

August 24, 2025

11TH 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
Int. Director for
Children's Ministries

Kim Anderson
Organist

*Visit our website for a
complete list of WPC staff.*

Sanctuary Flowers

*The flowers on the chancel
are given to the glory of God
by Mara Stark in memory of
Amanda Blackwell Stark.*

Serving Us Today

- Ushers: Team D - Doug Fell & Bob Harrington, captains
- Video: Bill Yost
- Carillon: Linda Ranck

Church Office

Hours: M-Thurs: 8am-4pm;

Fri: 8am-2pm

Web: **wpcnow.org**

Ph: 614.885.5355

In Christ's love, we...

CONNECT ◊ SERVE ◊ TRANSFORM

Welcome

Welcome to Worthington Presbyterian Church. This congregation has worshiped together in the Worthington community since 1805. We welcome all who seek faith, hope, and joy.

Visiting for the first time today? You're invited to stay after the service. Join us downstairs in Fellowship Hall for refreshments and conversation.

Children & Youth

Children and youth are invited to join Sunday School at the 10am service, following a brief children's message. Nursery care begins at 9:45AM in the Nursery located outside Fellowship Hall.

You can pick your child up from Sunday School in the following rooms after the service. (Rooms 111-113 are located in the hallway below the Sanctuary).

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

On the first Sunday of the month, Pre-K - 3rd grade goes to the chapel for "Wee Worship," while older children and youth stay with their families for communion.

Accessibility

Accessible features of the building include:

- Handicap parking near east and west entrances
- Wheelchair ramp at the main entrance
- Elevator access
- Multiple accessible restrooms
- T-coil hearing capabilities for those with compatible hearing aids
- Listening devices for the hearing impaired available



If you would like a large print bulletin and/or a hearing device, please see an usher.

Prayer Requests

Please write prayer requests on the pew prayer cards and place them in the offering plate. You can also share joys, concerns and sorrows with Pastor Betsy at **brice@wpcnow.org**.

Worthington Presbyterian Church
SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost

August 24, 2025

10:00 AM

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

**Please stand*

WELCOME

Rev. Betsy Rice

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

Moment for Ministry

Nicholas Robison

Passing of the Peace

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

Congregation: And also with you.

CALL TO WORSHIP IN MUSIC

"Lord of Our Life"
Kim Anderson, organist

Lani Smith

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

OPENING SENTENCES *(Psalm 34:1)*

Leader: I will bless the Lord at all times;

Congregation: the praise of God shall ever be in my mouth.

Leader: Look upon the Lord and be radiant,

Congregation: and let not your faces be downcast.

Leader: Taste and see that the Lord is good;

Congregation: happy are they who take refuge in God!

* HYMN #482

"Baptized in Water"

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of birth, God of joy, God of life, we come to you as people hungry for good news. We have so fixated on the world's troubles that we have missed the world's rebirth in Christ. We have preoccupied ourselves with pleasures and have overlooked the joy you give in the Spirit. We have been so concerned with making a life for ourselves that we have missed the life you set among us for free. Forgive us, gracious God. Open our eyes and hearts to receive your gift, and open our lives and hands to share it with all; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(Silent Confession)

* Congregational Response "The Kyrie"

***Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.***

* Assurance of Pardon

* Gloria (from Hymn #581)

***Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen. Amen.***

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Elder Gary Riddle, Pastor Betsy,
Pastor Matt

For **Roosevelt Ryan Azbell** born on December 31, 2024 to
Roberta Catherine Gomez Azbell and Ryan Douglas Azbell

Response (from Hymn #581)

***Child of blessing, child of promise, baptized with the Spirit's sign,
with this water God has sealed you, unto love and grace divine. (repeat)***

SONG

"Run The Race"

Cornerstone Youth Band

Youth Band Mentors: Tom Shaffer - Guitar,
Robert Boyd - Voice, LingLing Chen - Percussion

Verse 1

*When we cannot see the path before us
God's promise is true
When we stumble on the rocky road
God's Word is sure*

Prechorus

*For we know our God is here
Walking with us
Jesus died and rose to life
Our future is secure*

Chorus

*We will run, run, run this race
To the fullness of God's grace
We press on-ward towards the light
'Til eternity's delight
For we know our story's not done
God's kingdom will come*

Verse 2

*Though we know not what tomorrow brings
God's promise is true
When sin threatens to pin me down
God's Word is sure*

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

MESSAGE FOR OUR YOUNGEST DISCIPLES

Pastor Tom

Children & youth will attend Sunday School after the message. (See inside cover)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Peter Okyere

1ST SCRIPTURE READING John 12:27-32

[Jesus said,] “Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say: ‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.”

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

ANTHEM

Thou Art Holy

Craig Courtney

The Chancel Choir – Russell Nagy, director

*Holy, holy, holy. Holy, Thou art holy.
Thou alone art holy. Thou art holy.*

*Cherubim and seraphim, falling down before
thee, Who was and is and evermore shall be.*

*Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.*

*Holy, Holy, Holy! though the darkness hide thee,
Though the eye of sinful man thy glory may not
see, Only thou art holy; there is none beside thee
Perfect in pow'r, in love, and purity.*

*Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!*

*Holy, holy, holy! all the saints adore thee,
Casting down their golden crowns around the
glassy sea.*

Thou art holy. Thou alone art holy.

