

4. In your blest kingdom we shall be from ev'ry mortal trouble free; no sighs shall mingle with the songs resounding from immortal tongues.
5. No rude alarms of raging foes; no cares to break the long repose; no midnight shade, no waning moon, but sacred, high, eternal noon.
6. O long expected day, begin, dawn on these realms of woe and sin! Break, morn of God, upon our eyes; and let the world's true Sun arise!

CONFESSION OF SIN * (Adapted from a prayer from *Prone to Wander* by Barbara Duguid and Wayne Houk)

Heavenly Father, many of us come before you today with troubled hearts and minds. We are fearful about our relationships, our health, our finances, our families, our futures, and many other things. And focused on our fears, we have a hard time believing in you in a way that brings comfort to our hearts.

Holy Spirit, as we continue to face the broken world in which we live, give us the joy and peace that should flow from knowing that Jesus suffered in our place and will one day take us to be with him forever. Help us to live in light of our full forgiveness and to die with great confidence in your grace to us in Jesus Christ. In his name we pray, Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE: * Psalm 30:1–5

Pastor: This is the grace of God for our salvation.

People: Thanks be to God!

CONFESSION OF FAITH: * *Heidelberg Catechism*, Questions 26, 27 & 28

26. Q. What do you believe when you say: I believe in God the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth?

A. That the eternal Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who out of nothing created heaven and earth and all that is in them, and who still upholds and governs them by his eternal counsel and providence, is, for the sake of Christ his Son, my God and my Father. In him I trust so completely as to have no doubt that he will provide me with all things necessary for body and soul, and will also

turn to my good whatever adversity he sends upon me in this life of sorrow. He is able to do so as almighty God, and willing also as a faithful Father.

27. Q. What do you understand by the providence of God?

A. Providence is the almighty and ever present power of God by which he upholds, as with his hand, heaven and earth and all creatures and so rules them that leaf and blade, rain and drought, fruitful and lean years, food and drink, health and sickness, prosperity and poverty—all things, in fact, come to us not by chance but from his fatherly hand.

28. Q. How does the knowledge of God's creation and providence help us?

A. We can be patient when things go against us, thankful when things go well, and for the future we can have good confidence in our faithful God and Father that nothing will separate us from his love. All creatures are so completely in his hand that, without his will, they can neither move nor be moved.

SONG OF PRAISE * *How Great Thou Art*, Hymn 44, Stanza 1

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder consider all the worlds thy hands have made, I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder, thy pow'r thro'out the universe displayed.

Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee: how great thou art, how great thou art! Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee: how great thou art, how great thou art!

INTERCESSION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Your 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 yours is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

OFFERTORY

Gather at the River

S. LaBarr

When peace, like a river, attendeth my way, when sorrows like sea billows roll; whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say, it is well, it is well with my soul. Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come, let this blest assurance control, that Christ has regarded my helpless estate, and has shed his own blood for my soul. Yes, we'll gather at the river, the beautiful river; gather with the saints at the river that flows by the throne of God. And Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight, the clouds be rolled back as a scroll; the trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend, even so, it is well with my soul.

Women's Octet

Afflicted Saint, to Christ Draw Near

- 1. Afflicted saint, to Christ draw near, your Savior's gracious promise hear, his faithful Word, you can believe, that as your days your strength shall be.**
- 2. Your faith is weak, your foes are strong, and if the conflict should be long, the Lord will make the tempter flee, that as your days, your strength shall be. *So sing with joy, afflicted one; the battle's fierce, but the victory's won; God shall supply all that you need. Yes, as your days your strength shall be***
- 3. Should persecution rage and flame, still trust in your Redeemer's name; in fiery trials you shall see that as your days your strength shall be. *So sing with joy, afflicted one; the battle's fierce, but the victory's won; God shall supply all that you need. Yes, as your days your strength shall be***
- 4. When called to bear your weighty cross, or sore affliction, pain, or loss, or deep distress or poverty, still as your days your strength shall be. *So sing with joy, afflicted one; the battle's fierce, but the victory's won; God shall supply all that you need. Yes, as your days your strength shall be***

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Psalm 4 (Pew Bible Pages 448–449)

SERMON

More Joy

Dr. Chris Walker

#1 in a Series on Psalms—*Psalms From My Summer*

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart #604

- 1. Rejoice, ye pure in heart, rejoice, give thanks and sing; your festal banner wave on high, the cross of Christ your King. Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks and sing.**
- 2. Bright youth and snow-crowned age, strong men and maidens meek, raise high your free, exulting song, God's wondrous praises speak. Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks and sing.**
- 3. With all the angel choirs, with all the saints on earth, pour out the strains of joy and bliss, true rapture, noblest mirth! Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks and sing.**
- 4. Yes, on through life's long path, still chanting as ye go, from youth to age, by night and day, in gladness and in woe. Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks and sing.**
- 5. At last the march shall end, the wearied ones shall rest; the pilgrims find their Father's house, Jerusalem the blest. Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks and sing.**
- 6. Then on, ye pure in heart, rejoice, give thanks and sing; your glorious banner wave on high, the cross of Christ your King. Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks and sing.**

BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE *

POSTLUDE

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart

arr. A. L. Travis

*Worshippers, please stand if physically able.

