
Missionpalooza Sunday

September 15, 2024



WORTHINGTON
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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



Worship Times

- Every Sunday: 8am & 10am
- 4th Sunday: Noon –
A Light to the Nations

Rev. Dr. Tom Rice
Pastor for Discipleship
trice@wpcnow.org

Rev. Betsy Rice
Pastor for Member Ministries
brice@wpcnow.org

Russell Nagy
Director of Music Ministries
rnagy@wpcnow.org

Nicholas Robison
Director for Youth Ministries
nrobison@wpcnow.org

Annie Barner
Interim Children's Ministries
Coordinator
abarner@wpcnow.org

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

Sanctuary Flowers

The flowers on the chancel are
given to the glory of God by
Dorie Eisenman in loving
memory of Mark Eisenman

Serving Us Today

- Ushers: Team C – Sue Funk,
John Smith
- Video: Bill Yost
- Carillon: Laura Schlader

Church Office

Ph: 614.885.5355
Hours: M–Thurs: 8am–4pm;
Fri 8am–2pm
www.wpcnow.org

In Christ's love, we

CONNECT ♦ SERVE ♦ TRANSFORM

Welcome

Thank you for worshipping with us today. Join us after the service downstairs in Fellowship Hall for Missionpalooza and lunch. See announcements in the back of bulletin for more information.

Children & Youth

Children and youth are invited to Sunday School after a brief children's message. Pick them up after the postlude in the following rooms. (Rooms 111–113 are in the hallway below the Sanctuary).

- Pre-K: Room 113
- K–2: Room 112
- 3–5: Room 111
- Youth: Living Room
- No Confirmation Today: Please join Youth

The Nursery is located on the first floor, outside Fellowship Hall. Childcare begins at 9:45am for ages 3 and under.

Large Print Bulletins & Listening Devices



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 plates. The pastors read and pray for these requests. Those marked “public” will be shared in our congregational email.

Handicap 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 (please ask ushers for assistance).

Worship Service Recording

The 10am worship service is recorded for future playback. Visit our website or YouTube channel on Sunday afternoon to watch the service via your computer, tablet or smartphone.

Worthington Presbyterian Church
SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY – MISSIONPALOOZA SUNDAY

September 15, 2024

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 Mission: *Salem Elementary School* Jake Wheeler, Family Ambassador

Passing of the Peace

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

All: And also with you.

Please stand and greet one another in the Peace of Christ.

CALL TO WORSHIP IN MUSIC

"Deep River"

arr. by Robert W. Thygerson

Kim Anderson, organist

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

OPENING SENTENCES

Leader: God has gathered us in this place at this time,

All: So that we will hear good news we can't help but share.

Leader: Today, and each day to come,

**All: May the words of our mouths, the meditations of our hearts, and
the actions of our lives proclaim our faith!**

*** HYMN # 157**

"I Danced in the Morning"

LORD OF THE DANCE

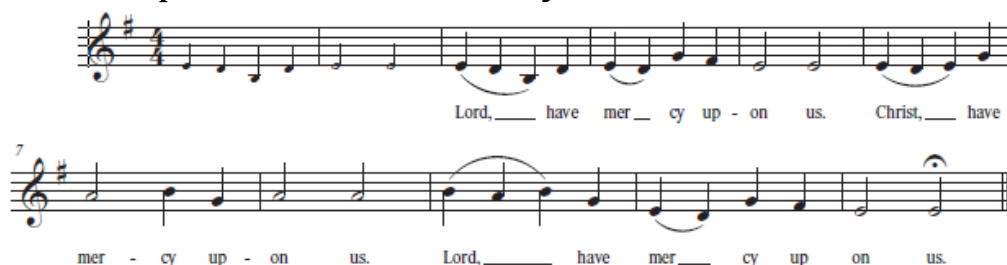
*** PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (*in unison*)

O Lord, you ask: "Who do you say that I am?" You call us to follow you, but we are hesitant to take up our cross and follow. The temptation is strong to pursue our wants, avoid discomfort, and shun those we do not know or love. Renew us, O God, in body and in spirit. Help us to walk in the way you intend for us. Forgive us and lead us, we pray, in Jesus' name. Amen.

