

September 14, 2025

# 14<sup>TH</sup> 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 in loving memory of  
Dorie Eisenman in loving  
memory of Mark  
Eisenmann.*

## Serving Us Today

- Ushers: Team B - Jordan Quickel & Bob Freed, captains
- Video: Bill Yost
- Carillon: Debb Wilson

## 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**  
14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

September 14, 2025

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 Mission: *CROP Walk for Hunger*

Jon Neylon

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

"Morning Litany"

Lani Smith

Kim Anderson, organist

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

### OPENING SENTENCES *(Psalm 89:1-2, 15-16)*

Leader: I will sing of your steadfast love, O Lord,

**Congregation: and proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.**

Leader: Your steadfast love endures forever.

**Congregation: Your faithfulness is as high as the heavens.**

Leader: Happy are those who sing your praise

**Congregation: and extol your righteousness all day long!**

### \* HYMN # 686

"God of Our Life"

### \* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God who provides our every need, you have given us countless gifts. You have welcomed us as we are. You have showered us with steadfast love. You have freely given us eternal life in Christ Jesus. But we do not deserve these gifts. We take them and squander them. We continue to trust ourselves more than we trust you. We fail to embrace others as you have embraced us. Forgive us, Gracious God. In your mercy, empower us to trust you, and follow you, and tell of your goodness. 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.***

## PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

### MESSAGE FOR OUR YOUNGEST DISCIPLES

Pastor Matt

*Children will attend Sunday School after the message. (See inside cover). Youth participating in our Confirmation & Baptism class will head to the Youth Room.*

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Susan Boisvert

### 1<sup>ST</sup> SCRIPTURE READING      John 1:35-41

The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?" He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated Anointed).

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

### ANTHEM

*Joy in The Morning*

Natale Sleeth

The Chancel Choir – Russell Nagy, Director

*There'll be joy in the morning on that day,  
there'll be joy in the morning on that day,  
for the daylight will dawn when the darkness is  
gone,  
there'll be joy in the morning on that day.*

*There'll be peace and contentment evermore,  
there'll be peace and contentment evermore,  
ev'ry heart, ev'ry voice on that day will rejoice,  
there'll be peace and contentment evermore.*

*And the glory, glory of the Lord will shine,*

*And the glory, glory of the Lord will bring  
the truth divine.*

*There'll be love and forgiveness ev'rywhere,  
there'll be love and forgiveness ev'rywhere,  
and the way of the Lord will that day be  
restored,  
there'll be love and forgiveness ev'rywhere.*

*There'll be love and forgiveness,  
There'll be peace and contentment,  
There'll be joy, joy, joy, joy... JOY!*

**2<sup>nd</sup> SCRIPTURE  
READING**

Genesis 21:1-3; 22:1-14

Rev. Dr. Tom Rice

The Lord dealt with Sarah as he had said, and the Lord did for Sarah as he had promised. Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age, at the time of which God had spoken to him. Abraham gave the name Isaac to his son whom Sarah bore him....

After these things God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains that I shall show you." So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him and his son Isaac; he cut the wood for the burnt offering and set out and went to the place in the distance that God had shown him. On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place far away. Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; the boy and I will go over there; we will worship, and then we will come back to you." Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. And the two of them walked on together. Isaac said to his father Abraham, "Father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." He said, "The fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" Abraham said, "God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." And the two of them walked on together.

When they came to the place that God had shown him, Abraham built an altar there and laid the wood in order. He bound his son Isaac and laid him on the altar on top of the wood. Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill his son. But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." And Abraham looked up and saw a ram, caught in a thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. So Abraham called that place "The Lord will provide," as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the Lord it shall be provided."

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**

"What Kind of God Is This?!"

Pastor Tom

**\* HYMN #314** "Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness"

# RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Betsy 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

"O How I Love Jesus"

Robert W. Thygerson

**\* 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](https://bit.ly/engagewpc)*



## GOING IN GOD'S NAME

**\* HYMN #543** "God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me"

**\* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

Pastor Tom

**POSTLUDE**

"Old Time Religion"

Robert W. Thygerson

*Please remain seated during the postlude as it is the final "Amen" to our worship. After worship, please join us downstairs in Fellowship Hall for conversation and refreshments.*

We invite you to attend the Installation service of our senior pastor,  
Rev. Dr. Matt Reeves at 3PM today in the sanctuary.  
A reception will follow the worship service.