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Afflicted Saint, to Christ Draw Near

1. Af - flict - ed saint to Christ draw near, your Sa - vior's gra - cious pro - mise hear,
2. Your faith is weak, your foes are strong, and if the con - flict should be long,
3. Should per - se - cu - tion rage and flame, still trust in your Re - deem - er's name;
4. When called to bear your weigh - ty cross, or sore af - flic - tion, pain, or loss,

his faith - ful Word, you can be - lieve, that as your days your strength shall be. *(to stanza 2)*
the Lord will make the temp - ter flee, that as your days your strength shall be.
in fier - y tri - als you shall see, that as your days your strength shall be.
or deep dis - tress or po - ver - ty, still as your days your strength shall be.

REFRAIN

So, sing with joy, af - flict - ed one; the bat - tle's fierce, but the vic - tory's won;

God shall sup - ply all that you need. Yes, as your days your strength shall be.

TEXT: John Fawcett; refrain added by Connie Dever

MUSIC: Connie Dever

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At the Morning Worship Service:

Organist: Frank Dodd

Women's Octet: Judith Mattson Read, Johanna Rogers, Rebecca Forbes, Cynthia Taylor, Paula Smith, Laura Henry, Karen Perago, Stephanie Magaro, *director*; Beth Peazzoni, *piano*

Overleaf Pianist: Beth Peazzoni

Visitors

Welcome visitors: Please complete the Connect Card in the pew and drop it in the offering plate. You will receive an informational, one-time mailing.

Connections class is held the first and second Sunday of each month. This monthly, two-week informal session is offered for visitors and those who desire an informative introduction to the life and ministry of Westminster Church—without obligation. *Connections* is **located in the lower level, room LL5** (on the right side and past the library), 9:30–10:30 AM.

Everyone

Help us minister to you; complete a Connect Card each week you worship with us.

Hearing devices to use in the Sanctuary are available from the ushers.

Sanctuary flowers are contributed by Betty Marshall in loving memory of her husband, Larry Marshall, parents Lyndal and Helen Ruth Anders, and father-in-law George Marshall; by Bob and Sue Hagan and family in loving memory of their son and brother, Timothy David; and in celebration of the 50th wedding anniversary of Ron and Carol Runk.

Evening Service: 6 PM

Dr. Barry Cureton preaches on *Genesis 35, Final Good-Byes, New Beginnings*, #19 in a Series on *Genesis—God's Promises to Israel's Patriarchs: The Lives of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob*. There will also be a Hymn Sing from *Hymn of the Month, Volume 3*.

Communion will be observed at both morning worship services next Sunday, September 1.

SEARCH FOR ASSISTANT PASTOR OF MISSIONS AND OUTREACH

Westminster has begun a search for a full-time Assistant Pastor of Missions and Outreach to equip, encourage, and lead the congregation in cross-cultural missions, evangelism, and outreach. Find the job description, church profile, and application at westpca.com/job-opportunities. Send completed application to Bob Hivner, Search Committee Chairman, c/o Westminster Presbyterian Church, 2151 Oregon Pike, Lancaster, PA 17601 or email to bob.hivner@westpca.church.

Ministry Highlights

- **Join Dr. Walker for a time of corporate prayer TODAY** during the Sunday school hour, 9:30 AM, in the Sanctuary. Adult Sunday school classes will not be held.
- **The fall Sunday school elective sheet** is available at the Information Counter, on the website at westpca.com/adults, and on the WPC App under events. Register by TODAY.
- **New Members Class begins Sunday, September 8, 9:30 AM.** For ten weeks we consider the basics of the Christian faith and Reformed doctrine, what it means to be a member of a church, and how to get involved here at Westminster. The classes are required for church membership, but you are not obligated to join by taking them. Please sign up by filling out the Sunday school elective sheet and return it to the tray on the Information Counter; or you may register at westpca.com/adults or on the WPC App under events.
- **The Music Ministry will host an information table** in the Gathering Space between worship services TODAY and next Sunday, Sept 1. We will be distributing *Hymn of the Month: Volume 4* booklets and *Westminster Music Series 2024–25* posters and bookmarks. Choir and instrumental sign-ups for all ages are available at westpca.com/music and on the WPC App.
- **VBS Missions Project: We partnered with Samaritan's Purse** with a goal to raise \$4,000 to provide 500 soccer balls for children who, with their families, had to leave war-torn homelands to find safety, and now they live in camps. Samaritan's Purse is creating playgrounds and child-friendly spaces for these children. The final offering total was \$6,126.84! Thank you for your generosity in helping to surpass the goal.
- **We are pleased to announce that Lori Sensenig** will serve as our new Communications Administrative Assistant. Read Lori's bio in the Announcement Sheet.

North Parking Lot Driveway Closed:

The driveway leading to the upper parking lot is closed, effective immediately, due to the retaining wall needing to be replaced in the north parking lot. This work also closes the row of parking spaces in the main lot in front of the wall for safety purposes. The upper parking lot can still be accessed through the small adjacent parking lot. We anticipate this section of driveway and parking area to be closed for 1–2 weeks. Thank you for your patience.



Worship: 8 AM & 11 AM, 6 PM Sunday School: 9:30 AM

2151 Oregon Pike, Lancaster, PA 17601

Church Office Summer Hours:

Monday–Thursday, 8 AM–4 PM; Friday, 8 AM–noon

717.569.2151 / www.westpca.com