

WESTOVER HILLS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)



TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

A SERVICE OF THE WORD

OCTOBER 22, 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 Wm Lowry

PRELUDE

"In Christ Alone" David Austin, Music Director
arr. Sandra Zylstra

+CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist, John MacLeod

We come here shouting, our voices lifted in praise.

We come here singing, our songs full of joy.

We come here dancing, our hearts rejoicing.

**To the Holy One who is worthy,
all praise and glory forevermore!**

+OPENING PRAYER

Lord of the dance,
creator of whirling winds
and shimmering flames,
move in us this day.

Breathe life into our songs of praise.

Set our hearts ablaze to your word.

May our worship

bring joy to you, Lord.

In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

+SONG OF PRAISE #302

"I Danced in the Morning"

SIMPLE GIFTS

CALL TO CONFESSION

Brothers and sisters, we are complicated creatures. We have the capacity to love and to disdain, a propensity to cherish and ignore, a willingness to see what we want and be blind to what we do not.

We are at times sinners and saints, heroes, heroines, and heretics.

But at all times, in every moment of every day of creation, we are children of God. And as children of God we are children of God's compassion. Together, with confidence that God's word of mercy is true, let us acknowledge where we fall short of the glory of God and recall where the mercy of God touches our lives.

LITANY OF CONFESSION

David loved Jonathon

yet he wore the uniform of Jonathon's killer.

David danced for joy in the streets

while Michal bore witness to his drunken excess.

David's power and status grew

as did his scorn of the blind and the lame.

David wanted to build a temple

thus proving his devotion.

Grace Notes

David built a legacy of broken lives
thus proving his culpability.

We are David,
mourning the loss of our love and our innocence.

We are David,
guilty of exploiting those entrusted to our care.

We are David,
unexpected hero and unrepentant scoundrel.

We are David,
we belong to God.

Silence is kept.

+SUNG RESPONSE “Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying”

This chorus from a contemporary worship song has become a popular petition for the Holy Spirit in times of prayer.

The calling of the Spirit in our prayers is a historic petition in the life of the church. Prayer is as much about changing our hearts as it is about putting our needs before God. The Spirit’s work is what moves our hearts toward hope and love.

Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray - ing. Lord, send your

Spir - it in this place. Lord, lis - ten to your chil - dren

pray - ing. Send us love; send us power; send us grace.

+ASSURANCE OF PARDON

...in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God!

+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

2 Samuel 5:1-5; 6:1-5

The language of the text does not quite do justice to the spectacle that must have taken place that day. The entrance of the Ark of the Covenant with the tablets of the law was a momentous occasion. In your mind's eye try to picture something like a Mardi Gras parade rather than a church processional!

All the Israelite tribes came to David at Hebron and said, "Listen: We are your very own flesh and bone. In the past, when Saul ruled over us, you were the one who led Israel out to war and back. What's more, the Lord told you, You will shepherd my people Israel, and you will be Israel's leader.

So all the Israelite elders came to the king at Hebron. King David made a covenant with them at Hebron before the Lord, and they anointed David king over Israel.

David was 30 years old when he became king, and he ruled for forty years. He ruled over Judah for seven and a half years in Hebron. He ruled thirty-three years over all Israel and Judah in Jerusalem.

Once again David assembled the select warriors of Israel, thirty thousand strong. David and all the troops who were with him set out for Baalah, which is Kiriath-jearim of Judah, to bring God's chest up from there—the chest that is called by the name of the Lord of heavenly forces, who sits enthroned on the winged creatures. They loaded God's chest on a new cart and carried it from Abinadab's house, which was on the hill. Uzzah and Ahio, Abinadab's sons, were driving the new cart. Uzzah was beside God's chest while Ahio was walking in front of it. Meanwhile, David and the entire house of Israel celebrated in the Lord's presence with all their strength, with songs, zithers, harps, tambourines, rattles, and cymbals.

PSALM 150

Psalm 150 is the final text in the Book of Psalms in the Protestant bible. (Roman Catholic bibles include Psalm 151). This Psalm is a reminder that when all is said and done, we are called to be people of praise and thanksgiving.

Praise the Lord!

Praise God in his sanctuary!

Praise God in his fortress, the sky!

Praise God in his mighty acts!

Praise God as suits his incredible greatness!

Praise God with the blast of the ram's horn!

Praise God with lute and lyre!

Praise God with drum and dance!

