

10 Promises for a Whole Life:
You Can Love the Life You Have

Rev. Betsy Swetenburg

---

9 am | November 15, 2026

westpreschurch.org

WESTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN

WELCOME TO WESTMINSTER

Wherever you are on your journey of faith, you are welcome here.

At Westminster Presbyterian Church, we are a community learning to follow Jesus together. Our purpose is simple and bold: **Celebrating Grace. Following Jesus. Healing God's World.** We seek to live that out through: inspiring worship, deep belonging, and tangible compassion.

A FEW THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT US:

You will be warmly welcomed and genuinely known.

Westminster is large enough to offer depth and opportunity, yet small enough that relationships matter. We believe faith grows best in community, where people are seen, remembered, and cared for.

Worship here is joyful, thoughtful, and musically rich.

Rooted in the Reformed tradition, our worship engages both heart and mind. We cherish the beauty of tradition while allowing it to breathe through vibrant music, meaningful liturgy, and a spirit of creativity.

Our faith shows up beyond our walls.

We believe following Jesus leads us toward compassion. From caring for neighbors in crisis to working toward deeper healing in our community, Westminster seeks to embody God's love in tangible ways.

CHILDREN IN WORSHIP

The wiggles, whispers, and wonder children bring to worship only add to the joy. Children are always welcome in the Sanctuary. Worship bags are available in the narthex, and our nursery is open during the service for children ages three and under. However you and your children participate today, we're glad you're here.

JOIN US!

We believe the church is a gift everyone deserves to enjoy; a community of people committed to doing life together—enduring heartaches, celebrating joys, seeking out laughter, and pursuing a more just world as we follow the path of Jesus. We welcome new members on the third Sunday of every month. If you think Westminster may be the community for you, please reach out to Meredith Spaugh, Director of Community Connections.

HEARING ASSISTANCE

Our Sanctuary is equipped with a hearing loop system for those with hearing aids or cochlear implants equipped with a T-coil (telecoil). Simply switch your device to the "T" or telecoil setting to connect directly to the sound system.

If today is your first visit, or one of many, we hope you'll come back and learn to follow Jesus with us.

9 AM SERVICE

GATHERING MUSIC

This is the Day
Trust in God
Love Lifted Me

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

The world teaches us to want more.
But God teaches us to give thanks.
Contentment opens our eyes to grace.
Gratitude turns what we have into abundance.
These ancient words are more than rules.
They are promises for a whole life.
They show us the freedom God desires for the world.
With open hearts, we come to learn God's way.

*SONG OF PRAISE

Every Praise

*CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

With hearts of sorrow,
we come before you, O God,
to confess what you already know:
we have failed to keep your laws.
Again and again, we have followed our own selfish will,
rather than your holy and life-giving will for our lives.
We have twisted your decrees and institutions
to suit our preconceptions and interests rather than your own.

(Silence for personal confession)

Forgive us, O God,
and cleanse us from hidden faults,
that the words of our mouths, and the meditations of all our hearts,
may be acceptable to you, our Rock and our Redeemer.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

*You are invited to rise in body or spirit.
Bolded font denotes unison speaking & singing.

9 AM SERVICE

*RESPONSE — *Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!*

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.
Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty!
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

SHARING GOD'S STORY WITH OUR CHILDREN

SCRIPTURE — Luke 12:13-21

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON — You Can Love the Life You Have | Rev. Betsy Swetenburg

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH — *adapted from The Heidelberg Catechism*

What do we believe about contentment?
We believe God's grace is sufficient and God's gifts are enough.
What does this commandment teach us?
To rejoice in the good given to others
and to receive our own lives with gratitude.
What freedom does this commandment offer?
Freedom from envy,
from restless comparison,
and from the hunger for more.
Trusting in the generous heart of God,
we learn the joy of grateful living.

*SONG OF RESPONSE — *Be Thou My Vision*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

*You are invited to rise in body or spirit.
Bolded font denotes unison speaking & singing.

9 AM SERVICE

SHARING OF GIFTS & OFFERTORY

Let It Be Love

See, the thing about envy and me
Comes out of nowhere, hits so
hard I can hardly breathe
In the middle of the night
when I need sleep
You see, that's the thing about envy

Yeah, the thing about angry and me
I'm strong, then I'm down on my knees
I scream when the silence should speak
You see, that's the thing about angry

The love lifts you up
I know it's hard sometimes to
see it, but it does
Oh, it's a power that will rise up
A well that never dries up
The one and only feeling you can trust
So let it be first
Let it be us
Let it be love

You see, the thing about humility and me
I put myself a little higher than I should be
Forget I'm just one drop in a big ol' sea
A little more you, a little less me

When you're tired of the mistakes
that you keep making
When you feel your heart is done
with all its breaking
And all the second chances you keep taking
Let it be love
It's always enough

'Cause love lifts you up
I know it's hard sometimes to see it, but it does
Oh, it's a power that will rise up
A well that never dries up
The one and only feeling you can trust
So let it be first
Let it be us
Oh, let it be love
'Cause it's always enough
Let it be love

*DOXOLOGY

Thomas Ken

Praise for the Father, Praise for the Son and Holy Ghost
Praise God from Whom all blessings flow
Praise God all creatures here below
Praise God above ye heavenly host
Praise for the Father, Praise for the Father, Praise for the Son and Holy Ghost

*CHARGE & BENEDICTION

Go out into God's world in peace; have courage;
Hold on to what is good; return no one evil for evil;
Strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak;
Help the suffering; honor all persons;
Love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Let Us Be Known By Our Love

*You are invited to rise in body or spirit.
Bolded font denotes unison speaking & singing.

