



WESTMINSTER

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SUNDAY, AUGUST 23, 2026
13TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



Leading In Worship

Preacher

Rev. Landon Whitsitt, Senior Pastor

Liturgists

Cynthia Brindley

Elder Kim Mitchell, Pastor of Congregational Care (Frederickson Hall)

Musicians

Jan McDaniel, Co-Director of Worship and the Arts

Kevin Wilkinson, Co-Director of Worship and the Arts

Steve Thompson, Principal Organist

Dr. Sallie Pollack, piano

Lisa Hart, carillon

Brianna Holt, Director of Children's Music (Frederickson Hall)

Jordan Andrews, piano (Frederickson Hall)

WORSHIP ORDER

August 23, 2026

13th Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude

Caprice sur les Grands Jeux

Louis-Nicolas Clérambault (1676-1749)

Chiming the Hour

Preparing for Worship

Introit

Gather Us In

Marty Haugen (b. 1950), arr. Jeffrey Honore (b. 1956)

*Call to Worship

Some powers are sustained by human fear and greed.

They are only kept alive by what we feed them.

These monsters we feed wreak havoc on lives and communities.

What they devour, they do not give back.

But we come this morning to worship the living God,

whose power does not come from human hearts or hands

and who brings restoration and healing.

Our God does not destroy. Our God delivers.

Our God endures forever.

*Hymn of Praise (No. 806)

I'll Praise My Maker

OLD 113TH

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God,

we confess that we have sinned against you

in thought, word, and deed,

by what we have done,

and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you

with our whole heart and mind and strength;

we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

In your mercy forgive what we have been,

help us amend what we are,

and direct what we shall be,

so that we may delight in your will

and walk in your ways

to the glory of your holy name.

Amen.

Assurance of Grace

Hear these words from the prophet Jeremiah, in the book of Lamentations:

"The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases;
his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning;
great is your faithfulness."

God's mercy comes fresh each day:
through words we know and words we read for the first time,
in voices long trusted and voices only now being heard.

Friends, believe the good news:

We are always already loved! Thanks be to God!

*Response to the Gift of Grace (No. 581)

GREATOREX

Glory Be to the Father



Sacred Space (10:30am)

The children are invited to gather on the front steps for a lesson.

*Passing of the Peace

Children Age 4 to 3rd Grade will now be dismissed to Children's Chapel.

In Chapel the children will be learning all about the story of David. Grownups, if you have a child joining Children's Chapel today, please stop by the kiosk near the worship bags to sign them in. Please pick up children attending chapel in the children's ministry area upstairs on the 2nd floor after worship.

*Song of Community (No. 301)

TWO OAKS

Let Us Build a House (v. 1)

**Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:
all are welcome; all are welcome; all are welcome in this place.**

Prayer for Illumination

First Reading

Daniel 6:19–23, 26–27, p. 634

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Psalter

Psalm 115 (Not for Ourselves, O Lord)

TOULON



Not for our - selves, O Lord, not for our - selves,
The world - ly say of us: "Where is their God?"
But we will trust in God, our help and shield,
would we claim glo - ry, but for you a - lone,
They vain - ly look for what they i - dol - ize,
tran - scen - dent Life on whom all lives de - pend,
for your great love and con - stant faith - ful - ness,
for flaunt - ed wealth, for bur - nished im - a - ges,
whose un - told mer - cies give our spir - its voice
the stead - fast care that makes your pres - ence known.
and trim all gods to their own shape and size.
to bless the Lord in songs that nev - er end.

Second Reading

Bel and the Dragon 1–21, p. 105

Holy wisdom, holy words,

Thanks be to God!

Sermon

Rev. Landon Whitsitt

The Living God vs. Everyone Else

*Affirmation of Faith

From The Theological Declaration of Barmen

As Jesus Christ is God's assurance of the forgiveness of all our sins, so in the same way and with the same seriousness is he also God's mighty claim upon our whole life. Through him befalls us a joyful deliverance from the godless fetters of this world for a free, grateful service to his creatures.

***Affirmation of Faith (cont.)**

From *The Theological Declaration of Barmen*

We reject the false doctrine, as though there were areas of our life in which we would not belong to Jesus Christ, but to other lords—areas in which we would not need justification and sanctification through him.

