

Congregational Church of Westminster West
A United Church of Christ
Service for November 16, 2025 The 23rd Sunday after Pentecost

Announcements & Welcome

Prelude: "People of God..." - P.B.Clark / D.N.Johnson

CALL TO WORSHIP

All:

Here we are God gathered together again to worship you. Jesus' life, death and resurrection is not less real today than it was last week, last year, or a 1000 years ago. You walked among your first followers showing them the way. We ask to walk with you too. Guide us, soften our hearts, help us to be a living congregation sharing our faith in the way that you would have us to do that. (Adapted from Perinton Presbyterian Church, Mark Stevens)

-Opening hymn: "Gather Us In" (bulletin insert)

LITANY OF CONFESSION:

Leader: Holy God, Maker of us all

All: **Have mercy on us.**

L: Jesus Christ, Servant of the poor,

A: **Have mercy on us.**

L: Holy Spirit, Breath of Life,

A: **Have mercy on us.**

L: Let us in silence confess our faults and admit frailty

...silence...

L: Before God, and with the people of God, I confess to my brokenness: to the ways I wound my life, the lives of others, and the life of the world.

A: May God forgive you, Christ renew you, and the Spirit enable you to grow in love.

L: Amen

A: Before God, with the people of God we confess to our brokenness: to the ways we wound our lives, the lives of others, and the life of the world.

L: May God forgive you, Christ renew you, and the Spirit enable you to grow in love.

A: Amen.

Assurance of Pardon:

Leader: Brothers and Sisters, I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. Hear the good news: we are forgiven!

All: Thanks be to God!

*Gloria No. 756 (See inside back of hymnal)

Prayers of the People

L: May the Lord be with you

P: And also with you

L: Let us pray.

Joys and Concerns

Silence

Pastoral prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father/Mother/Creator, who art in heaven

Scripture:

Isaiah 9:1-7 People who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

John 8:12 I am the light of the world

-Sermon hymn: NC #160 "Jesus, the Light of the World..."

Message:

Title: Jesus, The Light of the World

-Offertory: Auf meinen lieber Gott - Dietrich Buxtehude

Doxology

Prayer of Dedication

-Closing hymn: NC #164 "Arise! Your Light Is Come..."

Commissioning and Benediction

Postlude: "Tell Me Where Is the Road..." Southern Harmony / Michael Browne

Church and Community Notes: As we seek a settled pastor through our search and call process, we will not be able to offer office hours as usual, but the deacons (Karen Blanchard, Charlotte Gifford, Ray Hussey, Adrienne Major, and Sue Venman) are available to support the congregation. You can leave a message on the church number (802-387-1175) or you can contact a deacon directly. In case of a pastoral emergency, a deacon will call on the Rev. Shawn Bracebridge. (pastor of the Dummerston UCC) and help a person in need get in contact with him. Upcoming Events: Nov. 23: Karen Blanchard Nov. 30: Advent 1, Lise Sparrow Dec. 7: Advent 2, Holy Communion, David Mulholland Dec. 14: Advent 3, Ray Huessy Dec. 21: Community Candlelight Service, 5 pm, Adrienne Major and storytellers. Dec. 24: Christmas Eve, 11 pm, Lise Sparrow Dec. 28: Sue Venman