



Westminster PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

NOVEMBER 19, 2023 AT 11AM | 25TH 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

Vickie Gross, liturgist

(congregation please read bold type)

The Spirit of the Lord fills this place.

Spirit, fill our hearts.

We are called to bring good news to the oppressed.

We are called to bind up the brokenhearted.

We are called to proclaim freedom.

We are called to comfort those who mourn.

We call upon the Lord to build us up for this work.

Raise up the ruins! Let all things display your glory, O Lord!

Come and do a new thing among us!

Come, Lord Jesus!

* You are invited to stand as you are able.

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

Loving Father, your faithfulness lasts from age to age, but our faithfulness falters. We have failed to trust you, and we have forgotten your love toward all people. We need to be reminded again. Holy Spirit, in gentle conviction, move us nearer to all that we are missing. Bind up the wounds of this past week and make us new again.

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

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 **1 Thessalonians 5:16-24**

Anthem

This Little Light of Mine

arr. Howard Helvey

Westminster Choir

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine,
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine,
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine,
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Ev'rywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine,
Ev'rywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine,
Ev'rywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine,
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Jesus gave it to me, I'm gonna let it shine,
Jesus gave it to me, I'm gonna let it shine,
Jesus gave it to me, I'm gonna let it shine,
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine all the time.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Second Reading of the Word **Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11**

Sermon

Reciprocal Restoration

Nate Veldhoff

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 #353

*My Hope is Built on
Nothing Less*

SOLID ROCK

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: Donna Greyerbiehl, Jacqueline Hale, Kathy Kamm

Condolences to April and Dave Wright on the November 9 death of April's sister, Gail Goodell.

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

Shopping bags of nonperishable food and personal and household items dedicated with our offering today will be given to Hope Clinic's food pantry.

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.

Advent Dinner: Our Third Friday event for December will be an Advent Dinner and carol-sing! Join us on Friday, 12/15 and invite a friend. Food starts at 5:30pm and then at about 7pm we will move into the sanctuary to sing some favorite Christmas carols together!

Please sign up on the bulletin board to help us get a head count for food.

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. Current study is *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.

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

Shawn McDonald, Director of Music;
smtenor@yahoo.com

Margaret Compton, Office and
Facilities Manager;
wpcoffice@westpresa2.org

Evelyn Vogel, Custodian

Dave Gross, Bookkeeper,
Assistant Financial Secretary;
bookkeeper@westpresa2.org

Nate Veldhoff, Communications
and Media Director;
communications@westpresa2.org

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1500 Scio Church Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48103 · www.westpresa2.org

(734) 761-9320 · wpcoffice@westpresa2.org