



Westminster PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

NOVEMBER 12, 2023 AT 11AM | 24TH 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

Margaret Klammer, liturgist

(congregation please read bold type)

We gather here, searching for new and abundant life.

Refresh us, Holy Spirit! And make our hearts light!

We lean upon the promises of God.

Come and move! Holy God, make your home here!

We trust and make ready to receive you, O Lord.

We look to you, Jesus, to move in love and mercy.

We are sustained by faith.

Soften our hearts, and remind us of your faithfulness.

Let us worship together in hope and expectation.

* Hymn #250

*In the Bulb
There Is a Flower*

PROMISE

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

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

God who hears us when we pray, receive again our petition for healing. We confess that we have let slip our grasp on hope; we have neglected the work of loving our neighbors. We have lost our tempers; we have ignored your voice. Merciful Christ, by your gentle Spirit, reshape our hardened hearts. Renew our weary souls and bodies. That we might better love kindness, do justice, and walk humbly with you.

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!

† *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.

We Hear God's Word

First Reading of The Word

Psalm 130:1-6

Anthem

Consecration

by John Ness Beck

Westminster Choir

Take my life, and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee;
Take my moments, and my days,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands, and let them move
At the impulse of Thy love;
Take my feet, and let them be
Swift and beautiful for Thee.

Take my voice, and let it sing,
Always only, for my King.
Take my lips, and let them be
Filled with messages from Thee.

Take my silver and my gold,
Not a mite would I withhold.
Take my intellect, and use
Every pow'r, as Thou shalt choose.

Take my will, and make it Thine;
It shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is Thine own;
It shall be Thy royal throne.

Take my love, my Lord, I pour
At Thy feet its treasure store.
Take myself, and I will be
Ever, only, all for Thee.

We Respond to God's Word

* Preparation for Prayer #466

Come and Fill Our Hearts

† **Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You alone, O Lord, are holy.
Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Alleluia!**

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.**

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 #321

*The Church's One
Foundation*

AURELIA

We Go Forth to Serve

* Benediction

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

Postlude

Our guest preacher this morning is our very own Communications and Media Director, Nate Veldhoff. Nate attended the University of Michigan where he received a degree in Architecture. From there, he immediately pivoted to attend seminary. He completed his Master of Divinity degree from Moody Theological Seminary in the Spring of 2021.

Nate is a self-described "church-staff swiss-army-knife." In addition to serving as Communications Director at Westminster, he also regularly leads worship and preaches at Greenroom Church in Ann Arbor on Monday nights as well as with several other area churches on Sunday mornings. When not in church-world, you can find Nate pouring coffee at Vertex Coffee Roasters in Ann Arbor or playing gigs with several local musicians.

We pray for our Westminster family

Ongoing needs: Fran Bolhouse, Cara & Conn Doane, Anne Gensheimer

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

Help feed hungry folks in Washtenaw County. Pick up a cloth grocery bag in the main entry today and bring it back next Sunday with nonperishable food and personal and household items, for Hope Clinic's food pantry.

Service of Remembrance: Today, 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.

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. We are currently reading *The Bullet That Missed* by Richard Osman: a book 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.

For deacon care, please contact Diane Imredy (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.

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