



WESTMINSTER

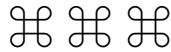
— Presbyterian Church —

Albany, New York
September 6, 2020

FOCUS CHURCHES OF ALBANY COMBINED WORSHIP
Hosted by WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH ONLINE

September 6, 2020

Service of Worship 10:00 a.m.



WE ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

(Let the notes of our Opening Voluntary be the musical curtain through which we pass as we gather to worship together. Let the preparation we make together be prayerful.)

Opening Voluntary

Adagio (Clarinet Concerto, K. 622)
Rebekah Timerman, clarinetist

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
(1756-1791)



Call to Worship

Leah Threatte

One: This is the day that the Lord has made!

All: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

One: Let us worship God.



Opening Hymn 23

God, You Spin the Whirling Planets (stanzas 1 & 2)
(words and music at end of bulletin)

PLEADING SAVIOR



Prayer of Confession

One: Let us now confess our sins, trusting in God's boundless mercy and grace.

All: Merciful God,

We confess that we have sinned against you

In thought, word, and deed,

By what we have done,

And by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you

With our whole heart and mind and strength.

We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

In your mercy, forgive what we have been,

Help us to amend what we are,

And direct what we shall be,

That we may delight in your will

And walk in your ways,

To the glory of your holy name.

(Time of silence)

Assurance of Forgiveness

One: Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation.

The old life has gone; a new life has begun.

Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

All: Amen.

Passing The Peace

Words of Welcome

Rev. Heather Kirk-Davidoff

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Children's Message

Fred Boehrer, Executive Director of FOCUS



Prayer for Illumination

One: God of All Power,

Open our ears, our eyes, and our hearts with a spirit of wisdom and revelation.

Help us to hear your voice, to see your ways, and to receive with joy your truth.

In Jesus' name, Amen.



Scripture Lesson

Matthew 18:15-20

Sermon

"Called to Community"

Rev. Heather Kirk-Davidoff

Video Meditation

"Veni Creator" by Czeslaw Milosz

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer



Hymn 306

Blest Be the Tie That Binds (stanzas 1, 3, 5)
(words and music at end of bulletin)

DENNIS



Offering

Leah Threatte

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Invitation to Communion



Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We offer you praise, dear God, and hearts lifted high,
for in the communion of your love

Christ comes close to us and we come close to Christ.

Therefore with the whole realm of nature around us,
with earth, sea, and sky, we sing to you.

With brothers and sisters, east and west, we sing to you.
And with our loved ones, separate from us now,
who yet in this mystery are close to us,
we join in the song of your unending greatness:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!
Hosanna in the highest!**



Consecration and Sharing

Communion Meditation

Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Jessica Chamberlain, handbell soloist



Prayer after Communion (from the Emmaus House Liturgy)

**All: God of peace,
you satisfy our hunger with the one bread
that gives us strength and brings unity
to the entire human family.
Help us to peacefully overcome war, violence and hatred
and establish your covenant of love, justice and peace.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

WE ARE SENT IN GOD'S NAME



Hymn 315

In the Midst of New Dimensions (stanzas 1,2,3)
(words and music at end of bulletin)

NEW DIMENSION

Blessing for Fred Boehrer

Rev. Kathy Donley: God, we give you thanks for Fred, for everyone and everything that has shaped and formed him into the person he is now. We give you thanks for his teachers and his mentors, his family and his community, especially the community of Emmaus House. We are grateful, God, that his journey has led him to the FOCUS churches of Albany, and that he has accepted the call to serve our community with us and on our behalf. We pray that you would bless Fred with all that he needs for this next part of his journey.

Westminster Presbyterian Members and Friends: Bless Fred with a passion for justice and a deep sense of what is right and what is wrong.

First Church in Albany Members and Friends: Bless Fred with a compassionate heart and the ability to be moved by the struggles of others.

Emmanuel Baptist Members and Friends: Bless Fred with the commitment to keep pushing, even when the road is long and steep.

Trinity United Methodist Members and Friends: Bless Fred with the joy of friendship and the opportunity to celebrate victories, big and small.

Delmar Reformed Church Members and Friends: Bless Fred with the ability to laugh, to be surprised, and to learn something new each day.

First Presbyterian Church Members and Friends: Bless Fred with insight and the ability to communicate with clarity and conviction, in speech, in writing and in action.

All: And bless us all, as we again affirm your call to love and serve your city, as a community of churches and as partners with congregations, organizations and people of good will throughout this region. In Jesus name, Amen.

