



# WEBSTER GROVES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

45 West Lockwood Ave. ♦ Webster Groves, MO 63119

314-962-9210 ♦ wgpc.org



18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost ♦ September 26, 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

“Contemplation”  
(text for meditation)

McCoy Tyner/Chuck Marohnic

I open myself to you, I open myself to you, Lord.  
You are the light of my life.  
Help me to see what you want me to be.

I offer myself to you, I offer myself to you, Lord.  
You are the light of my life.  
Help me to be what you want me to be.

WELCOME AND COMMUNITY LIFE

Rev. Ed Zumwinkel

✦ CALL TO WORSHIP

Laura Putnam

L: Blessed be the Lord our God,

**P: who has delivered us from evil.**

L: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**P: maker of heaven and earth.**

✦ OPENING HYMN #465

“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”  
(see music in back of bulletin)

CONVERSE

✦ CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev. Ed Zumwinkel

L: The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up,  
and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven.

Therefore confess your sins to one another

and pray for one another so that you may be healed.

Let us pray:

✠ PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**P: God of unity,  
we live in a world where our lives move  
between inclusivity and exclusivity.  
We often move toward the latter,  
trying to oust from our circles  
those who do not think like us,  
act like us, or look like us.  
Forgive our need to reject  
and to always be on the lookout  
for those things that make us different.  
Give us the eyes of our Teacher,  
who knows unconditional love and compassion  
and sees us all as one,  
for it is in his name that we pray. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

L: Though we wander from the truth,  
God brings us back  
and saves our souls from death.  
In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

**P: Thanks be to God!**  
*(Please be seated.)*

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

“Amazing Grace”

AMAZING GRACE

*Amazing Grace how sweet the sound,  
That saved and set me free.  
I once was lost, but now am found,  
Was blind but now I see.*

SCRIPTURE CONVERSATION

Rev. Ed Zumwinkel

# Proclaiming God's Word

---

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Laura Putnam

L: Let us pray . . .  
Your Word is our salt;  
without it, we lose our being,  
our joy, and our ability to endure.  
Open our hearts and our minds  
to listen, to really listen,  
to your Word today. **Amen.**

## SCRIPTURE READING

James 5:13-20

Pew Bible pgs. 231-232

<sup>13</sup> Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. <sup>14</sup> Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. <sup>15</sup> The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. <sup>16</sup> Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. <sup>17</sup> Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. <sup>18</sup> Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

<sup>19</sup> My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, <sup>20</sup> you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

## SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 9:38-50

Pew Bible pg. 45

<sup>38</sup> John said to him, 'Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.' <sup>39</sup> But Jesus said, 'Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterwards to speak evil of me. <sup>40</sup> Whoever is not against us is for us. <sup>41</sup> For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

<sup>42</sup> 'If any of you put a stumbling-block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. <sup>43</sup> If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. <sup>45</sup> And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell.' <sup>47</sup> And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, <sup>48</sup> where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

<sup>49</sup> 'For everyone will be salted with fire. <sup>50</sup> Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.'

“Prayer”  
(*text for meditation*)

Keith Jarrett/Cliff Aerie

In the midst of all chaos I offer a prayer,  
As the world turns around me in pain and despair,  
I remember your promise that flows everywhere.

(*piano solo*)

In the twilight and darkness when day turns to night,  
In each moment of sadness you offer me sight,  
I remember your promise and enter your light.

(*bass solo*)

In the touch of another I sense you are near,  
Sharing moments of blessing there's nothing to fear,  
I remember your promise and my way seems clear.

(*sax solo*)

It's a prayer of thanksgiving, a prayer of delight,  
It's a prayer of contrition, a prayer seeking right,  
We remember your promise and enter your light.

### Responding to God's Word

---

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Ed Zumwinkel

L: Scripture promises us  
that the prayers of God's people  
are powerful and effective.  
In this hope, we call on God's name, saying:  
Pour out your healing grace, O Lord;  
send forth your Spirit to save us.

For those who are sick and suffering . . .

