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

October 30, 2022
21st Sunday after Pentecost
Reformation Sunday

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 "Allegretto from Sonata in E-Flat" W.A. MOZART

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

God speaks — in dreams, in conversation, in prayer.
God draws us close — in worship, in service, in community.
God reveals truth — in stories, in relationship, in new insights to our old ways.
We come seeking God's wisdom, for the living of this life.

***Opening Prayer** **Janelle Collier**

Let us pray…

Your wisdom, O God, is not only in the word on the page,
but also planted in our hearts
and in the community where you place us.
You demonstrate wisdom with empathy and compassion and vision,
and you plant that potential inside us also.

Teach us how to listen to others.
Teach us when to change course in light of our neighbors' stories.
Teach us what is best for your future and let that override what we thought we knew.
Let your wisdom live in us, that we may live to your glory.
Amen.

***Gathering Hymn No. 12** **"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"** ST. DENIO

Call to Confession **Jim Collier**

We would follow God's ways, but sometimes it seems that we do not know how to go out in faith or come in out of the shadows of life. Yet, our scriptures testify that God is faithful to God's promises. The One we seek is the God who is just and true, longing to grace us with mercy. Please join me, as we pray together our prayer of confession…

Prayer of Confession **Jim Collier**

God of wonders,
your movement in the world is always a mystery to us.
You go where you will, and we see only glimpses.
We long to get a clearer view, to understand more
and to possess the knowledge of all your works.
We try to be so careful, Faithful God, yet we make so many mistakes. We think we are so wise, yet do not understand the simple wonder of a child. We spend so little time in your presence and ask why we do not know your dreams for us. We long to be good, upright people, but find our hearts tripping over the temptations of the world.

Forgive us, Covenant Keeper, and be gracious to us. As you continue to teach us of your hopes, your dreams, your love for us, may we practice what we learn, as we follow Jesus, in faith. Amen.

Silent Confession

Musical Response No. 434 **"Restore in Us, O God"** verse 1 BAYLOR

Assurance of Forgiveness **Jim Collier**

Out of our lives laced with foolish mistakes and unwise choices,
God weaves a tapestry of grace, forgiveness, and healing.
God continues to invite us into relationship,
nurturing what is good in us so we may live life in fullness.
Thanks be to God. Amen.

Musical Offering **"**Quaker Peace Waltz from Social Movements" STEVE HEITZEG

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**

Scripture Reading **I Kings 3:4-28** **Rev. Dr. Enikő Ferenczy**
(New Revised Version)

4 The king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the principal high place; Solomon used to offer a thousand burnt offerings on that altar. **5** At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, "Ask what I should give you."**6** And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you, and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. **7** And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. **8** And your servant is in the midst of

the people whom you have chosen, a great people so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. [9] Give your servant, therefore, an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil, for who can govern this great people of yours?"

[10] It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. [11] God said to him, "Because you have asked this and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or for the life of your enemies but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, [12] I now do according to your word. Indeed, I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you, and no one like you shall arise after you. [13] I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honor all your life; no other king shall compare with you. [14] If you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your life."

[15] Then Solomon awoke; it had been a dream. He came to Jerusalem, where he stood before the ark of the covenant of the Lord. He offered up burnt offerings and offerings of well-being and provided a feast for all his servants.

[16] Later, two women who were prostitutes came to the king and stood before him. [17] The one woman said, "Please, my lord, this woman and I live in the same house, and I gave birth while she was in the house. [18] Then on the third day after I gave birth, this woman also gave birth. We were together; there was no one else with us in the house; only the two of us were in the house. [19] Then this woman's son died in the night because she lay on him. [20] She got up in the middle of the night and took my son from beside me while your servant slept. She laid him at her breast and laid her dead son at my breast. [21] When I rose in the morning to nurse my son, I saw that he was dead, but when I looked at him closely in the morning, clearly it was not the son I had borne." [22] But the other woman said, "No, the living son is mine, and the dead son is yours." The first said, "No, the dead son is yours, and the living son is mine." So they argued before the king.