(Silent confession)

Congregational Response

"The Kyrie"



Assurance of Pardon

Gloria (from Hymn #581)

GLORIA PATRI

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

Annie Barner

After the Children's Message, children and youth will go to Sunday School. Following the postlude, please meet them in their assigned rooms (see inside cover for locations).

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Lisa Abrams

1ST SCRIPTURE READING Ephesians 2:4-10

...God who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God— not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we may walk in them.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

"Every Valley"

THE CHANCEL CHOIR

Russell Nagy, Director

*Ev'ry valley shall be exalted
and ev'ry mountain made low
and the crooked made straight
and the rough places plain.*

*And the glory of the Lord
shall be revealed, revealed,
and all flesh shall see it together;
for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it*

*Ev'ry valley shall be exalted,
and ev'ry mountain made low,
and the crooked straight,
and the rough places plain,
and all flesh shall see it together.*

*For the glory of the Lord
shall be revealed, revealed,
and all flesh shall see it together;
for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it. Amen.*

2ND SCRIPTURE READING Mark 8:27-37

Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi, and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." He asked them, "But

who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Messiah." And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes and be killed and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

He called the crowd with his disciples and said to them, "If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life?

The Gospel of our Lord.
Praise to You, O Christ.

SERMON

"Who Do You Say That I Am?"

Dr. Rice

* HYMN # 733

"We All Are One in Mission"

ES FLOG EIN KLEINS WALDVOGELEIN

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

"Sanctuary Reflections"

Robert W. Thygerson

* DOXOLOGY # 607

OLD HUNDREDTH

***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

You can give online through Engage Giving. You can easily setup your Engage Giving account by scanning the QR code or going to bit.ly/engagewpc



GOING IN GOD'S NAME

* HYMN # 526	"Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ"	LINSTEAD
* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION		Dr. Rice
POSTLUDE	"Cortege"	Gordon Young

We request that you remain seated during the postlude as it is the final "Amen" to our worship.

*Please join us in Fellowship Hall for
hands-on mission activities and lunch!*

About Missionpalooza

You're invited to participate in a day of meaningful activities this Sunday during Missionpalooza. We'll be tying blankets for foster children, repackaging food pantry donations, creating soup kits, and assembling hygiene kits – all while having lunch together.

We'll also learn about other ministries, like "Build a Bed" for families in need, "Conversation Partners" for immigrants and refugees, and more! The fun starts at 11am.

From the WPC Weekly Update

Pastor's Blog by Pastor Tom

Growing up in Rochester, NY, our youth group always went on summer mission trips to the SAME place: Cow Creek, KY. We supported the Presbyterian Church there and the pastor, Joe Powlas. Joe served three churches in Appalachia: Cow Creek, Indian Creek, and Booneville (near Shoulderblade, KY). 😊

One year we had a mission project called, "A Jeep for Joe." We got a red jeep for Pastor Joe so that he could safely get to his three churches.

It was a long drive to Cow Creek, so we would stop overnight and stay at a church. Guess which church we stayed at one summer? **Worthington Presbyterian Church!** God was giving me a "sneak peek" of where God would one day call me!

I also think God was teaching me about the beauty and importance of mission! WPC showed radical hospitality by letting our youth group stay overnight. My home church was doing important things to help our brothers and sisters in Christ in Cow Creek. And the youth group from Cow Creek would come on a mission trip to Rochester, NY — because they had love and gifts to share, too.

"In Christ's love, we connect, serve and transform." I certainly experienced that on those mission trips. And so did my friends. I hope we all do—all ages—this Sunday at Missionpalooza (11am in Fellowship Hall) and in all of the mission opportunities to come.

What Else is Happening Today

- 'Wrestling with Doubt - Finding Faith' at 9am in Room 222/Zoom
- Membership Seminar at 9am in the chapel
- Sacraments class at 9am in Rm 111 (4th/5th grades)
- Moment for Mission (10am service) by Jake Wheeler, Salem Elementary School
- Youth Group from 5 -7pm (6th-12th grade)
- Missionpalooza & Lunch at 11am in Fellowship Hall

Pastor Nominating Committee Update

The Pastor Nominating Committee has been very active and continues its efforts in the search for our new Senior Pastor / Head of Staff. Here are a few highlights since our last update in August.

