



**WESTMINSTER**

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH • BUFFALO

**July 31, 2022**

**Worship at 10:30 AM**

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

**OPENING VOLUNTARY**

Sonata No. 1 in G minor, Adagio

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Rev. Nutter Dowling

**CHIMING OF THE TRINITY**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

*The people stand.*

For everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven:

**A time to be born and a time to die.**

A time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted.

**A time to break down, and a time to build up.**

A time to weep and a time to laugh.

**A time to keep and a time to throw away.**

A time to be silent and a time to speak.

**A time to love and a time to hate.**

A time for war and a time for peace.

**God has made everything suitable for its time.**

God has put a sense of past and future into our minds.

**Whatever God does endures forever.**

**OPENING HYMN**

*The people remain standing to sing.*

We Sing To You, O God

DARWALL'S 148TH



1. We sing to you, O God, the Rock who gave us birth,  
 2. We wan-dered far from home out in a des-ert land,  
 3. You bear us through the world, an ea-gle to her young,  
 4. O God, e-ter-nal God, we hide with-in your wings,



let our re-joicing sing your name in all the earth.  
 you shield-ed with your love our fear-ful pil-grim band.  
 who ris-es on her wings and bears us toward the sun.  
 the ev-er-last-ing arms to whom our prais-es ring.



To you, O God, let songs be raised, in joy-ful hymns, our feast of praise.  
 You kept us safe with-in your arms and shel-tered us a-against the storm.  
 We ride the vaults of light and air and trust in your un-fail-ing care.  
 Your word is true, your way is just, you are the God in whom we trust.

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

Rev. Hennessy



## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we live in a society that focuses on gathering things. We collect, store, and gather items, gadgets, even people. We focus our energies on our collections providing adequate room for them and yet we bar the door to the needs of others, of those who have little or nothing, of those for whom life has been a constant struggle. We are sorry for the ways in which we have failed you. Forgive us. Turn us around to look at the ways in which our wealth, both of substance and spirit, can be used for healing and hope. Enable us to be in ministry to those in need and to care for this world.

*The people keep silence.*

## KYRIE

*Westminster Buffalo Service, Howard Helvey (b. 1968)*

*The people sing.*

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.  
Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.  
Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Believe the good news of the gospel:  
**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

## RESPONSE

*The people stand to sing.*

Glo - ry to the Cre - a - tor, and to the Son,  
and to the Ho - - ly Spi - rit; As it was in the be - gin - ning,  
is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - - - - - men.

## PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*The people stand to sing.*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - - le - lu - ia!



## GOSPEL LESSON

*The people remain standing.*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

**Glorify to you, Lord Christ.**

Luke 12:13-21

<sup>13</sup>Someone in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me.” <sup>14</sup>But he said to him, “Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?” <sup>15</sup>And he said to them, “Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.” <sup>16</sup>Then he told them a parable: “The land of a rich man produced abundantly. <sup>17</sup>And he thought to himself, ‘What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?’ <sup>18</sup>Then he said, ‘I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. <sup>19</sup>And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.’ <sup>20</sup>But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ <sup>21</sup>So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*The people remain standing.*



## SERMON

Whose Will They Be?

## HYMN

*The people stand to sing.*

What Things We Own Cannot Give Life

O WALY WALY

1. What things we own can - not give life; pos - ses - sions  
 2. Re - mem - ber he who laid great claim to wealth and  
 3. So be on guard a - gainst all greed that harms us

will not make us whole; Their pow - er cuts us like a knife  
 for - tune from the sod; In his vain hoard - ing he be - came  
 all and brings great strife; Cling to the Lord who meets our need;

and leaves great hurt deep in the soul.  
 a pau - per in the eyes of God.  
 hold fast to God who gives us life.



## INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

### OFFERTORY

Sonata No. 1 in G minor, Presto

J.S. Bach

### PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

*The people stand as the Deacons move forward; remain standing for the Prayer of Dedication.*

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise God, all crea - tures here be - low:  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts!  
Praise Je - sus Christ whose pow'r up - lifts! Praise the Spir - it, Ho - ly Spir - it!  
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! A - men.

### PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Great God of Heaven and Earth, you call us to leave behind our distractions to follow you into the future. Sometimes we find your call challenging. We are comfortable, even complacent, in our present. May this act of giving be a gesture of our willingness to follow where you lead. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.**

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

**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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**



## SENDING HYMN

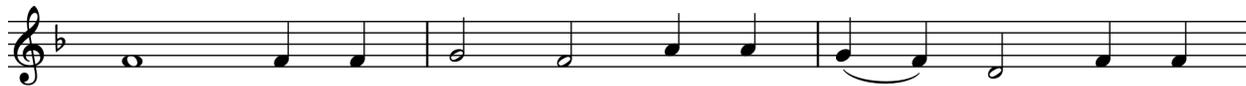
*The people stand to sing.*

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

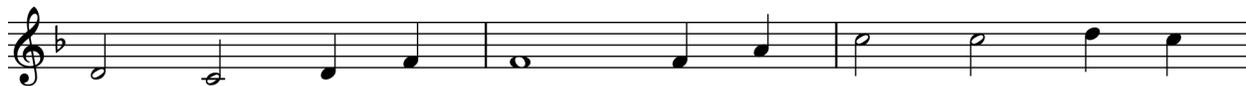
BEACH SPRING



1. God, whose giv - ing knows no end - ing, From Your rich and end - less  
2. Skills and time are ours for press - ing Toward the goals of Christ, Your  
3. Trea - sure too You have en - trust - ed, Gain through powers Your grace con -



store, Na - ture's won - der, Je - sus' wis - dom, Cost - ly  
Son: All at peace in health and free - dom, Rac - es  
-ferred; Ours to use for home and kin - dred, And to



cross, grave's shat - tered door: Gif - ted by You, we turn  
joined, the church made one. Now di - rect our dai - ly  
spread the gos - pel Word. O - pen wide our hands, in



to You, Of - fering up our - selves in praise; Thank - ful  
la - bor, Lest we strive for self a - lone; Born with  
shar - ing, As we heed Christ's age - less call, Heal - ing,



song shall rise for - ev - er, Gra - cious do - nor of our days.  
tal - ents, make us ser - vants Fit to an - swer at Your throne.  
teach - ing, and re - claim - ing, Serv - ing You by lov - ing all.

