



# Westminster PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

NOVEMBER 5, 2023 AT 11AM | 23RD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

*An open and welcoming Christian community in service to God and neighbor*

*We Come Into God's Presence with Joy*

Gathering Music

Life of the Church

Prelude

\* Call to Worship

Lynda Berg, liturgist

(congregation please read bold type)

*In great love, God gathers us together.*

**In great surprise, we fully belong.**

*We are a Household of Faith.*

**We are a Community of Kinship.**

*We witness God's presence,*

**and are formed in the presence of one another.**

*With delight and wonder,*

*let us worship the God who calls us together.*

\* Hymn #509

*All Who Hunger,  
Gather Gladly*

HOLY MANNA

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\* *You are invited to stand as you are able.*

## Call to Confession

### Unison Prayer of Confession

**God of Love, in the midst of a world that so often belittles and dehumanizes, you see us, and you delight in who we are. You call us to a love as full and transformative as your own. Help us see our neighbors in light of love. Help us see ourselves in light of love. We know that we do not always give and receive this love in its fullness. At times, we do not notice our neighbors. At other times, we disregard ourselves, forgetting that we have sacred worth and value. Please forgive us and call us again, that we may give and receive the fullness of your love — the very love that forms us and makes all things new. Amen.**

*Silent prayers of confession.*

### Assurance of God's Presence and Promise

*Believe the good news and give thanks: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!*  
**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

### \* Passing the Peace

*As we share the peace of Christ with one another, there are several ways we do that here at Westminster. For those who prefer a non-contact sign of peace, crossing your arms over your heart, a wave, or a peace-sign are all great options! Handshakes, elbow-bumps, and hugs with the consent of your neighbor are also welcome.*  
The peace of the Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

\* Song of Response #609 *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

† **Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.**

**Praise God, all creatures high and low. Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Praise God, in Jesus fully known: Creator, Word and Spirit one.**

**Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

## *We Hear God's Word*

First Reading of The Word

Psalm 43

Anthem

*Be Still, My Soul*

by Mark Shepperd

Westminster Choir

Be still, my soul! The Lord is on thy side;  
Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;  
Leave to thy God to order and provide;  
In ev'ry change He faithful will remain.  
Be still, my soul! Thy best, thy heav'nly Friend  
Through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

I fear no foe, with Thee at hand to bless;  
Ills have no weight and tears no bitterness.  
Where is death's sting? O grave, thy victory?  
I triumph still if Thou abide with me.

Be still, my soul! The hour is hast'ning on  
When we shall be forever with the Lord,  
When disappointment, grief, and fear are gone,  
Sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored.  
Be still, my soul! When change and tears are past,  
All safe and blessed we shall meet at last.

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† *You are welcome to sign as you are comfortable and able.*

*We continue this practice as a way to engage our whole selves in worship.*

Sermon

*You Have Become  
Very Dear to Us*

Rev. Renee Roederer

*We Respond to God's Word*

\* Hymn #821

*My Life Flows On*

HOW CAN I KEEP  
FROM SINGING

Sacrament of Communion

**Invitation to the Table**

The Great Thanksgiving

*The Lord be with you.*

**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 God thanks and praise.**

*Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with choirs of angels and archangels and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:*

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord. God of power and might,**

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest!**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest!**

*Great is the mystery of faith:*

**Christ died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Sharing of the Bread and Wine

Anthem

*Blessed Are They*

by Rett Barnwell

Gail Arnold, harp; April Wright, alto

Prayer after Communion 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.**

Offering and Prayer of Dedication

Invitation to the Offering

\* Song of Response #748      *Go with Us, Lord*

**† Go with us, Lord, and guide the way  
through this and every coming day,  
that in your Spirit strong and true  
our lives may be our gift to you.**

\* Prayer of Dedication

\* Hymn #326

*For All the Saints*

SINE NOMINE

## We Go Forth to Serve

### \* Benediction

. . . and let all God's people say, "**Alleluia! Amen!**"

### Postlude

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Our preacher today is Rev. Renee Roederer. She is a PC(USA) minister who lives in Ann Arbor, Michigan. She is the Community Care Director at the Epilepsy Foundation of Michigan, where she connects with individuals and families and provides educational information, resources, referrals, companionship, and support. Renee enjoys choral singing, hiking, photography, and traveling, and she's an avid writer. One of her greatest joys in life is the large, chosen family she has built over time, with whom she enjoys keeping in touch, laughing hard, and reflecting on life.