WORSHIP LEADERS

PREACHING

Rev. Betsy Swetenburg

LITURGISTS

Rev. Sam Perkins
Liz Pearson
Lucy Jefferies

MUSIC

Chrishawn Darby, Drums
Ramon Garcia, Bass
Kris Schoolfield, Vocals
Jennifer Shoffner, Vocals
Tom Swanton, Guitar
Clint Whitlow, Director of Music

LIVING WITH OPEN HANDS

Commitment Sunday may be behind us, but there is still time to make your pledge for 2027!

We have set bold goals for the year ahead! Our hope is to grow pledged giving from $1.7 million to $1.9 million, allowing us to continue investing in the people and ministries that help Westminster live into the future God is calling us toward. We also aim to increase household participation from 55% to 65%, inviting more of our congregation to share in the joy and commitment of supporting our ministry together.

If you have not yet made your pledge, we encourage you to prayerfully consider your commitment for 2027. You can pledge online at westpreschurch.org/give.

HOW CAN WE PRAY FOR YOU?

Prayer is one of the ways we care for one another and carry life together. If there is something on your heart—whether a joy, concern, loss, transition, or need—we invite you to share it with us. Prayer Request Cards are available in the pews and may be submitted during worship. You may also submit a prayer request through our website.

STAY CONNECTED THROUGH REALM

Realm is Westminster's online community and one of the easiest ways to stay connected throughout the week. Use Realm to register for events, connect with groups, update your contact information, communicate with others, and keep up with what's happening in the life of Westminster.

JAMS FALL MUSICAL: A NOT SO TERRIBLE PARABLE

Sunday, November 22 | 9 & 11 a.m. Worship Services

Our JAMS (Junior Arts and Music on Sundays) children present A Not So Terrible Parable, a fun, mystery-filled retelling of Jesus' Parable of the Good Samaritan.

Filled with humor, suspense, and memorable characters, this musical brings a familiar Bible story to life in a fresh and entertaining way. Come support our young performers as they share this special musical during both worship services!

COUNTDOWN TO CHRISTMAS | SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22

4–6 p.m. | Fellowship Hall | Register on Realm

Kick off Advent with an evening of fellowship and holiday traditions! Enjoy cookies and cocoa, the Hanging of the Greens, and an Advent wreath craft as we prepare for the Christmas season.

Explore *Gifts for Good*, our alternative giving opportunity supporting mission partners near and far. Shop handcrafted jewelry from Amani Beads, benefiting New Life Homes in Kenya, and learn how you can support Peacehaven Community Farm and Backpack Beginnings' FlexWorks program, which provides flexible earning opportunities for those unable to work traditional jobs.

Please note: Opportunities to support Peacehaven and FlexWorks are available only on November 22. Many other *Gifts for Good* offerings will continue throughout Advent.

ADVENT INTERGENERATIONAL FAITH FORMATION

Sundays, 10am | Fellowship Hall | November 29-December 20th

This Advent, all ages are invited to come together for a shared time of learning, connection, and faith formation. Regular faith formation classes will pause during these four weeks, with the exception of Bible Discovery (3rd–5th grade) on December 13 and Confirmation (9th grade) on December 20. Nursery care will remain available.

MEN'S RETREAT 2027: THE GOOD LIFE

May 21–23 | Olde Mill Golf Resort, Virginia

Registration is open for Westminster's 2027 Men's Retreat! Enjoy a weekend of fellowship, reflection, and connection as we explore what it means to live "The Good Life." All men are invited to take part in this opportunity to step away from daily routines, deepen relationships, and grow in faith. Register by December 6!

WESTMINSTER STAFF

Rev. Betsy Swetenburg | Pastor & Head of Staff
betsy.swetenburg@westpreschurch.org

Rev. Sam Perkins | Associate Pastor for Formation
sam.perkins@westpreschurch.org

Rev. Cindy Higgins | Parish Associate for Pastoral Care
cindy.higgins@westpreschurch.org

Allie Wrage | Interim Pastoral Associate for Belonging
allie.wrage@westpreschurch.org

Clint Whitlow | Director of Music
clint.whitlow@westpreschurch.org

Laura Alexander | Associate Director of Music
laura.alexander@westpreschurch.org

Emily Black | Administrative Assistant
emily.black@westpreschurch.org

Lynn Hemm | Finance Manager
lynn.hemm@westpreschurch.org

Lucy Jefferies | Director of Children & Youth Ministries
lucy.jefferies@westpreschurch.org

Catherine Morsell | Director of Administration
catherine.morsell@westpreschurch.org

Scott Neely | Director of Mission Engagement
scott.neely@westpreschurch.org

Brad Pollard | Facilities Manager
brad.pollard@westpreschurch.org

Jonathan Robichaud | Director of Communications
jonathan.robichaud@westpreschurch.org

Meredith Spaugh | Director of Community Connections
meredith.spaugh@westpreschurch.org

Barry Webb | AV Supervisor
barry.webb@westpreschurch.org