

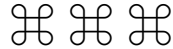


WESTMINSTER

— Presbyterian Church —

Albany, New York
September 27, 2026
Service of Worship 10:00 AM

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
The Eighteenth 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!** 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. There's also a QR code on the card if you'd rather use your phone!
- **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.



WE ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

** Indicates an invitation to stand as you are able.*

During the Prelude, we invite you to sit and quiet your body and mind as we prepare to worship together.

Prelude

Chanson

Gertrude Haupt Richolson



Call to Worship

Peter McKee

Leader: "How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!"

(Psalm 133:1)

People: We come, seeking to see the face of Christ in each neighbor we meet.

Leader: In weeping, in rejoicing, in journeying together—

People: We are called to be servants to one another.

Leader: Come, let us worship our servant King



*Opening Hymn #727

Will You Let Me Be Your Servant



Prayer of Confession

Peter McKee

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

All: Merciful God,

in your gracious presence

we confess our sin and the sin of this world.

Although Christ is among us as our peace,

we are a people divided against ourselves

as we cling to the values of a broken world.

The profit and pleasures we pursue

lay waste the land and pollute the seas.

The fears and jealousies that we harbor

set neighbor against neighbor

and nation against nation.

We abuse your good gifts of imagination and freedom,
of intellect and reason,
and have turned them into bonds of oppression.

Lord, have mercy upon us;
heal and forgive us.
Set us free to serve you in the world
as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ.
(Time of silence)



Hymn #422

Create in Me a Clean Heart

Assurance of Forgiveness

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**

Peter McKee

Words of Welcome

Rev. Heather Kirk-Davidoff

Choral Anthem

Arms Opened Wide

Howard Helvey

Arms opened wide to the needs of the neighbor;
eyes opened wide by the wonders of God's will;
daring to venture on pathways uncharted,
we move in faith that our God is speaking still.

Doors opened wide as a bold sign of welcome;
minds opened wide to the meanings of God's call:
"No longer alien or stranger or outcast—
my holy house is a house of prayer for all."

Hopes opened wide toward the light of the future,
hearts opened wide by the blessings of our past,
we pledge our lives to God's promise unfolding:
that love and justice shall fill the earth at last!

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD



Prayer for Illumination

Peter McKee

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

Philippians 2:1–13

If, then, there is any comfort in Christ, any consolation from love, any partnership in the Spirit, any tender affection and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind.

Do nothing from selfish ambition or empty conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be grasped, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, assuming human likeness. And being found in appearance as a human, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death-- even death on a cross.

Therefore God exalted him even more highly and gave him the name that is above every other name, so that at the name given to Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence but much more now in my absence, work on your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Sermon

To Will and to Work

Rev. Heather Kirk-Davidoff

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD



Prayer Song #286

Breath on Me, Breath of God

Gathering Concerns and Celebrations

Prayers of the People

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.

Invitation to the Offering

Peter McKee

Offertory Music

Contemplation

George Blake



*Hymn #607

Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow

WE ARE SENT IN GOD'S NAME



*Hymn #722

Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak

*Charge and Benediction

Rev. Heather Kirk-Davidoff

Postlude

Organ Suite: "In a Medieval Monastery" 3. Noontide

Walker Baylor

During the Postlude, we invite you to either sit and listen or stand and greet your neighbors.



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Stay in Touch with Westminster

- Visit our website: wpcalbany.org
- Like us on Facebook: [Westminster Presbyterian Church Albany](https://www.facebook.com/WestminsterPresbyterianChurchAlbany)
- 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



Help Wanted

Our congregation needs your help! If you have a **gift, skill, or idea for a program or project** you'd like to share, please reach out to **Pastor Heather Kirk-Davidoff**: text or call her at **240-281-5005** or email her at **pastor@wpcalbany.org**.

Sunday Morning Service

- **Worship Leaders:** Each Sunday, someone from our congregation helps lead our worship, reading prepared parts of the service and adding a few comments of their own. We love to include new voices! No experience necessary—we'll give you lots of guidance. Gail Garrison is our coordinator: garrisongail1@gmail.com
- **Ushers:** Our ushers welcome everyone, hand out Orders of Service, receive the offering and help newcomers navigate our building. Newcomers are very welcome to join our team. Ned Trudeau coordinates: nedtrudeau@gmail.com

Teams Looking for Volunteers

Anyone in the congregation is welcome to help guide Westminster's programs by serving on an ongoing team—no board election required! Teams meet based on member convenience and current needs. Contact Pastor Heather if you're interested in serving on any of the following:

- **Hospitality Team:** Do you feel called to welcome people and help them feel at home in Westminster? This team makes visitors feel included, helps our congregation build meaningful connections, and welcomes new people.
- **Adult Spiritual Development Team:** Do you feel called to help people develop their life of faith? As a subcommittee of Christian Life & Learning, this team works with our Minister to envision and implement adult programs, like Second Hour and other special events.
- **Personnel Team:** Do you feel called to support Westminster's staff? This team helps care for our pastor and church employees by supporting healthy workplace practices, personnel policies, and staff encouragement.
- **Faith in Action Potluck Team:** Do you love bringing people together around the table? This team helps run our monthly 1st Tuesday community dinners. We are looking for folks to help set up the room, welcome neighbors and English Language learners, and guide dinner discussions.

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

pastor@wpcalbany.org

Cell: 240-281-5005

Christopher Price, Music Director

music@wpcalbany.org

Belinda Quaye, Director of Christian Education

christianed@wpcalbany.org

Emma Mrowka, Organist

organist@wpcalbany.org

CHURCH SUPPORT TEAM

Kim Deal, Communications Manager

communications@wpcalbany.org

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, Sunday Sexton

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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