### **We pray for our Westminster family**

**Ongoing needs:** Elke Kramer, Betty Reed, Riverside Gathering guests

Please email prayer requests to Diane Imredy (imredyd57@gmail.com) for listing here and in the *Friday Good Things Are Happening* email; or contact Jill Fairchild, prayer chain coordinator (jill@thefairchilds.net or 734-417-0816). You can join our email prayer chain by contacting Jill. To keep us current, please share updates on those for whom we are praying.

## *This Week's News*

**Members of Riverside Community Gathering thank you** for the freshly baked bread offered from our celebration of Communion today.

**Service of Remembrance:** Sunday, 11/12 at 5pm. This service will be a peaceful and meditative time to remember those we loved and still love. Those from the wider community and those from all faith traditions are welcome. You are invited to bring a small framed photo of your loved one.

**Third Friday:** This month's Third Friday gathering on 11/17 will be another Soup Potluck and Game Night! Bring your favorite game, a friend, neighbor, or family member. Soup at 6pm and games at 7pm.

**Thanksgiving Eve Service and Bread Exchange** is on 11/22 at 7pm. You are encouraged to bring one or more loaves of bread, homemade or purchased at a bakery, to share with each other. Extra loaves will be given to home bound members and the Riverside Group in Ypsilanti. Please put a note on your bread if it contains nuts or is gluten free. Contact Sue Lange (sueegnal93@gmail.com) for more info.

**Save the Date- Church Decorating:** On 11/24 9:00am—noon, we will decorate the sanctuary, fellowship hall, and around the building for Advent and Christmas. Many tasks for multiple skill levels. Contact Margaret Klammer (mklammer@comcast.net) if you'd like to join us!

**Our next Westminster tailgate** and football parking day is 11/25 for the Ohio State game. Kickoff is at noon, and the tailgate potluck starts at 9:30am!

**Hanging of the Greens:** We will mark the first Sunday in Advent on 11/26 with a special Hanging of the Greens service at 11am. We will learn about the significance of our Advent and Christmas symbols. At various times throughout the worship service, the congregation will complete the decorating of the sanctuary.

## Grow in Faith and Friendship

**Reading Through the Bible Group** meets Sundays at 9:30am. Please contact Marcia Anderson (hilden.anderson@gmail.com; 734-757-4305) for more info.

**Sunday Morning Adult Ed** meets in the fellowship hall at 9:30am. Starting Sunday November 12, the Fellowship Hall Class will study *Illuminating Advent*, another study in the “Being Reformed” series by PC(USA). The sessions cover Hope, Peace, Joy, Love, Christmas Savior and Epiphany Light.

**Sunday Children’s Worship Center** meets in room 43 on the lower level at 9:30 am. Children and grandchildren ages four through 5th grade are welcome!

**Monday Conversations** are weekly at 1pm online. The Zoom invitation is in the Friday *Good Things* and Sunday podcast emails.

**Mary Martha Group** meets the first and third Mondays at 7pm via Zoom. Please contact Margaret Klammer (mklammer@comcast.net) for more information. New members are welcome.

**Matthew 25 Study Group** meets at 7pm on the second and fourth Mondays of each month. We are currently studying *A Jesus Shaped Life* by Bob Rognlien. For meeting information please contact Elizabeth Tidd (lizbeth0405@yahoo.com) or Carol Hufnagel (carol.hufnagel@tetrattech.com).

**Thursday Book Club** meets each week at 1PM at Westminster and over Zoom. Beginning on November 9, we will read *The Bullet That Missed* by Richard Osman about a group of senior citizen detectives. Please let Sue Flynn know if you would like to join us (cafelapeninsula@comcast.net).



## *Welcome to Westminster*

**Our Values:** Love, Compassion, Connection, Inclusion, Earth-Care, Service

**Our Mission:** Show the love of Jesus Christ by welcoming everyone, without exception, into the full life of the church; participating in the joyful worship of God; engaging in regular study, reflection, prayer and sharing of our faith; committing ourselves and our resources to the spiritual and physical needs of our church family and neighbors near and far; seeking to be a good neighbor in our neighborhood.

**Sunday worship podcasts** are at [bit.ly/westpres\\_online](http://bit.ly/westpres_online).

**For deacon care,** please contact Diane Imredy ([imredyd57@gmail.com](mailto:imredyd57@gmail.com)).

**Thank you for continuing to fulfill your pledges** and financial commitments in support of the mission and ministry of Westminster Presbyterian Church.

**Westminster Staff** may be reached by phone at 734-761-9320

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# *Westminster* PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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