Pour out your healing grace, O Lord;

**P: send forth your Spirit to save us.**

(JOYS AND CONCERNS)

L: For those who are burdened by sin . . .

Pour out your healing grace, O Lord;

**P: send forth your Spirit to save us.**

L: For nations, crumbling in conflict . . .  
Pour out your healing grace, O Lord;  
**P: send forth your Spirit to save us.**

L: For neighbors, divided by fear . . .  
Pour out your healing grace, O Lord;  
**send forth your Spirit to save us.**

L: For the church, longing for renewal . . .  
Pour out your healing grace, O Lord;  
**P: send forth your Spirit to save us.**

L: For the earth, groaning for peace . . .  
Pour out your healing grace, O Lord;  
**P: send forth your Spirit to save us.**

L: God of new life, raise us up  
in the power of the risen Lord  
so that we may lift our hearts again  
in songs of thanks and praise;  
through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

#### OFFERING INVITATION

Rev. Ed Zumwinkel

L: Today and every day, we see signs of God's grace and abundance.  
But we also know that there is suffering and need in the world.  
Give freely of what you have been given,  
as a witness to God's actions in the world.

#### OFFERTORY

"Singing All My Blues Away"  
Oikos Ensemble

Cliff Aerie

#### ✠ RESPONSE

"Doxology"

TALLIS' CANON

*Praise God, who gives all blessings birth;  
Praise God, all creatures of the earth,  
Praise God, who makes, sustains, sets free;  
One holy God, eternally. Amen.*

#### PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Laura Putnam

L: Let us pray . . .  
Blessed be the Lord, for God is good,  
and God's love endures forever.  
Our Creator, help us to mirror your goodness  
through this offering, in the world. **Amen.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

“Thank You for Hearing Our Prayer”  
*(see music in back of bulletin)*

Stephen F. Key

CHARGE

L: Let the name of Christ  
be the word you speak,  
the grace you show,  
and the love your share.

Rev. Ed Zumwinkel

BENEDICTION

L: May the spirit of the Lord rest upon you,  
the word of the Lord live within you,  
and the glory of the Lord shine around you,  
this day and always. **Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE:

“Just a Closer Walk with Thee”  
Oïkos Ensemble

CLOSER WALK

*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.*

## Worship Notes

### Those Who Serve Today

Ushers: Sudie Schickedanz, Sam Stoll, Kin Watkins, Betsy Wacker  
Liturgist: Laura Putnam  
Camera Operators: Tom McNeely, Spencer Roudebush, Dennis Wacker

### Chancel Flowers

The Chancel Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in memory of loved ones, the gift of Brad and Debbie Goss.

### Online Worship

In order to reach beyond the walls of WGPC and into the homes of those who are unable to worship with us in person, each of our worship services is live-streamed and video recorded for viewing on our website, [wgpc.org](http://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

Pastor: Rev. Edwin Zumwinkel III  
efz@wgpc.org  
Associate Pastor: Rev. Hannah Zyla  
hmd@wgpc.org  
Theologian: Rev. Dr. Susan Andrews  
sra@wgpc.org  
Pastoral Assistant: John Rawlings  
jdrtsn@gmail.com  
Director of Music Ministries: Shawn Portell  
spp@wgpc.org  
Mission Outreach: Beth Kazlauskas  
bok@wgpc.org  
Connections Coordinator: Tracey Rapisardo  
tar@wgpc.org  
Business Administrator: Jan Scheurer  
jls@wgpc.org  
Assistant Administrator: Joyce Kimmons  
jlk@wgpc.org  
Senior Staff Assistant: Barbara Fischer  
baf@wgpc.org  
Educational Ministries/Digital  
Communications: Cherstin Byers  
chb@wgpc.org  
Custodians: 314-962-9210 x3212  
Pete Brennan (Supervisor)  
Pierre Campbell  
Ken Kastner



# 465 What a Friend We Have in Jesus

1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!  
 2 Have we tri - als and temp-ta - tions? Is there trou-ble an - y-where?  
 3 Are we weak and heav - y lad - en, cum-b ered with a load of care?