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## TODAY


**CREED: WHAT CHRISTIANS BELIEVE AND WHY** - Pastor Adam Hamilton explores how the Apostles' Creed offers answers to life's deepest questions, examining what Christians believe, why they believe it, and why it matters. Each class is a standalone session, so feel free to attend on any Sunday morning at 9AM in Room 222.

**CONFIRMATION** is a crucial step in the Christian journey. Youth can explore their faith as their own. Our Confirmation & Baptism Program starts **today at 10:15AM in the Youth Room**. If you have a youth who would like to join us, please let Nick Robison know.

**PASTOR MATT'S INSTALLATION**  
Please join us at Pastor Matt's installation service this afternoon at 3PM in the Sanctuary.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

▶▶▶▶▶ We invite you to help bless our third graders by highlighting your favorite Bible verse in their new Bibles during coffee hour in fellowship hall.



3RD GRADE BIBLES

◀◀◀ Your words of faith and encouragement will remind them that their church family is cheering them on as they grow in God's word!

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: COMMUNION COORDINATORS** - We are looking for 1-2 volunteers to serve as Communion Coordinators in 2026. Each coordinator would serve 3-4 Sundays annually, for about 3 hours per Sunday. Responsibilities:

- Setting the Communion table with pre-made trays
- Meeting servers in Hazelton Hall to answer questions
- Prompting servers to begin serving
- Clearing the Communion table after service
- Overseeing the clean-up of trays

This role does not involve any paperwork or recruiting of servers. This is a meaningful way to support the worship experience. Contact Marian Greuling if you're interested at 614.397.1240 or [greuling@columbus.rr.com](mailto:greuling@columbus.rr.com).

**SAVE THE DATE: SEPT 29: THE JOURNEY TO WHERE I AM** - Pastors are, at heart, ordinary people of faith. Join Pastor Matt in Fellowship Hall at 7PM as he reflects on his journey as a husband, father, and pastor seeking to live open to God's love and given to prayer. Dessert provided by PWU prior to the program.

**RSVP FOR THE NEXT TNT ON SEPT 23**  
We will look at the next dimension of the practice 'Love God, Neighbor, Enemy': **SERVE A STRANGER** - The Bible is full of examples of God's followers serving strangers. Serving a stranger brings together key components of loving God and loving others. When we serve someone, even if they are unknown to us, we are expressing love back to God. Strangers, while strange to us, are known by the God who loves us all.



On Tuesday, Sept. 23, we will gather in Fellowship Hall at 6PM for dinner (spaghetti and meatballs). Then, we will break into groups to explore the meaning of this dimension. Scan the code below to RSVP.

**ONLINE CHURCH DIRECTORY** - Have you created an account to access our new online member directory? Did you know you could book a one-on-one appointment with church staff for a mini-tutorial? Visit our Announcements page at **wpcnow.org** or scan the QR code for more information.



Scan the code to learn more or visit [bit.ly/wpcupdates](https://bit.ly/wpcupdates)

## MISSION

### MONTAÑA DE LUZ INFO SESSION

WPC is organizing a trip to the Mountain of Light in rural Honduras in January 2026. Save the date for an informational meeting on **Sunday, Oct. 12 at 11:15AM**.

### FLOOD RELIEF CHALLENGE

Help replenish relief buckets for families affected by recent flooding. You can find buckets and supply lists in the church office. You'll be providing essential supplies to individuals facing crises.

**BREAD BUDDIES NEEDED.** We help to feed the hungry by delivering bread. You can help by volunteering once a month! For more information, please contact Elder Bill Woods at [whwoods68@gmail.com](mailto:whwoods68@gmail.com)

*nutritious* **FOOD**

*clean* **WATER**

*safe* **HOMES**

**Join WPC'S team or donate today  
at [bit.ly/wpc-cropwalk](https://bit.ly/wpc-cropwalk)**



**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28 AT SCIOTO AUDUBON METRO PARK**

**Scioto Audubon Metro Park: Maier Place Pavilion**  
400 W Whittier St  
Columbus, OH 43215

**Registration: 1pm**  
**Send-Off: 2pm**

TOGETHER we are ending hunger and poverty in Central Ohio and around the world one step at a time! Join us for our Impact Fair between 1-2pm where you can learn how you make a difference locally and globally through interactive stations - and how to get involved beyond the Walk. There will also be music, activities and games for the whole family!

Keep up to date with us by following us on Facebook and Instagram: **@CentralOhioCROP**

