

Grace Notes

Welcome to WHPC! If you are visiting us today, we are so glad you joined us for worship. If you have not already, please take a moment to record your contact information on the visitor card you will find in the pew and drop it in the offering box or hand it to a greeter at the door. We are always glad to share the great things happening at WHPC!

If you are looking for a new church home and would like to join in fellowship with Westover Hills, please join us in the Parlor (outside the sanctuary doors) and we will gladly share more about life at WHPC or, if you are ready, receive you into membership.

Childcare is available in the nursery. Please check with a greeter.

WESTOVER HILLS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT

WE GATHER AT GOD'S INVITATION

WELCOME & OPPORTUNITIES FOR DISCIPLESHIP Dr. Robert Lowry, Pastor

PRELUDE Alisa Coffey, Harp

+CALL TO WORSHIP Liturgist Tom Callaway

It is the light of God's love in Christ
that brings a rich harvest of goodness and truth.

So we would live like people who belong to the light.

We would have nothing to do with worthless things
that belong to the world of darkness.

**In the name of Jesus
we would live in the light,
giving thanks to God.**

+OPENING PRAYER

This is love.
That you spoke words of comfort,
walked with the unclean and unloved,
shared wisdom, bread and wine,
brought healing into lives
and challenged the status quo.

This is love.
That you spoke the word of God,
walked a painful road to the Cross,
shared living water, bread of life,
brought Salvation to the world
and died for the sake of all.

This is love.
It is a seed
sown in the ground,
which germinates,
blossoms,
and spreads its sweet perfume. Amen.

+OPENING SONG OF PRAISE #469 "*Morning Has Broken*" BUNESSAN

CALL TO CONFESSION

Christ has risen and we have risen to new life with him.
Yet we must confess the ways we have continued to remain in our tombs of sin
and death. Together let us confess our sins, embrace the promise of the risen
Christ, and stand together in the light of God's grace.

Grace Notes

Perhaps the order of our liturgy here should be reversed. Typically, we pray the confession and then receive the assurance of pardon, but theologically God's forgiveness is ongoing and unconditional. That means that before we can even confess, God has already forgiven us!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of mercy, hear the prayers of your thirsting people.
For every time we have attributed your miracles in our lives
to our own hands alone,
Forgive us, we pray.

For every time we promised to trust you but turned to our own way
when your response did not come soon enough
or in the way we expected,
Grant us mercy, O God.

For the many opportunities to extend forgiveness that we have refused,
Show us what it means to love, again, dear Lord.

For each way we put our own understandings above your wisdom,
For each time we resist your command to be reconciled with those
who believe differently from us,
Direct us in the way of peace, we pray.

For our silent sins, our quiet acts of violence,
and our indifference to the suffering round us,
**Forgive us, Loving One, and quench our thirst with your grace;
Remake us into vessels of tenderness and compassion.
For Christ's sake we pray. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

...in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. **Thanks be to God!**

+SUNG RESPONSE "Glory to God Whose Goodness Shines on Me"

GLORY TO GOD

1 Glo - ry to God, whose good-ness shines on me, and to the
2 World without end, with-out end. A-men. World without
Son, whose grace has par - doned me, and to the
end, with - out end. A - men. World with-out
Spir - it, whose love has set me free. As it
end, with - out end. A - men.
was in the be-gin-ning, is now and ev-er shall be. A - men.

+THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ which passes all understanding be with you
all.

And also with you.

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Romans 5:1-11

Therefore, since we have been made righteous through his faithfulness, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. We have access by faith into this grace in which we stand through him, and we boast in the hope of God's glory. But not only that! We even take pride in our problems, because we know that trouble produces endurance, endurance produces character, and character produces hope. This hope doesn't put us to shame, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

While we were still weak, at the right moment, Christ died for ungodly people. It isn't often that someone will die for a righteous person, though maybe someone might dare to die for a good person. But God shows his love for us, because while we were still sinners Christ died for us. So, now that we have been made righteous by his blood, we can be even more certain that we will be saved from God's wrath through him. If we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son while we were still enemies, now that we have been reconciled, how much more certain is it that we will be saved by his life? And not only that: we even take pride in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, the one through whom we now have a restored relationship with God.