[23] Then the king said, "The one says, 'This is my son who is alive, and your son is dead,' while the other says, 'Not so! Your son is dead, and my son is the living one.' " [24] So the king said, "Bring me a sword," and they brought a sword before the king. [25] The king said, "Divide the living boy in two; then give half to the one and half to the other." [26] But the woman whose son was alive said to the king, because compassion for her son burned within her, "Please, my lord, give her the living boy; certainly do not kill him!" The other said, "It shall be neither mine nor yours; divide it." [27] Then the king responded, "Give her the living boy; do not kill him. She is his mother." [28] All Israel heard of the judgment that the king had rendered, and they stood in awe of the king because they perceived that the wisdom of God was in him to execute justice.

Sermon **An Understanding Spirit** **Rev. Dr. Enikő Ferenczy**

***Hymn No. 287** **"Gracious Spirit, Heed Our Pleading"** NJOO KWETU, ROHO MWEMA

Sharing of Joys and Concerns **Janelle and Jim Collier**

Prayer of the People **Janelle and Jim Collier**

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. 740** **"Lead Me, Guide Me"**

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

Postlude "Lil' Fuge in F Major" J. S. BACH

* Hymns are from the Glory to God Hymnal.
* The Gathering Words and Opening Prayer were adapted from Rev. Teri Peterson, writing for the *Bibleworm Collaborative* following the Narrative Lectionary. The Prayer of Confession was adapted from Rev. Thom Shuman.

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.



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

Music: Organ Tom Shaw
Piano Bob Iams, Ken Shafer

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Upcoming Events

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

Tuesday, November 1
- November Newsletter will be published

Wednesday, November 2
- Congregational Care Committee: Fall Caring Bag Assembly - 11:00 am - Mackey Hall
- Q&A with Father Anne – 8 pm – Mackey Hall

Thursday, November 3
- Dance & Exercise – 8:30 am – The Meeting Place

Sunday, November 6
- Worship Service – 10:00 am – Mackey Hall
- Wooster Friends Meeting – 10:30 am – The Meeting Place
- Community Dance — 3-5 p.m.

Westminster Presbyterian Church

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

Office Hours: Monday through Friday, 10 a.m.-2.p.m.

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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.

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise 12



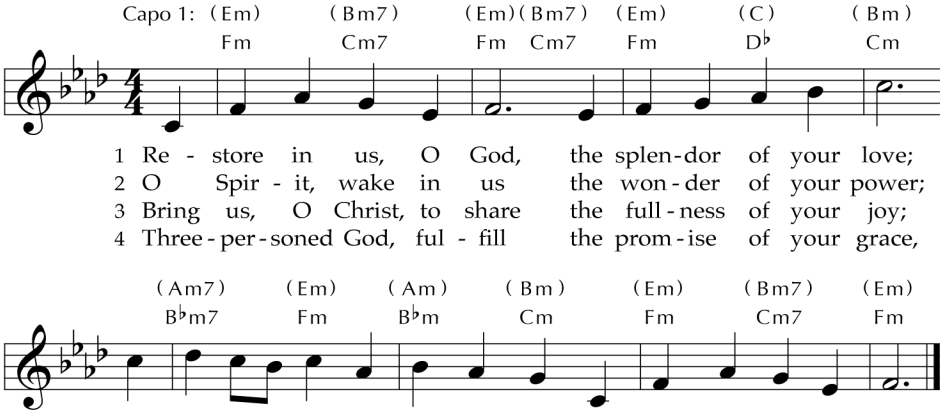
The opening line of this hymn was inspired by the three divine attributes listed in 1 Timothy 1:17 (King James Version), and it continues by considering how God's life exceeds our own finite existence. The text is well set to a Welsh melody shaped by many three-note units.

TEXT: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1867, alt.
MUSIC: Welsh folk melody; arr. *Caniadau y Cyssegr,* 1839

ST. DENIO
11.11.11.11

(**Singing only the first verse)**

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 BAYLOR
MUSIC: Hal H. Hopson, 1985 SM
Text © 1989 Hope Publishing Company
Music © 1985 Hope Publishing Company

GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

287 Gracious Spirit, Heed Our Pleading



Originally written for the uniting of the Lutheran churches in Tanzania, this prayerful hymn touches on the need of the whole church at all times for the Holy Spirit's guidance and blessing. When appropriate, the refrain can effectively be used alone as a prayer response.

