

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

The Lord's Day September 9, 2018
 SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Direct and help us, O Lord, in all our deeds, that in all our works begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name, and finally, by your mercy, obtain everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Lighting the Christ Candles

Call to Worship:

Leader: The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein;

People: **For he has founded it upon the seas, and established it upon the rivers.**

Leader: Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord? And who shall stand in his holy place?

People: **They who have clean hands and pure hearts, who do not lift up their souls to what is false, and do not swear deceitfully.**

Psalm 24

All: **Let us joyfully worship God of all creation.**

*Hymn: *God Is Here!* #409

*Prayer of Adoration

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession:

O God, your voice extends to the ends of the world, and as you look down upon us we pray for your mercy as we confess our sin. We live as enemies of the cross when we crave earthly things, glory in the weakness of others, yearn above all for satisfaction for ourselves, and serve only those gods who do what we want. Help us to turn from our sinful ways to the way of Jesus Christ, and may we learn to honor him in all we say and do.

Time for Personal Confession

Response: *Have Mercy, God, upon My Life* #421
 verses 1 and 4

**Have mercy, God, upon my life, and make me clean within:
 pour out your ever-faithful love and wash away my sin.**

**Create in me a faithful heart, a spirit right and new.
 Sustain me with your saving love and keep me close to you.**

Assurance of Pardon:

Leader: Hear these words from the first letter of John: "God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent His only Son into the world so that we might live through him." First John 4:9
 Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel.

People: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

*Gloria Patri: *Glory Be to the Father* #581

**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.**

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings:

Offertory

*Doxology: **Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; #606
 Praise Him, all creatures here below;
 Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
 Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*Prayer of Dedication

Prayer for Illumination:

Blessed Lord, who caused all Holy Scripture to be written for our learning; grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us through the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Psalter: *Psalm 112*

Leader: Praise the LORD. Blessed are those who fear the LORD, who find great delight in his commands.

People: **Their children will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed.**

Leader: Wealth and riches are in their houses, and their righteousness endures forever.

People: **Even in darkness light dawns for the upright, for those who are gracious and compassionate and righteous.**

Leader: Good will come to those who are generous and lend freely, who conduct their affairs with justice.

People: **Surely the righteous will never be shaken; they will be remembered forever.**

Leader: They will have no fear of bad news; their hearts are steadfast, trusting in the LORD.

People: **Their hearts are secure, they will have no fear; in the end they will look in triumph on their foes.**

Leader: They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor, their righteousness endures forever; their horn will be lifted high in honor.

People: **The wicked will see and be vexed, they will gnash their teeth and waste away; the longings of the wicked will come to nothing.**

Scripture Reading: *John 3:16-21*

Anthem: *Humble Service* L. L. Fleming

Time for Young Disciples

(Preschool children may return to their pew or gather at the piano door where today's shepherd will lead them in a time of special activities.)

Hymn: *How Great Thou Art* #625

Scripture Reading: *Revelation 3:1-6*

Sermon: *Letter to Sardis*

Prayers of the People

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.

*Affirmation of Faith: *Ephesians 1:3-10*

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

*Hymn: *God Be with You Till We Meet Again* #542

*Benediction

*Choral Response: *Go to the World!* #295

Postlude

*Please stand if you are able

ASSISTING IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Ushers: James Allums Chris Kline
 Dee Allums Margaret Sultenfuss
 Shepherd: Lynnae Perdue
 Liturgist: Robin Moore
 Reader: John Moore

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, September 9

12:00 noon WUF and Youth Lunch
 5:00 pm Mission Committee Meeting
 5:00 pm Youth

Monday, September 10

9:00 am Prayer Group
 5:15 pm Soul Sisters

Tuesday, September 11

5:30 pm Handbell Practice

Wednesday, September 12

7:30 pm Choir Practice

Thursday, September 13

9:30 am Presbyterian Women General Meeting

Sunday, September 16

9:30 am Sunday School
 10:30 am Children's Choir
 11:00 am Worship Service
 5:00 pm Youth

There will be a congregational meeting after worship on Sunday, September 16 for the purpose of electing officers to the class of 2021.

The university group and the youth are going to have a "Lunch and Learn" about some of the history of the church today after worship. Peggy Wright and Chris Kline will speak about the church's history. All youth and college age people are invited.

TODAY'S FLOWERS

The beautiful flowers have been placed in the sanctuary today to the glory of God in loving memory of all those who lost their lives on September 11, 2001, and in honor of those who have "lived" theirs since.

**Westminster Presbyterian Church
 (PCUSA)**

Westminster Presbyterian Church exists to declare God's love for all through Jesus Christ, to nurture and encourage spiritual growth, to maintain the integrity of divine worship, and to share the love and joy found in Christ by giving ourselves to our community and to the world.

THE SESSION

<u>Class of 2018</u>	<u>Class of 2019</u>	<u>Class of 2020</u>
Bobbie Ann Anderson	Bruce McNellie	Ken Deppisch
Deborah Dalton	Robin Moore	Bennie Kitchens
Kristi Hachtel	Ray Taylor	Terry Kline
Michele Peck	Patricia Thompson	Terri Moehring
	Betsy Tucker	Barbara Stump

THE INVITATION TO MEMBERSHIP at Westminster Church is always open to persons who wish to join us in witness and service to Jesus Christ. If you are interested in church membership or desire more information about this congregation, please indicate on the Friendship Pad or speak to the pastor, or one of the elders following the service.

MINISTERS: All the Members of the Congregation

CHURCH STAFF: Pastor Steve Newton
 Director of Music Deborah Dalton
 Organist James Pitts
 Nursery Coordinator Myra McNellie
 Presbyterian Women Moderator Sue Atkins
 Treasurer Sue Atkins
 Secretary Sally Newton
 Children's Choir Director Elise Gavin
 Handbell Choir Director Myra McNellie
 Newsletter Editor Sally Newton
 Youth Leader Johnny Brown

Church Office Hours: 9:00 am - Noon, Monday – Friday
 Church Office Phone: 936-564-0203 Fax: 936-564-0204
 Website: www.westpreschurch.com
 E-mail: wpc4u@suddenlinkmail.com
 903 North Street; Nacogdoches, Texas 75961

**Westminster
 Presbyterian Church
 Nacogdoches, Texas**



September 9, 2018
 Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

*¹"To the angel of the church in Sardis write:
 These are the words of him who holds the seven spirits of God and the seven stars. I know your deeds; you have a reputation of being alive, but you are dead. ²Wake up! Strengthen what remains and is about to die, for I have found your deeds unfinished in the sight of my God. ³Remember, therefore, what you have received and heard; hold it fast, and repent. But if you do not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what time I will come to you.
⁴Yet you have a few people in Sardis who have not soiled their clothes. They will walk with me, dressed in white, for they are worthy. ⁵The one who is victorious will, like them, be dressed in white. I will never blot out the name of that person from the book of life, but will acknowledge that name before my Father and his angels. ⁶Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches.*

~Revelation 3:1-6