Westminster
Presbyterian Church
353 E. Pine St., Wooster, OH. 44691
330-263-2398 / wpcwooster.org

August 7, 2022
9th Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome and Announcements **Rev. Dr. Enikő Ferenczy**

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 "Arioso" J. S. BACH

***Gathering Words (based on Psalm 49: 1-4)** **Dawn Kridel**
*The * in the liturgy indicates that you are invited to stand in body or in spirit.*

God's reach is endless.
God's mercy is unstoppable.
God's grace is lavish.
God's love is constant.
God's wisdom is vast.
God's hope is stubborn.
God's presence is here—
with us, among us, moving through us.
Breathe easy. Breathe deeply.
We are in God's house.
Let us worship the One who welcomes us home.

***Opening Prayer** **Dawn Kridel**

Welcoming One,
Your warm, wide arms are always open,
Drawing us into your heart full of love.
Make our arms your own, helping is see and welcome
With compassion all those we meet.
Amen.

***Gathering Hymn No. 399** "God Welcomes All" THEMBA AMEN
(Sung 3 times –Compassion Camp 2.0 Theme Song)

Call to Confession **Dawn Kridel**

Friends, I think God's love is like the porch light—always on for us. We might be late for curfew, but God is just so glad we're home. So let us pray the prayer of confession together, trusting that no matter what we do or what we leave undone, the porch light is always on. Let us pray. . .

Prayer of Confession **Dawn Kridel**

The prodigal child isn't given a name, but we know their name.
It sounds like ours.
And we know their story.
It sounds like ours.
For who among us hasn't burned a bridge?
Who among us hasn't forgotten that we belong to one another?
Who among us has not ached for home?

The prodigal child isn't given a name, but we know their name.
Forgive us God. We want to come home.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness **Dawn Kridel**

God has insisted that we belong together.
From the very breath of life we have been given,
we are connected to God's own life.

Feel the steadfast pangs of God's enduring love within you—
with each heartbeat, each inhale and exhale. Welcome home!

Let us spread this love through offerings of kindness
and allyship in your communities. Amen.

Musical Response **"**Puppet's Complaint" CESAR FRANCK

Prayer of Illumination **Rev. Dr. Enikő Ferenczy**

Scripture Reading Luke 15: 11-32 **Rev. Dr. Enikő Ferenczy**

"There was a man who had two sons. **12** The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. **13** A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. **14** When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. **15** So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. **16** He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything.

17 But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! **18** I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; **19** I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands."' **20** So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. **21** Then the son said to him, 'Father, I

have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' [22] But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. [23] And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; [24] for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate.

[25] "Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. [26] He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. [27] He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' [28] Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. [29] But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. [30] But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' [31] Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. [32] But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'"

Sermon **Prodigal Love** **Rev. Dr. Enikő Ferenczy**

***Communion Hymn No. 503** "Lord, We Have Come at Your Own Invitation" O QUANTA QUALIA

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving **Rev. Dr. Enikő Ferenczy**

Holy One,
we remember your love as we gather at your table.
We remember how you explained God to us—
a parent who runs to meet a wayward child,
a host who spreads a banquet, just because we are together.
We remember how you came to earth
to break bread with saints and seekers and sinners,
and how every meal where you were present became a celebration.

We remember that your last meal with your friends
included both laughter and sorrow, betrayal and forgiveness.
We remember that you told us you would be with us forever,
in the fragrant nourishment of bread, and the life-giving sip of wine,
wherever two or three of us are gathered,
whenever prayers are uttered, songs are sung,
and lives are risked for love's sake.

Prayer petitions offered…

Drench us with your Spirit,
Bless us now, dear Friend as we gather at your table.
Feed us, renew us and send us forth to live
in joyful freedom and prodigal abundance.

We pray in your name, and also with the words that you taught us to pray together:

Our God in heaven, holy is your name.
Your kingdom come,
Your will be done, on earth as is in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our debts
as we forgive our debtors.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours.
Now and forever. Amen.

Words of Institution Communion of the People Prayer after Communion	"Communion in E major"	LEON BOELLMAN
*** Closing Hymn No. 759**	"O God, We Bear the Imprint"	TODOS LOS COLORES
***Benediction**		**Rev. Dr. Enikő Ferenczy**
Postlude	"Prelude and Fugue in e minor"	J.S. BACH

The service continues with fellowship.



