memorial: Bob Alfton | Sanctuary\*

### Confirmation Sunday, September 24

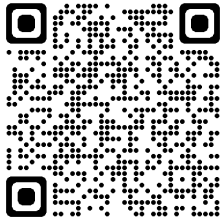
8am-12:30pm | *The Art of Our Global Partners* exhibition | Westminster Gallery  
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9:15am | Social Justice Forum | Meisel Room\*  
9:15am | Adult Education: *Exploring The Older Testament* | Recreation Room\*\*  
9:15am | FYC Gathering Time & Church School | Chapel  
9:15am | Family Matters | Bates Room  
10:30am | Worship: The Rev. Alexandra Jacob preaching | Sanctuary\*  
10:30am | Children's Church | Chapel



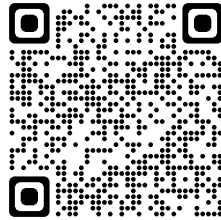
## Giving to Westminster

You can make a one-time gift or pledge online. To support 2023 Stewardship and the *Enduring Hope* Campaign, point your smartphone camera at the QR codes below or visit: [onrealm.org/westminstermpls/give](https://onrealm.org/westminstermpls/give)

### One-Time Gift



### Make a Pledge



**Join us for worship in-person,  
via livestream at [westminstermpls.online.church](https://westminstermpls.online.church),  
or [facebook.com/westminstermpls](https://facebook.com/westminstermpls)**

### Sundays

8:30am Worship (Westminster Hall)

10:30am Worship (Sanctuary)

### Wednesdays

6pm Worship (Westminster Hall)



1200 Marquette Avenue | Minneapolis 55403  
[westminstermpls.org](https://westminstermpls.org) | 612.332.3421



@westminstermpls