



# WESTMINSTER

— Presbyterian Church —

Albany, New York  
July 26, 2026  
Service of Worship 10:00 a.m.

**WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**The Ninth 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**

Aria Air On The G-String

Johann Sebastian Bach, Arr. Kenneth Abeling

Performed by The Friendly Family Saxophone Quartet

Paul Evoskevich, Soprano Saxophone

Jim Corigliano, Alto Saxophone

Kevin Barcomb, Tenor Saxophone

Wally Johnson, Baritone Saxophone



**Call to Worship**

Sean Iacopelli

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 #35**

Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty

**Call to Confession**

Sean Iacopelli

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)**

Sean Iacopelli

**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**

Sean Iacopelli

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**

Sean Iacopelli

**Words of Welcome**

Rev. Heather Kirk-Davidoff

**Special Music**

Pavane , Op. 5

Gabriel Faure, Transcription by Kenneth Abeling

### **WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD**



**Prayer for Illumination**

Sean Iacopelli

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**

Genesis 24:1-9

Now Abraham was old, advanced in years, and the LORD had blessed Abraham in all things. Abraham said to his servant, the oldest of his house, who had charge of all that he had, "Put your hand under my thigh, and I will make you swear by the LORD, the God of heaven and earth, that you will not get a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, among whom I live, but will go to my country and to my kindred and get a wife for my son Isaac."

The servant said to him, "Perhaps the woman may not be willing to follow me to this land; must I then take your son back to the land from which you came?"

Abraham said to him, "See to it that you do not take my son back there. The LORD, the God of heaven, who took me from my father's house and from the land of my birth and who spoke to me and swore to me, 'To your offspring I will give this land,' he will send his angel before you, and you shall take a wife for my son from there. But if the woman is not willing to follow you, then you will be free from this oath of mine; only you must not take my son back there."

So the servant put his hand under the thigh of Abraham his master and swore to him concerning this matter.



## Scripture Lesson

1 Peter 2:4-10

Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture:

"See, I am laying in Zion a stone,  
a cornerstone chosen and precious,  
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame."

<sup>7</sup> This honor, then, is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe,

"The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the very head of the corner,"

and

"A stone that makes them stumble  
and a rock that makes them fall."

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the excellence of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

Once you were not a people,  
but now you are God's people;  
once you had not received mercy,  
but now you have received mercy.

**Sermon**

"God's Special Possession"

Rev. Joshua Heikkila

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

**Prayer Hymn #471**

O Lord, Hear My Prayer

**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

Belinda Quaye

### Offertory Music

Hymn #328

Praise God, All You Nations

### WE ARE SENT IN GOD'S NAME



Closing Hymn #853

We Are Marching in the Light of God

### Charge and Benediction

Rev. Heather Kirk-Davidoff

### Postlude

When the Saints Go Marching In

Traditional Spiritual  
Arr. Kenneth Abeling



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- Get weekly news email messages by providing a current email address to the church office at [office@wpcalbany.org](mailto:office@wpcalbany.org) or calling (518) 436-8544
- For more about Westminster's online communications, please contact us: [communications@wpcalbany.org](mailto:communications@wpcalbany.org)

## 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

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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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