

October 18, 2026



21st SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



WORTHINGTON
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

In Christ's love, we connect, serve, and transform

Worship Team

Rev. Dr. Matt Reeves
Senior Pastor

Rev. Dr. Tom Rice
Pastor for Discipleship

Rev. Betsy Rice
Pastor for Member
Ministries

Russell Nagy
Director of Music Ministries

Nicholas Robison
Director for Youth
Ministries

Annie Barner
Director for Children's
Ministries

Kim Anderson, Organist

*Visit wpcnow.org for a
complete staff list.*

Sanctuary Flowers

*The flowers on the chancel
are given to the glory of God
by Mark & Marian Greuling
in celebration of their 40th
Wedding Anniversary.*

Serving Us Today

Usher Team D: Bob
Harrington & Doug Fell,
captains, Steve Burk, Brent
Mulgrew, Linda Irwin-Soiu
Mike & Debbie Murphy,
Chuck Seely, Bill Woods

Video: Bill Yost

Carillon: Linda Ranck

Welcome

Welcome to Worthington Presbyterian Church. We have worshiped together since 1805, and welcome all who seek faith, hope, and joy.

Visiting for the first time? Join us for refreshments and conversation in Fellowship Hall after the service.

Children & Youth

Children and youth are invited to Sunday School after the children's message around 10:15AM. Nursery care begins at 9:45AM downstairs near Fellowship Hall.

Pick up children and youth after worship:

- Pre-K: Room 113
- K-2: Room 112
- 3-5: Room 111
- Youth: Living Room
- Confirmation: Youth Room

Accessibility

Accessible features include parking near the east and west entrances, a ramp at the main entrance, an elevator, accessible restrooms, and T-coil hearing support. *For a large print bulletin or a listening device, please see an usher.*

Prayer Requests

Please write prayer requests on the pew prayer cards and place in the offering plate.

Contact Us

Mon-Thurs: 8AM-4PM; Fri: 8AM-2PM
wpchurch@wpcnow.org
614.885.5355 • wpcnow.org

Worthington Presbyterian Church
SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
21st Sunday after Pentecost

October 18, 2026

10:00 AM

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

** Please stand*

WELCOME

Rev. Dr. Matt Reeves

Invitation to Mission & Discipleship *(Please sign & pass the Friendship Pads)*

Moment for Generosity

Josh Bodnar

Passing of the Peace

One: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

All: **And also with you.**

CALL TO WORSHIP

“Rejoice Ye Pure in Heart”

arr. Anna Laura Page

IN MUSIC

The Celebration Ringers - Jennifer Fry, Director

The music is a call to open one's spirit to God's presence in our midst.

OPENING SENTENCES

Emily Minkah-Premo

One: We come to worship the God who made us.

Children of God—made in God's image—what is God like?

All: **God is like a shepherd and gardener.**

What else is God like?

God is like an artist and dancer.

One: God is bigger than we can imagine. God is as close as our breath.

All: **God is never-ending love. Let us worship God!**

*** HYMN # 41** “O Worship the King, All Glorious Above”

*** PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

God of justice, we confess that while you call us to treat all people fairly, we pick favorites and leave others out. We take sides and argue instead of listening and loving. Forgive us. Open our hearts to recognize your holy presence in the people around us. In Jesus' name, Amen.

(Silent Confession)

* Congregational Response #578 "O Lord, Have Mercy"

O Lord, have mercy; O Lord, have mercy;

O Lord, have mercy, have mercy on us.

O Christ, have mercy; O Christ, have mercy;

O Christ, have mercy, have mercy on us.

* Assurance of Pardon

* Gloria #583 (*sing twice*)

Glory to God, glory to God,

glory in the highest!

Glory to God, glory to God,

alleluia, alleluia!

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

MESSAGE FOR OUR YOUNGEST DISCIPLES

Pastor Matt

Children & youth will attend Sunday School after the message. See inside front cover for locations.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Faye Spratley

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 4:8-10

...The devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory, and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." Then Jesus said to him, **"Away with you, Satan! for it is written,**

**'Worship the Lord your God,
and serve only him.'** "

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ!