- Set up an advertisement for our position in Presbyterian Outlook newsletter. This will run through September and reach 15,000 subscribers.
- Solicited multiple candidates via individual connections.
- Reviewed resumes / profiles for approximately 50 candidates and watched the sermons of 10 candidates. Invitations to apply for the position are forthcoming.
- Partnered with the Personnel Committee to create a job description and annual evaluation process.
- In the process of reaching out to Seminary Presidents and ministers to request referrals.
- Please continue to pray for us and God's guidance as we continue our work!

September Session Update

Below is a brief summary of the September 9 Session meeting:

- Session approved a job description for a Senior Pastor. This is a very important and helpful piece for the Pastor Nominating Committee to share with senior pastor candidates.
- Session appointed two Elders to work with the Personnel Committee to fine tune an Annual Review Process and Annual Performance Review for the Senior Pastor.
- Session approved having a support team for a new Senior Pastor for the first 12-18 months of transition/acclimation to WPC and central Ohio. The support team will have one member of the Personnel Committee and one member of the Pastor Nominating Committee.

- Session approved calling for a Congregational Meeting on Sunday, September 29, after the 10am service to elect elders, deacons, and members of the nominating committee.
- Session scheduled a special Session meeting on Sunday, October 13 to receive new members.

Announcements

Save the Date for Congregational Meeting on Sept 29. Members are encouraged to attend the Congregational Meeting following the 10am worship service. The purpose of the meeting is to elect Ruling Elders, Deacons, and Nominating Committee members.

Hello, My Name Is...

Help us be a friendlier church. If you need a new WPC name tag, please contact **Pastor Betsy**. All others, please wear your name tags when you come to church. Thank you!

Thank You for School Supply Donations

Salem Elementary students returned to school on August 21st, greeted by pleasant weather and fully stocked backpacks brimming with school supplies. We want to extend a heartfelt thank you for your generous contributions to these students and the families at Worthington Resource Pantry. Thanks to your support, we were able to deliver approximately 20 boxes of supplies and 200 backpacks. Your kindness and dedication make a difference—thank you for all your love and care! (Debbie Towarnicky)

Send a Note or Card

The Personnel Committee is hosting a Staff Appreciation Luncheon on Sept 16. You're invited to send a hand-written note or card of thanks to the staff to express your appreciation. Please address it to the church office with "Personnel Committee" in the bottom left of the envelope. You can also place it in the offering plate. Thank you! **Deadline: Sunday, Sept 15**

Coat Drive: October 13 -20

We will be collecting coats and blankets for the Guadalupe Center, a ministry to individuals & families in need in West Columbus. New (or gently used) coats and blankets will be a blessing

this winter. Coats can be brought to Fellowship Hall starting Oct. 13.. coats may be donated or purchased new or second-hand at Volunteers of America, Goodwill or Three Bags Full Consignment Sales (threebagsfull.com).

Events

Potluck - Fellowship - Friendship on Oct 6

Plan to bring an international dish and stay for lunch after the 10am service. Christians worship Jesus all over the world; let's share foods from all nations. Bring a food that is part of your family heritage or culture, or choose a nation you love. Look for a sign up genius invitation soon.

Help End Hunger on Oct 13

We are just a few weeks away from the annual Central OH CROP Hunger Walk. With the global rise of food costs, inflation, predicted famine in Africa, and ongoing war in Ukraine, your steps are needed more than ever. Did you know that local organizations and those they support, like the Worthington Resource Pantry, will also benefit from the CROP Walk?

Scan the code or visit bit.ly/wpcwalkers to go to the WPC Team website.



Do you want to help sponsor Pastor Tom in the walk? Scan the code or visit bit.ly/tomricewalks

Save these Dates:

- TNT: Sept 24 at 6pm
- Facing Loss: Sept 16 at 1pm at St. John's Episcopal Church. [Learn about Listening Ministry!](#)
- International Potluck: Oct 6
- CROP Walk: Oct 13
- Coat and Blanket Drive: Oct 13 - 20
- Trunk or Treat: Oct 25