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

GIVE NOW

You may also go on-line 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.

* The Gathering Words and the Prayer of Confession were adapted from A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org.
* The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving is adapted from Rev. Martha B. Peck.
* Hymns are from the Glory to God Hymnal.

Music:	Piano	Bob Iams
	Organ, Piano	Ken Shafer

Tech. Assistant/Event Steward	Tony Mendiola
Sunday Assistant	Sherry Hatter-Miller
Flowers	Sherry Hatter-Miller
Refreshments	Sherry Hatter-Miller

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Message from Divine

Dear Pastor Eniko,

I am excited to let you know that I made it safely to Los Angeles on Tuesday.
I have since settled in and continue to work on a few things in readiness for the upcoming orientation.

I would like to express my profound gratitude and heartfelt appreciation to you, Judy and the entire Westminster Church family for organizing a memorable send off for me. I cherish the priceless gifts and goodwill messages I received from the church and individuals. I will forever treasure these expressions of love and thoughtfulness.

I pray fervently for a suitable replacement within a very short time for the work of God to continue.

With warm regards,

Divine

Dr. Divine Gbagbo
7804 Nardian Way
Los Angeles, CA. 90045
dgbagbo@gmail.com

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Upcoming Events

Tuesday, August 9
- Worship Committee Meeting – 1:00 pm – The Lounge
- Benevolence Committee Meeting – 5:15 – Relle Home

Thursday, August 11
- Building Committee Meeting – 10:00 am – The Lounge

Sunday, August 14
- Walking in Mindfulness – 7:30 am – Oak Hill Park
- Worship Service – 10:00 am – Mackey Hall

Saturday, August 20
- COW Move-In Day

COW UPDATE August 2: The college has issued the following Masking Requirement:

"Out of an abundance of caution, while we have an influx of people moving back to campus this fall, well-fitting, high quality masks will be required in all public spaces by all students, employees, and guests from August 17 to August 30."

Westminster Presbyterian Church

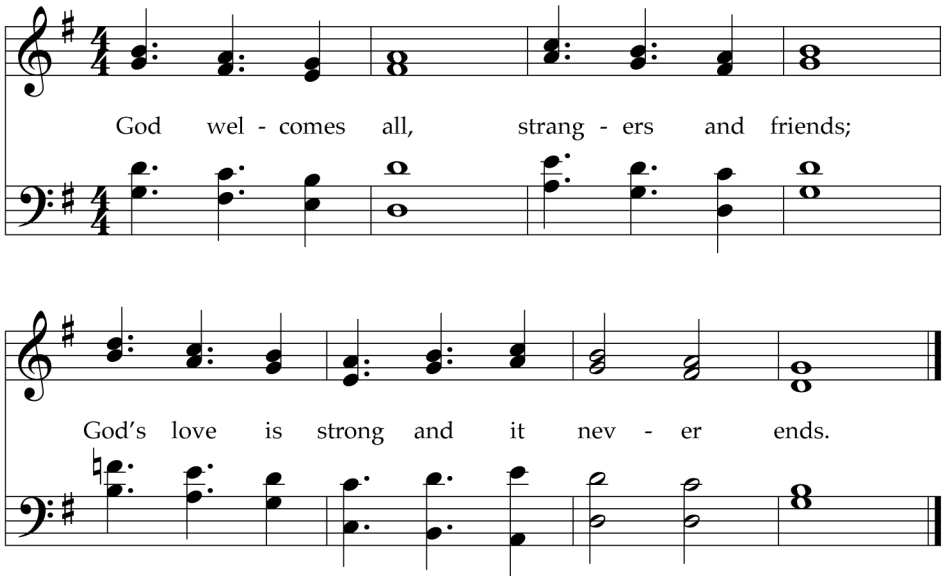
Pastor Rev. Dr. Enikő Ferenczy
Office Administrator Judy Mowrer
Minister of Music and Worship Arts Open
Worship Accompanist Ken Shafer
AV Assistant/Event Steward. Tony Mendiola
Custodian Kara Akers

Office Hours: 8:30 am–1:30 pm, Tuesday through Friday
www.facebook.com/wpcwooster / www.instagram.com/wpc_wooster/

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.