Praise God with strings and pipe!

Praise God with loud cymbals!

Praise God with clashing cymbals!

Let every living thing praise the Lord!

Praise the Lord!

SERMON

"Forgetting Your Feet"

Dr. Lowry

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

†HYMN OF RESPONSE "Sing a New Song Unto the Lord"

SING A NEW SONG

Sing a new song un - to the Lord; let your song be
 sung from moun - tains high. Sing a new song
 un - to the Lord, sing - ing hal - le - lu - jah!
 1 Shout with glad - ness! Dance for joy! O come be -
 2 Rise, O chil - dren, from your sleep; your Sav - ior
 3 Glad my soul for I have seen the glo - ry
 fore the Lord. And play for God on
 now has come. He has turned your
 of the Lord. The trum - pet sounds; the
 glad tam - bou - rines, and let your trum - pet sound.
 sor - row to joy, and filled your soul with song.
 dead shall be raised. I know my Sav - ior lives.

This loose paraphrase of Psalm 98 embodies the images of praise and thanksgiving in the text through allusion to other biblical passages including ones from Romans, 1 Corinthians, Job, and other Psalms.

†AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

From "Song of Faith" United Church of Canada

**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,**

Adopted in 2006, A Song of Faith is written as an ongoing reflection of faith in the context of history. It was written not only as a confession of faith in the moment but as a means of ongoing reflection and an invitation to the church to live out its convictions in the world.

Grace Notes

The Prayers of the People today will take particular notice of the ongoing violence in Israel and Palestine. Often treated as a simple binary of two sides fighting, this historic conflict is one with many facets and many tragic parts. Today we pray not for one “side” or the other but for the only side that matters to God, peace and the dignity of all people.

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!

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.

OFFERTORY

OFFERTORY

“Up Above My Head”

Sister Rosetta Tharpe

Arr. Mark Hayes

*Up above my head, I hear music in the air.
And I really do believe there's a heaven somewhere.
Up in my room, I hear music in the air.
And I really do believe there's a heaven somewhere.
Everywhere I go, I hear music in the air.
And I really do believe there's a heaven somewhere.
All over the world, I hear music in the air.
And I really do believe there's a heaven somewhere.
Up above my head, I hear music in the air.
And I really do believe there's a heaven somewhere.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.

WE DEPART IN GOD’S NAME

†PARTING HYMN #450

“O Day of Peace”

JERUSALEM

†CHARGE & BENEEDICTION

†POSTLUDE

WORSHIP NOTES

WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY are Dr. Robert Lowry, Music Director David Austin, Liturgist John Mac Leod, 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 29- No Class for Sunday Brunch

See CareLine for Zoom link to adult classes.

BLANKET MAKING FOLLOWING WORSHIP Join the Presbyterian Women after worship in the gathering space for blanket making benefiting UAMS Palliate Care. No Sewing is required, as these are no-sew blankets. Everyone is welcome, and we look forward to seeing you there!

5TH SUNDAY BRUNCH OCTOBER 29TH Plan to enjoy a delicious breakfast on Sunday, October 29, in the Fellowship Hall from 9:15-10:00am. Charlie Frith and crew will be cooking- all treats no tricks! Plans to enjoy the fellowship and good food before the worship service (no Sunday School that day).

PW MORNING CIRCLE The PW Morning Circle will meet on Monday, October 23 at 10:00am in the New Chapel. Please enter by the copper double doors, open by 9:30am, off the north parking lot. The Bible Study lesson will be Chapter 2 of *Sacred Encounters- the Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke-Acts*; led by Nancy Passini. Hostesses will be Kay McCollum and Nancy Blackstone. Lesson books will be available for \$10. All women re welcome; and you are invited to bring a friend for food, fellowship, and thoughtful study.

2ND WEDNESDAY SPIRITUALITY GROUP Please join us for our Second Wednesday Spirituality Group on November 8, at 5:45pm in the New Chapel. If you need directions or more information, you may contact H.K. Stewart.

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.

STEWPOINT CLOTHES CLOSET Stewpot 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!

STEWPOINT NEEDS YOUR HELP Barbara Polite (head of the clothes closet for Stewpot) 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

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.

PASTORAL CARE

PLEASE INCLUDE IN YOUR PRAYERS Judy Lyle; Family of Ralph Cotham, who died on October 10; 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; Family of Vivianna McAtee, who died on October 8; 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

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