ANTHEM

Rejoice in The Lord Always

K. Lee Scott

The Chancel Choir - Russell Nagy, Director

Rejoice in the Lord always, rejoice in the Lord always,

and again I say rejoice, and again I say rejoice

Make your forbearance known unto all. The Lord is at hand.

Have no anxiety about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication,

with thanksgiving, make your prayers known unto God.

And the peace of God which passes all understanding

Will keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

*Lead us in paths of peace, and guide us lest we stray.
When sorrows still increase, Lord, be our living way.
Lead us to heavenly rest, though steep the path may be.
Through all, send what is best, until your face we see.
All joy will be fulfilled when we before you stand
and see your face revealed in heaven's peaceful land.*

SCRIPTURE READING

Joshua 24:1-15

Rev. Dr. Tom Rice

Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel, and they presented themselves before God. And Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors—Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor—lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods. Then I took your father Abraham from beyond the River and led him through all the land of Canaan and made his offspring many. I gave him Isaac, and to Isaac I gave Jacob and Esau. I gave Esau the hill country of Seir to possess, but Jacob and his children went down to Egypt. Then I sent Moses and Aaron, and I plagued Egypt with what I did in its midst, and afterward I brought you out. When I brought your ancestors out of Egypt, you came to the sea, and the Egyptians pursued your ancestors with chariots and horsemen to the Red Sea. When they cried out to the LORD, he put darkness between you and the Egyptians and made the sea come upon them and cover them, and your eyes saw what I did to Egypt. Afterward you lived in the wilderness a long time. Then I brought you to the land of the Amorites, who lived on the other side of the Jordan; they fought with you, and I handed them over to you, and you took possession of their land, and I destroyed them before you. Then King Balak son of Zippor of Moab set out to fight against Israel. He sent and invited Balaam son of Beor to curse you, but I would not listen to Balaam; therefore he blessed you, so I rescued you out of his hand. When you went over the Jordan and came to Jericho, the citizens of Jericho fought against you, as well as the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Girgashites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites, and I handed them over to you. I sent swarms of hornets ahead of you that drove out before you the two kings of the Amorites; it was not by your sword or by your bow. I gave you a land on which you had not labored and towns that you had not built, and you live in them; you eat the fruit of vineyards and oliveyards that you did not plant.

"Now, therefore, revere the LORD and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt and serve the LORD. Now if you are unwilling to serve the LORD, **choose this day whom you will serve**, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living, but **as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.**"

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"You Have Arrived"

Pastor Tom

*** HYMN #761** "Called as Partners in Christ's Service"

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Betsy Rice

Sharing of Prayer Requests & Blessings

The Pastoral Prayer

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; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

Offertory "Sunday Joy!" / "On Jordan's Stormy Banks"
Kim Anderson, organist

Mark Hayes

* Doxology

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

* Dedication of Tithes & Offerings

Scan the QR code to give online or visit wpcnow.org/give



GOING IN GOD'S NAME

*** HYMN #408** "There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit"

*** CHARGE & BENEDICTION**

Pastor Tom

POSTLUDE

"Toccata"

Charles Marie Widor
arr. Lani Smith

*Please remain seated during the postlude as it is the final "Amen" to our worship.
Those who need to leave before the end of the postlude are free to do so quietly.*

*Please join us downstairs in Fellowship Hall for refreshments
and conversation after the worship service.*

New Members October 2026



Mariama Adompreh-Fia grew up as a Muslim, but married a Presbyterian. She is a new resident of Columbus, moving from Cleveland, born in Sierra Leone. She has one son, named John. Mariama is a nurse.



Nancy Beattie was a longtime teacher and coach at Thomas Worthington HS. She has three grown sons and four granddaughters. She grew up in the Friends Church. She attends the 8 am worship service.



Ann and Bob Conway grew up in the same Presbyterian church in Findlay. Two of their daughters and grandsons live in Columbus, and brought them to WPC at Christmas. They were both deacons at Flemington

Presbyterian Church, in NJ. Ann enjoys family, adventure travel, and competitive bridge. Bob graduated from Miami University, served in the U.S. Army, and practiced law.



Alex and Diane Karther followed their daughter and her family to Columbus. They transferred their membership from Trinity Lutheran Church in Ashland, OH. Alex is a retired professor in landscape

architecture and urban and community design. He enjoys community service and working with nature. Diane is a retired professor or early childhood development. They participate in TNT.



