



WEBSTER GROVES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

45 West Lockwood Ave. ♦ Webster Groves, MO 63119

314-962-9210 ♦ wgpc.org

24th Sunday after Pentecost ♦ November 7, 2021 ♦ 9:30 a.m.

Our Mission:

We seek to live Christ's love, welcome all people,
and joyfully serve God.



As the music begins, let us use this time for quiet reflection and prayer, so that we, individually and as a great crowd of witnesses, may prepare ourselves to reaffirm our faith as the people of God.

✦ *When this symbol precedes an element of the service, please rise in body or spirit.*

Gathering for God's Word

- PRELUDE "Shall We Gather at the River" Jason Krug
Ely Ringers
- WELCOME AND COMMUNITY LIFE Rev. Hannah Zyla
- ✦ CALL TO WORSHIP Eric Morff
L: Praise the Lord! The Lord will never leave us alone.
Let the name of the Lord be renowned throughout the earth, now and forever.
Who are we that God is mindful of us?
- ✦ OPENING HYMN #301 "Let Us Build a House" TWO OAKS
(see music in back of bulletin)
- ✦ CALL TO CONFESSION Rev. Ed Zumwinkel
L: Let us confess our sins
to the one who sacrificed for us
and waits in mercy to forgive.
- ✦ PRAYER OF CONFESSION
L: Let us pray:
**P: Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry,
too real to hide, and too deep to undo.
Forgive what our lips tremble to name,
what our hearts can no longer bear,
and what has become for us
a consuming fire of judgment. Continued >>**

**Set us free from a past that we cannot change;
open to us a future in which we can be changed;
and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image;
through Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen.**

✦ ASSURANCE OF PARDON

L: Christ, who is our high priest,
made himself a sacrifice once and for all for the forgiveness of sins.
Therefore, be reconciled to God, sin no more,
and do all things for the glory of God.

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

L: Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.
The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

P: And also with you.

RESPONSE TO GOD'S GRACE "Gathered in God's Name"

Michael Burkhardt

Sing at the hand motion of the cantor.

Gath-ered from near and far, gath-ered in
this ho - ly place, gath-ered as strang-ers and
friends, gath-ered and gift - ed by grace.
Gath - ered in God's name 'round the liv - ing
Word. Gath - ered as one fam - 'ly
in the name of love, in the name of
slowing
love, in the name of love.

Proclaiming God's Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Eric Morff

L: Let us pray . . .

God our helper, by your Holy Spirit, open our minds,
that as the scriptures are read and your word is proclaimed,
we may be led into your truth and taught your will,
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING

Ruth 3:1-5; 4:13-17

Pew Bible pgs. 243-244

Naomi her mother-in-law said to her, 'My daughter, I need to seek some security for you, so that it may be well with you. Now here is our kinsman Boaz, with whose young women you have been working. See, he is winnowing barley tonight at the threshing-floor. Now wash and anoint yourself, and put on your best clothes and go down to the threshing-floor; but do not make yourself known to the man until he has finished eating and drinking. When he lies down, observe the place where he lies; then, go and uncover his feet and lie down; and he will tell you what to do.' She said to her, 'All that you tell me I will do.'

So Boaz took Ruth and she became his wife. When they came together, the Lord made her conceive, and she bore a son. Then the women said to Naomi, 'Blessed be the Lord, who has not left you this day without next-of-kin; and may his name be renowned in Israel! He shall be to you a restorer of life and a nourisher of your old age; for your daughter-in-law who loves you, who is more to you than seven sons, has borne him.' Then Naomi took the child and laid him in her bosom, and became his nurse. The women of the neighborhood gave him a name, saying, 'A son has been born to Naomi.' They named him Obed; he became the father of Jesse, the father of David.

SERMON

Rev. Ed Zumwinkel

Responding to God's Word

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Bob Weng

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Rev. Hannah Zyla

A time of silence is kept after each petition.

L: Loving God, you never leave us alone,
nor fail to watch out for our well-being,
restoring us and providing for us.

