Westminster
Presbyterian Church
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July 16, 2023
Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome and Announcements **Rev. Erin Guzmán**

Let us open our hearts and minds to the rhythm of the gathering music as it centers us in God's presence for worship.

Prelude **"Brethren We Have Met to Worship"** ***Columbian Harmony/Arr. Paul Basler***

***Gathering Words** **Dorothy Iams**

*The * in the liturgy indicates that you are invited to stand in body or in spirit.*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow!
We praise God who showers us with mercy and peace!
Praise God from whom we draw our strength.
We praise God who calls us by name as Beloved.
Praise God from in whom we find our purpose and true selves.
We praise God who yearns for justice, equity, and harmony.
God has cast seeds of love and hope upon us…
May our lives be fruitful soil for seasons of planting and growing.
Amen.

***+Opening Prayer** **Dorothy Iams**

Let us pray …

God of Abundance,
We come to you this day in the midst of a season
of great growth and coming harvest.
All around us are signs of emerging possibilities; in our earth,
in our families, in our nation, in our world.

We come this day, seeking your healing love and steadfast support.
Open our hearts to receive all that you offer,
that we may become fruitful co-laborers of the kin-dom, here and now. Amen.

Opening Hymn No. 14 **"For the Beauty of the Earth"** ***Dix***

Call to Confession **Dorothy Iams**

Let us confess ourselves to the God who loves us and welcomes us exactly as we are.
Let us pray together the prayer of confession…

Prayer of Confession **Dorothy Iams**

Patient God,
We are so caught up in getting everything that we want; and we want it all right now.
We have trouble waiting and remembering
that it is in the transitional time we might hear your voice offering assurance.
It is difficult for us to believe that we can be fruitful, good soil for your words and work.
We find excuses and distractions, and focus on our own desires
rather than what has been planted in us.
Slow us down, O Lord.
Remind us again of your mercy and your love, your grace and your compassion.

Silent Confession

"Total Eclipse" (from *Samson)* ***Georg Frederick Handel***

Musical Response No. 451 **"Open My Eyes, That I May See" (all verses)** ***Open My Eyes***

Assurance of Forgiveness **Dorothy Iams**

Friends, this is the Good News:
God has called us to live fruitful lives.
The seeds of compassion, justice, generosity, and hope have been planted in us
and are being nurtured by the Spirit.
May we be watered with assurance of God's presence in every season of our growth.
And all God's children say,
Amen.

Musical Offering **"If with all your hearts" (from *Elijah)*** ***Felix Mendelssohn***

We offer our gifts of money, talents, time, and energy—the gifts of our lives in gratitude for God's relentless love and grace for all. These gifts represent our commitment to heed God's call and join God in God's mission
of healing and transforming our world.

Prayer of Illumination **Rev. Erin Guzmán**

Scripture Reading **Genesis 25:19-34 (NRSV)** **Rev. Erin Guzmán**

19 These are the descendants of Isaac, Abraham's son: Abraham was the father of Isaac, 20 and Isaac
was forty years old when he married Rebekah, daughter of Bethuel the Aramean of Paddan-aram,
sister of Laban the Aramean. 21 Isaac prayed to the Lord for his wife, because she was barren; and
the Lord granted his prayer, and his wife Rebekah conceived. 22 The children struggled together within
her; and she said, 'If it is to be this way, why do I live?' So she went to inquire of the Lord. 23 And the
Lord said to her,

'Two nations are in your womb,
and two peoples born of you shall be divided;
one shall be stronger than the other,
the elder shall serve the younger.'

24 When her time to give birth was at hand, there were twins in her womb. 25 The first came out red, all
his body like a hairy mantle; so they named him Esau. 26 Afterwards his brother came out, with his
hand gripping Esau's heel; so he was named Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them.

27 When the boys grew up, Esau was a skillful hunter, a man of the field, while Jacob was a quiet man,
living in tents. 28 Isaac loved Esau, because he was fond of game; but Rebekah loved Jacob.

29 Once when Jacob was cooking a stew, Esau came in from the field, and he was famished. 30 Esau
said to Jacob, 'Let me eat some of that red stuff, for I am famished!' (Therefore he was called
Edom.) 31 Jacob said, 'First sell me your birthright.' 32 Esau said, 'I am about to die; of what use is a
birthright to me?' 33 Jacob said, 'Swear to me first.' So he swore to him, and sold his birthright to
Jacob. 34 Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and he ate and drank, and rose and went his
way. Thus Esau despised his birthright.

Sermon **Rev. Erin Guzmán**

Hymn No. 716 "God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending" *Beach Spring*

Sharing of Joys and Concerns Dorothy Iams

Prayer of the People Dorothy Iams

Through the power of your Spirit and in the name of Jesus the Christ,
who taught us to pray, saying:

Our God in heaven, holy is your name.
Your kin-dom come,
Your will be done, on earth as is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kin-dom, the power and the glory are yours.
Now and forever. Amen.

