



WESTMINSTER

— Presbyterian Church —

Albany, New York
November 20, 2022
Service of Worship 10:00 AM

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AT WORSHIP
Thanksgiving Sunday



WE ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

(Let the notes of our Prelude be the musical curtain through which we pass as we gather to worship together. Let the preparation we make together be prayerful.)

Prelude "Fanfare on 'Come, Ye Thankful People, Come'" Charles Callahan (1951-)

Call to Worship Leah Threatte

One: This is the day that the Lord has made!

All: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

One: Let us worship God.

Land Acknowledgement Leah Threatte

We acknowledge that the building that is home to the Westminster Presbyterian Church has been built on the traditional land of the Mahican Peoples. The Mahican people were forcibly removed from their homelands in the Hudson and Housatonic River Valleys but still exist today as the Stockbridge-Munsee Community, a federally-recognized Tribal Nation headquartered in Wisconsin. We acknowledge the painful history of genocide and forced removal of Native people from this area. And we honor with gratitude the land itself and the people who have stewarded it throughout the generations.

 **Opening Hymn #336** We Gather Together KREMSER

 **Prayer of Confession** Leah Threatte

One: Let us now confess our sins, trusting in God's boundless mercy and grace.

**All: Eternal God, our judge and redeemer,
we confess that we have tried to hide from you,
for we have done wrong.**

**We have lived for ourselves,
and apart from you.**

**We have turned from our neighbors,
and refused to bear the burdens of others.**

**We have ignored the pain of the world,
and passed by the hungry, the poor, and the oppressed.**

**In your great mercy forgive our sins
and free us from selfishness,
that we may choose your will
and obey your commandments;
through Jesus Christ our Savior.**

(Time of silence)

Assurance of Forgiveness

One: Hear the good news!

Our righteousness is found in Christ alone, a gift of God by faith.

Beloved people of God, believe the good news:

through the grace of Jesus Christ

we are forgiven.

All: Amen.

Passing The Peace

Leah Threatte

Words of Welcome

Rev. Heather Kirk-Davidoff

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD



Prayer for Illumination

One: God of All Power,

Open our ears, our eyes, and our hearts with a spirit of wisdom and revelation.

Help us to hear your voice, to see your ways, and to receive with joy your truth.

In Jesus' name, Amen.



Scripture Reading

Proverbs 9:1-6

Wisdom has built her house;

she has hewn her seven pillars.

She has slaughtered her animals; she has mixed her wine;

she has also set her table.

She has sent out her female servants; she calls

from the highest places in the town,

“You who are simple, turn in here!”

To those without sense she says,

“Come, eat of my bread

and drink of the wine I have mixed.

Lay aside immaturity and live,

and walk in the way of insight.”

Choral Anthem

“Sing to the Lord of Harvest”

Healey Willan (1880-1968)

Anthem Words

Sing to the Lord of harvest, Sing songs of love and praise;

With joyful hearts and voices Your alleluias raise!

By him the rolling seasons In fruitful order move;

Sing to the Lord of harvest A song of happy love.

By Him the clouds drop fatness, The deserts bloom and spring;

The hills leap up in gladness, The valleys laugh and sing.

He filleth with His fullness All things with large increase;

He crowns the year with goodness, With plenty and with peace.

Anthem Words (Cont.)

Heap on His sacred altar the gifts His goodness gave,
The golden sheaves of harvest, The souls He died to save.
Your hearts lay down before Him When at His feet ye fall
And with your lives adore Him Who gave His life for all.

Text by J.S. B. Monsell



Scripture Reading

Ephesians 3:14-21

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

Sermon

“Can Gratitude Be Radical?”

Rev. Trey Tirpak



Hymn #643

Now Thank We All Our God

NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

Gathering Celebrations and Concerns

Prayers from State Street

Ned Trudeau

Prayers of the People

Rev. Heather Kirk-Davidoff

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.**



Offering

Leah Threatte

Honoring Lois Wilson: A Legacy of Building Partnerships for Brighter Futures in West Africa

Led by The African Mission Committee and Partners

WE ARE SENT IN GOD'S NAME



Closing Hymn #653

Give Thanks to God Who Hears Our Cries

MORNING SONG

Charge and Benediction

Rev. Heather Kirk-Davidoff

Postlude

"Now Thank We All Our God"

Paul Manz (1919-2009)

We welcome Margaret Randall as this week's guest musician. Thank you, Margaret!

And we welcome Rev. Trey Tirpak as this week's guest preacher. Trey serves as the Minister of Discipleship & Outreach at the First Church in Albany, one of our FOCUS partner congregations. Trey was born and raised on the island of Oahu in the state of Hawaii. He then went to college and seminary in Michigan where he met his partner Cameron. They both have now lived in the Capital Region for a little over a year. He's honored and delighted to be preaching at Westminster today.

Permission to reprint and stream the copyrighted music in this service is obtained from ONE LICENSE #A-700692, CCLI Streaming License #21525228 and/or CCLI Reprint #21525211. All rights reserved.

Today's flowers are given by Sheila Wrede on behalf of Westminster's African Mission Committee with heartfelt gratitude to Lois Wilson for her unwavering commitment and unparalleled dedication to our work in Africa.