2ND SCRIPTURE READING Revelation 12:18-13:10

Rev. Dr. Matt Reeves

Then the dragon took his stand on the sand of the seashore. And I saw a beast rising out of the sea, with ten horns and seven heads, and on its horns were ten diadems, and on its heads were blasphemous names. And the beast that I saw was like a leopard, its feet were like a bear's, and its mouth was like a lion's mouth. And the dragon gave it his power and his throne and great authority. One of its heads seemed to have received a death blow, but its fatal wound had been healed. In amazement the whole earth followed the beast. They worshiped the dragon, for he had given his authority to the beast, and they worshiped the beast, saying, “Who is like the beast, and who can fight against it?”

The beast was given a mouth speaking arrogant and blasphemous words, and it was allowed to exercise authority for forty-two months. It opened its mouth to speak blasphemies against God, blaspheming his name and his dwelling, that is, those who dwell in heaven. Also, it was allowed to wage war on the saints and to conquer them. It was given authority over every tribe and people and language and

nation, and all the inhabitants of the earth will worship it, everyone whose name has not been written from the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb that was slaughtered.

Let anyone who has an ear listen:

If you are to be taken captive,
into captivity you go;
if you kill with the sword,
with the sword you must be killed.

Here is a call for the endurance and faith of the saints.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“A Call for Endurance”

Pastor Matt

*** HYMN #432**

“How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord”

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Dr. Tom Rice

Sharing of Prayer Requests and Blessings

The Pastoral Prayer

The Lord’s Prayer (*in unison*)

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

“Be Thou My Vision”

Edward Broughton

*** DOXOLOGY** (*from Hymn #607*)

***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 bit.ly/engagewpc



GOING IN GOD'S NAME

* HYMN #749

"Come! Live in the Light!"

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Pastor Matt

POSTLUDE

"Diapason Dialogue"

Gordon Young

Please remain seated during the postlude as it is the final "Amen" to our worship

Introducing

LINDA SLICKER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In early 2025, Bob and Linda Slicker died within 3 weeks of each other. They were members of WPC for 45 years, with Linda teaching at our preschool for many years and working in the church office after retirement from teaching. One of Linda's greatest joys as a preschool teacher was encountering former students and witnessing their success as they grew and thrived in life.



At the suggestion of Bob and Linda's daughters, the Session has established the Linda Slicker Memorial Scholarship Fund to provide financial assistance to preschool families with need. Scholarships are usually for 50% of tuition or roughly \$1,000 per year. This is another way of living our vision, "In Christ's love, we connect, serve, and transform."



To support the Linda Slicker Memorial Scholarship Fund, make a check payable to WPC with "LSMSF" in the memo, pay electronically via Engage using the link bit.ly/lsmsfgift, or scan the QR code. Thank you for your generosity!



TODAY

The **REVELATION** sermon series continues. The 8AM service is outdoors again. (Next Sunday is the last **LAWN CHAIR CHURCH** of the season). **"THE LAST LECTURE"** series continues at 9AM in Room 222 and on Zoom -with WPC member Paul Beck discussing the ever-changing political landscape. **A LIGHT TO THE NATIONS** at Noon in the chapel. **YOUTH GROUP** returns from **5-7PM** as we continue to explore what it means to Love God, Neighbor and Enemy.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FLOOD RELIEF—The Presbytery of Scioto Valley is challenging every church in our Presbytery to help respond to recent flood disasters in Texas, Kentucky, North Carolina, and elsewhere by filling up flood relief buckets. We hope you can shop and put one or more together! It's a great way to bring practical help and hope to families who have experienced flooding. The goal is to assemble buckets by **SEPT 21**. For a free bucket and a list of what goes inside, stop by the church office!

Two more meeting times have opened up for a one-time **SMALL GROUP MEETING** to get to know Pastor Matt.

- **Tuesday, SEPT 2 at 1PM**
- **Wednesday, SEPT 10 at 3PM**

Look for the sign up sheet outside the church office today, or scan the code to sign up online.

Please save the date for **PASTOR MATT'S INSTALLATION—SEPT 14 at 3PM** in the Sanctuary.

RSVP FOR TNT - We love many people in our lives— family, friends, coworkers, and even pets—in different ways. When Jesus calls us to love God and our neighbors (Mark 12:30–31), that love must also extend to those we find difficult. Love isn't just a feeling—it's a call to treat all people as beloved children of God. Please join us on **Tuesday, AUG 26 at 6PM** for the first TNT of the program year. It's also Taco Tuesday! Scan the code below, or see your church email to RSVP so we can plan for you.

COMING UP

Bestselling author Pastor Adam Hamilton helps us explore what Christians believe, why we believe it and why it matters. A 6-week video series looks at the history and relevance of the Nicene Creed (1700 years old this year!) and the Apostles' Creed. Books are in the church office. Begins **SEPT 7** at 9AM in Room 222 and Zoom.

Christian Life's BIBLE STUDY this year is *Finding Resilience, Joy, and our Identity in Jesus Christ* by Rev. Dr. Rhashell D. Hunter. She writes "How do we find our resilience and joy in the midst of stressful life circumstances? By reconnecting to our spirituality, following women in the Bible, and studying Jesus' witness, we can discover a path that helps us fully embrace and celebrate who we are as faithful disciples." Meets the 1st Thursday of each month beginning SEPT 4 from 1PM-2PM in Room 222 and via Zoom, led by Pastor Tom. Come at 12:30PM for coffee and fellowship - all are welcome!



Scan the code to learn more or visit bit.ly/wpcupdates