Closing Hymn No. 308 "O God in Whom All Life Begins" *Noel*

Benediction Rev. Erin Guzmán

Postlude "Nocturne" from A Midsummer Night's Dream *Felix Mendelssohn/Arr. Clifford Page*

The service continues with fellowship.

*+Adapted from words by Nancy C. Townley for *Ministry Matters*
*Hymns are from the Glory to God Hymnal.
*Music: Ken Shafer, piano/organ
*Sunday service assistant/treats: Lynne Hamrick
*Sunday flowers: Dorothy Iams
***We are thankful for the OLO musicians for joining us in worship leadership.**
To foster a worshipful spirit, we invite you to hold your applause until the end of the service.

SAMANDA ENGELS, *horn*, is excited to join OLO this summer. She has performed with notable artists and productions, including the Shrine Circus, Wichita Grand Opera, Caroline Campbell, as well as weekly performances in Oklahoma City backing the Grammy Award-winning artist Sandi Patty. She holds an MM from the University of Oklahoma, where she also served as the graduate teaching assistant for the horn studio. A few of her favorite musicals that she has performed include *Beauty and the Beast*, *Into the Woods*, and *Little Women*. Outside of performing, Samanda loves hiking, painting, and is the horn instructor for El Sistema Oklahoma.

OWEN MALONE, *tenor*, is honored to be joining OLO for his first season this summer as Bill Sanders in *Arizona Lady*, Ralph Rackstraw (cover) in *H.M.S. Pinafore*, and ensemble in *Camelot*, *No, No, Nannette*, and *Orpheus in the Underworld*. Some previous credits include *The Robber Bridegroom*, *The Phantom of the Opera*, and *Brigadoon*. A Georgia native, Owen is currently a junior at Young Harris College and a student of Jeff Bauman.

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To continue to assure the safety of all, the offering plate is located on a table in the back of the sanctuary. If you are moved to support our ministry, we invite you to place your gifts in the plate.



You may also give online through our website by clicking on the "GIVE NOW" button at the bottom of the home page. Your generosity helps us to fulfill our calling to engage in God's transformative mission in our community.

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Upcoming Events

Sunday, July 16
- Worship Service – 10 am – Mackey Hall
- Wooster Friends Meeting – 10.30 am – The Meeting Place

Monday, July 17
- Troop 61 – 6 pm – Mackey Hall

Thursday, July 20
- Dance and Exercise – 8.30 am – The Meeting Place

Sunday, July 23
- Worship Service – 10 am – Mackey Hall
- Wooster Friends Meeting – 10.30 am – The Meeting Place

Westminster Presbyterian Church

Pastor Rev. Dr. Enikő Ferenczy
Minister of Music Rev. Dr. Thomas Shaw
Office Administrator Rev. Dr. James Henery
AV Assistant/Event Steward Tony Mendiola
Custodian Kara Akers

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Westminster Presbyterian Church strives to be a safe place for all people to worship regardless of ethnicity, creed, age, cultural background, gender identity, or sexual orientation.

For the Beauty of the Earth 14



In the course of many revisions, the original eucharistic emphasis of this text has shifted to a hymn of thanksgiving for a wide range of human experience, with a Christological summation. It is set here to the tune that is customary in North America, though not elsewhere.

TEXT: Folliott Sandford Pierpoint, 1864, alt. DIX
MUSIC: Conrad Kocher, 1838; abr. William Henry Monk, 1861; harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906 7.7.7.7.7.7

Open My Eyes, That I May See 451



The first woman to publish a collection of her own anthems, this author/composer has created in this hymn a sung prayer for illumination. It not only asks God to help us understand Scripture but also prays for the strength and courage to make God's love known to others.

TEXT and MUSIC: Clara H. Scott, 1895

OPEN MY EYES
8.8.9.8.8.8.8.4

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending 716



Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This text on stewardship was one of about 450 submissions in a search for such hymns conducted by the Hymn Society of America in 1961. These words are well grounded by their musical setting, an early American shape note tune named for a Baptist church in Harris County, Georgia.

TEXT: Robert L. Edwards, 1961, alt.
MUSIC: *The Sacred Harp*, 1844; harm. James H. Wood, 1958
BEACH SPRING
8.7.8.7.D

Text © 1961, ren. 1989 The Hymn Society (admin. Hope Publishing Company)
Music Harm. © 1958, ren. 1986 Broadman Press (admin. Music Services)

O God in Whom All Life Begins 308



Although it was written for the installation of a pastor, this text is really about the mutual ministry shared by all members of a worshiping community, both when they are gathered and when they go forth into the world. The tune used here may have Christmas associations for some.

TEXT: Carl P. Daw Jr., 1990
MUSIC: English melody; arr. Arthur S. Sullivan, 1874
Text © 1990 Hope Publishing Company

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