

# Westminster Presbyterian Church

THE LORD'S DAY OF WORSHIP — 1 September 2024

## The Sanctuary: A House of Prayer and Preparation

Welcome to Westminster! We offer a short time for meditation at 9:40, before the service starts. Join us to prepare your heart for worship, and we will begin our time of announcements and the call to worship at 9:45.

## Offering Stones

If you give financially to Westminster online or by mail, please take a stone as you enter the sanctuary. You may place your stone in the offering plate as it comes your way during the offertory as a physical token of your offering to the LORD. (This is also a great way to teach children and others about sacrificial giving.)

## Meditation: Preparing our Hearts for Worship (Hebrews 12:4-11)

*In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. And have you forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons?*

*“My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord,  
nor be weary when reproved by him.  
For the Lord disciplines the one he loves,  
and chastises every son whom he receives.”*

*It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not discipline? If you are left without discipline, in which all have participated, then you are illegitimate children and not sons. Besides this, we have had earthly fathers who disciplined us and we respected them. Shall we not much more be subject to the Father of spirits and live? For they disciplined us for a short time as it seemed best to them, but he disciplines us for our good, that we may share his holiness. For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it. ESV*

**Welcome + Announcements**

# God Calls Us to Worship Him (Psalm 63:1-4)

## Call to Worship:

Leader: O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you;  
my soul thirsts for you;  
my flesh faints for you,  
as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

People: So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary,  
beholding your power and glory.

Leader: Because your steadfast love is better than life,  
my lips will praise you.

All: So I will bless you as long as I live;  
in your name I will lift up my hands.

## Prayer of Invocation + Adoration

## Hymns of Praise + Adoration

### Great is Thy Faithfulness (Hymn #32)

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### How Great is our God (Hymn #64)

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# God Graciously Renews Us in Christ

## Corporate Confession of Sin:

Leader: *And you were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. (Ephesians 2:1-3)*

Therefore, let us confess our sins saying ...

Leader: **Eternal God, You do not change. You have revealed Yourself to us in Your Word. You call us to worship You in spirit and in truth. But we confess that we often worship not Your true self but who we wish You to be. We too often ask You to bless what we do rather than seeking to do what You bless. Forgive us for seeking concessions when we should be seeking guidance. Forgive us when our worship shapes You into what we want instead of shaping us into what You want. Help us to meet You here, that we might bow before Your unspeakable majesty and so live for You now and ever, in Christ.**

## Silent Confession & Reflection

The Words of the Gospel for those who repent and believe I declare this sure promise:

Leader: *For He Himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in His flesh the dividing wall of hostility by abolishing the law of commandments and ordinances, that He might create in Himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace... (Ephesians 2:14-15)*

All: **Amen!**

## Hymn of Renewal

### Abide (new)

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# God Calls Us to Make Offerings

## Tithes + Offerings:

The Offering of the Prayers of the People: Darrell Stanley

Missionaries: Redeemer College Station, Ben & Beth Hailey

Ministry: Reach South Texas & South Texas Presbytery

WPC Ministry: Worship - Liturgists, Deacons & Assistants, Offertory

All: 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

## The Collection of our Tithes + Offerings

While there are many ways to contribute financially to God's Kingdom, the church is the primary means by which that kingdom is established on earth. Thus, God calls us first and foremost to be faithful in the regular, ongoing support of one's local church body through tithes and offerings. If you haven't made tithing a practice, please consider adopting tithing or generous giving as a spiritual practice—that you might grow in faith and that together we might increase Westminster's capacity to be the body of Christ in Bryan & College Station for the world.

If you give to Westminster online or by mail, please take a stone as you enter the sanctuary. You may place your stone in the offering plate as it comes your way as a physical token of your offering to the LORD. (This is also a great way to teach children and others about sacrificial giving.) If you would like to participate with your giving in real time, visit [wpcbryan.org](http://wpcbryan.org) to give online, and navigate to the Giving + Membership tab. You may give online using a credit card or bank draft through our ChurchTrac portal. If you prefer to set up text giving, text the number of an amount to 844-987-4483 and you'll be guided through setup.

## Offertory

## The Presentation of our Tithes + Offerings

## Prayer of Dedication

## Dismissal for Worship Kidz

# God Gives us His Word

*The Westminster Way: Abide in Grace*

John 15 & 1 John 4

REV WADE COLEMAN

Hymn of Response:

**I Asked the Lord (Songbook #66)**

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## God Feeds Us His Covenant Meal

The Lord's Supper:

Preparation for Communion

Words of Institution: I Corinthians 11:23-26

Invitation + Warning

Prayer + Setting Apart the Bread and Wine

Holy Communion

Distribution of Communion Elements

Communion Hymn:

**His Mercy is More (Songbook#61)**

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Taking Together the Bread and Cup

## Confession of Faith

### The Apostles' Creed<sup>1</sup>

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; He descended into hell<sup>2</sup>; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church<sup>3</sup>, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

### God Blesses Us and Sends Us Forth

Benediction:

#### 2 Corinthians 13:14

Leader: *The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.*

All: AMEN!

#### Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow (Songbook #44a)

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#### Passing of the Peace

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also, with you.

GREET ONE ANOTHER WITH A SIGN OF FRIENDSHIP SUCH AS:  
"THE PEACE OF CHRIST BE WITH YOU" & "AND ALSO WITH YOU."

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<sup>1</sup> **The Apostles' Creed** is an ancient creed (or, statement of faith) of the Church and historically has been widely used and cherished by believers. Although it was not written by the Apostles, we believe it to be a concise summary of their teachings. It may have originated as a baptismal formula around the 2<sup>nd</sup> century, and developed into its present form by the 6<sup>th</sup> or 7<sup>th</sup> century.

<sup>2</sup> **Jesus' descent into hell** consisted in His priestly act of offering Himself up as a sacrifice for sins, undergoing the wrath of God on the Cross, and remaining under the power of death for three days before being vindicated in His resurrection.

<sup>3</sup> The term "**catholic**" means "**universal**" and hence does not refer to one particular church, but to Christ's universal Church, wherever she may be found gathering in Christ's name.