Because you are faithful, we come to you now
to make our petitions known to you. *Continued >>*

We pray for the church and its leaders;
may we continue to be living witnesses for you.

We pray for the global community;
enable us to serve those in need and work for peace.

We pray for all those who are cheated and abused;
help us be advocates for the powerless, that we might
enact godly justice.

We pray for those who suffer;
make us agents of your restoration and healing.

(JOYS & CONCERNS)

We pray for your creation;
make us good stewards, that many generations will know
the goodness of your gifts.

We remember those who have come to their eternal rest;
help us to comfort those who grieve their loss.

We lift up to you the prayers we hold secretly,
for we know that you know all things.
All these things we ask in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

OFFERING INVITATION

Rev. Ed Zumwinkel

L: The Lord has blessed us richly.
Let us give cheerfully what we have
for the upkeep and uplift of God's kingdom.

OFFERTORY

"Take My Life"
(see words in back of bulletin)

Chris Tomlin

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Eric Morff

L: Almighty God,
whether we have given from abundance
or from little,
we humbly offer these gifts to you,
and for the glory of your name,
through your son Jesus Christ with the
Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

L: Friends, let us now be bold to pray as our Savior Christ has taught us:

**P: 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.**

Sending

CLOSING HYMN

“Blessed Be Your Name”
(see words in back of bulletin)

Matt and Beth Redman

CHARGE

Rev. Ed Zumwinkel

L: Trust in the Lord
and know that God is at work within you. **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

L: May the Lord continue to be a restorer of life,
and watch over you
as we witness to God's blessings.

POSTLUDE

“Blessed Be Your Name”
Worship Band

Matt and Beth Redman

You are invited to be seated.

As you rest in the postlude, our final offering to God, you are invited to use this time to reflect on how you have met God here today and how you will bring God's love into the world that awaits.

Welcome to WGPC

- **FRIENDSHIP PADS:** Please sign the friendship pads located at the end of each pew.
- **CHILDREN ARE ALWAYS WELCOME:** Worship Activity Bags are located at each entrance to the Sanctuary.
- **ASSISTIVE DEVICES:** Hearing devices, large print hymnals, and cushions are available. One of our ushers will be happy to assist you.

Worship Notes

Those Who Serve Today

Greeters: Linda and Tom McNeely

Ushers: Freda Cook, Ken and Maryann Wallace,
Bob and Judy Weng

Liturgist: Eric Morff

Camera Operators: Lia Fairbanks, Tom McNeely,
Spencer Roudebush, Dennis Wacker

Chancel Flowers

The Chancel Flowers are given to the Glory of God in memory of Clyde S. Hale and Rena E. Hale, the gift of family.

Online Worship

Our worship services are live-streamed and video recorded for viewing on our website (wgpc.org) Facebook and YouTube pages. Children's participation in the Scripture Conversation indicates implied parental consent to be recorded.

Resources

Some prayers and liturgical texts for worship are provided by:

- Westminster John Knox Press from Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year B, Volume 1 © 2012
- Westminster John Knox Press from Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year B, Volume 2 © 2018

Ministry Staff

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Pete Brennan (Supervisor)
Pierre Campbell
Ken Kastner



301

Let Us Build a House

All Are Welcome

Capo 3: (A7) (D) (A) (D) (G) (A) (Bm)
C7 F C F B^b C Dm

1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can
2 Let us build a house where proph - ets speak, and words are
3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter,
4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the
5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and

(D) (A) (D) (Bm7) (Em) (A)
F C F Dm7 Gm C

safe - ly live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell
strong and true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek
wine, and wheat; a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground
wood and stone to heal and strength-en, serve and teach,
vi - sions heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed

(Em) (A7) (G) (D) (F#m) (Bm)
Gm C7 B^b F Am Dm

how hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and
to dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as
where peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through
and live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the
as words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and

(Em) (A) (D) (G)
Gm C F B^b

vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the
wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as
Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we
strang - er bear the im - age of God's face; let us
laugh - ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace; let this

Although it was written for a church dedication, this text is not about a physical structure but a spiritual one. The building is at best only a vessel for the essential love and hope, life and faith, peace and justice, hospitality and nurture that form the worshiping community.