SERMON

Dr. Lowry

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

+HYMN OF RESPONSE

"Hope of the World"

DONNE SECOURS

This winning entry from renowned Methodist theologian Georgia Harkness was selected from over 500 others for use at the Second General Assembly of the World Council of Churches in Evanston, IL in Oct. 1954.

Harkness was a theologian and ethicist who worked to open ministries and roles in the United Methodist Church to women.

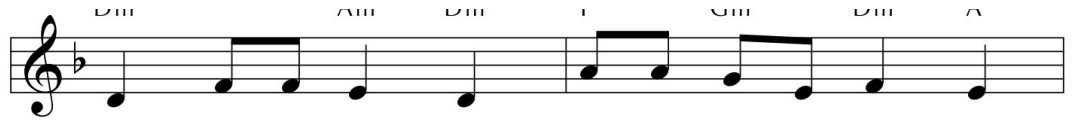


1 Hope of the world, thou Christ of great com - pas - sion:
 2 Hope of the world, God's gift from high - est heav - en,
 3 Hope of the world, a - foot on dust - y high - ways,
 4 Hope of the world, who by thy cross didst save us
 5 Hope of the world, O Christ, o'er death vic - to - rious,



speak to our fear - ful hearts by con - flict rent;
 bring - ing to hun - gry souls the bread of life:
 show - ing to wan - dering souls the path of light:
 from death and deep de - spair, from sin and guilt:
 who by this sign didst con - quer grief and pain:

Grace Notes



save us, thy peo - ple, from con - sum - ing pas - sion,
still let thy Spir - it un - to us be giv - en
walk thou be - side us lest the tempt - ing by - ways
we ren - der back the love thy mer - cy gave us;
we would be faith - ful to thy gos - pel glo - rious;



who by our own false hopes and aims are spent.
to heal earth's wounds and end our bit - ter strife.
lure us a - way from thee to end - less night.
take thou our lives and use them as thou wilt.
thou art our Lord! Thou dost for - ev - er reign!

A **Song of Faith**, adopted in 2006, seeks to provide a verbal picture of what the United Church of Canada understands its faith to be in the historical, political, social, and theological context of the early 21st century.

+AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We sing of God the Spirit,

**who from the beginning has swept over the face of creation,
animating all energy and matter
and moving in the human heart.**

We sing of God the Spirit,

faithful and untameable,

who is creatively and redemptively active in the world.

The Spirit challenges us to celebrate the holy

not only in what is familiar,

but also in that which seems foreign.

We sing of the Spirit,

who speaks our prayers of deepest longing

and enfolds our concerns and confessions,

transforming us and the world.

We offer worship

as an outpouring of gratitude and awe

and a practice of opening ourselves

to God's still, small voice of comfort,

to God's rushing whirlwind of challenge.

Through word, music, art, and sacrament,

in community and in solitude,

God changes our lives, our relationships, and our world.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

WE GATHER AT GOD'S TABLE

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

THE SURSUM CORDA

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Laughing, loving, living God, your voice echoes through the world,

We have responded to your invitation to join in the Banquet.

Here we have eaten, we have drunk, we have tasted your goodness.

May the joy we find in this meal together lift up our hearts,

may we carry your laughter to the world around us,

may we live out that foolishness called love wherever we go.

Amen.

WE DEPART IN GOD'S NAME

†PARTING HYMN #293 *"This Is My Father's World"* TERRA BEATA

†CHARGE & BENEDICTION

†POSTLUDE

When the pastor of a Presbyterian church in Lockport, NY, the author of this text referred to his morning walks as "going out to see my Father's world." The tune created for these words is based on an English melody the composer learned from his mother when he was a boy.

WORSHIP NOTES

WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY are Pastor Robert Lowry, Music Director David Austin, Liturgist Tom Callaway, the Westover Hills Chancel Choir, and special guest harpist Alisa Coffey.

Special music today is provided in memory of Carrie Austin, Harriette Freeze, and Annette Gibbs Haney.

THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

MIDWEEK MANNA BIBLE STUDY Midweek Manna meets every Wednesday at 12:05 in the New Chapel. This allows people who work to come on their lunch break either in person or via Zoom. We have begun our journey through Ezekiel which will provide deep insights and great discussion. This weeks (5/17) lesson will be taught by Rev Michael Gallup. Pop in and join us or you can find the zoom link in the CareLine.

NEW YEAR NEW YOU YOGA meets Thursdays in the New Chapel at 10am. This low-impact exercise is for all comers and is a great way to keep in shape and stay flexible.

THE SID MCCOLLUM FARMER'S MARKET The annual Farmer's Market has returned. The Farmer's Market is open every Tuesday from 3:30-6:00pm, so come and check out the local produce and other items from local vendors. If you have any questions, you may contact Bob Quinn.

FAIR TRADE COFFEE is available year-round. Presbyterian Women make fair trade products available to the congregation not as a moneymaker but as one of our missions. The price we pay for coffee is the price we charge. Purchasing fair trade coffee helps more money reach the hard-working farmers. Contact Carolyn Nash with questions or to purchase coffee.

SOME CARELINE CHANGES A few things have changed in the Careline. These include:

- Pastor Robert's calendar for the month
- The full church and building calendar for the month (rather than only the week as previously provided)
- More info from mission partners for community events and opportunities.

THE CARELINE CONTINUES TO UNDERGO RENOVATIONS If you have suggestions on what needs to be included, how to make the Careline more readable, etc. please contact Sydney in the church office. We are committed to making this a resource to the whole church and welcome your input!

SUMMER KICK-OFF POTLUCK The Matthew 25 Church Vitality working group is hosting a potluck Wednesday, May 24. There will be good food, great fellowship, and even a few fun surprises! This event will be held in Fellowship Hall and it will start at 6:00pm (5:45pm for set up). Please refer to the CareLine for more information and to see what kind of dish you can bring! Fried chicken will be provided. This will be a great start to the Summer, so we look forward to seeing you there!

PRAYER LIST UPDATE The prayer list has been updated for this quarter, so if you or a loved one would like to be on the prayer list, please contact the church office at office.westoverhills@gmail.com. The name will remain on the prayer list until the office is



Westover Hills
Presents
Summer
Kick-off
POTLUCK

Wednesday May 24, 2023
Set up 5:45pm Dinner at 6pm

Last Name	Dish
A-C	Salad
D-Q	Side
R-Z	Dessert

Fried chicken will be provided



notified to remove it or it will be removed at the beginning of a new quarter.

CALENDAR UPDATES AND SESSION DOCUMENTS should be sent to the office and copied to Candice Misenheimer.

PLEASE SEND NEWS FOR CARELINE to office.westoverhills@gmail.com. If you would like to receive the twice-weekly church e-newsletter (CareLine), please fill out a contact card from a pew rack, add 'CareLine request' and drop the card in an offering box

FOLLOW US on Instagram [@westoverhillspc](https://www.instagram.com/westoverhillspc) or on Twitter [@ChurchWestover](https://twitter.com/ChurchWestover)

PASTORAL CARE

PLEASE INCLUDE IN YOUR PRAYERS Susan Mauney (knee surgery); Andy and Katie Weatherington (Katie's father died tragically and their home was affected by the tornado); Winnie Robinson (declining health); Michael Thompson (diagnosed with leukemia); Jane Estes (recovery from long haul Covid and toxic mold healing and remediation of their home); Vivianna McAtee; Ralph Cotham, Andrea Campbell; The young people at Pulaski County Juvenile Detention Center (PCJDC); Tornado victims and those who responded to the crisis; WHPC staff: Robert, David, Ulysses, Tammy, Shawn, and Sydney; WHPC Preschool kids, families, and staff.

DEACONS FOR MAY are John MacLeod and Rosemary McGinnis

CALENDAR

The church calendar is available on the website
(scan QR code or visit www.westoverhills.org to be directed to our website)

WESTOVER HILLS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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