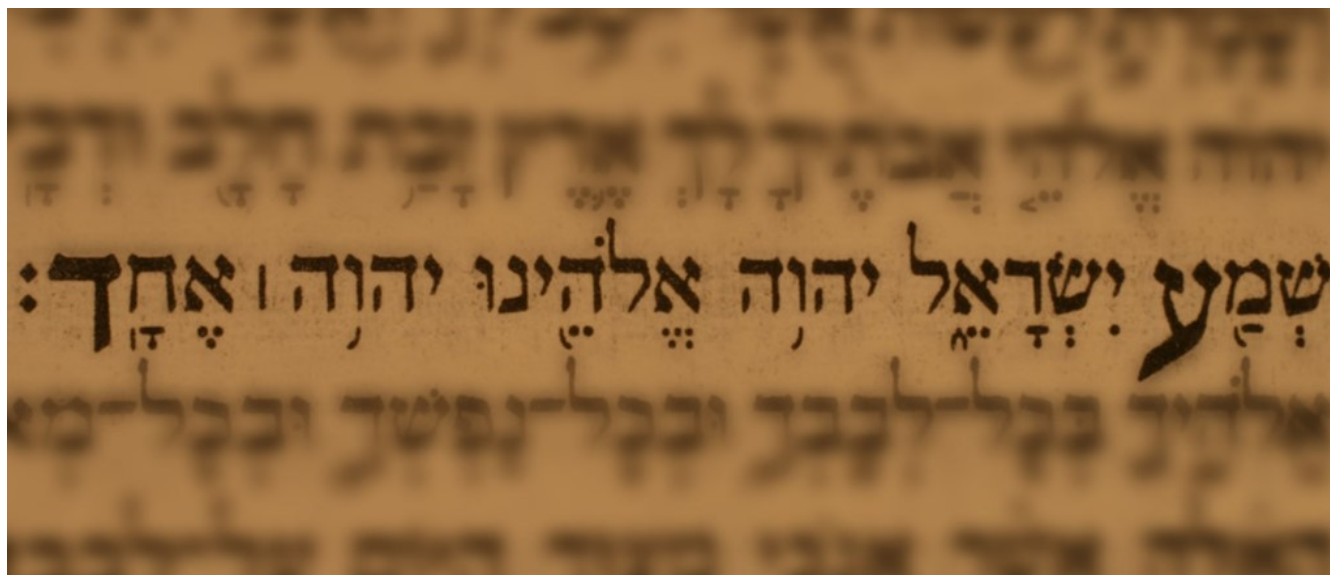


WESTOVER HILLS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)



The Shema

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

A SERVICE OF WORD

OCTOBER 8, 2023 10:30AM

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.

WE GATHER AT GOD'S INVITATION

WELCOME & OPPORTUNITIES FOR DISCIPLESHIP

Dr. Robert Lowry

PRELUDE

+CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist, Liz Branch

+OPENING PRAYER

Let us start this service well, by reminding ourselves:

That it is not we who chose Christ,

but Christ who chose us,

That we are not here because of our goodness

but because of Christ's grace,

That we are not here to enlighten ourselves,

but to allow Christ to enlighten us,

That we have not come to be entertained

but to worship God with heart, soul, mind and strength.

+SONG OF PRAISE "*I Sing the Mighty Power of God*" #288 ELLACOMBE

CALL TO CONFESSION

Brothers and sisters, nothing we can say or do can ever separate us from God's mercy and love. The gifts of God are eternal and will never be withdrawn.

God's ultimate desire and purpose is not to punish but to forgive. So together we may pray with hope, not fear. Let us pray together.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Save your people, God of truth and mercy,
from the chaos of divided loyalties
and the worship of many gods;**

**From making God in our own likeness
and the slavery of self-centredness;**

**From using God's name trivially
and claiming him for our prejudices;**

**From neglecting sabbatical quiet times
and being obsessed with busyness;**

**From watering-down love and marriage
and the exploitation of sex;**

**From TV programs that twist the facts,
and cruel gossip in supermarkets;**

**From those who preach greed as a virtue
and possession-lust which is never satisfied.**

O Jesus Christ, Savior of all who lose their way,

O Healing Spirit, Power who renews the world;

We need you, God of truth and mercy!

Silence is kept.

Grace Notes

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

...in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God!

+SUNG RESPONSE

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

+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

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Deuteronomy 6:4-9

Israel, listen! The LORD is our God, the LORD alone!