Take My Life

Verse 1

Take my life and let it be consecrated
Lord to Thee
Take my moments and my days
Let them flow in ceaseless praise
Take my hands and let them move
At the impulse of Thy love
Take my feet and let them be
Swift and beautiful for Thee

Verse 2

Take my voice and let me sing
Always only for my King
Take my lips and let them be
Filled with messages from Thee
Take my silver and my gold
Not a mite would I withhold
Take my intellect and use
Ev'ry power as You choose

Chorus

Here am I all of me
Take my life it's all for Thee

Verse 3

Take my will and make it Thine
It shall be no longer mine
Take my heart it is Thine own
It shall be Thy royal throne
Take my love my Lord I pour
At Your feet its treasure store
Take myself and I will be
Ever only all for Thee

CCLI Song # 4162843

Chris Tomlin | Frances Ridley Havergal | Henri Abraham Cesar Malan | Louie Giglio

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• worshiptogether.com songs (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)

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Blessed Be Your Name

Verse 1

Blessed be Your name
In the land that is plentiful
Where Your streams of abundance flow
Blessed be Your name

Verse 2

Blessed be Your name
When I'm found in the desert place
Though I walk through the wilderness
Blessed be Your name

Pre-Chorus

Ev'ry blessing You pour out I'll
Turn back to praise
When the darkness closes in Lord
Still I will say

Chorus

Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your name
Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your glorious name

Verse 3

Blessed be Your name
When the sun's shining down on me
When the world's all as it should be
Blessed be Your name

Verse 4

Blessed be Your name
On the road marked with suffering
Though there's pain in the offering
Blessed be Your name

Bridge

You give and take away
You give and take away
My heart will choose to say
Lord blessed be Your name

CCLI Song # 3798438

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November 7, 2021 Announcements

Celebrating Pastor Hannah!

Sunday, November 14

9:30 a.m. Worship with Reception to Follow



We are all saddened that Pastor Hannah will be leaving us. To celebrate her ministry here, please plan to attend the 9:30 a.m. service next Sunday. A special reception will follow in Fellowship Hall immediately after the Congregational Meeting. Cards and letters for a special

memory box can be dropped off at the church office and emailed greetings can be included by sending messages to mfkuhn4@gmail.com. If you would like to contribute to a going-away gift, today is the last day to make an online donation at wgpc.org/give (please reference Hannah's name).

Congregational Meeting

Sunday, November 14, following Worship

The Session has called a Congregational Meeting next Sunday immediately following the 9:30 a.m. worship service for the purpose of electing new officers and to approve the dissolution of Terms of Call for Rev. Hannah Zyla.

Music in a Great Place:

St. Louis Metro Singers Christmas Concert

Sunday, November 28

7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary



There are many sensations that recall wonderful memories of Christmases past. For most of us, it is music sung by choirs and carolers at our doors and on the street corner that gives this season its beauty, its majesty, its

character, and its wonder. Join St. Louis Metro Singers, under the direction of Shawn Portell, for the initial program of popular and sacred music of the season - "Here We Come A-Caroling...Again!"

Upcoming Christmas Dates

November 28: St Louis Metro Singers Concert
December 5: Communion Service
December 12: Christmas Pageant
December 19: Lessons & Carols
December 24: Christmas Eve Services
(4:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.)



▶▶ Welcoming our Afghan Neighbors ◀◀

▶ Fahima Band Ali to Speak ◀

Sunday, November 14, 9:30 a.m. Worship

Our Minute for Mission speaker next week will be Fahima Band Ali who will update us on the situation in Afghanistan and the Afghan families due to arrive in St. Louis. She will also spend the evening with our youth sharing her culture and experiences in Afghanistan and as a new immigrant to the United States. Read more about her in a *Webster-Kirkwood Times* article at <https://www.timesnewspapers.com/> (type "Fahima" in the search box).



