

WESTMINSTER

— Presbyterian Church —

Albany, New York
June 21, 2026
Service of Worship 10:00 a.m.

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
The Fourth 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.



WE ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Prelude

Oh, How I Love Jesus

Ben Logan



Call to Worship

Felicia Kollie-Gambles

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 #317

In Christ There Is No East or West

Call to Confession

Felicia Kollie-Gambles

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)

Felicia Kollie-Gambles

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

Felicia Kollie-Gambles

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

Felicia Kollie-Gambles

Words of Welcome

Rev. Heather Kirk-Davidoff

Special Music

I Believe

Ervin Drake & Jimmy Shirl
Christopher Price, soloist

I believe for every drop of rain that falls, a flower grows.
I believe that somewhere in the darkest night, a candle glows.
I believe for everyone who goes astray, someone will come to show the way.
I believe, I believe.

I believe above a storm the smallest prayer can still be heard.
I believe that someone in the great somewhere hears every word.
Every time I hear a newborn baby cry, or touch a leaf, or see the sky.
Then I know why I believe, I believe.

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD



Prayer for Illumination

Felicia Kollie-Gambles

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 10:24-39

"A disciple is not above the teacher nor a slave above the master; it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!

"So have no fear of them, for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered and nothing secret that will not become known. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light, and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather, fear the one who can destroy both soul and body in hell.

Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. And even the hairs of your head are all counted. So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

"Everyone, therefore, who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven, but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.

"Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace but a sword. For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law, and one's foes will be members of one's own household.

"Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.

Sermon

The Blessings of Division

Robert Quaye &
Rev. Heather Kirk-Davidoff

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Prayer Hymn #835

Just a Closer Walk with Thee

Gathering Celebrations and Concerns



Prayers from State Street

Prayers of the People

Ned Trudeau

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

Felicia Kollie-Gambles

Hymn #710

We Lift Our Voices

WE ARE SENT IN GOD'S NAME



Closing Hymn #315

In the Midst of New Dimensions

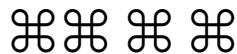
Charge and Benediction

Rev. Heather Kirk-Davidoff

Postlude

Thy Word Is Like a Garden, Lord

Samuel Wellman



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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

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Eugene Sit, Assistant Treasurer

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317 In Christ There Is No East or West

1 In Christ there is no east or west, in him no
 2 In Christ shall true hearts ev - ery - where their high com -
 3 Join hands, dis - ci - ples of the faith, what - e'er your
 4 In Christ now meet both east and west; in him meet

south or north, but one great fel - low -
 mu - nion find; his ser - vice is the
 race may be. All chil - dren of the
 south and north. All Christ - ly souls are

ship of love through - out the whole wide earth.
 gold - en cord close - bind - ing hu - man - kind.
 liv - ing God are sure - ly kin to me.
 one in him through - out the whole wide earth.

This setting expands and enhances the thematic inclusiveness of an early 20th-century text by adapting the melody of a traditional spiritual to carry these words. This 1940 pairing marked the first use of African American musical material in a mainline North American hymnal.

CONFESSION

422 Create in Me a Clean Heart

(Psalm 51)

Capo 3: (C) (F) (C) (E7) (Am)
 Eb Ab Eb G7 Cm

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right

(D) (Dm) (F) (G) (C)
 F Fm Ab Bb Eb

spir-it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your

(Dm7) (E7) (Am) (D7) (G7) (Gm7)
 Fm7 G7 Cm F7 Bb7 Bbm7

pres-ence, and take not your Ho-ly Spir-it from me.

(C7) (F) (Em7) (Am)
 Eb7 Ab Gm7 Cm

Re-store to me the joy of your sal-va-tion, and up-

(F) (Em7) (Am) (Am/F#) (C)
 Ab Gm7 Cm Cm/A Eb

hold me with your free Spir-it. Cre-ate in me a clean

(A) (F) (C) (Dm) (C)
 C Ab Eb Fm Eb

heart, O God, and re-new a right spir-it with-in me.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This reflective setting of Psalm 51:10–12 uses the first of those verses as an embracing refrain. Because of its penitential tone, a longer version of this psalm is customarily used on Ash Wednesday. In Christian tradition, it is identified as one of the seven penitential psalms.