Announcements and Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

The Gift of Love

Hal H. Hopson (1933-2025)

Though I may speak with bravest fire, and have the gift to all inspire, And have not love; my words are vain, as sounding brass, and hopeless gain. Though I may give all I possess, and striving so my love profess, But not be giv'n by love within, the profit soon turns strangely thin. Come, spirit come, our hearts control. Our spirits long to be made whole. O come, spirit, come, Let inward love, Let love guide ev'ry deed. By this we worship, we are freed. Amen, Amen.

Chancel Choir; Dr. Sallie Pollack, piano

***Doxology**

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

The musical notation is written on two staves in G major (one sharp). The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the doxology, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise Christ, all peo-ple here be - low;

praise Ho-ly Spir-it ev - er - more; praise Tri-une God, whom we a - dore. A - men.

Prayers of the People and The 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.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever. Amen.**

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper (8:15am)

Communion is received via intinction with gluten-free wafers and grape juice.

***Hymn of Sending (No. 846)**

DUKE STREET

Fight the Good Fight

***Blessings, Charge, and Benediction**

Postlude

Postlude on "All Creatures of Our God and King"

arr. Paul Fey (b. 1998)

*This sign is an invitation, to all who are comfortable and able,
to stand as they offer God thanks and praise.

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Worship Flowers are dedicated to the glory of God and given in loving memory of Mattie Mae Ingram in celebration of her heavenly birthday by Cindy and Michael Biddinger.



WEDNESDAYS, SEPTEMBER 16–OCTOBER 21

DINNER (OPTIONAL): 5:15 PM | \$10 ADULT | \$5 CHILD | \$30 FAMILY CAP

PROGRAM: 6:00–7:00 PM



ADULTS

DIVIDED ALLEGIANCE: WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THE CHURCH FORGETS WHO IT IS



Join us for a 6-week Mid-week Manna series exploring Rev. Landon Whitsitt's new book, *Divided Allegiance*, and how our faith shapes our identity in a world of competing loyalties.

Together, we'll reflect on what it means to follow Christ above all else, engage difficult conversations with humility and grace, and rediscover the Church's calling to be a community rooted in the Gospel rather than divided by culture or politics.

TOPICS INCLUDE:

- Our Primary Allegiance: Following Christ First
- When Faith and Politics Collide
- Rediscovering the Church's Witness
- Speaking Truth with Grace
- Living as Peacemakers in a Divided World
- Hope for the Church's Future

Each evening includes thoughtful teaching from Landon, discussion, and practical ways to live out our faith in today's world.



YOUTH | 4TH-12TH GRADERS

Join Amber and Scott in the youth room for devotion, fellowship, and games.



CHILDREN | AGES 5-3RD GRADE

ART & BIBLE CAMP

Join Michelle and Katrina upstairs after dinner for a special Art & the Bible Camp where children can be both creative and curious as they explore Bible stories through painting, drawing, sculpture, and other hands-on art experiences while learning about God's love and our place in God's story.



Whether your child already loves making art or is just beginning to explore their creativity, they'll be encouraged to see themselves as a unique and valued creator, reflecting the image of the ultimate Creator.



CHILDCARE | INFANTS-4 YEARS

The nursery is available for infants through 4-year-olds.



RESERVE YOUR SEAT

Register by scanning the QR code or via the website/app. Please register by Monday of each week for dinner.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Summer Inquirer's Class Today | 9:30am | Room 105



Are you a visitor or interested in exploring what membership at Westminster Presbyterian Church means? If so, you are invited to attend the Inquirer's Class! This class offers you an opportunity to explore life at Westminster, the history, and beliefs of the Presbyterian Church.



Deacon Picnic September 13 | 11:30am | Manor Lawn



This event is a great gathering to bring your family and friends to celebrate the community that we have here at Westminster! BBQ lunch, foam machine, petting zoo, and ice cream truck provided! Please register. **NOTE:** This will be a one worship Sunday. No 8:15am service.



Thegither Groups Registration open until September 16th



Thegither is Westminster's small group ministry centered around simple meals and meaningful connection. Fall registration is open through September 13, with groups gathering throughout the rest of 2026. We're also looking for "gatherers" to help organize groups. All are welcome!



