

Westminster By-The-Sea Presbyterian Church
The Rev. Dr. Jeffrey Sumner
May 15, 2022

Gathering

Permission for today's liturgy is from
Growing Faith Resources; Honor God's Diversity

Today's service encourages us to think about God and others in new and welcoming ways.

PRELUDE "My Shepherd Will Supply My Need" Wood

ANNOUNCEMENTS Dr. Sumner

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsively)

One: When the Lord restores the fortunes of Zion,

ALL: **Long-held dreams will be fulfilled!**

One: We will be filled with laughter and our hearts with joy!

ALL: **Those who go out weeping, bearing seeds for sowing will come home, bringing in the sheaves!**

Adapted from Feasting on the Word Worship Companion, C1. P. 123

HYMN "Bringing in the Sheaves"

Sowing in the morning, sowing seeds of kindness,

Sowing in the noontide and the dewy eve;

Waiting for the harvest, and the time of reaping,

We shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves.

Refrain:

Bringing in the sheaves,

Bringing in the sheaves,

We shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves;

Bringing in the sheaves,

Bringing in the sheaves,

We shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves.

Sowing in the sunshine, sowing in the shadows,

Fearing neither clouds nor winter's chilling breeze;

By and by the harvest, and the labor ended,

We shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves. [Refrain]

Going forth with weeping, sowing for the Master,

Though the loss sustained our spirit often grieves;

When our weeping's over, He will bid us welcome,

We shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves. [Refrain]

CALL TO PRAYER

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Save us, Lord, from being self-centered in our prayers. Teach us to remember to pray for others. Help us to be so caught up in love that we may feel their needs as keenly as our own. Help us to be open and sensitive to the pains and heartbreaks of others, as we seek to follow the teachings of Jesus as Lord. Amen.

(Adapted from John Calvin)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

SUNG RESPONSE

St Denio

Great God, our Creator, we're drawn to your light,
the light made by Jesus, a Father's delight!
We come as your children, in need of your grace,
we long for your presence, and holy embrace!

(Words by Jeffrey Sumner)

The Word

MESSAGE FOR CHILDREN

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE FIRST LESSON – 2 Corinthians 5:1-7

ANTHEM

“We Walk By Faith”

Lloyd

Larson

THE SECOND LESSON – Matthew 15: 21-28

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

“Hear the Voices of Others”

Dr. Sumner

HYMN 302

“When Hands Reach Out”

O Waly Waly

When hands reach out and fingers trace the beauty of a loved one's face, we thank you, God, that love relies on gifts of grace not seen with eyes.

When fingers spell and signs express our prayers and praise and thankfulness, we thank you, God, that hands can sing: you bless the silent songs we bring.

When broken bodies will not mend, we thank you, God, for Christ our friend. In him our healing can begin: he welcomes all the wounded in.

And when the ways we learn and grow are not the ways that others know, we thank you, God, that we have learned your love's a gift, and never earned.

Your Spirit gives us differing ways to serve you well and offer praise. When all are joined as one, we'll be your able, strong community.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (unison)

In a broken and fearful world, the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of people long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Holy Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth praying, "Come, Lord Jesus." With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

From the PC(USA) Brief Statement of Faith

Thanksgiving

PASTORAL PRAYER

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.

RECEPTION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

This congregation continues to need offerings to support the staff and missions we have. Please consider your offering at this time. Checks may be mailed or put in the offering plates if in person. Credit card and PayPal contributions: www.wbts.org.

OFFERTORY

"Moderato Parlando"

McKay

DOXOLOGY 606

"Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise Him all creatures here below; praise Him above ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen."

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Sending

HYMN 53

"O God Who Gives Us Life"

Noel

O God, who gives us life and breath, who shapes us in the womb, who guards our lives from birth to death, then leads us from the tomb: deliver us from fears that kill the life we have from you. Help us to know your Spirit still is making all things new.

O God, who calls your people out, to venture and to dare, to plumb the bleak abyss of doubt and find you even there: when we despair in wandering through wastes of empty lies, refresh us with the living spring of hope that never dies.

O God of covenant and law, revealed in cloud and flame,
your mighty deeds evoke our awe; we dare not speak your Name. Yet we by faith are drawn to you and will your people prove, as on our hearts you write anew the covenant of love.

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Fugue in G”

Stanley

Announcements

FLOWERS HAVE BEEN GIVEN BY:

An anonymous donor, in appreciation for Kendra Cochenour and Norton Christeson.

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP: If you would like to know more about membership and affiliate membership at Westminster, please call the church office and Rev. Sumner will call you.

LITURGIST:

Kim Csabi