

WESTMINSTER

Presbyterian Church

Albany, New York November 3, 2024 Service of Worship 10:00 AM

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AT WORSHIP All Saints Sunday

HHH

Welcome to Westminster! We're glad you're here.

- If you're visiting us this morning, we would love to meet you and greet you! We invite you to fill out the Welcome Card in the pew and put it in the offering plate or hand it to an usher in the back.
- After worship, please join us downstairs as we continue our fellowship at our coffee hour. We gather in the hall located directly under the sanctuary. Stairs are located through the doors on either side of the front of the sanctuary, followed by another stairway that leads downstairs. Additional stairs and an elevator are available at the rear of the sanctuary. We recognize that our 19th century building can be confusing to navigate! We are here to help—please speak to an usher if you need assistance.

HHHH

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 Vignette Hall M. Macklin



Call to Worship (Psalm 95:1-2)

Nate Powers

One: O come, let us sing to the Lord

and shout with joy to the rock of our salvation!

All: Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving,

singing joyful songs of praise.



Opening Hymn #326

For All the Saints



Prayer of Confession

Nate Powers

One: Jesus said: Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

All: Eternal God,

in every age you have raised up men and women

to live and die in faith.

We confess that we are often indifferent to your will.

You call us to proclaim your name,

but we are silent.

You call us to do what is just,

but we remain idle.

You call us to live faithfully,

but we are afraid.
In your mercy, forgive us.
Give us courage to follow in your way,
that joined with those from ages past,
who have served you with faith, hope, and love,
we may inherit the kingdom you promised in Jesus Christ.

(Time of silence)

Assurance of Forgiveness

Nate Powers

One: Jesus said: Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

All: Thanks be to God.

Passing The Peace Nate Powers

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

Isaiah 25:6-9

On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear. And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the covering that is spread over all nations; he will swallow up death forever.

Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken. It will be said on that day, "See, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the LORD for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation."

Choral Anthem No Night There Dan Forrest



Scripture Reading

Revelation 21:1-6a

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them as their God; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them and be their God; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away."

And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End.

Reflection The New Jerusalem Rev. Heather Kirk-Davidoff

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Prayer Hymn #752 Dona Nobis Pacem

Gathering Celebrations and Concerns Rev. Heather Kirk-Davidoff

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.



Stewardship Moment

Nate Powers

Offertory Music Take This Bread, Take This Cup Edward Broughton

Doxology (Hymn #609)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God, all creatures high and low. Alleluia, alleluia!

Praise God, in Jesus fully known:

Creator, Word, and Spirit one. Alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Remembering Our Saints

by Rev. Heather Kirk-Davidoff and the Congregation

Invitation to Communion

Rev. Heather Kirk-Davidoff and Elder Peter McKee

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right to give our thanks and praise to you, the God of Abraham and Sarah, Miriam and Moses, Joshua, Deborah, Ruth, David, priests, and prophets, Mary, Joseph, Peter and Paul, apostles, and martyrs, and ordinary unknown saints. You are the God of our mothers and fathers and our children to all generations. You, Everlasting One, made us all. You fashion us into one people, and continue to love us even when we deny our godly heritage. Still, you call us home to you through saints dedicated to your will. Therefore we praise you joining our voices with all the people of faith of every time and place who forever sing to the glory of your name:

All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory! Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed are you, most gracious God, for the gift of your child, our brother, Jesus Christ, who lived in accord with your will to the point of laying down his life for the good news he preached and passed on to us. On the night of his arrest, he taught us how to serve one another in love with a ritual of table fellowship enjoyed by Christians of all times and places. And so in remembrance of our Lord Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves with thanksgiving as a living sacrifice. In union with Christ's offering for us, we live out the mystery of the faith we proclaim:

All: Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come again.

Spirit of the living God, make us one as we partake of these your gifts to us so we might be in communion with you and one another.

All: As we break bread together, may our eyes be opened to see your glory. As we lift the cup of salvation, may we be strengthened to follow your Way.



Words of Institution and Sharing Bread and Cup

Communion Hymn #523

You Satisfy the Hungry Heart



Prayer after Communion

One: After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, crying out with a loud voice:

All: "Salvation belongs to our "God who sits upon the throne, and to the Lamb!"

One: And all the angels stood round the throne and round the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, saying,

All: "Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God for ever and ever! Amen!"

