



**WESTMINSTER**

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH • BUFFALO

**August 14, 2022**  
**Worship at 10:30 AM**  
Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Nutter Dowling

## OPENING VOLUNTARY

Meditation on ST. THOMAS

Gerhard Krapf (1924-2008)

## CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

## CALL TO WORSHIP

*The people stand.*

God has called us like Moses in the wilderness,

The prophets in the hills, and the disciples in the cities.

**They shared their blessings so that we might know God's presence here.**

Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses,

Let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings to us so closely.

**Let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus,**

**The pioneer and perfecter of our faith.**

## OPENING HYMN

*The people remain standing to sing.*

O Day of God Draw Near

ST. THOMAS



1. O Day of God, draw near in beau - ty and in pow'r,
2. Bring to our troub - led minds, un cer - tain and a - fraid,
3. Bring jus - tice to our land, that all may dwell se - cure,
4. Bring to our world of strife your sov - ereign word of peace,
5. O Day of God, draw near as at cre a - tion's birth;



Come with your time - less judg - ment now to match our pres - ent hour.  
The qui - et of a stead - fast faith, calm of a call o - beyed.  
And fine - ly build for days to come foun - da - tions that en - dure.  
That war may haunt the earth no more and des - o - la - tion cease.  
Let there be light a - gain, and let your reign be gin on earth.

## CALL TO CONFESSION

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**O God, you are faithful to all generations—from the beginning of time, you have called all kinds of characters to be your people. When we forget that their story is our story, forgive us. When we admire them from a far while insisting that kind of faith isn't practical for us, forgive us. We confess that your justice is too hard for us to do, and we prefer to create our own. Forgive us yet again, and plant your word of justice deep in our hearts and lives.**

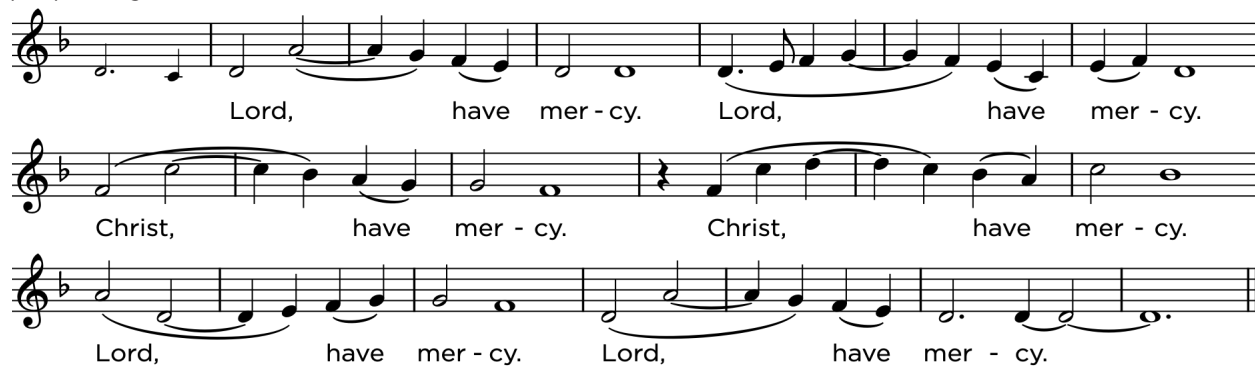
*The people keep silence.*



## KYRIE

Westminster Buffalo Service, Howard Helvey (b. 1968)

*The people sing.*



## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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

## RESPONSE

*The people stand to sing.*



## PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

## VOLUNTARY

The Negro Speaks of Rivers

Margaret Bonds (1913-1972)

I've known rivers ancient as the world and older than the flow of human blood in human veins.  
My soul has grown deep like the rivers.  
I bathed in the Euphrates when dawns were young.  
I built my hut near the Congo and it lulled me to sleep.  
I looked upon the Nile and raised the pyramids above it.  
I heard the singing of the Mississippi when Abe Lincoln went down to New Orleans,  
And I've seen its muddy bosom turn all golden in the sunset.  
I've known rivers: ancient, dusky rivers. My soul has grown deep like the rivers.

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION



## SCRIPTURE LESSON

Hebrews 11:29-12:2

<sup>29</sup>By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. <sup>30</sup>By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. <sup>31</sup>By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace. <sup>32</sup>And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets, <sup>33</sup>who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, <sup>34</sup>quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, were made strong out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. <sup>35</sup>Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. <sup>36</sup>Others suffered mocking and flogging and even chains and imprisonment. <sup>37</sup>They were stoned to death; they were sawn in two; they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented— <sup>38</sup>of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains and in caves and holes in the ground <sup>39</sup>Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, <sup>40</sup>since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect. <sup>1</sup>Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, <sup>2</sup>looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

## SERMON

Extraordinary Faith

## HYMN

*The people stand to sing.*

Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said

BOURBON

1. Take up your cross, the Sav - ior said, If you would My dis -  
2. Take up your cross, let not its weight Fill your weak spir - it  
3. Take up your cross, heed not the shame, And let your fool - ish  
4. Take up your cross, then, in Christ's strength, And calm - ly ev - ery

-ci - ple be; Take up your cross with will - ing heart, And  
with a - larm; Christ's strength shall bear your spir - it up And  
heart be still; The Lord for you ac - cept - ed death Up -  
dan - ger brave: It guides you to a - - bun - dant life And

hum - bly fol - - low af - ter me.  
brace your heart and nerve your arm.  
-on a cross, on Cal - vary's hill.  
leads to vic - - tory o'er the grave.



## INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

### OFFERTORY

The Call

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life: such a way as gives us breath;  
Such a truth as ends all strife; such a life as killeth death.

Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength: such a light as shows a feast;  
Such a feast as mends in length; such a strength as makes a guest.

Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart: such a joy as none can move:  
Such a love as none can part; such a heart as joys in love.

### 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

Faithful God, let these gifts we present to you today become seeds of your new creation: planted in the needs of the world you love, watered by tears and hope, fed and strengthened by the glow of Christ's resurrection, and gathered home with joy and singing. 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.*

We Walk By Faith and Not by Sight

DUNLAP'S CREEK



1. We walk by faith and not by sight; No gra - cious words we hear
2. We may not touch His hands and side, Nor fol - low where He trod;
3. Help then, O Lord, our un - be - lief; And may our faith a - bound
4. That, when our life of faith is done, In realms of clear - er light



From Christ, who spoke as none e'er spoke; But we be - lieve Him near.  
But in His prom - ise we re - jice, And cry, "My Lord and God!"  
To call on You when You are near And seek where You are found.  
We may be - hold You as You are, With full and end - less sight.

## BENEDICTION

## CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Finale Jubilante

Healey Willan (1880-1968)

## WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Katelyn Nutter Dowling, Associate Pastor of Christian Education  
Garrett F. Martin, Organist and Director of Music  
Jaman E. Dunn, Baritone

## DEACONS SERVING TODAY

Wisdom Afealete, Betsy Biggar, Steve Jaworski,  
Stephen Johnson, Jane Morris, Joan Rice Shosho

## CHANCEL FLOWERS

The flowers at the Lord's Table are in loving memory of Nancy Stover Sutz, given by Ron Sutz.

*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!

One of the simplest things you can do to make a positive impact on the future is to make a will. Including a gift to the church in your Will can make a lasting difference in our church family and our community. 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, August 14

10:30 AM Worship  
11:30 AM Meet and Mingle  
1:00 PM Rehearsal

### Monday, August 15

8:00 AM Summer ENERGY  
4:00 PM Membership Meeting

### Tuesday, August 16

8:00 AM Summer ENERGY  
10:00 AM Garden Group

### Wednesday, August 17

8:00 AM Summer ENERGY  
9:30 AM Worship Planning  
1:00 PM Staff Meeting  
5:00 PM Generosity Meeting  
8:00 PM AA Meeting

### Thursday, August 18

8:00 AM Summer ENERGY

### Friday, August 19

8:00 AM Summer ENERGY

### Sunday, August 21

10:30 AM Worship  
11:30 AM Meet and Mingle  
1:00 PM Rehearsal

## Alali Family Update

We enjoyed having Todd and Linda Leach at our meeting with the family recently; Hasan and Hlalh were glad to meet them. Thirteen-year-old Shokriah is preparing to play soccer at Amherst Middle School, thanks to Carol Greetham's help with school registrations. Nancy Trimble has discovered Victory Sports, who donated soccer equipment for Shokriah. Nancy is also busy finding clothes at Clara's Closet and school supplies at various sources (including Journeys End) for the five students in school – Omar, Rashed, Abdalmoatee, Shokriah, and Ali. All ten family members have now had one or more dental appointments. We've also enjoyed a pool party for the four youngest kids, celebrated Omar's 7th birthday, traveled to an outdoor concert in Clarence, and a member of St. Paul's Lutheran donated a grill.

Westminster has completed the three-month co-sponsorship commitment with Journeys End. However, support, mentorship, and transportation is still needed. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Debbie Erwin (erwin.debbie@gmail.com; 716-867-6676) or Carol Greetham (carolgreetham@gmail.com). Visa gift cards are still welcome for expenses that may come up. Thank you to Westminster for your support of this mission and outreach!

## 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*.

## Construction Update

The Sanctuary lighting project is nearing completion. As Ferguson finalizes electrical connections in the attic and basement, lighting will be designed and focused for consistent coverage of the nave and better visibility in the chancel.

After completing repairs to the chancel arch and dome of the apse, Swiatek Studios is adding a layer of protective varnish.



# WESTMINSTER

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH • BUFFALO

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