Emily Minkah-Premo found WPC online. She is a doctoral student in pharmaceutical science at OSU. She has attended the 8 and 10 am worship services, and she is a welcoming presence in coffee hour.



Sophie Rice-Williams grew up in a Congregational church in MA, where she was baptized and confirmed. She graduated from OSU and works as a paralegal. She is interested in missions ministry. **Anthony**

LaMacchia grew up in Worthington and graduated from Hillsdale College. He is a financial advisor. He is interested in adult education. He joins by profession of faith. Sophie and Anthony are engaged and will be married in 2028.

Sue Katherman has attended regularly for years. She volunteers for several organizations and is interested in mission and fellowship activities. She is a graduate of Muskingum and Capital Universities and was a Probate Court Administrator. She shares her home and her time with two dogs.

Lynne and John Schneider are past members of WPC. Lynne regularly babysits their only grandchild, who lives in Chicago. John works for a manufacturer in Minneapolis. They are enthusiastic about growing roots in Worthington and at WPC.

Angela Evans and **Courter Shimeall** both grew up at WPC and were active in Choir Plus and the youth group. Angela is a principal in Upper Arlington. Courter is a judge. They returned to WPC three years ago, but managing three children's athletic schedules made it hard to attend a Member Seminar. They are the parents of Rep, Gill, and CJ.

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming Events & Ways to Connect

FEATURED EVENT • TRUNK OR TREAT • FRIDAY, OCT. 23 • 6–7:30PM

Candy Donations & Decorated Trunks Needed!



Join church, preschool, and neighborhood families for costumes, candy, and community fun in the parking lot. Decorate a trunk, donate individually wrapped nut-free candy, or simply bring your family. Trunk decorators arrive at 5PM; guests park at the Griswold Center. Leave candy donations outside Annie Barner's upstairs office. Sign up via the QR code.

COMING UP

Today: Choose Your Favorite Hymns

Select five favorites from the bulletin list, or write in your own, and submit your survey Oct. 11–25. The Top hymns will be announced Nov. 8.

Sun., Oct. 25 • 9AM • “The Future Is Peace”

We start a 5-week series inspired by the friendship of an Israeli and a Palestinian, leading us on a journey through the history and possibilities of the Middle East! With OSU Professor Emeritus of Political Science, Dr. Donald Sylvan (who specializes in the Middle East) Books in the church office.

Sun., Oct. 25 • 11:10AM

NNEMAP Supply Breakdown

All ages are welcome in Fellowship Hall after worship to prepare pantry supplies. Donate sugar, salt, coffee, canned goods, and diapers in the wooden NNEMAP bin.

Sun., Oct. 25 • 11:10AM

Honduras Mission Trip Info

Explore a mission trip to Montaña de Luz in Honduras. Spanish is not required. Meet in the Youth Room next Sunday.

Thurs., Nov. 5 • 12:30PM

“Freedom in Christ” Bible Study

Coffee and fellowship begin at 12:30PM in Room 222; discussion starts at 1PM. Pastor Tom Rice leads 1 Corinthians 5–6.

GET INVOLVED

Sun., Nov. 8 • Pledge Dedication Sunday

Stop by the Narthex today to pick up your 2027 pledge card. Dedicate your pledge for the coming year and look forward to hearing WPC's Top 3 hymns during worship.

Tues., Nov. 10 • Love, Limits, and Letting Go

Yvonne Gustafson leads a special Tuesday Nights Together program on parenting with initiative, courage, and joy. RSVP by scanning the QR code below.

Nov. 13–15 • Fall Youth Retreat

Grades 6–12 are invited to Kirkmont Camp for fun, fellowship, and faith-building. Contact Nick Robison for more information or scan the QR code below for info.

Children & Youth Scripture Readers

Help lead worship by reading the Opening Sentences or first Scripture lesson. Young readers are especially welcome on first Sundays and may participate any Sunday.

Volunteer with Riverview

Help K–6 students build reading, writing, and math skills. Info sessions: Oct. 26 at 5:30PM, Nov. 3 at noon, and Nov. 11 at 5:30PM.

riverviewinternationalcenter.org/volunteer



PRAYER • SIGN-UPS • CALENDAR

Find current updates at
wpcnow.org/next