Mid-Week Manna Wednesdays, Sept 16-Oct 21 | WPC Dinner: 5:15pm | Program: 6:00-7:00pm



Mid-week Manna is for the whole family! Join us for an optional dinner followed by programming for adults, youth, and children. There's something for everyone to learn, connect, and grow together. Please register for dinner by Monday each week.



ALL Youth Back to School Party September 20 | 2:00pm | Chicken-N-Pickle



ALL WPC Youth Back-to-School Party at Chicken-N-Pickle, Sunday, September 20, from 2-4pm. For more information and to register, see the QR code.



Parents' Night Out September 25 | 6:00-9:00pm | WPC



An evening dedicated to celebrating grandparents and the important role they play in our families. Children will enjoy crafts, activities, treats, and opportunities to create gifts and memories for their grandparents. Cost is \$30 for one child or \$50 for a family group (2+ kids).

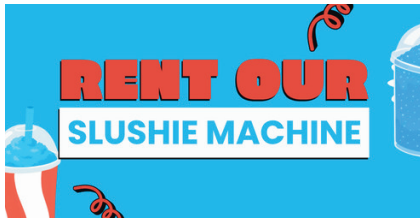


This icon indicates:
Registration is Required



Visit the Events page to register for events by scanning the QR code or going to:
wpcokc.org/events

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Rent our Slushie Machine

Planning a party, gathering, or special event? Rent Westminster's slushie machine for \$200 and add a little frozen fun to the occasion! All proceeds benefit Feed My Sheep, so your rental helps support an important ministry while keeping everyone cool. Scan the QR Code to rent!



Pick up an old Pew Bible

Room 105 | Last day to pick up is August 31

Both dedicated and undedicated OLD Pew Bibles are available for pickup in Room 105. Anyone is welcome to stop by and take an undedicated Bible home.



Worship Flowers

Flowers in the Chapel and Sanctuary may be purchased to honor a loved one or special occasion, and your dedication will be mentioned in the bulletin. Please sign up to purchase and dedicate your flowers either on the Weekly Update page or at the front desk. (There are 2 vases each week at a cost of \$60 each)



This Week I Learned

Curious about what your child is learning in Children's Ministry today? Scan the QR code to explore this Sunday's lesson, activities, and announcements!

WPC MISSIONS

September 17 | 9:00am | WPC

Help pack and deliver monthly groceries to families in need. Sign up to serve.

September 19 | 8:30am | WPC

Serve at the Hope House to deliver monthly groceries to families in need. Sign up to help.



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Registration is Required



Visit the Events page to register for events by scanning the QR code or going to:
wpcokc.org/events



