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

October 23, 2022
20th 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 "Fugue in C" J. S. BACH

***Gathering Words** **Madeleine Fields-Halva**
*The * in the liturgy indicates that you are invited to stand in body or in spirit.*

Here in this place
we are who we are.
If we looked in a mirror
would we see the same person our friends see?
Or family see?
Or the person that God sees?
We come transparent to God—
nothing is secret,
and yet we have nothing to fear from God.
We come as we are: beloved of God, treasured and unique.
So come and be loved, just as you are.

***Opening Prayer** **Madeleine Fields-Halva**

Let us pray…

We thank you, O God,
for your people who have passed on your word to us,
for their fullness and diversity and real-ness.

As we hear of those who led well and also made mistakes,
those who were faithful and also failed,
those who admitted the truth and tried again,
we pray you would keep us from too-easy answers.

Show us how to follow you
in all the grey areas and the tangled webs,
in the real world where you call us to live for you.
Amen.

***Gathering Hymn No. 307** "God of Grace and God of Glory" CWM RHONDDA

Call to Confession **Madeleine Fields-Halva**

The Psalmist reminds us that God knows us inside and out. God delights in us and longs for us to be honest with God and ourselves. God invites us to look in the mirror, to see our beauty and our flaws so that with God's grace and mercy, we can find wholeness. Let us join in praying our prayer of confession…

Prayer of Confession **Madeleine Fields-Halva**

We confess, O God, that we often are complacent,
taking for granted the gifts and comforts of our lives
without thinking about our lifestyle's impact on others.
And we admit that we find it easier to confess to you than to those we have harmed.
We forget that when we do not love our neighbor, we are also not loving you,
when our relationships with one another are broken,
so too is our relationship with you.

Forgive us, loving God.
Forgive us our self-centeredness, our arrogance, and our apathy.
Forgive us for choosing not to see, and for prioritizing our comfort over our neighbors' lives.

Forgive us for thinking your forgiveness is a free pass to continue our hurtful ways.
Reveal your truth to us,
and give us the courage and humility to receive it,
and let that truth transform us not only our hearts, but our lives.
Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness **Madeleine Fields-Halva**

The Psalmist assures us that God is never far from us.
God's steadfast love endures in all circumstances.
In Christ, we are forgiven and receive grace
to become God's new creation.
Thanks be to God. Amen.

Musical Offering "Spirit of the Living God" LIVING GOD

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. Dr. Enikő Ferenczy**

First Scripture Reading 2 Samuel 12: 1-10 **Rev. Dr. Enikő Ferenczy**

(Common English Bible Translation)

12 So the Lord sent Nathan to David. When Nathan arrived, he said, "There were two men in the same city, one rich, one poor.**2** The rich man had a lot of sheep and cattle, **3** but the poor man had nothing—just one small ewe lamb that he had bought. He raised that lamb, and it grew up with him and his children. It would eat from his food and drink from his cup—even sleep in his arms! It was like a daughter to him.

4 "Now a traveler came to visit the rich man, but he wasn't willing to take anything from his own flock or herd to prepare for the guest who had arrived. Instead, he took the poor man's ewe lamb and prepared it for the visitor."

5 David got very angry at the man, and he said to Nathan, "As surely as the Lord lives, the one who did this is demonic! **6** He must restore the ewe lamb seven times over because he did this and because he had no compassion."

7 "You are that man!" Nathan told David. "This is what the Lord God of Israel says: I anointed you king over Israel and delivered you from Saul's power. **8** I gave your master's house to you and gave his wives into your embrace. I gave you the house of Israel and Judah. If that was too little, I would have given even more. **9** Why have you despised the Lord's word by doing what is evil in his eyes? You have struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword and taken his wife as your own. You used the Ammonites to kill him.**10** Because of that, because you despised me and took the wife of Uriah the Hittite as your own, the sword will never leave your own house.

Second Scripture Reading Psalm 51: 10-13 **Rev. Dr. Enikő Ferenczy**

(Common English Bible Translation)

10 Create a clean heart for me, God;
put a new, faithful spirit deep inside me!
11 Please don't throw me out of your presence;
please don't take your holy spirit away from me.
12 Return the joy of your salvation to me
and sustain me with a willing spirit.
13 Then I will teach wrongdoers your ways,
and sinners will come back to you.

Sermon **What Choices We Make?** **Rev. Dr. Enikő Ferenczy**

***Hymn No. 434** "Restore in Us, O God" BAYLOR

Sharing of Joys and Concerns **Madeleine Fields-Halva**

Prayer of the People **Madeleine Fields-Halva**

And now we pray with the words that Jesus 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.