WE ARE SENT IN GOD'S NAME



Closing Hymn #853

We Are Marching in the Light of God

Benediction Rev. Heather Kirk-Davidoff

Postlude On Our Way Rejoicing Lani Smith

Altar Flowers

Flowers given to the Glory of God by Margaret Elbow Conn in grateful memory of all the saints who have been part of the Westminster family through the ages. Margaret especially remembers her parents, Matt & Meg Elbow who joined Westminster in 1950, were active members until their deaths in 2005 and 2017, and who made Westminster a key element of their family life.

HHHHH

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2024 CHURCH OFFICERS

Session

Leah Threatte, Clerk of Session

2024: Nancy Holroyd, Susan Schell

2025: Ephraim Adjei, Peter McKee, Linore Southworth

2026: John Bossung, Kate Gallagher, Felicia Kollie-Gambles, Nathan Powers

Deacons

Mary Bullis and Dodie Seagle, Co-moderators 2024: Ruthanne Brod, Cynthia Dwyer, Mabel McGraw

2025: Kelly Crisfield, Carolyn Smith

2026: Mary Bullis, Marie McClumpha, Dodie Seagle

Trustees

John Bossung, President

2024: David Adjei, Leif Hartmark, Laura Moody

2025: John Bossung

2026: Pete Seagle, Joy L. Tallmadge, Peter Wrede

CHURCH PROGRAM TEAM

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Belinda Quaye, Director of Christian Education ChristianEd@wpcalbany.org

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CHURCH SUPPORT TEAM

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Kim Deal, Communications Manager communications@wpcalbany.org

John Fox, Grounds Maintenance

Forrest Holroyd, Treasurer treasurer@wpcalbany.org

Joy L. Tallmadge, Associate Sexton

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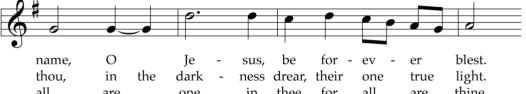
For All the Saints



- 1 For all the saints who from their la bors rest, who
- 2 Thou wast their rock, their for-tress, and their might;
- 3 O blest com mu nion, fel low-ship di vine!
- 4 And when the strife is fierce, the war-fare long,
- 5 From earth's wide bounds, from o-cean's far-thest coast, through



thee faith the world con-fessed, thy by be fore thou, Lord, their the well-fought fight; cap tain in We fee - bly strug gle; they glo - ry shine; yet steals the the dis - tant tri - umph song, and on ear in the count - less gates of pearl streams



thee, all thine. all one in for are are gain, hearts brave a and arms strong. are are Fa Ghost, sing ing to ther, Son, and Ho ly



The broad and sweeping tune with which this hymn is so closely identified was created to be sung during a reverent but dramatic procession at the beginning of an All Saints' Day service, an enacted representation of the enduring "fellowship divine" celebrated by this text.



Dona nobis pacem

752

Sim shalom

Rabbu habna salamann tamman



*May be sung as a canon.

Whether sung in Latin, Hebrew, Arabic, or any other language, there is no common human prayer deeper than the longing for peace: peace among people and peace in our hearts. The style of this familiar musical setting suggests that it dates from the late 18th or early 19th century.

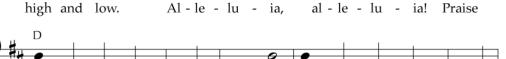
609

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow



Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow. Praise God, all crea-tures





God, in Je - sus ful - ly known: Cre - a - tor, Word, and Spir - it







You Satisfy the Hungry Heart 523







- 1 As when the shep-herd calls his sheep, they know and heed his voice,
- 2 With joy ful lips we sing to you our praise and grat i tude
- 3 Is not the cup we bless and share the blood of Christ out-poured?
- 4 The mys-tery of your pres-ence, Lord, no mor tal tongue can tell:
- 5 You give your-self to us, O Lord; then self-less let us be



so when you call your fam - ily, Lord, we fol - low and re-joice. that you should count us wor-thy, Lord, to share this heaven-ly food. Do not one cup, one loaf, de - clare our one - ness in the Lord? whom all the world can-not con - tain comes in our hearts to dwell. to serve each oth - er in your name in truth and char - i - ty.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

Submitted together, this text and tune were chosen from about two hundred entries to be the official hymn for the 41st International Eucharistic Congress held at Philadelphia in 1976. At the center of its many biblical images, the third stanza draws on 1 Corinthians 10:16–17.

$853\,$ We Are Marching in the Light of God



This lively Zulu/Xhosa freedom song originated in a Methodist young men's group in South Africa and has gone on to become popular in many other languages around the globe. Some additional stanzas are suggested, but others may be improvised as appropriate to the occasion.



We are singing...