



Welcome to



WESTWOOD
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Order of Worship

Sunday, August 23, 2026

“For by the grace given me I say to everyone of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the measure of faith God has given you.”

—Romans 12:3-4

Order of Worship — 13th Sunday after Pentecost

Worship Notes: Worshipers are asked to join in the sections marked in **bold**. The *asterisk invites all who are able to stand. And, as always, please silence your cell phones.

Prelude

Laurel Sanders, organ

Meditation in C major

Paul Benoit (1893-1979)

Gathering Around the Word

Concerns of the Church

Rev. Paula Mann

Introit

WPC Chancel Choir

Come, Everyone

Laurel Sanders (b. 1984)

*Call to Worship

Jake Putich, Director of Faith Formation & Creation Care

Come, people of God, and give thanks with all your heart,
**we give thanks to the Lord, whose steadfast love
endures forever.**

Though the Lord is exalted, he looks kindly on the lowly,
**You will fulfill your purpose for us. Your love
endures forever.**

Let us worship the Lord with joy and gratitude, for God's
faithfulness is everlasting.

*Hymn 320

Verses 1, 2, 3, & 5

The Church of Christ in Every Age

[WAREHAM]

*Confessions of the Body of Christ

Lord God, you have given each of us many gifts, but
sometimes we cannot recognize what gift we have to share,
so we hide it under a bushel. You remind us that all gifts are
needed, but sometimes we let ourselves be convinced that
some gifts are more special than others. Forgiving God, for
the times we have ignored or mislabeled Your gifts, for those
times we have cut another off from the body, we offer words
of repentance, and we ask for forgiveness and grace.

*Silent Individual Confession

*Declaration of Pardon

***Gloria Patri**

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.

***Passing the Peace of Christ**

Let us extend God's peace to one another with these ancient words:

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Proclaiming the Word

Children's Message

Marin Miller, Director of Children & Family Ministries

Children and Youth are dismissed to Sunday School

Anthem

How Firm A Foundation

Katherine K. Davis (1892-1980)

First Lesson

Emma Puglia

Isaiah 51:1-6; O.T., page 640

***Hymn 300**

We Are One in the Spirit

[THEY'LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS]

Choral Call to Prayer

1st time: Choir

*2nd time: Congregation
may join*

Hear Our Prayer

Music: Dan Redfeld (b. 1970)

Lyrics: Christina Harding & John Gabriel
Koladziej

**Lord above us hear our plea:
from our sorrows set us free.
This we humbly ask of thee –
grant us peace, oh Lord.**

**Lord above us hear our plea:
from our sorrows set us free.
This we humbly ask of thee –
grant us peace, Lord, hear our prayer.
Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Lord God, friend of those in need, your Son Jesus has untied our
burdens and healed our spirits.

**We lift up the prayers of our hearts for those still
burdened, those seeking healing, those in need within
the church and the world.**

*petitions are added

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.

Anthem

Bright Morning Stars

Traditional
Arr. Alice Park (1925-2023)

Second Lesson

Romans 12:1-8; N.T., page 151

Rev. Jeff Snell

Meditation

Be Transformed

Bearing the Word Into the World

***Hymn 697**

Take My Life

Verses 1-4

[HENDON]

***Benediction**

Response

The Lord Bless You and Keep You

John Rutter (b. 1945)

Postlude

Prelude and Fugue in C major

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

The congregation gratefully acknowledges the contributions of:

Chancel Flowers	The gift of M.C. Haslett in appreciation of the chancel choir and their devout inclusion of sacred music that enhances the backbone of WPC's identity!
Greeter	Katie Mahler
Ushers	Jonathan Stewart and Breen Frazier
Elder Host	Heather Leatherwood
Deacon Host	Matheus Oliveira
AV Team	Vincent Purcell and Dakota Hodge



Coffee Fellowship
Following worship, please join us for fellowship on the Side Porch for refreshments. We invite you to take a turn sponsoring the fellowship hour! You can select your sponsorship date on the Bulletin Board after worship or on our website at westwoodpres.org.



Parking
*Parking is available in the church lot as well as next door at the AVCO/iPic theater parking garage. Following worship, pick up a **FREE** validation card from an usher before returning to the parking structure.*

Welcome to Worship at WPC!



While Sunday School is provided, children are always welcome to remain in worship with their parents during the worship service.

Infants - 4 years: Room 1/Yellow Room

K-5th Grade: Room 2/Green Room

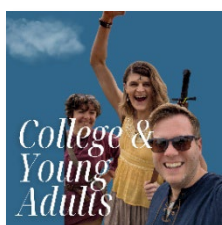
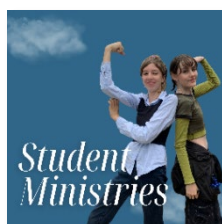
Parents may come to the classrooms to pick up their children before Side Porch fellowship.

Led by Director of Children & Family Ministries, Marin Miller - mmiller@westwoodpres.org.

We gather each Sunday upstairs in the Youth Room for a time of fun, friendship, and open conversations about faith.

Westwood Youth Collective - 6-12th: Youth Room

Led by Interim Director of Student Ministries, Michelle Whelan - mwhelan@westwoodpres.org.



EMBER (18-20s) Come connect with this affirming and vibrant young adult community on 1st and 3rd Thursdays at 7:00pm!

Led by Director of Faith Formation & Creation Care, Jake Putich - jputich@westwoodpres.org.

Women's Morning Meditation: meets Thursdays, 8:30-11am in Hoffman Hall or online to meditate on a brief poem and share our inspiration.

Women Reading: meets the third Wednesday each month at 7:30pm over Zoom to share our reflections on a book chosen for the month.



Join us for Adult Education offerings after worship today. All are welcome. Childcare is available in Room 1.



Adult Bible Forum: 11:15am in the Conference Room and on Zoom. This group, led by Elizabeth Evans, M.Div., is currently studying the book of *Romans*.

Faith, Search, & Support: 11:20am in the Bride's Room and on Zoom. This group, led by Dr. John Quiring and John Becker, is currently studying *The Tradition of Liberal Theology* by Michael L. Langford.

Check out the Mission & Outreach table on the Side Porch for volunteer opportunities. Led by Rev. Mark S. Jones, Sr. - mjones@westwoodpres.org.



For more information about ministries, events, and the mission of Westwood Presbyterian Church, check out our website at westwoodpres.org or contact office@westwoodpres.org.

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