Welcome 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  

**Poco lento-Moderato**  
Edward Elgar

Welcome

♦ Call to Worship  
Matthew 11

*The music is playing, and God is calling.*

We have come to sing and dance with God.

*The prayers are flowing, and the Spirit is moving.*

Breathe on us, breath of God.

Christ promises rest and renewal, when we come to him.

We are here, trusting this sacred promise.

Let us worship God.

♦ Hymn 30

**O God, in a Mysterious Way**  
DUNDEE

Call to Confession

Come to Christ with the confidence of children, for Christ will carry our burdens, renew our souls, and give us rest, through his mercy and grace.

Prayer of Confession

Prophetic One, you call us to new places and new ways of being as individuals, as country, and as church. You challenge us to dance new steps and to sing new songs. We yearn to trust you and to follow your lead, but our egos are often more like stone statues than they are like fluid dancers. Forgive us. Help us hear your voice, to listen to the whisper of the Spirit, and to obey as Christ did. Sing to us with the yoke of unconditional love, that we may follow you joyously, dance confidently, and sing praises with every act and with every word of our lives.

Silent Prayers

Sung Response  

Glory to God hymnal no. 288

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Assurance of Forgiveness

Rejoice and give thanks. Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ, and Christ died for us, rose again for us, sits on the right hand of God, and prays for us. With mercy, Christ is already shouldering our load to strengthen our lives and renew our souls.

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.

God’s Word to Us

A Time with Children and Youth

Solo

There's a Spirit of Love in This Place
Margaret Anne Doran, soprano

There's a spirit of love in this place,
you can't see it but it's there,
just as precious as the air,
there's a spirit of love in this place.

There's the presence of peace in this room,
in God's tenderness is found
peace that passes human bounds,
there's the presence of peace in this room.

O alleluia, sing alleluia,
we bless your holy name.
O alleluia, sing alleluia,
there's a spirit of love in this place.

There's a space for grace in our hearts,
it's in learning to forgive
that our spirits truly live,
there's a space for grace in our hearts.

Sung Prayer for Illumination

Listen, God is calling, through the Word inviting,
offering forgiveness, comfort and joy.

First Reading

Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67
Virginia Rovnyak

Second Reading

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30
Jewell-Ann Parton

Responding to God’s Word

Affirmation of Faith

What is your only comfort, in life and in death?

from The Heidelberg Catechism
That I belong – body and soul, in life and in death –
not to myself but to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ,
who at the cost of his own blood has fully paid for all my sins
and has completely freed me from the dominion of the devil;
that he protects me so well that without the will of my Father in heaven
not a hair can fall from my head;
indeed, that everything must fit his purpose for my salvation.
Therefore, by his Holy Spirit, he also assures me of eternal life,
and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.

Prayers of the Congregation and the Lord’s Prayer

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 Offering

Tell me where is the road I can call my own,
That I left, that I lost, so long ago?
All these years I have wandered,
Oh when will I know there’s a way,
There’s a road that will lead me home?
    After wind, after rain, when the dark is done,
    As I wake from a dream in the gold of day,
    Through the air there’s a calling from far away,
    There’s a voice I can hear that will lead me home.

Rise up, follow me, come away is the call,
With the love in your heart as the only song;
There is no such beauty as where you belong,
Rise up, follow me, I will lead you home.

Presentation of the Offering

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Prayer of Dedication

Receive these gifts, Lord, and bless them to be a source of blessing to this community and beyond our borders. Through these tithes and offerings, renew others that they too may know the comfort of living in the arms of your compassion and your love. Amen.

Hymn 838  
Standing on the Promises

Charge and Benediction

Passing of the Peace

May the peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

Postlude  
Chorale Prelude on “Dundee”  
C. Hubert H. Parry

Please stand, as you are able.

The flowers in the sanctuary today are in remembrance of Phil Best’s 83rd birthday, with much love from his wife, Billie Best and their six children.

What’s Happening  
at Westminster

Sunday, July 9
9 a.m. Pickup Choir in the Choir Room
10 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary
11:30 a.m. Session Meeting in the Library

Wednesday, July 12
6 p.m. Eats and Treats at the Common Grounds Terrace

Friday, July 14
2 p.m. Memorial Service for Dr. Warren Grupe in the Sanctuary

Sunday, July 16
10 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary
11:30 a.m. Deacons Meeting in the Upper Lounge

Wednesday, July 19
7 p.m. 20/30/40 CreW Wednesday Wind-Down (off site)

Welcome to the Westminster community. Make sure you’re signed up for our eNews, Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram accounts, @westminstercville. Visit www.westminsterva.org.

To give, scan the QR code to the right.
30   O God, in a Mysterious Way

1 O God, in a mysterious way great wonders you perform.
2 Deep in unfathomable mines of never-failing skill,
3 O fearful saints, fresh courage take. The clouds you so much dread
4 Our unbelief is sure to err and scan your work in vain.

You plant your footsteps in the sea and ride upon the storm.
you treasure up your bright designs and work your sovereign will.
are big with mercy and shall break in blessings on your head.
You are your own interpreter, and you will make it plain.

This classic text gains renewed energy and focus from its recasting here: despite our fear and confusion, we can trust that God's providential purposes will eventually be revealed. In its original source the tune printed here is one of twelve not assigned to a specific hymn.

TEXT: William Cowper, 1773, alt.
MUSIC: Scottish Psalter, 1615

DUNDEE
CM
(alternate harmonization, 45)
CONFESSION

418 Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling

1 Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling, calling for you and for me.
   "Come home, come home!"

2 Why should we tarry when Jesus is pleading, pleading for you and for me? Why should we linger and heed not his mercies, you and for me! Though we have sinned, he has mercy and pardon,
   "Come home, come home!"

3 O for the wonderful love he has promised, promised for watching for you and for me.
   "Come home, come home!"

You who are weary, come home." Earnestly, tenderly,

Jesus is calling, calling, "O sinner, come home!"

This 19th-century gospel hymn has often been used as a hymn of invitation at evangelistic services. Its imagery is primarily based on Jesus' parable in Luke 15:11-32, commonly called "The Prodigal Son." Each singer thus becomes a wandering child who is urged to return home.

TEXT and MUSIC: Will L. Thompson, 1880

SOFTLY AND TENDERLY
11.7.11.7 with refrain
What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine 837
Leaning on the Everlasting Arms

1 What a fellowship, what a joy divine, leaning on the everlasting arms;
2 O how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way, leaning on the everlasting arms;
3 What have I to dread, what have I to fear, leaning on the everlasting arms; what a blessedness, what a peace is mine,

refrain

leaning on the everlasting arms. Leaning, Leaning on Jesus,

leaning on Jesus, safe and secure from all alarms; leaning on

leaning, leaning, leaning on Jesus, leaning on Jesus, leaning on the everlasting arms.

The composer of the tune (and creator of the refrain) asked the author of the stanzas to write a hymn based on the latter part of Deuteronomy 33:27 (as worded in the King James Version): “Underneath are the everlasting arms.” Their joint effort has proved very popular.

TEXT: Elisha A. Hoffman, 1887
MUSIC: Anthony J. Showalter, 1887
Refrain

Standing, standing on the promises, standing on the promises,

Standing on the promises of God my Savior;

Standing, standing on the promises, standing on the promises,

I'm standing on the promises of God.