

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

The Lord's Day

July 30, 2017

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Lord God, day by day you guide us. Every breath we take is a gift of your mercy. You strengthen our knees to serve you. You lift our hands to give you all praise. We come before you in the company of brothers and sisters to give you the worship due your wonderful name. May our words be worthy of the trust you place in us and our meditations mindful of your benevolent care.

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Lighting the Christ Candles

Call to Worship:

Leader: Great and marvelous are your deeds, Lord God Almighty.

People: **Just and true are your ways, King of the nations.**

Leader: Who will not fear you, Lord, and bring glory to your name?

People: **For you alone are holy. All nations will come and worship before you, for your righteous acts have been revealed.**

Revelation 15:3-4

Leader: Praise the Lord!

People: **The Lord's name be praised!**

*Hymn: **Holy God, We Praise Your Name** #4

*Prayer of Adoration

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession:

Gracious God, in Christ Jesus, have mercy upon us. We are not quick to proclaim Christ as savior. We have our own desires that demand our devotion. Other people have power over us that we dare not deny. We sometimes confuse Christ's will and our own. At times it is awkward to confess him the source of new life. With compassion he suffers, aware of our plight. O God, hear our confession, and through Christ keep us upright.

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: For Christ did not enter a sanctuary made by human hands, a mere copy of the true one, but he entered into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf.

People: **He has appeared once for all at the end of the age to remove sin by the sacrifice of himself.** Hebrews 9:24,26b

Leader: Friends, this is the good news of the gospel:

People: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

*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:

Holy God, when we read the parables of our Lord Jesus, we often hear him say, "He who has ears, let him hear." Open our ears that we may hear your word, and may we understand it deep within our soul, that it will give us hope and the courage to obey, for we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Psalter: **Psalm 119:46-64**

Leader: Remember your word to your servant, for you have given me hope.

People: **My comfort in my suffering is this: Your promise preserves my life.**

Leader: The arrogant mock me unmercifully, but I do not turn from your law.

People: **I remember, LORD, your ancient laws, and I find comfort in them.**

Leader: Indignation grips me because of the wicked, who have forsaken your law.

People: **Your decrees are the theme of my song wherever I lodge.**

Leader: In the night, LORD, I remember your name, that I may keep your law.

People: **This has been my practice: I obey your precepts.**

Leader: You are my portion, LORD; I have promised to obey your words.

People: **I have sought your face with all my heart; be gracious to me according to your promise.**

Leader: I have considered my ways and have turned my steps to your statutes.

People: **I will hasten and not delay to obey your commands.**

Leader: Though the wicked bind me with ropes, I will not forget your law.

People: **At midnight I rise to give you thanks for your righteous laws.**

Leader: I am a friend to all who fear you, to all who follow your precepts.

People: **The earth is filled with your love, LORD; teach me your decrees.**

Scripture Reading: **Luke 18:9-14**

Solo: **Somebody's Prayin'** arr. Hayes
Emily Rhoades, soprano

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: **God of Compassion, in Mercy Befriend Us** #436

Scripture Readings: **Second Kings 14:8-14**

Sermon: **The Thistle and the Cedar**

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: Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

*Hymn: **Lord, I Want to Be a Christian** #729

*Benediction

Postlude

*Please stand if you are able

ASSISTING IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Ushers: Kristi Hachtel Terri Moehring
Chris Kline James Allums
Shepherd: Billie Kitchens
Liturgist: Betsy Tucker
Reader: Kristi Hachtel

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday, August 1

1:30 pm Sanctuary Guild

Sunday, August 6

9:30 am Elder Breakfast
11:00 am Worship Service
12:00 noon Communion Reception
hosted by Mission Committee

TODAY'S FLOWERS

The beautiful flowers have been placed in the sanctuary today to the glory of God by Lynnae Perdue and Shellene Kestner in loving memory of their mother Dorinne Rosson.

**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

Class of 2017

Ken Deppisch
Bennie Kitchens
Chris Kline
Lisa Thompson

Class of 2018

Bobbie Ann Anderson
Clarence Bahs
Deborah Dalton
Kristi Hachtel
Michele Peck

Class of 2019

Bruce McNellie
Robin Moore
Ray Taylor
Patricia Thompson
Betsy Tucker

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
Sunday School Coordinator and 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**



**July 30, 2017
Seventh Sunday after Pentecost**

⁸Then Amaziah sent messengers to Jehoash son of Jehoahaz, the son of Jehu, king of Israel, with the challenge: "Come, let us face each other in battle."

⁹ But Jehoash king of Israel replied to Amaziah king of Judah: "A thistle in Lebanon sent a message to a cedar in Lebanon, 'Give your daughter to my son in marriage.' Then a wild beast in Lebanon came along and trampled the thistle underfoot. ¹⁰ You have indeed defeated Edom and now you are arrogant. Glory in your victory, but stay at home! Why ask for trouble and cause your own downfall and that of Judah also?"

¹¹ Amaziah, however, would not listen, so Jehoash king of Israel attacked. He and Amaziah king of Judah faced each other at Beth Shemesh in Judah. ¹² Judah was routed by Israel, and every man fled to his home. ¹³ Jehoash king of Israel captured Amaziah king of Judah, the son of Joash, the son of Ahaziah, at Beth Shemesh. Then Jehoash went to Jerusalem and broke down the wall of Jerusalem from the Ephraim Gate to the Corner Gate—a section about four hundred cubits long. ¹⁴ He took all the gold and silver and all the articles found in the temple of the LORD and in the treasuries of the royal palace. He also took hostages and returned to Samaria. Second Kings 14:8-14