

Service for the Lord's Day

13th Sunday after Pentecost

August 22nd, 2021

Westminster Presbyterian Church
400 Rugby Road, Charlottesville, Virginia
www.westminsterva.org • 434-293-3133



*W*elcome visitors, newcomers, and friends worshipping with us today! If you're interested in joining our church community, please speak to a pastor after worship or contact the church office, 434-293-3133. We hope you will worship with us again, whenever possible.

Preparing to Hear God's Word

Prelude *Ein feste Burg ist unser Gott* J. S. Bach

Welcome Dorothy Piatt-Esguerra

◆ Call to Worship

*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 so closely.*

**Let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us,
looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.**

◆ Hymn 41 **O Worship the King, All Glorious Above!** LYONS

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, we confess our doubts.

When our childhood understandings fall away, we feel naked.

When our long-held beliefs seem to crumble, we feel lost.

When our convictions are questioned, we feel ashamed.

Guide us into right paths, O God.

Guide our feet into the way of peace; guide our hands to care for others; guide our hearts to love our neighbors.

Call us back to you, O Christ, and renew our faith.

When the ground is unsteady, loving God, put us back on right paths by doing justice, loving kindness, and walking humbly with you.

Silent Prayers

Sung Response

You are the Lord, giver of mercy!
You are the Christ, giver of mercy!
You are the Lord, giver of mercy!

Assurance of Forgiveness

*The Lord is our chosen portion and our cup.
God binds us in, counsels our minds, and instructs our hearts.
God helps us to stand firm for justice, mercy, and peace.
When we fall, God lifts us up, forgives us,
and remembers our sins no more.*

Thanks be to God. Amen.

◆ Sung Response

All glory be to God on high, and peace on earth from heaven,
And God's good will unfailingly be to all people given.
We bless, we worship You, we raise
For Your great glory thanks and praise,
O God, the great Creator.

◆ Sharing of the Peace

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

God's Word to Us

First Reading

Psalm 84

Duet

Over My Head

arr. John Bell

Ellie Weikle, Dana Patek

Second Reading

Ephesians 6:10-20

Sermon

Are We Gonna Get Any Better, or Is This It?

Ken Henry

◆ Affirmation of Faith

Prayer from *The Iona Community*

*In life, in death, in life beyond death, **Jesus Christ is Lord.***

*Over powers and principalities, over all who determine, control, govern or finance the affairs of humankind, **Jesus Christ is Lord.***

*Of the poor, of the broken, of the sinned against and the sinner, **Jesus Christ is Lord.***
Above the Church, beyond our most excellent theologies and in the quiet corners of our hearts,

Jesus Christ is Lord.

*Thanks be to God, **Amen.***

◆ Hymn 402

How Lovely, Lord

MERLE'S TUNE

Prayers of the Congregation and the Lord's Prayer

◆ Hymn 840

When Peace Like a River

(verses 1, 2 & 4)

◆ Prayer of Thanksgiving and Benediction

Postlude

Curant

Samuel Scheidt

◆ Please stand, as you are able.

The flowers today are given in memory of August 17th, 1963, the day Jack and Betty Blackburn were married in Baltimore, Maryland.

The Program Year Begins

at Westminster

Welcome to University Students!

Sundays, beginning August 22:

11 a.m. Worship

12 p.m. Brunch at Common Grounds for all young adults

Thursdays, beginning August 26:

5:30 p.m. Yoga in the Westminster Courtyard

First and Third Wednesdays, beginning September 1:

7 p.m. 20/30 CreW Wednesday Wind-Down for young adults and graduate or professional students

Regular service projects will begin on September 5th!

August 29th: Two Services begin at 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.

Church School Classes begin

Sunday, September 12

8:30 and 11 a.m. Worship

9:30 a.m. Classes for children, youth, and adults

Westminster Staff

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Communications Manager

Steve Brown

Finance Administrator

Tom Mullen

Sexton

Alonzo Williams

Assistant Sexton

Through a series of online and in-person 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, Twitter, and Instagram accounts, @westminsterville.

Visit www.westminsterva.org.