Love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your being, and all your strength. These words that I am commanding you today must always be on your minds. Recite them to your children. Talk about them when you are sitting around your house and when you are out and about, when you are lying down and when you are getting up. Tie them on your hand as a sign. They should be on your forehead as a symbol. Write them on your house's doorframes and on your city's gates.

SERMON

"Listen Up, People of God"

Dr. Lowry

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

+HYMN OF RESPONSE

"God of Our Life" #275

SANDON

+AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The New Creed (1968)

We are not alone,
we live in God's world.

We believe in God:
who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus,
the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,

The Shema is one of the most holy prayers of Judaism. Serving as the centerpiece of morning and evening prayers, it is an expression of the radical monotheistic understanding of the divine at the heart of Judaism.

The New Creed (1968) is a contemporary statement of faith written by the United Church of Canada in response to the social changes of the 1960's.

Grace Notes

who works in us and others
by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.

We are not alone.

Thanks be to God.

OFFERTORY

OFFERTORY *"The Majesty and Glory of Your Name"*

Tom Fettke, Composer

*When I gaze into the night skies
and see the work of your fingers;
The moon and stars suspended in space.*

*Oh, what is man that you are mindful of him?
You have given man a crown of glory and honor,
And have made him a little lower than the angels.
You have put him in charge of all creation:
beasts of the field, The birds of the air,
The fish of the sea.
Oh, what is man?
Oh, what is man that you are mindful of him?*

*O Lord, our God the majesty and glory of your name
Transcends the earth and fills the heavens.
O Lord, our God; little children praise You perfectly,
And so would we.
And so would we.*

Alleluia! Alleluia!

The majesty and glory of Your name.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Gracious God, in your mercy,
Hear our 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.**

Grace Notes

If you are looking for a new church home or would like to learn more about Westover Hills, please let an usher, greeter, or Dr. Lowry know. We would love to tell you more about life at WHPC!

WE DEPART IN GOD'S NAME

+PARTING HYMN

"The Lord Is God"

AZMON

1 The Lord is God, the Lord a - lone! Give hon - or, thanks, and praise
2 With all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and might,
3 At night or day, at home, a - way, to - geth - er and a - part,
4 The Lord is God, the Lord a - lone! Give hon - or, thanks, and praise

to God, the mak - er of all things and giv - er of our days.
O peo - ple, love the Lord your God, the source of truth and light.
O chil - dren, take these ho - ly words and keep them in your heart.
to God, the mak - er of all things and giv - er of our days.

+CHARGE & BENEDICTION

+POSTLUDE

Westover Hills Presbyterian
75
1948-2023

WHPC CELEBRATES 75 YEARS OF MINISTRY, SERVICE, AND FELLOWSHIP THIS DECEMBER. IN THE COMING WEEKS, BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR OPPORTUNITIES TO SHARE IN THE CELEBRATION OF OUR HISTORY AND OUR HOPES FOR THE FUTURE.

WORSHIP NOTES

WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY are Dr. Robert Lowry, Music Director David Austin, Liturgist Liz Branch, and the Westover Hills Chancel Choir.

THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

MIDWEEK MANNA has returned! Manna takes place every Wednesday at 12:05 in the New Chapel and via Zoom. Midweek Manna will be focusing on the Parables of Jesus this fall. All are invited whether you have been to a class or not. See CareLine for the Zoom link.

YOGA has returned and takes place every Thursday at 10am in the New Chapel. Yoga is for everyone, whether you are an expert or you have no experience. All you need to bring is a yoga mat and an open mind.

ADULT CLASS SUNDAY MORNINGS AT 9 During Reformation Month, October, the adult class will consider several Protestant traditions:

October 15- "Base Communities"- David Stricklin will help us look at the Latin American origins of Liberation Theology in the 1960s and thereafter, looking especially at key Roman Catholic figures who tried to align the church in Central and South America with progressive reform

October 22- Distinctive characteristics of Reformed tradition within Protestantism; Pentecostalism- Pastor Robert

October 29- Early Protestant Reformed tradition- what are we still protesting 500 years later? Is there a compelling reason to be a denomination?- Pastor Robert

See CareLine for Zoom link to adult classes.

2ND WEDNESDAY SPIRITUALITY GROUP Please join us for our Second Wednesday Spirituality Group on Wednesday, October 11, at 5:45pm in the New Chapel. If you need directions or more information, you may contact H.K. Stewart.