Charge and Benediction

Heather Kirk-Davidoff

Closing Voluntary

Menuet (from Suite Gothique)

Léon Boëllmann (1862-1897)



Westminster is grateful to all of the donors who are making it possible for the Church to respond to needs identified by our partners during the COVID19 pandemic.

Together we can continue to transform the lives of children and families in West Africa. African Missions cannot do the important work we have done without the continuing support of those who understand the many needs and who donate to fund them. To aid Westminster, please make donations payable to: Westminster Church, 85 Chestnut St, Albany, NY 12210 and note in the Memo Line "African Mission". You may also give online at www.wpcalbany.org/give

FOCUS Interfaith Food Pantry: For September, Westminster is asked to donate shampoo. Until further notice, please email office@wpcalbany.org to arrange to drop off your donation.

Stay in Touch with Westminster

- Visit our website: www.wpcalbany.org
- Like us on Facebook: Westminster Presbyterian Church Albany
- Follow us on Twitter: WPCAlbanyNY
- Get weekly news email messages by providing a current email address to the church office at office@wpcalbany.org or calling (518) 436-8544.

For more about Westminster's online communications, please contact us:
communications@wpcalbany.org

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Sunday, September 6, 2020

10:00 am FOCUS Joint Worship hosted by Westminster, *Zoom only*
11:00 am Second Hour, *Zoom Video Call only*

Tuesday, September 8, 2020

7:00 am FOCUS Breakfast -TO GO ONLY, *Assembly Room*
7:00 pm Session Meeting, *Zoom Video Call Only*

Wednesday, September 9, 2020

7:00 am FOCUS Breakfast -TO GO ONLY, *Assembly Room*
7:30 pm Westminster Prayer Line, *Zoom Video Call only*

<https://www.wpcalbany.org/upcoming-events>

Sunday, September 13, 2020

10:00 am Worship, *Zoom Video Call only*
11:00 am Second Hour, *Zoom Video Call only*

CHURCH OFFICERS

Session

Leah Threatte, Clerk

Jessica Chamberlain	Fatmata Hilton	Sheila Wrede
Kelly Crisfield	Tom McPheeters	Larry Volk
Arthur Fullerton	Valerie Shanley	

Deacons

Peter McKee & Linore Southworth, Co-Moderators

Christabel Abban	Ruthanne Brod	Elizabeth McMillan
Ervin Ashburn	Kate Gallagher	Ned Trudeau
Kris Wilhelm		

Trustees

Dixon Southworth & Nancy Ost, Co-Chairs

Gilbert Asante	Laura Moody	Peter Wrede
Leif Hartmark	Marie McClumpha	

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Heather Kirk-Davidoff, Pastor

pastor@wpcalbany.org

Cell: 240-281-5005

Jennifer Schoenfisch, Office Administrator

Belinda Quaye, Director of Christian Education

Alfred V. Fedak, FAGO, ChM, Minister of Music and Arts

Joy L. Tallmadge and John Fox, Associate Sextons

Forrest Holroyd, Treasurer

Carlie D'Annunzio, Comptroller

Kim Deal, Communications

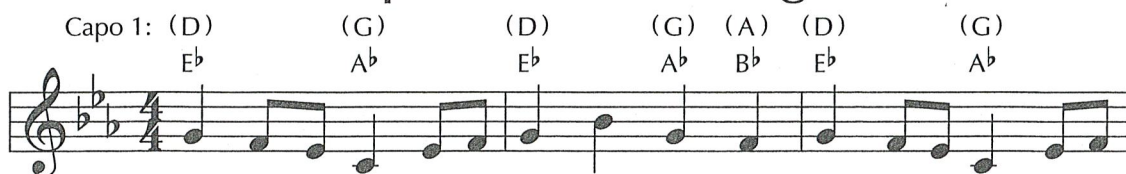
WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

262 State Street (Mail to: 85 Chestnut Street), Albany, New York 12210

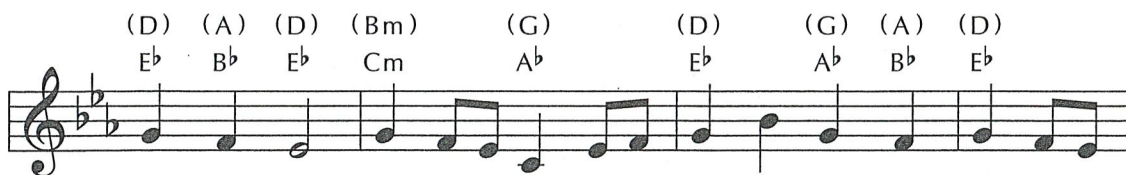
Office: (518) 436-8544; Fax: (518) 436-8599