582

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

Capo 3: (G) (D) (G) (D) (G) (D) (Em) (D)
 B^b F B^b F B^b F Gm F

1 Glo - ry to God, whose good - ness shines on me,
 2 World with - out end, ♪ with - out end. A - men.

(D) (G) (C) (G) (Em7) (A7)
 F B^b E^b B^b Gm7 C7

and to the Son, whose grace has par - doned me,
 World with - out end, ♪ with - out end. A - men.

(A7) (D) (F#) (Bm)
 C7 F A Dm

and to the Spir - it, whose love has set me free.
 World with - out end, ♪ with - out end. A - men.

(Bm7) (D) (Bdim7) (Em7) (Dm)(A7) (D)
 Dm7 F Ddim7 Gm7 Fm C7 F

As it was in the be - gin - ning, is now and ev - er shall be. A - men.

Just a Closer Walk with Thee 835

Refrain Just a clos - er walk with thee, grant it,
 1 I am weak, but thou art strong; Je - sus,
 2 Through this world of toil and snares, if I
 3 When my fee - ble life is o'er, time for

Je - sus, is my plea, dai - ly walk - ing close to
 keep me from all wrong; I'll be sat - is - fied as
 fal - ter, Lord, who cares? Who with me my bur - den
 me will be no more; guide me gent - ly, safe - ly

thee: let it be, dear Lord, let it be.
 long as I walk, let me walk close to thee. *Ref.*
 shares? None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee. *Ref.*
 o'er to thy shore, dear Lord, to thy shore. *Ref.*

The chromatic musical style of this anonymous short hymn suggests that it probably dates from the early 20th century. It also seems to owe much of its popularity to radio broadcasts and recordings as well as to evangelistic meetings and singing conventions of that era.

We Lift Our Voices

We Are an Offering

710

F C F C
 We lift our voices; we lift our hands; we lift our

F C Dm7 F
 lives up to you: we are an of-fer-ing. Lord, use our

C F C
 voices; Lord, use our hands; Lord, use our

F C Dm7 F G7
 lives; they are yours: we are an of-fer-ing.

Em7 Asus A Dm7 F G Esus E Am
 All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be, we

F C B \flat Dm F
 give to you, we give to you. We lift our

C F C F C
 voices; we lift our hands; we lift our lives up to you:

Dm7 C
 we are an of-fer-ing; we are an of-fer-ing.

This praise and worship song can best be understood as reflecting on and expanding 1 Chronicles 29:14b: "For all things come of you, [O Lord,] and of your own have we given you." There are also echoes of Paul's appeal for Christians to be living sacrifices (Romans 12:1).

315 In the Midst of New Dimensions

1 In the midst of new di - men - sions, in the face of
 2 Through the flood of starv - ing peo - ple, war - ring fac - tions,
 3 As we stand, a world di - vid - ed by our own self -
 4 We are man and we are wom - an, all per - sua - sions,
 5 Should the threats of dire pre - dic - tions cause us to with -

chang - ing ways, who will lead the pil - grim peo - ples
 and de - spair, who will lift the ol - ive branch - es?
 seek - ing schemes, grant that we, your glob - al vil - lage,
 old and young, each a gift in your cre - a - tion,
 draw in pain, may your blaz - ing phoe - nix spir - it

Refrain

wan - dering in their sep - arate ways?
 Who will light the flame of care?
 might en - vi - sion wid - er dreams. God of rain - bow, fi - ery pil - lar,
 each a love song to be sung.
 res - ur - rect the church a - gain.

lead - ing where the ea - gles soar, we your peo - ple, ours the jour - ney

In this simultaneously-created text and tune, the author-composer was seeking to incorporate imagery from both Native American and Hebrew spiritual traditions. Also included is the mythological phoenix, which had received a Christian interpretation as early as the first century.

TEXT and MUSIC: Julian B. Rush, 1979, rev. 1985
 Text and Music © 1994 Julian B. Rush

NEW DIMENSIONS
 8.7.8.7 with refrain

now and ev - er, now and ev - er, now and ev - er - more.