

WHITE MEMORIAL

— PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH —

September 20, 2020
Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost
Live Streaming at 8 a.m. and 11 a.m.

Christopher H. Edmonston, Pastor
Cate Church Norman, Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care
Anne Galliher, Pastoral Resident
Kirsten Homdrom, Associate Director of Music
Eric Nanz, Associate Director of Music and Worship Arts
Karl Zinsmeister, Director of Music
Jeanine Wagner, soprano
Margaret Simmons, piano
Jeff Siker, piano

ORDER OF SERVICE

GREETING

PRELUDE
Appalachian Nightfall
Eric Nanz

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

HYMN 375
Shall We Gather At the River

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Most merciful God we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed.**

**Today we are especially mindful of how much energy
we devote to complaining and grumbling about our problems
and our obstacles instead of offering our frustrations to you
through prayer and devotion.**

We confess the error of this approach.

**We confess to you the misguided dedication of
our energies to the wrong ends.**

**Help us to see and follow the way of grace and to trust
the way of grace your Son has shown to us.**

Help us to trust Jesus before we trust anything else.

Renew our faith and our lives through the power of your Holy Spirit.

Forgive us in the name of our Savior. Amen.

(CONTINUED)

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Exodus 16:2-15

²The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness.

³The Israelites said to them, “If only we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.”

⁴Then the Lord said to Moses, “I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not.

⁵On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days.”

⁶So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, “In the evening you shall know that it was the Lord who brought you out of the land of Egypt,

⁷and in the morning you shall see the glory of the Lord, because he has heard your complaining against the Lord. For what are we, that you complain against us?”

⁸And Moses said, “When the Lord gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the Lord has heard the complaining that you utter against him—what are we? Your complaining is not against us but” against the Lord.

⁹Then Moses said to Aaron, “Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, ‘Draw near to the Lord, for he has heard your complaining.’”

¹⁰And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud.

¹¹The Lord spoke to Moses and said,

¹²“I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the Lord your God.’”

¹³In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp.

¹⁴When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground.

¹⁵When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, “It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Matthew 20:1-16

20“For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard.

²After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard.

³When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace;

⁴and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went.

⁵When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same.

⁶And about five o’clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’

⁷They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’

⁸When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’

⁹When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage.

¹⁰Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage.

¹¹And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner,

¹²saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’

¹³But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage?’

¹⁴Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you.

¹⁵Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’

¹⁶So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

A TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

SERMON

Grumbling

MUSICAL OFFERING

God is a God

arr. Wendell P. Whalum (1931-1987)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.**

RESPONDING IN FAITH

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**We do not fully comprehend who God is or how God works.
God's reality far exceeds all our words can say.
The Lord's requirements are not always what we think is best.
The Lord's care for us is not always what we want.
God comes to us on God's divine terms
and is able to do far more than we ask or think.
Jesus' involvement in the human condition is God's involvement.
His compassion for all kinds of people is God's compassion.
His demand for justice, truth, and faithfulness is God's demand.
His willingness to suffer rejection is God's willingness.
Jesus' love for the very people who reject him is God's love.**

(CONTINUED)

HYMN 718

Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

POSTLUDE

Allegro from Sonata in D Major, Op. 65 No. 5
Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

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JOYS & CONCERNS

NEW PRESBYTERIANS

Philip Grambow Pipher and John Roy Pipher, born August 26,
children of Liz and Britt Pipher, grandchildren of Susan and John Sinden.

375 Shall We Gather at the River

1 Shall we gath-er at the riv-er, where bright an-gel feet have trod,
 2 On the mar-gin of the riv-er, wash-ing up its sil-ver spray,
 3 Ere we reach the shin-ing riv-er, lay we ev-ery bur-den down;
 4 Soon we'll reach the shin-ing riv-er; soon our pil-grim-age will cease;

with its crys-tal tide for-ev-er flow-ing by the throne of God?
 we ' will walk and wor-ship ev-er, all the hap-py gold-en day.
 grace our spir-its will de-liv-er, and pro-vide a robe and crown.
 soon our hap-py hearts will quiv-er with the mel-o-dy of peace.

Refrain

Yes, we'll gath-er at the riv-er, the beau-ti-ful, the beau-ti-ful riv-er;

gath-er with the saints at the riv-er that flows by the throne of God.

A Baptist pastor wrote this hymn while seated at his parlor organ. Created as an alternative to gloomy "river of death" hymns, it is a celebration of the "pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb" (Revelation 22:1 KJV).

Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said 718

1 Take up your cross, the Sav - ior said, if
 2 Take up your cross; let not its weight fill
 3 Take up your cross; heed not the shame, and
 4 Take up your cross, then, in Christ's strength, and

you would my dis - ci - ple be; take up your cross with
 your weak spir - it with a - larm; Christ's strength shall bear your
 let your fool - ish pride be still; the Lord for you ac -
 calm - ly ev - ery dan - ger brave: it guides you to a -

will - ing heart, and hum - bly fol - low af - ter me.
 spir - it up and brace your heart and nerve your arm.
 cept - ed death up - on a cross, on Cal - vary's hill.
 bun - dant life and leads to vic - tory o'er the grave.