## BENEDICTION

## WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Katelyn Nutter Dowling, Associate Pastor of Christian Education  
Rev. Beth Hennessy, Pastoral Care Associate  
Matthew Marco, Piano  
Emily Greetham, Violin

## DEACONS SERVING TODAY

Wisdom Afealete, Whitney Manalio Creighton, Donald Etulo, Mark Hall, Evan Izatt, Janet Mascio

## CHANCEL FLOWERS

*If you would like to purchase Sunday flowers in honor/memory of family or friends, please contact Sue Adams, hugwalker1@gmail.com.*

# Welcome to Westminster!

**Masks are optional while seated in worship. Please continue to wear your mask while entering the building and walking to the Sanctuary.**

Westminster is a Presbyterian Church (USA) congregation and a progressive place of lifelong learning. Everyone is welcome to our campus to worship, rejoice in music, question, reflect, serve, and grow, regardless of age, race, socioeconomic status, sexuality, gender identity, citizenship status, or religious affiliation.

If you are visiting and would like to learn more about our programming or mission, please fill out a Welcome Card (found in the pews) and return it to a deacon or staff member, or visit our website, [wpcbuffalo.org](http://wpcbuffalo.org).

As a More Light church, we invite all members of the LGBTQIA+ community to membership and full participation in all ministries. As an Earth Care Congregation, we defend and heal creation through worship and education.

Wiggle Worship Bags for youth are available at the doors. Please return after worship.

If you need assistance at any time, please ask a deacon or staff member.

## Generosity

Gifts to *All Things New* support the church's annual operating expenses and programs and are vital to maintain and grow the changing needs of our members and the diverse community we serve. If you have not yet pledged, please make a financial commitment to Westminster as a sign of devotion to the ministry and mission of our church. **Please send in a pledge card or submit online via our secure website, [wpcbuffalo.org/atn](http://wpcbuffalo.org/atn).** Thank you for your generosity!

What are the 5 things that matter most to you? In addition to family, the list might include education, the arts, health, and the church. Please consider supporting Westminster in your estate planning and become a member of The 1854 Legacy Circle.

For more information on making a gift to Westminster, please contact Sawrie Becker, [sbecker@wpcbuffalo.org](mailto:sbecker@wpcbuffalo.org) or 716.884.9437 x315.

## Summer Meet and Mingle

Volunteers are needed to host Meet & Mingle each Sunday through September 4. Hosts are asked to provide three dozen cookies and lemonade or water. Contact Sawrie Becker at [sbecker@wpcbuffalo.org](mailto:sbecker@wpcbuffalo.org) to sign up.

# This Week

## Sunday, July 31

10:30 AM Worship  
11:30 AM Meet and Mingle

## Monday, August 1

8:00 AM Summer ENERGY

## Tuesday, August 2

8:00 AM Summer ENERGY  
10:00 AM Garden Group  
5:00 PM Ministry of Generosity

## Wednesday, August 3

8:00 AM Summer ENERGY  
9:30 AM Worship Planning  
11:00 AM Thekla Putnam Memr.  
1:00 PM Staff Meeting  
8:00 PM AA Meeting

## Thursday, August 4

8:00 AM Summer ENERGY

## Friday, August 5

8:00 AM Summer ENERGY

## Sunday, August 7

10:30 AM Worship  
11:30 AM Meet and Mingle  
12:00 PM Young Adult Brunch

# Alali Family Update

The oldest three sons have started working at restaurants in the Williamsville area—Creekview and Britesmith, as support staff. The three youngest sons are enjoying summer school activities at Windermere School. The 13-year old daughter, a stellar student, has adopted Carol Greetham and Joanie Maitino as her new “Aunts,” and was invited to participate in the Robotics Camp at Amherst Middle School. Since early June, our volunteers have assisted with 17 dental and medical appointments. The family uses public transportation, but anyone interested in volunteering to assist with transportation may contact Kevin Seybold (kevinseybold301@gmail.com).

# Upcoming Events

## Chautauqua Day Trip

August 26, Time TBA

Contact: David Weeks, [dweeks.buffalo@gmail.com](mailto:dweeks.buffalo@gmail.com)

We will hear the lecture by Robert P. Jones, Director of the Public Religion Research Institute (PRRI). His most recent book is *White Too Long: The Legacy of White Supremacy in American Christianity*.

## Gardening in the Fruit Belt

August 28 at 9 AM, meet at Westminster

Contact: Micah, [micahnd@wpcbuffalo.org](mailto:micahnd@wpcbuffalo.org)

Spend time with the Buffalo Federation of Neighborhood Centers' youth program in the heart of the fruit belt.

# Construction Update

Workers from R.A. Colby finished installing freshly-cleaned pipes in the Holmes Chapel organ, and began the process of testing chests, tuning each of the 1,492 pipes, and insuring the new console is functioning properly.

Sanctuary scaffolding installation began in preparation for Swiatek Studios to complete restoration work on the chancel apse and chancel arch.

Finally, trim and framing for the first set of Delaware Doors was painted and the restored doors will be installed at the end of this week; the next set will then be removed for restoration.



# WESTMINSTER

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH • BUFFALO

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wpcbuffalo.org



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