▶ Partnering with an Afghan Family ◀ Informational Meeting

Tuesday, November 16, 7:00 p.m. by Zoom

If you are interested in supporting or partnering with an Afghan family, please plan to attend a Zoom meeting on Tuesday, November 16 at 7:00 p.m. A link to the Zoom meeting can be found in the Friday Flash. If you are unable to attend but are interested, please contact Julie Burchett at burchett.juliekay@gmail.com.

▶ \$8,000 Raised! ◀

Our Churches Together for Justice group (WGPC, Emmanuel Episcopal, Christ Lutheran and Peace UCC) raised just over \$8,000 for Afghan families over the past two months. These generous donations will be used by the International Institute to purchase grocery gift cards and Metro transportation cards for the approximately 100 Afghan families due to arrive in St. Louis this winter/spring.

Christmas Pageant: We Need You!

Sunday, December 12, 9:30 a.m. Worship

Rehearsals: November 21 and December 5



Want to be part of telling our favorite story? Animals, angels, shepherds, babies – all are welcome to join in this joyful endeavor! The Pageant will take place during worship on

December 12 with rehearsals on November 21 and December 5 during Sunday School (it's okay if you can't make both!) We have speaking and non-speaking parts with roles for all ages. And nothing has to be memorized! Email Cherstin Byers at chb@wgpc.org if you can participate and let us know if you have a preference (speaking/non-speaking role).

Stewardship Reminder:

Ingathering on Sunday, November 21



The Steward Commission is encouraging WGPC members to pledge support for the 2022 year in the coming weeks. Funds raised from these pledges enable our church to continue our missions of helping others, fulfilling God's word, and paying our staff and

operational expenses. Pledges can be made by returning your pledge card to WGPC or by making an online pledge by visiting wgpc.org > clicking Give (at top of the screen) > scrolling down and clicking "Pledge Now" on the left side of the screen and following the prompt to Sign into ACS Access where you can find your pledge history and add a 2022 pledge. You can also use the QR code above. If you have questions, please contact Jan Scheurer at jls@wgpc.org

Advocacy Film Club: *Poor Kids*

Tuesday, November 9, 7:50 p.m. by Zoom



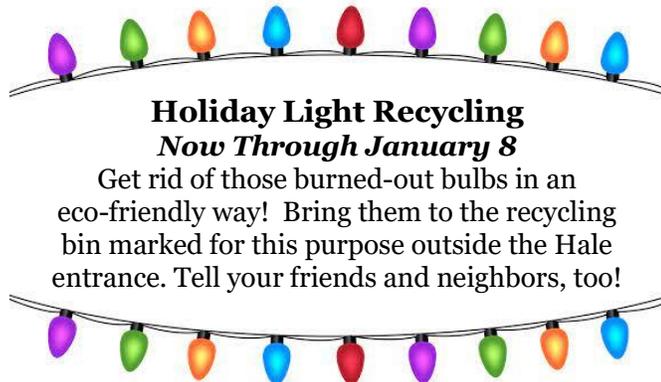
Please join us for the discussion of the PBS Frontline Documentary *Poor Kids* which explores what it means to be poor in America through the eyes of the children in three families who discuss how poverty impacts them, their families, and their futures. See the Friday Flash for links to the film and the Zoom discussion.

Stay Connected!

Sign up for our Emailed Friday Flash!



For announcements and info about upcoming events with direct links for sign-ups and resources, sign up for the Friday Flash at wgpc.org/announcements/



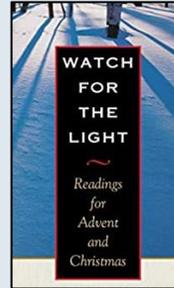
Holiday Light Recycling Now Through January 8

Get rid of those burned-out bulbs in an eco-friendly way! Bring them to the recycling bin marked for this purpose outside the Hale entrance. Tell your friends and neighbors, too!

ADVENT EXPLORATIONS

**Sundays, November 28 through December 19
10:50 a.m. in the Church Parlor or by Zoom**

In this season of preparing for the coming of Christ, you are invited to join with others in a devotional study of daily essays and poems (40 in all) from theological writers including Dietrich Bonhoeffer,



Dorothy Day, Madeleine L'Engle, Martin Luther, and Søren Kierkegaard. These readings, many of which have a strong social justice theme, are collected in a book entitled *Watch for the Light - Readings for Advent and Christmas* which can be purchased in the church office for \$10 or ordered from Amazon.