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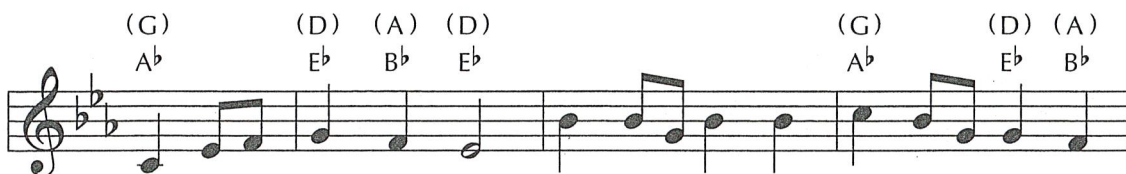
God, You Spin the Whirling Planets 23



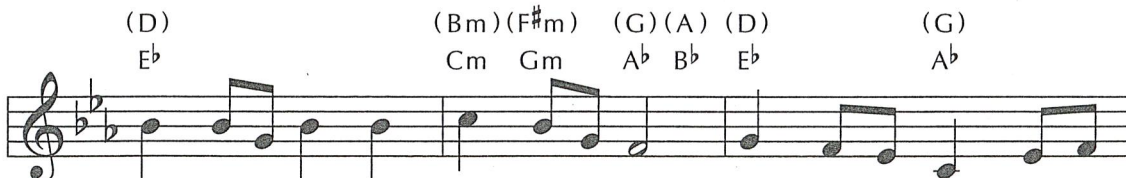
1 God, you spin the whirl-ing plan - ets, fill the seas and
 2 You have called us to be faith - ful in our life and
 3 God, your word is still cre - at - ing, call - ing us to



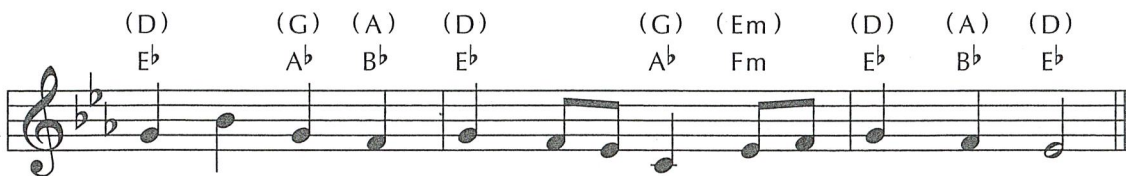
spread the plain, mold the moun-tains, fash-ion blos-soms, call forth
 min - is - try. We re - spond in grate-ful wor-ship joined in
 life made new. Now re - veal to us fresh vis - tas where there's



sun - shine, wind, and rain. We, cre - at - ed in your im - age,
 one com - mu - ni - ty. When we blur your gra - cious im - age,
 work to dare and do. Keep us clear of all dis - tor - tion.



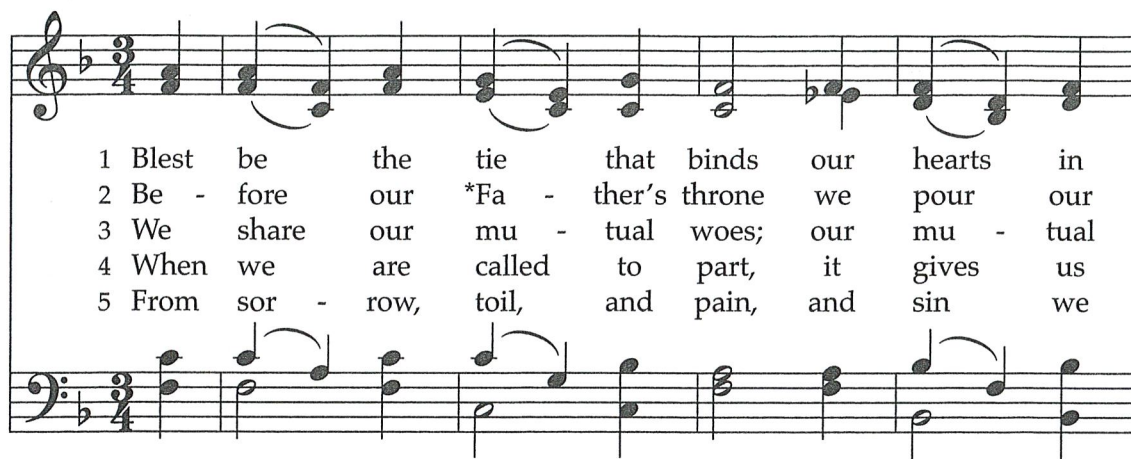
would a true re - flec - tion be of your jus - tice,
 fo - cus us and make us whole. Healed and strength - ened
 Pol - ish us with lov - ing care. Thus, new crea - tures



