Preparing to Hear God’s Word

Prelude  \textit{Nun ruhen alle Wälder} \hspace{1cm} Jacques van Oortmerssen

Welcome and Call to Worship \hspace{1cm} Ken Henry

Introit \textit{Sing ye a joyful song (Op. 99, No. 10)} \hspace{1cm} Antonín Dvořák
Sophie Caplin, soprano

Opening Prayer

God’s Word to Us

Old Testament Reading \hspace{1cm} Isaiah 55:10-13

Gospel \hspace{1cm} Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

Sermon \hspace{1cm} Teacher, teach \hspace{1cm} Lynne Clements

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer

Hymn \textit{O God in Whom All Life Begins} \hspace{1cm} NOEL

Charge and Benediction

Postlude \textit{Joy} \hspace{1cm} Ad Wammes
O God in Whom All Life Begins

1 O God in whom all life begins, who births the seed to fruit,
2 Unite in mutual ministry our minds and hands and hearts
3 Through tears and laughter, grief and joy, enlarge our trust and care;

be-stow your blessing on our lives; here let your love find root.
that we may have the grace to seek the power your peace imparts.
so bind us in community that we may risk and dare.

Bring forth in us the Spirit's gifts of patience, joy, and peace;
So let our varied gifts combine to glorify your Name
Be with us when we gather here to worship, sing, and pray;

de-liver us from numbing fear, and grant our faith increase.
that in all things by word and deed we may your love proclaim.
then send us forth in power and faith to live the words we say.

Although it was written for the installation of a pastor, this text is really about the mutual ministry shared by all members of a worshipping community, both when they are gathered and when they go forth into the world. The tune used here may have Christmas associations for some.
WEEKLY DEVOTIONAL

Prayer

Creator and Sustainer of all life,
In gracious love, you made all that there is –
mountains and seas, stars and moon. You formed
humankind in your own image and we bear
your likeness. From the tiny hand of a baby to
the forceful winds that blow, we glimpse your
tenderness and your awesome power.

Sower of seeds, you plant your abundant word
in us. Patiently, you cultivate our hearts with your
mercy and tend to our needs with streams of living
water and bread from heaven.

May we be fertile soil for your love to take root
in us so that we would be bearers of good fruit and
become sowers of your word in the world.

Great Teacher, you offer us wisdom with your
words and an example with your life. Open our ears
to hear your voice, calling us to love and service in
your name. Grateful for your patience and grace,
help us as we seek to spread the gospel in your name
and for your glory. Amen.

Westminster Staff

Ken Henry, Pastor
khenry@westminsterva.org

Lynne Clements, Associate Pastor
lclements@westminsterva.org

Dorothy Piatt
Assoc. Pastor for Social Justice and
University Mission
dpiatt@westminsterva.org

Megan Sharp
Director of Fine Arts

Jonathan Schakel
Organist
Sanford Wilcox
Church Administrator

Ashley Dunn-Jalenak
Communications Manager
Steve Brown
Finance Administrator

Tom Mullen
Sexton
Alonzo Williams
Assistant Sexton

Through a series of online messages, devotionals, and worship opportunities, we
hope to keep you connected to — and nurtured by — the Westminster community.
Make sure you’re signed up for our eNews, Facebook page, and Instagram account,
@westminstercville. Visit www.westminsterva.org.