



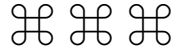
WESTMINSTER

— Presbyterian Church —

Albany, New York
September 6, 2026
Service of Worship 10:00 AM

FOCUS CHURCHES OF ALBANY COMBINED WORSHIP

The Fifteenth 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



Call to Worship

Kris Wilhelm

One: Unless the Lord builds the house,
those who build it labor in vain.

Psalms 127:1-2

All: Unless the Lord guards the city, the guard keeps watch in vain.

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 #301**

Let Us Build a House



Prayer of Confession

Kris Wilhelm

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**

Kris Wilhelm

Words of Welcome

Kris Wilhelm

Special Music

Thank You Dear Lord For Music

Mary Coffman

Sung by Joshua Overrocker, Christopher Price, Xavier Ortiz-Reyes and John Xia

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD



Prayer for Illumination

Kris Wilhelm

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 18:15-20

[Jesus said,] "If your brother and sister sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If you are listened to, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses.

If that person refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church, and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a gentile and a tax collector.

Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

Sermon

"Not Listened To"

Leah Threatte

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Prayer Hymn #753

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

Gathering Concerns and Celebrations

Prayers From State Street

Ned Trudeau

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

*This morning's offering will go to the FOCUS Churches of Albany to support our shared work
meeting our neighbors' need for food and community support.*

Offertory Music

Lord Listen to Your Children Praying

Ken Medema

***Hymn #607**

Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Invitation to Communion

One: Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters;
let those who have no money come and eat.

Isa. 55:1; Ps. 63:4–5

**All: God will satisfy our souls with a rich feast,
and we will bless the Lord as long as we live.**

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

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.

In every time and every age, O God,
it is good and faithful that we give you thanks,
for your mercy is sure
and your steadfast love endures forever.
In your compassion you gave us Christ Jesus,
who sets us free from death
and leads us to life eternal.
And so, with all creation,
with all the needy and hungry ones,
with all those who have enough and plenty,
with creatures large and small,
with sun and moon and stars,
and with the saints of every age,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

(Hymn #595)

**Holy, holy, holy. My heart, my heart adores you!
My heart knows how to say to you: you are holy, Lord!**

**Santo, santo, santo. ¡Mi corazón te adora!
Mi corazón te sabe decir: ¡Santo eres, Señor!**

Blessed are you, O God, creator of all things.
By your power and love you continue
to deliver your people from bondage,
thwart the designs of evil,
show the way through the wilderness,
turn hardship into righteousness,
and reveal your hand upholding the just.
Blessed are you, O Christ, servant of the universe.
You came among us to feed and heal and teach,
to confound the haughty,
to confuse the deceivers,
to challenge the wrong-hearted,
and, in all these things,
to give hope to those who long for peace.

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

Blessed are you, O Spirit, giver of life.
You give us words when we have none;
you fill us with vision when we have the most need;
you give us voice to proclaim our faith in every hour.
Be our guide and teacher, today and always.

Come now, O Prince of Peace,
Spirit of Love,
Breath of Life.
Bring to all this hurting world the joy that Mary knew,
and teach us to proclaim with her,
“I have seen the Lord!” Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

On the night before he met with death,
Jesus came to the table with those he loved.
He took bread, blessed and broke it,
And gave it to them, saying: Take, eat.
Whenever you do this, remember me.

In the same way he took and poured the cup,
Saying: Take and drink.
Whenever you do this, remember me.

Now, whenever we eat and drink at this table,
We celebrate Christ's death and resurrection until he comes again.

SHARING BREAD AND CUP

Hymn #507
Hymn #699

Come to the Table of Grace
Fill My Cup

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING

WE ARE SENT IN GOD'S NAME



*Hymn #766

The Church of Christ Cannot Be Bound

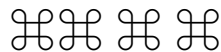
*Charge and Benediction

Leah Threatte

Postlude



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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

CHURCH PROGRAM TEAM

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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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