

WESTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SERVICE of
PUBLIC WORSHIP

There is a living God. He has spoken in the Bible. He means what he says and will do all he has promised.

J. Hudson Taylor

The Lord's Day
August 27th, 2017

Welcome to Westminster Presbyterian Church. We are thankful that you have joined us today as we offer worship to God through our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. There may be some elements of our worship today that are unfamiliar to you, but please don't worry about that, you will catch on soon enough. If you have any questions about our church, or about the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the pastor, elders or deacons would be happy to help you find answers.

A FEW WORDS ABOUT OUR WORSHIP

Standing and raising hands

Because we are whole people with bodies as well as souls, we use our bodies in worship, as the Bible commands. We raise our hands to look to God for help and bless God (Ps. 28:2, 63:3), and we stand to hear the Word out of reverence for God (Neh. 8:5).

The Lord's Supper

The Sacrament of communion is a rite of fellowship between Christ and His people. We invite all who have been initiated into the family of God by baptism, and admitted to table fellowship by the leadership of this or some other church, to join in the communion service by faith. If you are unbaptized, or not a church member, please speak with the pastor or elders before the service if you would like to come to join in the Holy Supper.

Liturgical response

Please note that when the congregation is to read, the type will be **boldfaced and indented**:

The Lord be with you! [*Leader*]

And also with you! [*Congregation*]

Children

You will notice many children in our service today. Jesus welcomed little children to Himself, and so we welcome them in our worship service! We believe that children naturally love those whom their parents love, and so the best way to help children grow in their love for the Lord Jesus is to have families worship together.

We understand that this means baby noises and wiggly children, and we're fine with that. If your child is fussy or needs a little time to quiet down, we have a mother's nursery in the back room. If your children have never been in worship before, don't worry at all. We realize this is unusual for many people, and we would be happy to offer you help, tips and encouragement.

Hearing Assistance

Hearing assistance devices are available. Please visit the sound table in the back of the sanctuary.

PRELUDE

Please be seated, silence electronic devices, and prepare your hearts for worship.

APOSTOLIC GREETING

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Isaiah 2:2-3

It shall come to pass in the latter days
that the mountain of the house of the LORD
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be lifted up above the hills;
and all the nations shall flow to it,
and many peoples shall come, and say:
**“Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,
to the house of the God of Jacob,
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths.”**

*GLORIA PATRI

N^o. 734

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be;
World without end,
Amen, Amen.**

*PRAYER of INVOCATION

*PSALM of PRAISE

All You That Fear Jehovah's Name, N^o. 9

* *Please stand as you are able*

CALL to CONFESSION

Hosea 14:1-2

Return, O Israel, to the Lord your God,
for you have stumbled because of your iniquity.
Take with you words
and return to the Lord;

PRIVATE REPENTANCE

A time of silence is provided for private, individual confession before the Lord.

PUBLIC CONFESSION OF SIN

Hosea 14:2-3

**Take away all iniquity;
accept what is good,
and we will pay with bulls
the vows of our lips.
Assyria shall not save us;
we will not ride on horses;
and we will say no more, "Our God,"
to the work of our hands.
In you the orphan finds mercy.
Amen.**

ASSURANCE of PARDON

Hosea 14:4-7

I will heal their apostasy;
I will love them freely,
for my anger has turned from them.

I will be like the dew to Israel;
he shall blossom like the lily;
he shall take root like the trees of Lebanon;
his shoots shall spread out;
his beauty shall be like the olive,
and his fragrance like Lebanon.
They shall return and dwell beneath my shadow;
they shall flourish like the grain;
they shall blossom like the vine;
their fame shall be like the wine of Lebanon.

DECLARATION of ABSOLUTION

After the declaration, let the forgiven respond with one voice: Amen!

PSALM OF SALVATION *With Grateful Heart My Thanks I Bring, N^o. 88*

PRAYER, and GIVING of TITHE *and* OFFERINGS

*DOXOLOGY

N^o. 731

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him all creatures here below;
Praise Him above ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Exodus 12:1-13

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, ²“This month shall be for you the beginning of months. It shall be the first month of the year for you. ³Tell all the congregation of Israel that on the tenth day of this month every man shall take a lamb according to their fathers' houses, a lamb for a household. ⁴And if the household is too small for a lamb, then he and his nearest neighbor shall take according to the number of persons; according to what each can eat you shall make your count for the lamb. ⁵Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male year old. You may take it from the sheep or from the goats, ⁶and you shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month, when the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill their lambs at twilight.

⁷“Then they shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. ⁸They shall eat the flesh that night, roasted on the fire; with unleavened bread and bitter herbs they shall eat it. ⁹Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted, its head with its legs and its inner parts. ¹⁰And you shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. ¹¹In this manner you shall eat it: with your belt fastened, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand. And you shall eat it in haste. It is the Lord's Passover. ¹²For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the Lord. ¹³The blood shall be a sign for you, on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you, when I strike the land of Egypt.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*CONFESSION OF FAITH

Lattanzio Ragnoni's Formulario (1559)

On the Virtue and Efficacy of the Passion and Death [of the Son].