BRIDGE BUILDERS READING GROUP UPCOMING MEETING

Tuesday night, October 10, 6:30-8:30

Panelists will discuss the legislative and educational climate for LGBTQIA+ people in Arkansas. Panelists include:

Dr. Jay Barth, Director, Clinton Presidential Library and Museum

Prof. Terri Beiner, Nadine Baum Professor of Law, Bowen School of Law, University of Arkansas at Little Rock

Holly Dickson, State Director, ACLU of Arkansas

Sarah Everett, Policy Director, ACLU of Arkansas

Bill Kopsky, Executive Director, Arkansas Public Policy Panel

You may attend in person in the New Chapel (accessible from parking lot off Pine Valley Drive and South Road through the metal doors) or by Zoom (register through link in CareLine & receive access to the meeting).

When: Oct 3, 2023 06:30 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

FIRST AND THIRD MONDAY BOOK GROUP AT SECOND PRES Pastor Robert will be leading this multi-church reading group during the fall. The book for fall is "Eat This Book: The Art of Spiritual Reading," by Eugene Peterson. The book group meets in the Second Hall at 2nd Presbyterian at 9:30am on the first and third Monday of each month. All are welcome, so come join us for a great book and even better discussions.

ALTERNATIVE CHRISTMAS MARKET Coming soon in November is the WH Annual Alternative Christmas Market on Saturday, November 11 from 9am-3pm and on Sunday, November 12 following worship until 2pm. Come shop for a Christmas gift that gives twice. More information will follow soon with a special ACM announcement.

STEWSPOT CLOTHES CLOSET Stewspot is in need, and the Clothes Closet has been having more and more folks in need. We have had to increase the number of hours we are open. Donations have begun to slow down, so we are asking for the following items:

- Ball caps
- Men's athletic shoes
- Men's jeans and docker type pants waist size 30-36
- Travel size toothpaste, shampoo, lotion, soap and backpacks

There is a donation box in the office as well as in the Narthex of the Sanctuary. We do appreciate all that you do for the Clothes Closet!

STEWSPOT NEEDS YOUR HELP Barbara Polite (head of the clothes closet for Stewspot) is not able to help out at the moment. We need

volunteers on Tuesdays 9:00-11:00 and on Thursdays from 9:00-1:00. Please contact Nancy Sherman Carter if you are able to help out; her email is nesherman57@yahoo.com.

CONGRESSIONAL MEETING AFTER WORSHIP SUNDAY TO SELECT THE 2023 NOMINATING COMMITTEE The Session is calling a congregational meeting for Sunday, October 8, after worship, for the purpose of electing two at-large congregational members to the 2023 Nominating Committee. The Session has named Bob Quinn and Julie Naylor as elder representatives. In addition, Jim Phillips from WestoverMen, Nancy Passini from Presbyterian Women, and Ann Bell from the Deacons will serve, for a total of seven people on the Nominating Committee.

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.

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

PRAYER LIST UPDATE 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 notified to remove it or it will be removed at the beginning of a new quarter. The prayer list has been updated, so be sure to email the office if you or a loved one

PASTORAL CARE

PLEASE INCLUDE IN YOUR PRAYERS Courtenay Jackson; Debbie Waltermire (friend of Betty Deere; diagnosed with breast cancer); Barbara Polite (manager of Stewpot Clothes Closet; neurological issues); Jason Chrisman (son of Mary Chrisman); Barbara Monroe and her husband Duke who has been her caretaker (Barbara has moved into in home hospice); Douglas Ponce (director of El Zocalo; his mother is hospitalized in El Salvador); The Garcia family (friends of Sydney; recent loss of daughter/sister and father is recovering in the hospital from 2 strokes); Mary Ellen Holder; Vivianna McAtee; Jonathon Simpson (recovering from kidney transplant surgery); Amber Simpson (donated her kidney to her brother Jonathon); Amy Crawford, who died October 1; Jim Miller (broken ankle; at home); Lila Quinn; Deran Abernathy (son-in-law of former member Judy Huffman; stage 4 lung cancer); Rev. Carol Ann Blow (health issues); Johnny Rhodes; Anna Grace Clark (brain cancer); Reverend Doug Kanney (heart issues); Those affected by wildfires in the United States; Preschool staff, children and parents; Church staff: Pastor Robert Lowry, Rev. Michael Gallup, Ulysses, Shawn, Tammy, David and Sydney.

DEACONS FOR OCTOBER are Laura Whitmore and Joy Thomas.

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

6400 RICHARD B HARDIE DRIVE, LITTLE ROCK, AR 72207