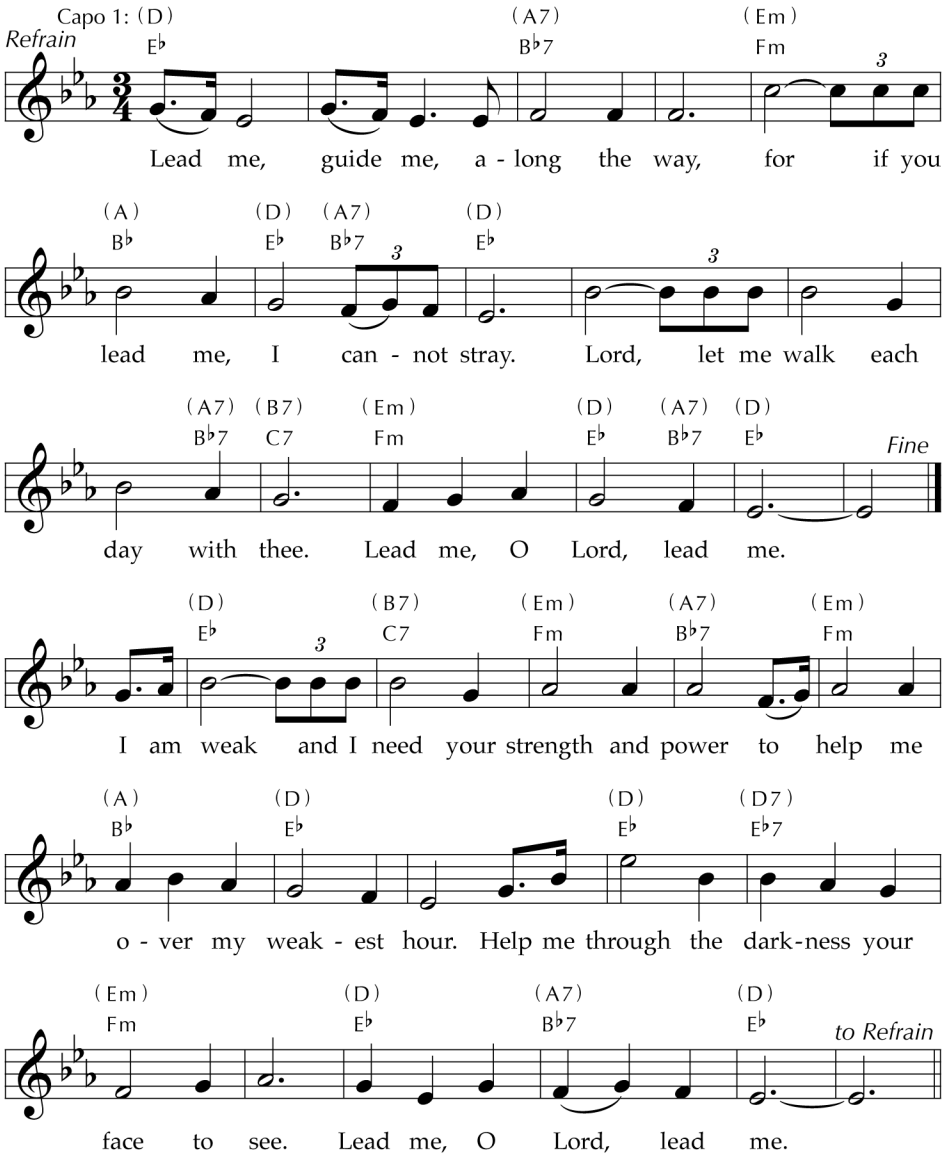
TEXT: Wilson Niwagila, 1965; trans. Howard S. Olson, 1968
MUSIC: Wilson Niwagila, 1965; arr. Egil Hovland, 1993
Text and Music © Lutheran Theological College, Makumira (admin. Augsburg Fortress)
Music Arr. © Egil Hovland

NJOO KWETU, ROHO MWEMA
CM with refrain

Sung twice

DISCIPLESHIP AND MISSION

740 Lead Me, Guide Me



Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This African American gospel hymn can well be understood as an updated adaptation of Psalm 5:8, with the "enemies" of the psalm treated as the pressures and temptations of daily life. As with the psalms, the "I" here is understood to express a shared communal experience.

TEXT: Doris Akers, 1953
MUSIC: Doris Akers, 1953; arr. Richard Smallwood
Text and Music © 1953, ren. Doris Akers (admin. Chappell & Co., Inc./Alfred Publishing Co., Inc.)

LEAD ME, GUIDE ME
Irregular