Written by a nineteen-year-old in Connecticut, this challenging text has been widely printed on both sides of the Atlantic. It is strengthened by its resolute repetition of the same four words at the beginning of each stanza and by the appropriately stark shape note tune.

What's happening this week at WMPC

SUNDAY | SEPTEMBER 20

Sounds on Oberlin Concert Series
- An Oboist's Journey

**3:00 p.m. | Virtual from Edinburgh Building
Main Hall Concert will be available on Facebook Live
and Live Stream**

Sounds on Oberlin concert series is pleased to bring you *An Oboist's Journey* with Joseph Robinson, oboe and Mary Kay Robinson, violin.

Pastoral Resident Anne Galliher's Ordination

4:00 p.m. | Live Stream from Sanctuary

We hope you'll join us via Live Stream as we ordain Anne Galliher as our Pastoral Resident on Sunday.

Cancer Companions

4:30 p.m. -6:00 p.m. | Zoom | [Registration required](#)

Contact Jean Williams, Parish Nurse at jwilliams@whitememorial.org or Jim Ferry, Parish Associate at jferry@whitememorial.org.

MONDAY | SEPTEMBER 21

9@9 a.m.

Daily | Facebook Live

Begin the morning each weekday with a live Bible study with Grier Booker Richards, Associate Pastor for Discipleship and Chip Pope, Associate Pastor for Youth and their Families.

Churchwide Bible Study: The Parables of Jesus

7:00-8:00 p.m. | Zoom | [Registration required](#)

The well-known parables of Jesus are deep wells of Christian instruction and reflection, but ones that are often reduced to a single, simplistic meaning. Join us for a 10-week study of parables led by WMPC pastors as we explore the depth of Jesus' teaching and ask what these stories might have to say to us today.

TUESDAY | SEPTEMBER 22

Men's Breakfast & Bible Study

7:30 a.m. | Zoom | [Registration required](#)

Aging Well

1:00 p.m. | Zoom | [Registration required](#)

To register contact: Jennifer Eastman at jeastman@whitememorial.org or Liisa Ogburn, liisaogburn@gmail.com.

WEDNESDAY | SEPTEMBER 23

**Roundtable Discussion for Parents of Middle School,
High School, and College Students**

7:00-8:30 p.m. | Zoom | [Registration required](#)

After a great response to the WMPC Mental Health and Wellness Webinars about parenting, we're offering a follow-up opportunity to parenting in the age of COVID.

Flu Shots And Boxed Dinner Pickup

**3:00 - 6:00 p.m. | Chapel for Flu Shots
McDonald Lane for Boxed Dinner Pickup**

Hayes Barton Pharmacy will be offering flu shots on September 23 and again on October 7 in the Chapel from 3-6 pm. You may also pick up a "to-go meal" for dinner from 4-6 pm after your flu shot. Pick-ups for meals without flu shots is 5:30 & 6:00 pm. All meals must be paid online. Payment will NOT be accepted at the door.

Centering Prayer

5:30 p.m. | Zoom | [Registration required](#)

In all of the craziness and weariness of the pandemic, join us for 30 minutes each week to center and pray. It's a little different on zoom, but we're excited to gather. Centering Prayer is simply sitting in silence, open to God's word and love. Prepare yourself by sitting in a quiet space, if you wish light a candle and allow your mind and breath to slow down. Please mute your computer as we begin the opening reading. We will meet every Wednesday at 5:30 through November 11. If you have questions, contact Melinda Fox at Melindafox22@gmail.com.

THURSDAY | SEPTEMBER 24

Support for Healthcare Workers

12:00-12:45 p.m. | Zoom | [Registration required](#)

All healthcare workers are invited to join Pastoral Resident Anne Galliher for a weekly opportunity to reflect and recharge in an environment of care and support. Connect with others experiencing similar challenges in healthcare settings and engage in self-care. Join us every week or drop in as you are able. All are welcome.

Lectio Live

1:00 p.m. | Facebook Live

Cate Church Norman, Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care or Anne Galliher, Pastoral Resident practice a contemplative way to read the Bible called Lectio Divina. It's an ancient yet simple practice that means "holy reading." In Lectio Divina, we slow down and listen for God's word. We take time to listen for words or phrases that stand out for us, and we listen for a call that God may be placing on us.

Keenagers

3:00 p.m. | Zoom

If you are 55 years old +, we invite you to join Keenagers via Zoom. On Thursday we will gather virtually at 3:00 p.m. to listen to *The journey of a young Harpist* by Bella Clinton. Please contact Tonya Higgins at thiggins@whitememorial.org to receive your Zoom link.