His willing offering of Himself on the cross once and for all as the pure Lamb, suffering, dying and shedding His blood for our own sake; He who was righteous and blameless for us wicked sinners—for He stood in our place before the Father bearing all our sins and enduring on Himself the judgment and condemnation due to us, which He accepted and received as if He really perpetrated them; this offering, I say, is the true, sole and perfect sacrifice, represented and portrayed in the sacrifices and offerings under the Law, which fully and entirely satisfied God's justice on our behalf, propitiating God's wrath, delivering us from all curses, destroying and abolishing sin, purifying us from every iniquity, defeating death, conquering the devil and his kingdom, and perfecting the work of our redemption; thus there is no other sacrifice in the world, nor other purgatory or means to obtain forgiveness and remission of sins and to be delivered from death and hell apart from His cross and death.

Amen.

PASTORAL PRAYER

*RESPONSIVE READING

Psalm 97

The LORD reigns, let the earth rejoice;

let the many coastlands be glad!

Clouds and thick darkness are all around him;

righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne.

Fire goes before him

and burns up his adversaries all around.

His lightnings light up the world;

the earth sees and trembles.

The mountains melt like wax before the LORD,

before the Lord of all the earth.

The heavens proclaim his righteousness,
and all the peoples see his glory.

All worshipers of images are put to shame,
who make their boast in worthless idols;
worship him, all you gods!

Zion hears and is glad,
and the daughters of Judah rejoice,
because of your judgments, O LORD.

For you, O LORD, are most high over all the earth;
you are exalted far above all gods.

O you who love the LORD, hate evil!
He preserves the lives of his saints;
he delivers them from the hand of the wicked.

Light is sown for the righteous,
and joy for the upright in heart.

Rejoice in the LORD, O you righteous,
and give thanks to his holy name!

Amen.

*NEW TESTAMENT LESSON *and* SERMON TEXT

1 Thessalonians 1

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

Grace to you and peace.

²We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers, ³remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴For we know, brothers loved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵because our gospel came to you not only in word, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction. You know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you received the word in much affliction, with the joy of the Holy Spirit, ⁷so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸For not only has the word of the Lord sounded forth from you in Macedonia and Achaia, but your faith in God has gone forth everywhere, so that we need not say anything. ⁹For they themselves report concerning us the kind of reception we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, ¹⁰and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL LESSON

John 20:1-10

Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. ² So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.” ³ So Peter went out with the other disciple, and they were going toward the tomb. ⁴ Both of them were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵ And stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in. ⁶ Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying there, ⁷ and the face cloth, which had been on Jesus’^[a] head, not lying with the linen cloths but folded up in a place by itself. ⁸ Then the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; ⁹ for as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that he must rise from the dead. ¹⁰ Then the disciples went back to their homes.

He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and treated others with contempt: ¹⁰ “Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. ¹¹ The Pharisee, standing by himself, prayed thus: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. ¹² I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.’ ¹³ But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me, a sinner!’ ¹⁴ I tell you, this man went down to his house justified, rather than the other. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted.”

¹⁵ Now they were bringing even infants to him that he might touch them. And when the disciples saw it, they rebuked them. ¹⁶ But Jesus called them to him, saying, “Let the children come to me, and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God. ¹⁷ Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*PRAYER for the MINISTRY of the WORD

SERMON

“The Gospel According to You,” Rev. Dr. John Battle

*COMMUNION HYMN

At the Lamb’s High Feast We Sing, N^o. 420

The SACRAMENT of the LORD’S SUPPER

You are welcome to partake in the Lord’s Supper if you are a baptized Christian who has been admitted to the Lord’s Table. Our communion elements are wine and bread. If you are unable to take regular bread and wine, please signal one of the elders (with the trays), and we can provide you with gluten-free bread; non-alcoholic grape juice is found in the innermost ring of the communion trays for those who need to abstain from alcohol.

*HYMN of COMMISSIONING

Rejoice, the Lord Is King, N^o. 309

*BENEDICTION and THREEFOLD AMEN

N^o. 740



HELPS for FAMILY and PRIVATE WORSHIP

HYMN OF THE MONTH:

Mighty God, While Angels Bless You, N^o. 8

CHILDREN'S CATECHISM:

This week's:

Q. 128. In whose name are we baptized?

A. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

Next week's:

Q. 133. What is the Lord's Supper?

A. The eating of bread and drinking of wine in remembrance of the sufferings and death of Christ.

WPC BIBLE READING PLAN:

8/28	Psalms 20	2 Corinthians 6:3-7:1	Song of Solomon 7-8
8/29	Psalms 21	2 Corinthians 7:2-16	Ruth 1
8/30	Psalms 22	2 Corinthians 8	Ruth 2
8/31	Psalms 23	2 Corinthians 9	Ruth 3-4
9/1	Psalms 24	2 Corinthians 10	Ecclesiastes 1-2
9/2	Psalms 25	2 Corinthians 11	Ecclesiastes 3-4
9/3	Psalms 26	2 Corinthians 12	Ecclesiastes 5-6

PRAYER

MISSIONARY UPDATE

From the Boceks in Turkey:

- Please pray for their daughter, Ella to get accepted into a medical/dental program and a solid scholarship from that university; she hopes to start this Fall. (*Because of her faith*, she was declined a full-ride scholarship at one university)
- For a newlywed couple at their church (the Metins): to grow in their faith, grace, and love. For setting an example to their world of Christ and his love for the Church.

From the Slavic Reformation Society:

In Siberia at the end of June, forty armed members of the Russian federal police (formerly the KGB) invaded the worship service being conducted by Pastor Nik, a ten year ministry veteran, and current student at the SRS seminary in St. Petersburg. The police forced the 60 people attending the service to give up their phones, money, and computers.

It turns out that, according to pastor Nik, two men who had joined the church two years prior were actually federal agents and had been informing on them the entire time.

Because the congregation is not part of the national (Orthodox) church, its members are automatically considered sympathizers with the dissidents in Ukraine. Pastor Nik was charged with being a criminal health hazard, an accusation the government allegedly uses to deal with dissidents. A grand jury is to convene on the matter in about a year. At the time of writing, it is unclear how the grand jury may proceed.

Nik told us that after the raid, they had also taken him into the station for the night and interrogated him until morning. He said just the opposite happened of what he and they had expected. The interrogators wanted to know all about the details of his teaching. He preached the Gospel to them all night, and by the morning he was so full of the Holy Spirit that he left rejoicing and even loving the men who had interrogated him!

These incidents have scared off about half of his flock, and their giving is down to just enough to pay the rent on their worship facility. He said they will never quit worshipping in public in the rental space unless they are physically shut down.

Pray that...

- They will faithfully witness to Christ and to be respectful if they are unjustly treated;
- That these anti-terrorist laws will be repealed;
- That the Gospel will actually prosper more in Russia and around the world because of, not in spite of, persecution.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CALENDAR

GOSPEL OF JOHN SMALL GROUP

Everyone welcome! Meeting at the Fomichenko's home. Please contact the church for directions.

Wednesdays at 7:00pm

BABY SHOWERS

for Christina Seifert, at Cherie Sturtevant's home

Sept. 7th, 7PM.

YOUNG MEN'S PROVERBS STUDY

A study for younger men. Dinner is provided. Meeting at the Sturtevant's home. Please contact the church for directions.

September 26th, 6:30pm for dinner, 7:00PM for the study.

(Every 2nd and 4th Tuesday)

SPECIAL EVENT

“TEACHING KIDS TO TALK AND TELL:
STRENGTHENING KIDS FOR SAFETY”

WPC is glad to present an opportunity for adults to learn how to help children be safe from sexual abuse by teaching them to use their voices.

Unfortunately, child sexual abuse is a reality in the United States, and in the church as well. We don't want to respond to this in fear and isolationism, nor in silent denial of the problem. Rather, we want to proactively acknowledge the issue, and learn the best ways to keep our kids safe. This seminar will teach adults how to teach children to use their voices, and to feel enough internal strength to be able to do so. This has been demonstrated to be the most effective means of preventing abuse among children.

Our speaker will be Robyn Moore-Sullivan. Robyn is a local Christian counselor who works specifically with children, and child abuse victims.

Please send a note to admin@solochristo.org if you would like to attend this event. There is no cost, but space is limited, and several local pastors have expressed interest in opening it up to their own congregations. We want to make sure that you can attend!

Date: Saturday, Sept. 9.

Time: 9:30am-noon

Location: US Digital Ministry Resource Center, 1400 NE 136th Ave, Vancouver, WA

RSPV: admin@solochristo.org, or call/text Pastor Jerid at 360-601-9208.

WESTMINSTER

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Meeting at: Clark County Square Dance Center
10713 NE 117th Ave, Vancouver, WA 98662

Times: Sunday School: 9:30AM 🍃 Fellowship: 10:30AM 🍃 Worship: 11:00AM

Contact us: (360) 602-1501 🍃 admin@solochristo.org
Audio sermons, the order of worship, and the church directory are available at our website.

Music: All musical rights secured via *The Trinity Hymnal*
and CCL License #111127153

Elders: Mr. Tom Berkompas Rev. Jerid Krulish (Pastor)
Mr. Mark Sturtevant (Clerk)

Deacons: Mr. Christopher Berkompas Mr. Dave Buhrmaster
Mr. Terry Craig Mr. Dylan Gollehon
Mr. Roy Märtin (Chairman) Mr. Dan Seifert
Mr. Joseph Sturtevant