***Closing Hymn No. 649** "Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound" AMAZING GRACE

***Benediction** **Rev. Dr. Enikő Ferenczy**

Postlude "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

* Hymns are from the Glory to God Hymnal.
* The Gathering Words were adapted from *Spill the Beans*, a worship resource from the Church of Scotland (Issue No. 13). The Opening Prayer and Prayer of Confession were adapted from Rev. Teri Peterson, writing for the *Bibleworm Collaborative* following the Narrative Lectionary.

The service continues with fellowship.



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.

GIVE NOW

Your generosity helps us to fulfill our calling to engage in God's transformative mission in our community.

Music: Organ, Piano Tom Shaw
Guitars Jim Bonk, David Schmidt

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Upcoming Events

Sunday, October 23
- Worship Service – 10:00 am – Mackey Hall
- Wooster Friends Meeting – 10:30 am – The Meeting Place

Wednesday, October 26
- CAMO – 10:00 am – Orrville
- Westminster Book Group – 7:00 pm – Zoom

Thursday, October 27
- Dance & Exercise – 8:30 am – The Meeting Place

Sunday, October 23
- Worship Service – 10:00 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
AV Assistant/Event Steward Tony Mendiola
Custodian Kara Akers

Office Hours: Tuesday through Friday

As we move forward to searching for our next office administrator, our office hours may be irregular for the next few weeks. Please contact Pastor Enikő at eferenczy@gmail.com or (804) 426-9392 with questions. Thank you for your patience and support during this time of transition!

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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.

307 God of Grace and God of Glory

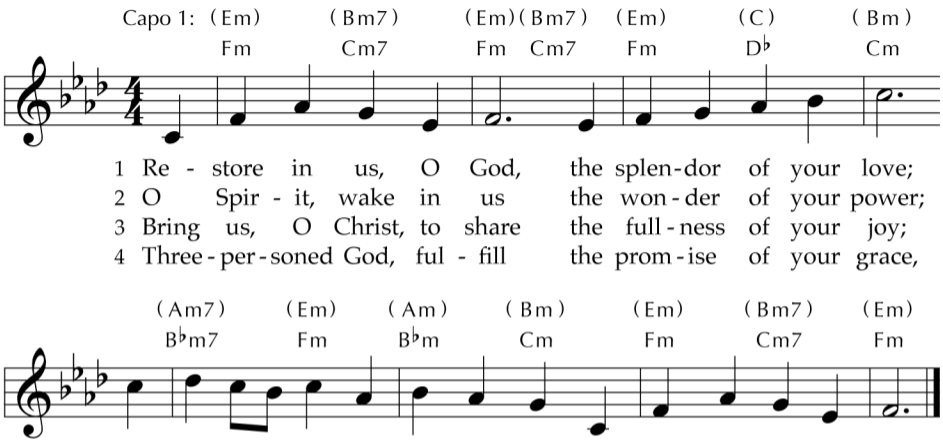


This stirring hymn used at the opening of Riverside Church in New York in 1930 was penned by its widely-known and influential pastor, and it has gained a firm place in English-language hymnals around the world. The Welsh tune name honors the Rhondda Valley in Glamorganshire.

TEXT: Harry Emerson Fosdick, 1930, alt.
MUSIC: John Hughes, 1907

CWM RHONDDA
8.7.8.7.8.7.7

Restore in Us, O God 434



This text reflects the historic understanding of Lent as a time to prepare catechumens for Baptism and penitents for reconciliation at the Easter Vigil. The first three stanzas address one of the three divine Persons, while the fourth stanza implores the help of the full Trinity.

TEXT: Carl P. Daw Jr., 1987
MUSIC: Hal H. Hopson, 1985
Text © 1989 Hope Publishing Company
Music © 1985 Hope Publishing Company

BAYLOR
SM

649 Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound



CHOCTAW

Shilombish holitopa ma!
Ishmminti pulla cha
hatak ilbusha pia ha
is pi yukpalashke.

CREEK

Po ya fek cha he thlat ah tet
ah non ah cha pa kas
cha fee kee o funnan la kus
um e ha ta la yus.

NAVAHO

Nizhóníígo joobá diits' a'
yisdáshíítinigíí,
lah yóóiiyá, k'ad
shénáhoosdzin,
doo eesh'íį́ da ńt'éé.

As was his custom, the author wrote this hymn to accompany his sermon on 1 Chronicles 17:16–17, preached on January 1, 1773; he called it "Faith's Review and Expectation." Much of its current popularity comes from this now-familiar tune, an association that began in 1835.

TEXT: Stanzas 1–4, John Newton, 1772; stanza 5, *A Collection of Sacred Ballads,* 1790; Navaho, Albert Tsosie
MUSIC: *Columbian Harmony,* 1829; arr. Edwin O. Excell, 1910, alt.
AMAZING GRACE
CM

Text Phonetic Transcr. Cherokee, Kiowa, Creek, and Choctaw © Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference;
Phonetic Transcr. Navaho © Albert Tsosie