Sung 3 times

God Welcomes All 399
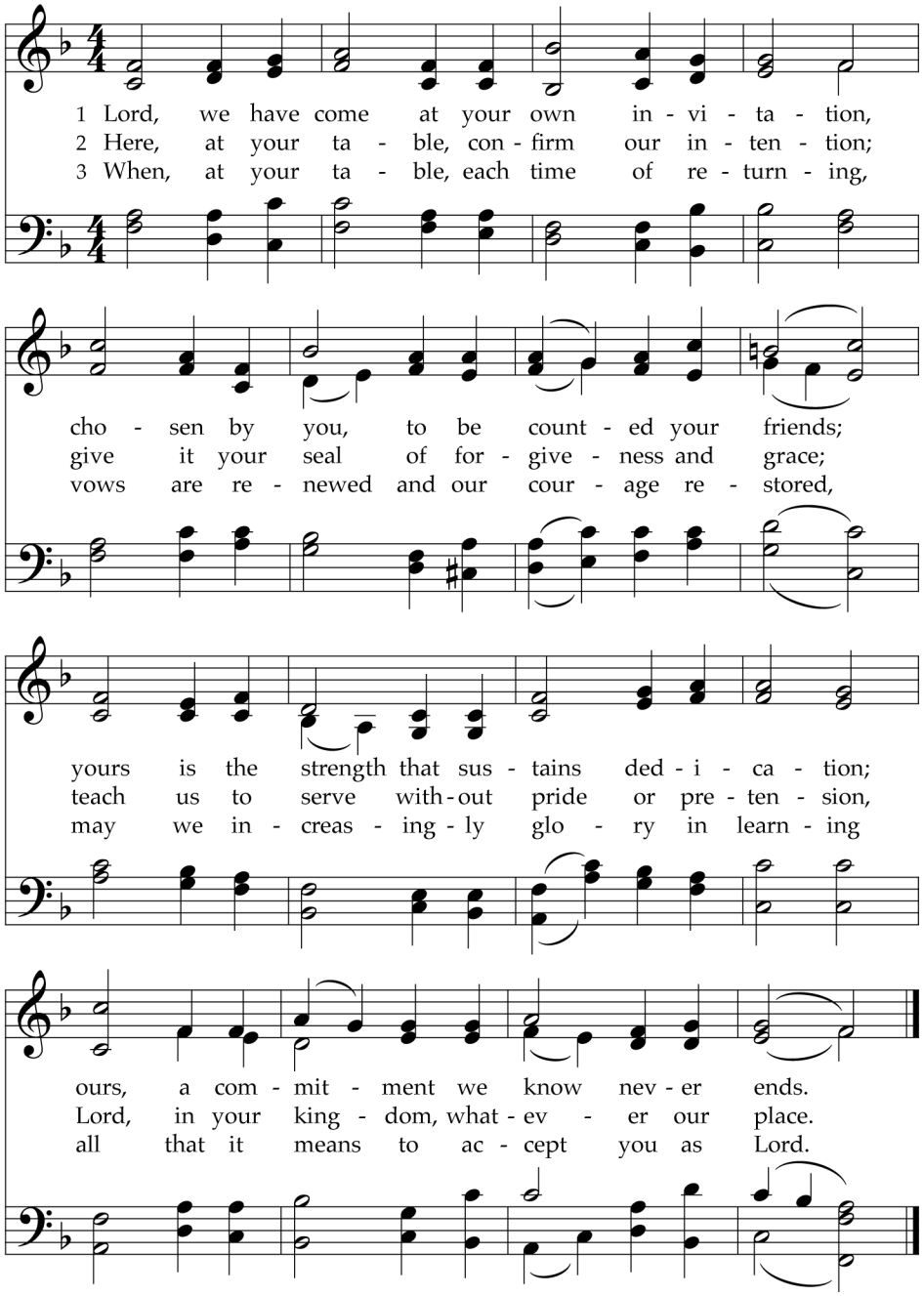


This "short song," as the Iona Community calls it, can be especially effective as a means of setting a welcoming tone for a service (especially an ecumenical one). Like most such songs, it needs to be sung several times, adding and improvising harmony with each repetition.

