

WEST BERLIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Established 1876

Dr. Robert J. Gustafson, Pastor

Jerianne Gooding, Liturgist

Julia Roll and Edmund Cox, Organists

Amy Martindale, Principal Vocalist

Proper 25

October 25, 2026

GATHERING TIME (10:15 – 10:30 AM) Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6145951009>

Dial 929 436 2866 or 312 626 6799 Meeting ID: 614 595 1009

WELCOME & PRELUDE

God is Good. **All the time.** & All the time. **God is good.**

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Jesus said: You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart,

P: and with all your soul, and with all your mind,

L: and you shall love your neighbor as yourself.

P: On these two commandments hang all of the law and the prophets.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Let us speak the truth about ourselves to our neighbors and to God, acknowledging what we have done and what we have left undone.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Your holiness, O God, commands that we confess: **We have neither loved our neighbors as ourselves nor honored ourselves as your beloved creation. We have judged unjustly, regarded others ungenerously, profited at the losses of those near and distant, borne grudges, desired vengeance, and kept silence in the face of wrongdoing. We long to live in accord with your desire that your way of compassion, kindness, and honesty will govern our hearts and minds, turning us toward lives of peace. Forgive us and lead us. Amen.**

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Brothers and sisters, the Holy One who promises forgiveness to those who seek the good hears your confession. As the crucified and risen child of God, your Redeemer fully knows your sorrow and your desire for reconciled relationships. You are forgiven. In that promise is the power to love your neighbors and yourselves as beloved of God who created all that exists.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

"Gloria Patri"

No. 9

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION & FIRST READING

Psalm 1

The Two Ways

¹Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked or take the path that sinners tread or sit in the seat of scoffers, ²but their delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law they meditate day and night.

³They are like trees planted by streams of water which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper. ⁴The wicked are not so but are like chaff that the wind drives away.

⁵Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous, ⁶for the Lord watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

YOUTH MESSAGE The Hook

SPECIAL MUSIC

SECOND READING Matthew 22:33-46

³³ And when the crowds heard it, they were astounded at his teaching.

The Greatest Commandment

³⁴ When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, ³⁵ and one of them, an expert in the law, asked him a question to test him. ³⁶ “Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?” ³⁷ He said to him, “ ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ ³⁸ This is the greatest and first commandment. ³⁹ And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ ⁴⁰ On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.”

The Question about David’s Son

⁴¹ Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: ⁴² “What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?” They said to him, “The son of David.” ⁴³ He said to them, “How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying, ⁴⁴ ‘The Lord said to my Lord, “Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet” ’? ⁴⁵ “If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?” ⁴⁶ No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ**

SERMON “Greatest Commandment”

HYMN “Be Thou My Vision” No. 460 (See attached)

ANNOUNCEMENTS - JOYS & CONCERNS – PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE – 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.

CALL TO OFFERING –DOXOLOGY-PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise him, all creatures here below. Praise him above, ye heav’nly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

HYMN “Fairest Lord Jesus” No. 152 (See attached)

CHARGE, BENEDICTION AND POSTLUDE

May the Lord, mighty God, bless and keep you forever.

Grant you joy, perfect peace, strength in every endeavor.

Lift your eyes and see his face, feel his grace forever.

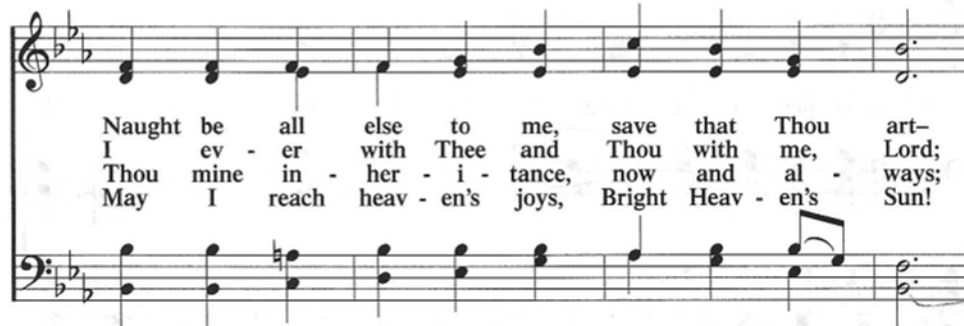
May the Lord mighty God bless and keep you forever.

Be Thou My Vision

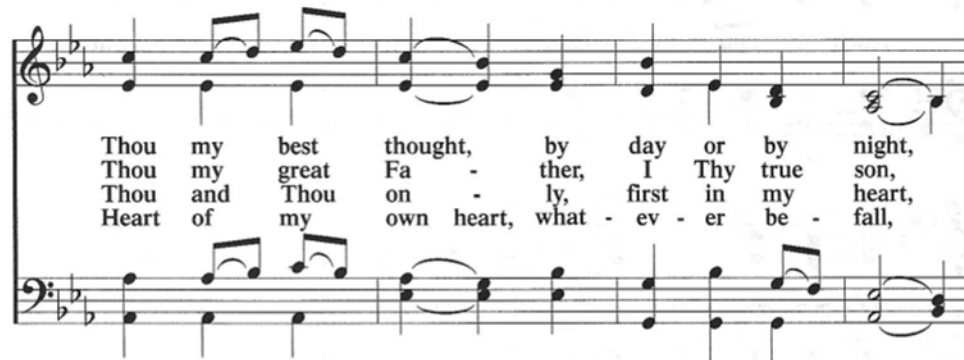
Whom have I in heaven but you? And earth has nothing I desire besides you.
Psalm 73:25



1. Be Thou my Vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
2. Be Thou my Wis - dom, and Thou my true Word;
3. Rich - es I heed not, nor man's emp - ty praise,
4. High King of Heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,



Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art—
I ev - er with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;
Thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways;
May I reach heav - en's joys, Bright Heav - en's Sun!



Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
Thou my great Fa - ther, I Thy true son,
Thou and Thou on - ly, first in my heart,
Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



Wak - ing or sleep - ing, Thy pres - ence my light.
Thou in me dwell - ing, and I with Thee one.
High King of Heav - en, my Treas - ure Thou art.
Still be my Vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Fairest Lord Jesus

152

Who is this...fair as the moon, bright as the sun, majestic as the stars?
Song of Songs 6:10

1. Fair - est Lord Je - sus! Rul - er of all na - ture!
2. Fair are the mead - ows; Fair - er still the wood - lands,
3. Fair is the sun - shine; Fair - er still the moon - light,
4. Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior! Lord of the na - tions!

O Thou of God and man the Son! Thee will I cher - ish;
Robed in the bloom - ing garb of spring. Je - sus is fair - er;
And all the twin - kling star - ry host. Je - sus shines bright - er;
Son of God and Son of man! Glo - ry and hon - or,

Thee will I hon - or, Thou, my soul's glo - ry, joy, and crown!
Je - sus is pur - er, Who makes the woe - ful heart to sing!
Je - sus shines pur - er Than all the an - gels heav'n can boast!
Praise, ad - o - ra - tion, Now and for - ev - er - more be Thine!