grace, and mer - cy and the truth that makes us free.
 as your peo - ple, we move on - ward toward your goal.
 in your im - age, we'll pro - claim Christ ev - ery - where.

This text was written for the 1979 National Meeting of United Presbyterian Women, whose theme, "In the Image of God," is variously considered here as reflection, focus, distortion, and polishing for clarity. The words are well set to an anonymous 19th-century American tune.

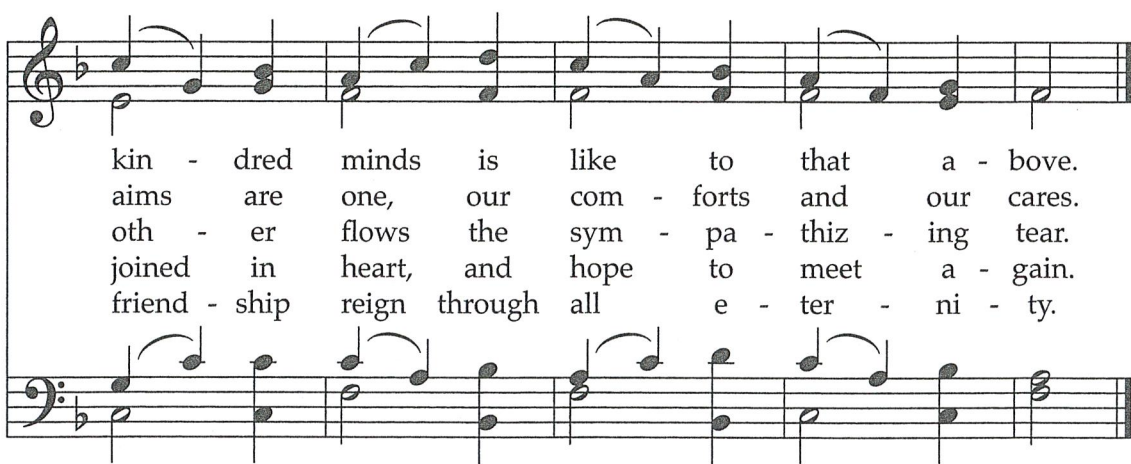
Blest Be the Tie That Binds 306



1 Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in
 2 Be - fore our *Fa - ther's throne we pour our
 3 We share our mu - tual woes; our mu - tual
 4 When we are called to part, it gives us
 5 From sor - row, toil, and pain, and sin we



Chris - tian love. The fel - low - ship of
 ar - dent prayers. Our fears, our hopes, our
 bur - dens bear. And of - ten for each
 in - ward pain; but we shall still be
 shall be free; and per - fect love and



kin - dred minds is like to that a - bove.
 aims are one, our com - forts and our cares.
 oth - er flows the sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.
 joined in heart, and hope to meet a - gain.
 friend - ship reign through all e - ter - ni - ty.

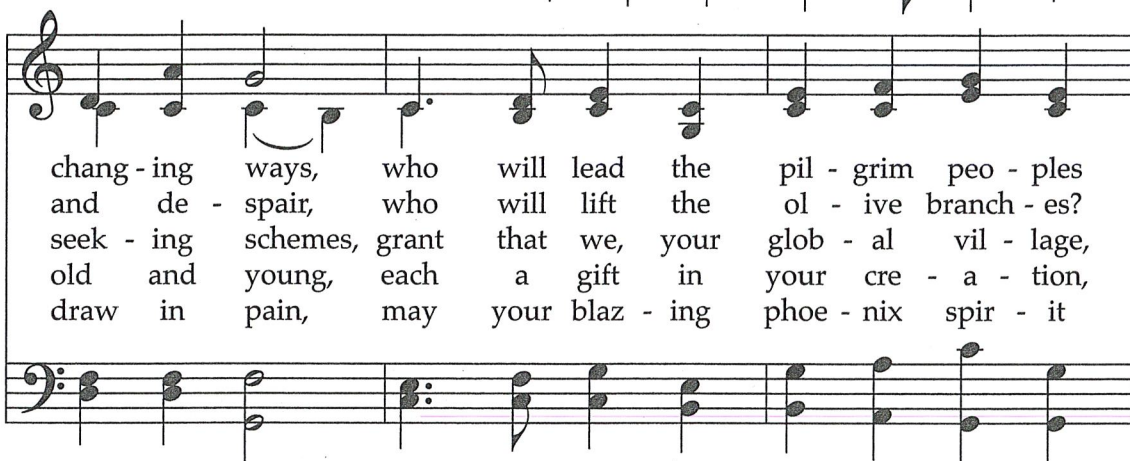
*Or "Maker's"

