
WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Pastor Paul Campbell

11th Sunday after Pentecost, August 16th, 2020



WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

WE GATHER TOGETHER IN GOD'S NAME

CALL TO WORSHIP *Psalm 67:1-7*

May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us, that your way may be known upon earth, your saving power among all nations.

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth.

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

The earth has yielded its increase; God, our God, has blessed us.

May God continue to bless us; let all the ends of the earth revere the Lord.

Hymn #439 vs. 1, 2, 3, & 4 “In Christ There Is No East or West”

CALL TO CONFESSION

The gifts and calling of God are irrevocable. God will not reject God’s people. Knowing God is merciful and abounding in steadfast love, always willing to hear our prayers and accept our heartfelt confession, we turn to our Lord with boldness, speaking aloud the ways we fail to be the people God calls us to be.

***Prayer of Confession (Unison)**

God of all people, we come before you this day keenly aware of the ways we fall short of your vision for us and for our life together. You tell us how good and pleasant it is when we dwell together in unity, and yet we create division and cultivate disdain. You command us to care for each other, but we send away those crying out for help. You call us and put us together in community, but we want to pick and choose those with whom we associate. Forgive us for thinking we are self-sufficient and independent, rather than utterly dependent upon you and in need of each other. Help us to see ourselves and others as the beloved reflections of the divine we are and give us the grace to treat each other as such. Amen.

***Assurance of Forgiveness (*Romans 11*)**

God does not reject God’s people. God is merciful to all. Friends, believe the good news and be at peace: Through Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION:

SCRIPTURE READINGS



Matthew 15: 10-28 “Things that Defile and The Canaanite Women’s Faith”

SERMON “Overcoming Barriers”

Hymn #407 vs 1, 2, & 3 “*When a Poor One*”

WE RESPOND TO GOD

Affirmation of faith (*The Confession of 1967, section on the Holy Spirit*)

God the Holy Spirit fulfills the work of reconciliation in human life. The Holy Spirit creates and renews the church as the community in which people are reconciled to God and to one another. The Spirit enables people to receive forgiveness as they forgive one another and to enjoy the peace of God as they make peace among themselves. In spite of their sin, the Spirit gives people power to become representatives of Jesus Christ and his gospel of reconciliation to all.

- SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

OFFERING OUR THANKS TO GOD

Call for the offering

God, your providence is evident when we take a long, loving look at our lives. The twists and turns, the disappointments and hurts, none of them were absent of your grace and purpose. Aware that you do not reject or abandon us, but remain with us always, we respond with gratitude, giving in joy our morning's offering with confidence you will use it to reveal your care to others. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

Receive these gifts, gracious God, as an outward sign of our recognition of your amazing grace. There is nothing we can offer you in return for your love to us, and yet we know that you take what we give in faith. Bless and use it for the building up of your kingdom on earth until Christ comes again. Amen.

SENDING OUT

Hymn – #358 vs 1, 2, & 4 *“Help Us Accept Each Other”*

BENEDICTION

DISMISSAL Hymn# 315 Refrain *“Every Time I Feel the Spirit”*

POSTLUDE

Portions of today's liturgy come from “Feasting on the Word Worship Companion”, “Book of Common Worship” and “Jill Duffield of the Presbyterian Outlook”

What is a Matthew 25 Church?

Matthew 25:31–46 calls all of us to actively engage in the world around us, so our faith comes alive and we wake up to new possibilities.