Stay in Touch with Westminster

- Visit our website: www.wpcalbany.org
- Like us on Facebook: Westminster Presbyterian Church Albany
- Get weekly news email messages by providing a current email address to the church office at office@wpcalbany.org or calling (518) 436-8544
- For more about Westminster's online communications, please contact us: communications@wpcalbany.org

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

262 State Street (Mail to: 85 Chestnut Street)
Albany, New York 12210
Office: (518) 436-8544
Email: office@wpcalbany.org website: www.wpcalbany.org

Session

Leah Threatte, Clerk
John Bossung, Nancy Holroyd, Felicia Kollie-Gambles,
Hannah Ohemaa-Takyi, Susan Schell, Larry Volk

Deacons

Mary Bullis and Dodie Seagle, Co-moderators
Christabel Abban, Ervin Ashburn, Ruthanne Brod,
Cynthia Dwyer, Kate Gallagher, Mabel McGraw, Elizabeth McMillan

Trustees

Leif Hartmark, Chair
David Adjei, Marie McClumpha, Laura Moody, David Norman,
Pete Seagle, Joy L. Tallmadge, Kathy Walter, Peter Wrede

CHURCH PROGRAM TEAM

Rev. Heather Kirk-Davidoff, Pastor
pastor@wpcalbany.org
Cell: 240-281-5005

Belinda Quaye, Director of Christian Education

CHURCH SUPPORT TEAM

Lorraine Charboneau, Church Administrator
office@wpcalbany.org

Kim Deal, Communications Manager
Forrest Holroyd, Treasurer
Joy L. Tallmadge, Associate Sexton

We Gather Together

336

1 We gath - er to - geth - er to ask the Lord's bless - ing;
 2 Be - side us to guide us, our God with us join - ing,
 3 We all do ex - tol thee, thou lead - er tri - um - phant,

he chas - tens and has - tens his will to make known;
 or - dain - ing, main - tain - ing his king - dom di - vine;
 and pray that thou still our de - fend - er wilt be.

the wick - ed op - press - ing now cease from dis - tress - ing.
 so from the be - gin - ning the fight we were win - ning;
 Let thy con - gre - ga - tion es - cape trib - u - la - tion;

Sing prais - es to his name; he for - gets not his own.
 thou, Lord, wast at our side; all glo - ry be thine!
 thy name be ev - er praised! O Lord, make us free!

First published among songs celebrating the end of Spanish control of the Netherlands, this text's blend of patriotism and piety has made it popular at (often ecumenical) Thanksgiving Day services. The tune is named for the Viennese arranger whose male chorus popularized it.

THANKSGIVING

643 Now Thank We All Our God

1 Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voic - es,
 2 O may this boun - teous God through all our life be near us,
 3 All praise and thanks to God, who reigns in high - est heav - en,

who won-drous things hath done, in whom this world re - joic - es;
 with ev - er joy - ful hearts and bless - ed peace to cheer us;
 to Fa - ther and to Son and Spir - it now be giv - en:

who, from our moth-ers' arms, hath blessed us on our way
 and keep us in God's grace, and guide us when per-plexed,
 the one e - ter - nal God, whom heaven and earth a - dore,

with count - less gifts of love, and still is ours to - day.
 and free us from all ills in this world and the next.
 the God who was, and is, and shall be ev - er - more.

Although this hymn is often used on large and festive occasions, its first two stanzas had much humbler beginnings: they originated as a family table prayer during the Thirty Years' War (1618–1648). These words have been associated with this tune since the mid-17th century.

653

Give Thanks to God
Who Hears Our Cries

(Psalm 107)

1 Give thanks to God who hears our cries and saves in
2 If you have ev - er wan - dered where no hu - man
3 If you have ev - er lived in - side the pris - on
4 If you drew near the gates of death, too sick to

trou-bled days with won - drous works to hu - man - kind that
help was near, and in your trou - ble cried to God, who
of your gloom and cried to God, who broke your bonds and
eat or dress, and cried to God, who heard your voice and

call for high - est praise. Let all who know God's
res - cued you from fear, then thank the God of
raised you from your tomb, then praise the One who
healed all your dis - tress, then sing with sounds of

The singing of psalm paraphrases is the most long-standing musical practice in Reformed tradition, dating from John Calvin's own congregation in Geneva in the 16th century. This recent paraphrase of Psalm 107 illustrates the interpretive flexibility that is a hallmark of the form.

TEXT: Ruth Duck, 2007

MUSIC: Wyeth's *Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second*, 1813; harm. Richard Proulx, 1975

Text © 2011 GIA Publications, Inc.

Music Harm. © 1975 GIA Publications, Inc.

MORNING SONG

8.6.8.6.8.6

(alternate harmonization, 374)

THANKSGIVING

sav - ing love sing grate - ful songs al - ways.
 stead - fast love who dries your ev - ery tear.
 sets you free, who makes dry plac - es bloom.
 ho - ly joy; God's won - drous works pro - fess.

5 If you have felt your courage fail
 before a violent sea
 and cried to God, who stilled the storm,
 and made the wild wind flee,
 then in the congregation praise
 the One who heard your plea.

6 So praise the One whose love is great,
 whose kindness is well-known.
 Consider well the healing hand
 and help you have been shown,
 and tell the world what God has done.
 Praise God and God alone!