What a priv - i - lege to car - ry ev - ery-thing to God in prayer!  
 We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged; take it to the Lord in prayer!  
 Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge; take it to the Lord in prayer!

O what peace we of - ten for - feit; O what need - less pain we bear,  
 Can we find a friend so faith - ful who will all our sor - rows share?  
 Do thy friends de - spise, for - sake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer!

all be - cause we do not car - ry ev - ery-thing to God in prayer!  
 Je - sus knows our ev - ery weak - ness; take it to the Lord in prayer!  
 In his arms he'll take and shield thee; thou wilt find a so - lace there.

This text was written by an Irish-born immigrant to Canada to comfort his mother in Ireland when she was going through a time of special sorrow. The role of prayer as a source of strength and consolation is underscored by its repeated use as a rhyme word in all three stanzas.

TEXT: Joseph Scriven, 1855; Korean trans. The United Methodist Korean Hymnal Committee, 2001  
 MUSIC: Charles C. Converse, 1868  
 Korean Trans. © 2001 The United Methodist Publishing House (admin. The Copyright Company)

CONVERSE  
 8.7.8.7.D

# Thank You for Hearing Our Prayer

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Thank You for Hearing Our Prayer'. It consists of five systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The music is written in a key with one flat (B-flat) and a 9/8 time signature. The lyrics are: 'Thank You for hear - ing our prayer; lis - t'ning to bur - dens and cares. Lord, You know just how much we can bear. Thank You. Thank You. Thank You. Oh, thank You. Thank You for hear - ing our prayer.'

Thank You for hear - ing our prayer;

lis - t'ning to bur - dens and cares. Lord, You

know just how much we can bear.

Thank You. Thank You. Thank You. Oh,

thank You. Thank You for hear - ing our prayer.

Text: Stephen F. Key  
Tune: Stephen F. Key  
© 2004, StepKey Music

## September 26, 2021 Announcements

### Welcome Oikos Jazz Ensemble



At today's service, we are pleased to have Oikos Ensemble, a consortium of gifted musicians celebrating stories of transformation and enlightenment from around the world. We welcome Kim Fuller Barnes (vocal), Rev. Cliff Aerie, (saxophone), Carolbeth

True (piano), Glen Smith (bass), and David True (drums).

Transcending musical boundaries, Oikos paints vibrant soundscapes with the brush stroke of jazz improvisation affirming the human family as one. During the past four years, the Rev. Clifford Aerie, director and the Oikos Ensemble have received rave reviews from congregations, national/regional gatherings, religious communities, colleges and seminaries around the country. Designing imaginative liturgies, sharing inspirational concerts, leading creative "playshops" and master classes, Cliff and the ensemble have been acknowledged as innovators on the vanguard of creative ministry and interfaith celebrations.

### Mission Weekend in One Week! October 2 and 3

Despite the continued impact of COVID, we will join together for our annual Mission Weekend. Physically-distanced projects include packing sack lunches and care packages at church, participating in the Deacons' Blood Drive, helping in the Isaiah 58 Ministries food pantry, gardening, and working in the Home Sweet Home warehouse. For more info and to sign up, see the Friday Flash.



**Deacons' Blood Drive**  
Saturday, October 2  
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.  
Fellowship Hall

Please see the Friday Flash for more information and to register.

### Peace & Global Witness Offering Sunday, October 3

WGPC will collect for the Peace & Global Witness Offering next Sunday to help empower congregations and individuals to address anxiety and discord globally. Look for special envelopes in the pews, mail a check to the church office, or donate via our website by selecting Special Offering > Peace & Global Witness. Thank you!



### Medical Equipment Donation Drive Saturday, October 9, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Webster Groves City Hall



Do you have medical equipment that is not being used? Make a tax-deductible donation of your equipment to St. Louis HELP (Health Equipment Lending Program) that lends the donated

home medical items to those in need at no cost. Drop-off point is Webster Groves City Hall on October 9, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Items accepted include: manual wheelchairs, walkers, shower chairs, canes/crutches/walkers, portable commodes, lift chairs, and Invacare-brand only electric hospital beds. For a larger list of items needed, please visit [stlhelp.org](http://stlhelp.org) for more information. Thank you!