Written to express a pastor's unwillingness to leave a beloved congregation, this hymn is frequently used as an expression of Christian fellowship, especially at the conclusion of the Lord's Supper. The tune is attributed to an influential Swiss musician and publisher.

315 In the Midst of New Dimensions

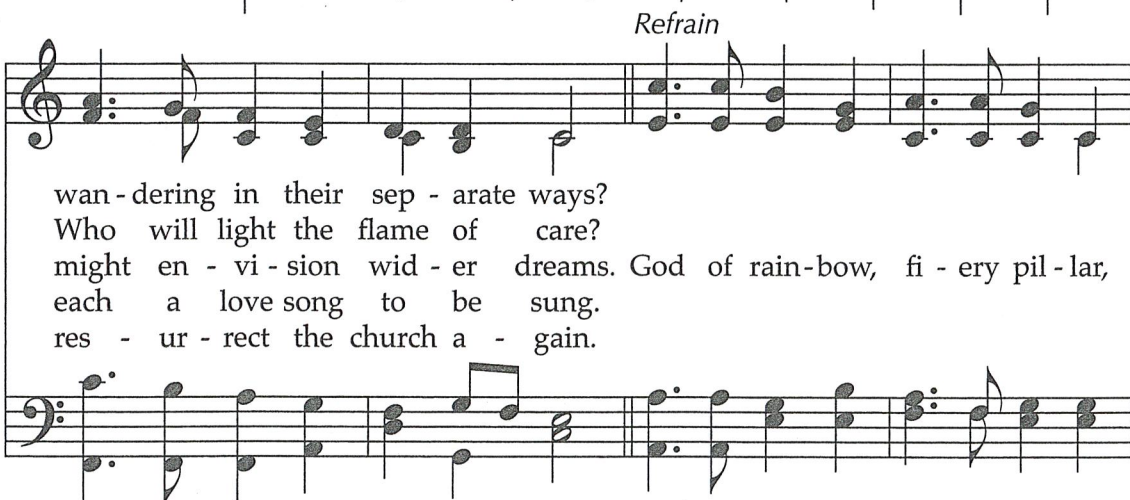


1 In the midst of new di - men - sions, in the face of
 2 Through the flood of starv - ing peo - ple, war - ring fac - tions,
 3 As we stand, a world di - vid - ed by our own self -
 4 We are man and we are wom - an, all per - sua - sions,
 5 Should the threats of dire pre - dic - tions cause us to with -



chang - ing ways, who will lead the pil - grim peo - ples
 and de - spair, who will lift the ol - ive branch - es?
 seek - ing schemes, grant that we, your glob - al vil - lage,
 old and young, each a gift in your cre - a - tion,
 draw in pain, may your blaz - ing phoe - nix spir - it

Refrain



wan - dering in their sep - arate ways?
 Who will light the flame of care?
 might en - vi - sion wid - er dreams. God of rain - bow, fi - ery pil - lar,
 each a love song to be sung.
 res - ur - rect the church a - gain.



lead - ing where the ea - gles soar, we your peo - ple, ours the jour - ney

In this simultaneously-created text and tune, the author/composer was seeking to incorporate imagery from both Native American and Hebrew spiritual traditions. Also included is the mythological phoenix, which had received a Christian interpretation as early as the first century.

THE CHURCH

now and ev - er, now and ev - er, now and ev - er - more.

The musical score consists of two staves. The top staff is in treble clef and contains a vocal melody. The bottom staff is in bass clef and contains a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are written below the vocal staff. The music is in a simple, hymn-like style with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is composed of eighth and quarter notes, while the accompaniment uses chords and single notes.