TEXT: John L. Bell, 2008
MUSIC: South African song; transcr. John L. Bell, 2008
Text and Music Transcr. © 2008 WGRG, Iona Community (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)

THEMBA AMEN
4.4.9

Lord, We Have Come at Your Own Invitation

503
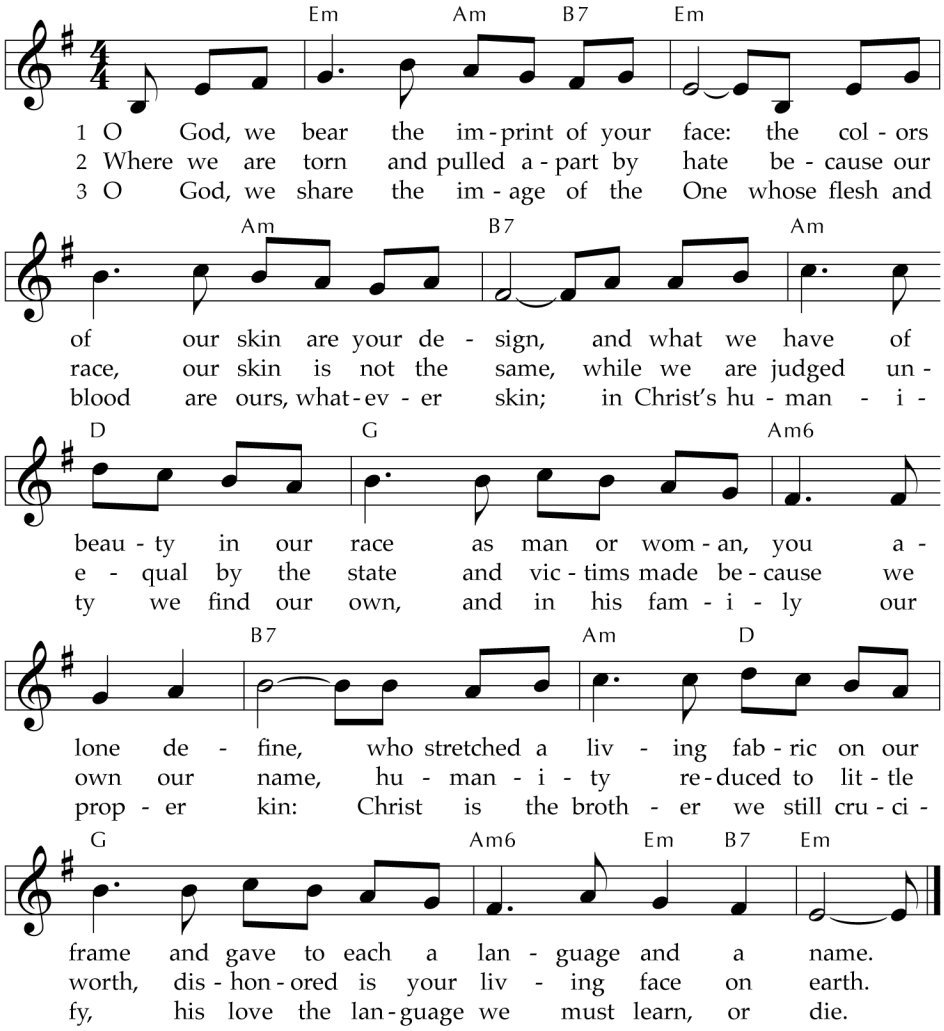


St. Augustine spoke of eucharist as "the repeatable part of baptism," and this hymn reminds us that each time we share in the Lord's Supper we are renewing our baptismal vows. The text is set to a tune that dates to the transition between plainchant and modern tonalities.

TEXT: Fred Pratt Green, 1977, alt.
MUSIC: Paris *Antiphoner,* 1681; harm. La Feillée's *Méthode du plain-chant,* 1808
Text © 1979 Hope Publishing Company

O QUANTA QUALIA
11.10.11.10
(this tune in a higher key, 369)

O God, We Bear the Imprint 759



Rather than treating racism as a societal problem, this text considers the issue from a theological point of view. When we distance ourselves from other people merely because of the color of their skin, we fail to honor their God-likeness and to see Christ's image in them.

TEXT: Shirley Erena Murray, 1987
MUSIC: Margaret R. Tucker, 1998
Text © 1987 Hope Publishing Company
Music © 1998 Hope Publishing Company

TODOS LOS COLORES
10.10.10.10.10.10