Participants are encouraged to gather each Sunday at 10:50 a.m. in person or by Zoom to discuss the week's readings and their impact on "holiday preparations."



Bulletin Announcement Deadline

Please send your announcements for the Sunday bulletin by the end of the day on Tuesdays to Barbara Fischer at baf@wgpc.org
Thank you!

Faithful Endings, Hopeful Beginnings Grief Support Group

**Begins Wednesday, November 10
6:30-7:30 p.m. in the Parlor**

As we approach the holidays, we would like to gather with our sisters and brothers in Christ who have experienced a loss (perhaps a loved one, a job, or the ability to physically gather with others) to share, encourage, and support one another. Our small grief support group will be facilitated by Stephen Minister Nancy Knight and will meet weekly beginning November 10 in the church Parlor on Wednesday nights at 6:30 p.m. Safe health protocols will be practiced. For more information, contact Nancy Knight at 314-494-2283 or ncknight218@gmail.com. Until then, you are in our prayers and held close to your church community with Christ's unending love.





For the full fall schedule, visit WGPC.org > Ministries > Faith Formation > Adult Ministries > Adult Education.

Technology Issues: Please have patience with us as we address these issues with our consultants so we may adapt to new ways of being together.

Adult Classes, 10:50-11:45 a.m. in the Church Parlor and on Zoom

- **TODAY: "The Challenges of Mission in Nicaragua" presented by Tracey King-Ortega**, our guest via Zoom, who has built mission partnerships between communities and organizations throughout Central America for over 20 years. Harriet Hall will also provide an update on Plan Grande #2.



- November 21: "Coping with Pandemic Stress" presented by WGPC members Peter Putnam, MD, and Amy Escott, MS, LPC. Participants will learn how to name and understand pandemic stress, address the linkage between toxic/chronic stress and physical and mental health, and explore concrete strategies for building resilience in ourselves, our families, and our communities.

Ongoing Study Groups

- Wednesday Evening Book Study (3rd Wednesday of each month) at 7:00 p.m. by Zoom. Contact: Betsy Wacker at wacker.betsy@att.net.
- Thursday Disciple Bible Study at 10:00-11:30 a.m. in the Parlor and on Zoom. Contact: Diane McCullough at dmccpae@sbcglobal.net.
- Men's Bible Study. Every other Thursday morning at 7:00 a.m. Contact: Frank Bloemke at 314-962-0584.

Children's Classes, 10:40-11:45 a.m. Drop-off and pick-up in Room 210

Children pre-k through 5th grade will participate in a weekly rotation of classes to Praise, Explore, Grow, and Serve. Contact: Cherstin Byers at chb@wgpc.org.

Youth Classes

Sunday evenings, Youth Lounge

- 4:00-5:30 p.m. Celtics Middle School Fellowship
- 5:00-7:00 p.m. Agape High School Fellowship
- 5:00-5:30 p.m. Family meal for all youth

If you would like to provide a simple meal for our youth, please contact Cherstin Byers at chb@wgpc.org.



Masks in Worship

The CDC guidelines have been updated to reflect new data on the Delta variant of the coronavirus. Data suggests it is more potent and contagious than the Alpha variant and now much more common. COVID cases are rising and the positivity rate has increased in our area. Children in our congregation 12 and under as well as some immunocompromised individuals are unable to be vaccinated. For the sake of these in our church family, we are at this time asking all vaccinated and unvaccinated worshipers to please wear a mask during worship and as you move around the church. We ask you to also remain "socially distanced." While the risk remains relatively low for vaccinated individuals, we believe making this sacrifice for others in our church is a faithful action to take to express our love for one another. Thank you for your kindness, understanding and patience. Encourage those you know who are not vaccinated to be vaccinated so we can get back to normal! Thank you.

– Pastor Ed