### Cub Scout Car Wash

Sunday, October 3, 2:00-5:00 p.m.

Enjoy a sparkling clean car and help our Cub Scouts raise funds by pulling into the Hale parking lot next Sunday afternoon!



### Opportunities to Bee-Long at WGPC!

- Memorial Garden, contact Karen Schneider at [bsandks@yahoo.com](mailto:bsandks@yahoo.com)
- Dedicated Office Volunteers (DOVs), contact Pam Murphy at [pam@spmurphy.net](mailto:pam@spmurphy.net)
- Agape and Celtics, contact Cherstin Byers at [chb@wgpc.org](mailto:chb@wgpc.org).





# LIFELONG Faith Formation

For the full fall schedule, visit [WGPC.org](http://WGPC.org) > Ministries > Faith Formation > Adult Ministries > Adult Education.

### Adult Classes, 10:45-11:45 a.m. in Fellowship Hall and on Zoom

- TODAY: "Black Lives Matter to God" presented by Dr. Ruben Rosario-Rodriguez, Theology Professor at St. Louis University.
- "More Light," a program welcoming LGBTQ+ Christians, will be the topic of the next two classes.
- October 10: "What is the Biblical Invitation to be a Welcoming Church?" facilitated by Janice Seele, Co-Chair WGPC Advocacy Team.
- October 17: "What Does It Mean to Be a More Light Congregation?" facilitated by elder Carrie Rao and others.
- October 24: "How is the Pandemic Changing the Christian Church?" facilitated by Rev. Susan Andrews, Theologian in Residence.

Upcoming topics include: Coping with Pandemic Stress, Presbyterian Mission in Latin America, Gratitude in Tough Times, Advent Explorations, plus presentations from Environmental Stewardship and mission activities.

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

Children pre-k through 5<sup>th</sup> grade will participate in a weekly rotation of classes to Praise (music and worship leadership), Explore (art, science, yoga and more), Grow (gardening and cooking) and Serve (mission projects). Each of the four-week segments focuses on the same Biblical story or theme.

### 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 Pastor Hannah at [hmd@wgpc.org](mailto:hmd@wgpc.org).



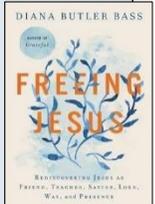
## ADDITIONAL FAITH FORMATION

### Disciple Bible Study, Thursdays

**10:00-11:30 a.m. in the Parlor and on Zoom**  
Beginning with 2nd Corinthians, take a leisurely walk through the New Testament - dialogue, doubt and curiosity are welcome! Contact Pastor Hannah at [hmd@wgpc.org](mailto:hmd@wgpc.org) to find out what book we're on each week. Questions? Contact Diane McCullough at [dmccpae@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dmccpae@sbcglobal.net).

### Wednesday Evening Book Study 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month 7:00 p.m. in members' homes

Our 2021-2022 book is *Freeing Jesus: Rediscovering Jesus as Friend, Teacher, Savior, Lord, Way and Presence* by Diana Butler Bass with group-led discussion (with support from Rev. Susan Andrews). Contact Betsy Wacker at [wacker.betsy@att.net](mailto:wacker.betsy@att.net).



### Love Little Kids?

A volunteer is needed to assist the nursery staff, Sundays from 9 a.m. to noon. No planning or prep needed. Please contact Carrie Rao at [gopackers4@me.com](mailto:gopackers4@me.com). The ECC also would like to hire a part-time teacher's aide for the Little Learners classroom (ages 1-3), Mondays and Wednesdays, 9:00 a.m. – noon. Contact Amanda Kingsbury at 917-312-7075 or [ecc@wgpc.org](mailto:ecc@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 worshippers 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