



WESTMINSTER

— Presbyterian Church —

Albany, New York
August 9, 2026
Service of Worship 10:00 a.m.

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
The Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost



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. After worship, please join us as we continue our fellowship at our coffee hour.

**indicates an invitation to stand if you are able*



WE ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Prelude

Make the Sounds of Praise

Robert J. Hughes



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.



***Opening Hymn #319**

Men of Faith, Rise Up and Sing

Call to Confession

Leah Threatte

Jesus says: Let anyone who is thirsty come to me.

John 7:37-38

Out of the believer's heart
shall flow rivers of living water.

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



Prayer of Confession (unison)

Leah Threatte

All: Merciful God,

We confess that we have sinned against you

In thought, word, and deed,

By what we have done,

And by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you

With our whole heart and mind and strength.

We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

In your mercy, forgive what we have been,

Help us to amend what we are,

And direct what we shall be,

That we may delight in your will

And walk in your ways,

To the glory of your holy name.

(Time of silence)

Hymn #422

Create in Me a Clean Heart

Assurance of Forgiveness

Leah Threatte

One: Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation.
The old life has gone; a new life has begun.
Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

All: Amen.

***Response Hymn #582**

Glory To God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

Passing the Peace

Leah Threatte

Words of Welcome

Rev. Heather Kirk-Davidoff

Special Music

"The Call"

Ralph Vaughn Williams
Rachel Balbi, Soloist

Come, my way, my truth, my life:
such a way as gives us breath;
such a truth as ends all strife;
such a life as killeth death.

Come, my light, my feast, my strength:
such a light as shows a feast;
such a feast as mends in length;
such a strength as makes his guest.

Come, my joy, my love, my heart:
such a joy as none can move;
such a love as none can part;
such a heart as joys in love.

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD



Prayer for Illumination

Leah Threatte

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 Lesson

Matthew 14:22-33

Immediately he made the disciples get into a boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds.

And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea.

But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and, beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!"

Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

Sermon

"Stepping Out"

Rev. Heather Kirk-Davidoff

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn

Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me (insert)

***Affirmation of Faith**

Introduced by Leah Threatte

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,**

**and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sits on the right hand
of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit;
the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body;
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Gathering Celebrations and Concerns



Prayers of the People

Rev. Heather Kirk-Davidoff

The Lord's Prayer

All: 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.



Invitation to the Offering

Leah Threatte

Offertory Music

Hope Transcending

Franklin Ritter

***Hymn #710**

We Lift Our Voices

WE ARE SENT IN GOD'S NAME



***Closing Hymn #463**

How Firm a Foundation

***Charge and Benediction**

Rev. Heather Kirk-Davidoff

Postlude

Ye Shall Go Out With Joy

Homer Nearing



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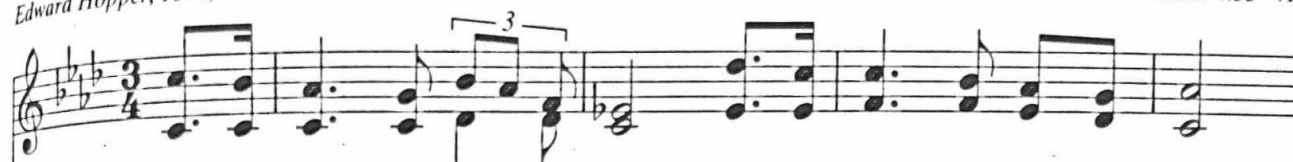
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Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me

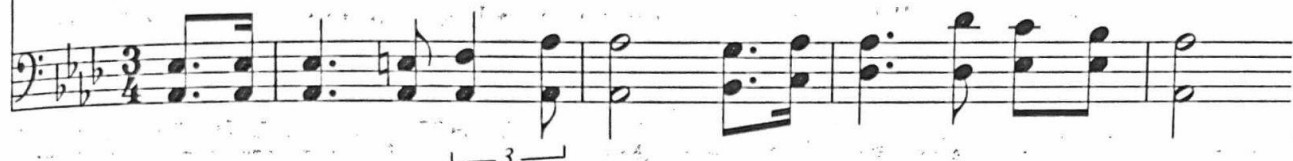
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Edward Hopper, 1871; alt.

Mark 4:35-41



1 Je - sus, Sav - ior, pi - lot me o - ver life's tem-pes-tuous sea;
2 As a moth - er stills her child, you can hush the o - cean wild;
3 When at last I near the shore, and the fear - ful break-ers roar,



Un-known waves be - fore me roll, hid - ing rock and treach-erous shoal;
Bois-terous waves o - bey your will when you say to them, "Be still."
Keep-ing me from peace-ful rest, then, while lean-ing on your breast,

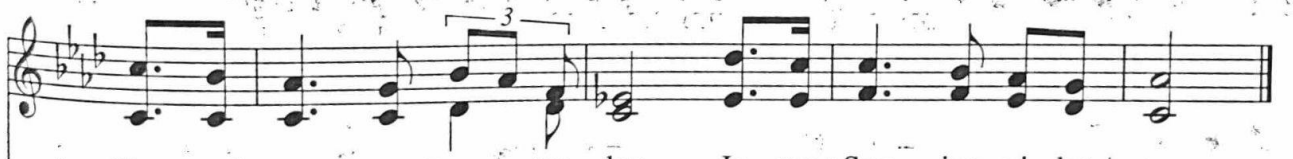


Chart and com - pass ev - er be; Je - sus, Sav - ior, pi - lot me.
Won-drous Sov - ereign of the sea, Je - sus, Sav - ior, pi - lot me.
May I hear your words so true, "Fear not, I will pi - lot you."



Inspired by the many sailors in his congregation in New York City, Edward Hopper wrote these lines. They were first sung for an anniversary service of the American Seamen's Friend Society at Broadway Tabernacle (Congregational).

Tune: PILOT 7.7.7.7.7.
John E. Gould, 1871

2026 CHURCH OFFICERS

Session

Leah Threatte, Clerk of Session

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

2027: Nancy Holroyd, Nate Powers, Susan Schell

2028: Ephriam Adjei, Jessica Chamberlain, Willie White

Deacons

Carolyn Smith, Chair

2026: Marie McClumpha, Dodie Seagle

2027: Lily Mercogliano Easton, Maxine Quaye

2025: Shernette Grant, Ruth Mendoza, Julia Haywood-Dadzie, Carolyn Smith

Trustees

David Nti Adjei, Chair

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

2027: David Nti Adjei, Fatmata Hilton, Mark Manieson

2028: Jeramias Castañeda, Kelly Crisfield, Laura Moody

CHURCH PROGRAM TEAM

Rev. Heather Kirk-Davidoff, Pastor

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Belinda Quaye, Director of Christian Education

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Emma Mrowka, Organist

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CHURCH SUPPORT TEAM

Kim Deal, Communications Manager

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John Fox, Exterior Maintenance

Forrest Holroyd, Treasurer

treasurer@wpcalbany.org

Moses Kunda, LaundroZone LLC, Interior Cleaning

Darhon Rees-Rohrbacher

Assistant to the Music Director

Allison Rider, Financial Assistant

Eugene Sit, Assistant Treasurer

Joy L. Tallmadge, Associate Sexton

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