PARENTS' NIGHT OUT

HONORING GRANDPARENTS



SEPT. 25

6:00-9:00PM

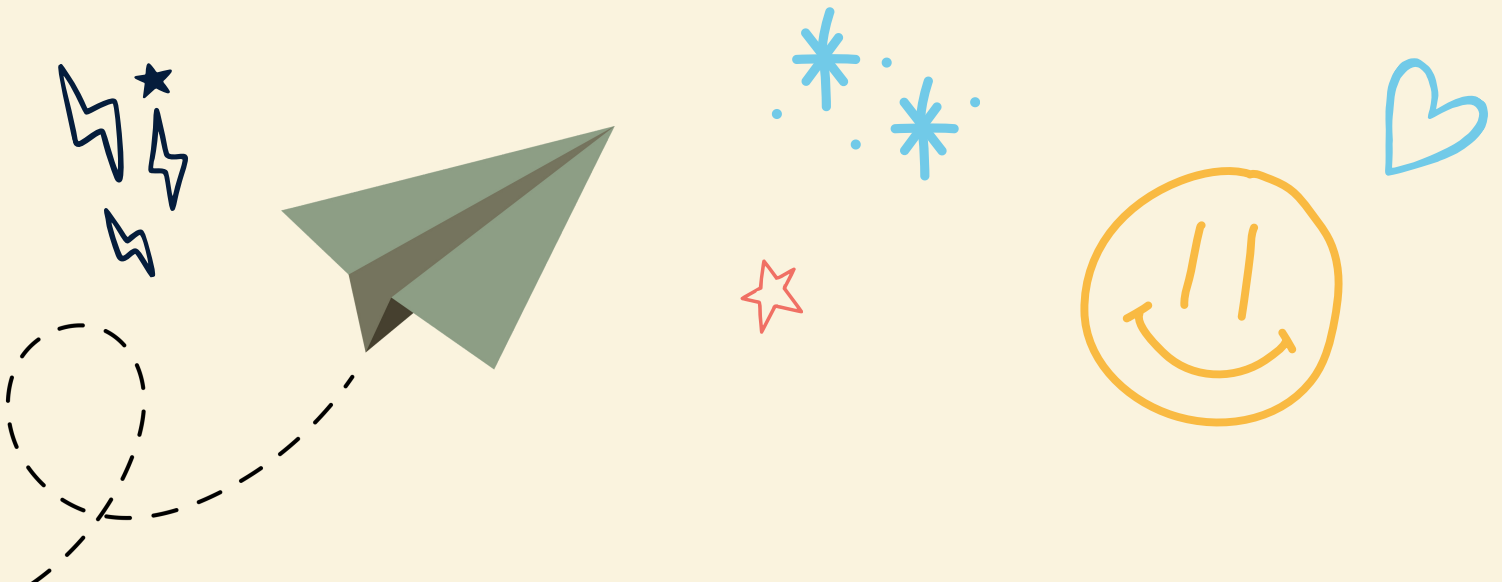
WPC



4400 N SHARTEL AVE, OKC, OK 73118

An evening dedicated to celebrating grandparents and the important role they play in our families. Children will enjoy crafts, activities, treats, and opportunities to create gifts and memories for their grandparents.

Registration is required, and space is limited to 25 children. Cost is \$30 for one child or \$50 for a family group (2+ kids).



A dark blue header bar at the top of the page contains the word "NOTES" in a white, sans-serif, all-caps font. Below the header, the page is filled with a series of horizontal, dark blue lines, evenly spaced, providing a template for handwritten notes.

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
23 8:15am Worship: Chapel 9:30am Christian Education Inquirer's Class 10:30am Worship: Sanctuary 10:30am Sensory Worship: Frederickson Hall 13th Sunday after Pentecost	24 1:00pm Caregivers Support Group	25 10:00am Knit N Pearl 12:00pm Personnel Committee Meeting	26 9:00am Spiritual Formation Group 10:00am Women's Bible Study 6:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	27 7:00am Men's Bible Study	28	29
30 8:15am Worship: Chapel 9:30am Christian Education Inquirer's Class 10:30am Worship: Sanctuary 10:30am Sensory Worship: Frederickson Hall 14th Sunday after Pentecost	31	1	2 9:00am Spiritual Formation Group 10:00am Women's Bible Study 6:00pm Youth Night 6:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	3 7:00am Men's Bible Study	4	5
6 8:15am Worship: Chapel 9:30am Christian Education Inquirer's Class 10:30am Worship: Sanctuary 10:30am Sensory Worship: Frederickson Hall Communion Sunday 15th Sunday after Pentecost	7 Church Closed 	8 7:30am Men of Westminster 6:00pm Membership and Hospitality Meeting	9 9:00am Spiritual Formation Group 10:00am Women's Bible Study 6:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	10 7:00am Men's Bible Study	11	12
13 No Chapel Service 9:30am Christian Education Inquirer's Class 10:30am Worship: Sanctuary 11:30am Deacons Picnic 6:00 pm Waypoint  16th Sunday after Pentecost	14 1:00pm Caregivers Support Group <i>Final day to RSVP for 9/16 Midweek Manna Dinner</i>	15 7:30am Men of Westminster 11:30am Mission Team Meeting	16 9:00am Spiritual Formation Group 10:00am Women's Bible Study 5:30pm Spiritual Formation Rehearsal 5:15pm Midweek Manna Dinner 6:00pm Midweek Manna 6:00pm Chancel Choir	17 7:00am Men's Bible Study 9:00am FMS Grocery Packing 11:00am Mary Circle 6:00pm Deacon Meeting 6:00pm Priscilla Circle	18	19 8:30am FMS Grocery Packing